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Research Guide Series

The Military and the Media

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The Military and the Media

The media has long been used as a tool to communicate news and information about conflicts and the military. Often used as a propaganda tool to carefully shape the perceptions of the general public, the media has come to play an important role in how wars and the wider political situation are perceived, often contributing to shaping public opinion. The power of the media, whether it be newspapers, magazines or television coverage, cannot be underestimated and the development of communications technologies in recent years has resulted in wider and more immediate access to information than ever before. Journalists are often embedded into front line operations and can deliver powerful, up-to-the-minute accounts of experiences of war and disasters. The relationship between the military and the media is an interesting one and both sides can often use it to their advantage, but the military must handle its relationship with the media very carefully, and media awareness is of increasing importance in the training of armed forces.

This bibliography has been designed to provide a guide as to where to find information on the military and the media. Please note that the list of references below is a selection of the more relevant titles and information on the subject. The list is not intended to be exhaustive or definitive but is an introductory guide to some of the resources available.

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