The course of co-option: Co-option of local power-holders as a tool for obtaining control over the population in counterinsurgency campaigns in weblike societies. With case studies on Dutch experiences during the Aceh War (1873-c. 1912) and the Uruzgan campaign (2006-2010)

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‘What he now wanted to achieve was an aim the idea of which sprang from his humanity, from the noblest part of himself. What he now wanted to achieve was an ideal, the ideal of the Westerner in the east and of the Westerner who sees the east as he wishes to see it and as he could but see it.’

Louis Couperus, The Hidden Force

‘In the end, we are just passing through.’

Dutch Special Forces captain, July 2007
Contents
Contents

Prologue .....................................................................................................................11

Introduction ................................................................................................................15

Part I: An analytical framework for understanding co-option of local power-holders as a tool for obtaining control over the population in counterinsurgency campaigns in weblike societies

Chapter 1: The logic underlying population-centric counterinsurgency: population control through collaboration ................................................................. 33

Chapter 2: Co-option of local power-holders in weblike societies ............................ 63

Chapter 3: Co-option in counterinsurgency: a conceptual exploration in historiographical perspective .................................................................107

Part II: The Aceh War

Chapter 4: Aceh and the first decades of the war, 1873-1893 ........................................ 177

Chapter 5: The Teuku Uma policy ............................................................................. 217

Chapter 6: Pacification at last: the emergence of the Aceh strategy and the establishing of Dutch control .................................................................255

Chapter 7: The Aceh War as a case study of co-option of local power-holders in colonial warfare .................................................................305

Part III: The Uruzgan campaign

Chapter 8: Afghanistan, Uruzgan, and the War from 2001 until 2006 ......................... 329

| Chapter 10: 2008-2010: Counterinsurgency as an underpinning for long-term stability | 427 |
| Chapter 11: The Uruzgan campaign as a case study of co-option of local power-holders in modern counterinsurgency warfare | 495 |
| Conclusion: The course of co-option in theory and reality | 525 |
| Acronyms | 551 |
| Glossary | 557 |
| Bibliography | 561 |
| Maps | 599 |
| Annexes | 607 |
| Summary | 611 |
| Samenvatting | 619 |
| Acknowledgments | 627 |