

Contents

<i>List of tables</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
1 The cultural politics of the targeted killing assemblage:	
Introduction	1
<i>Defining assassination and targeted killing</i>	3
<i>Biopolitics, security, and the liberal way of war</i>	5
<i>Beyond liberal biopolitics: a return to culture</i>	11
<i>Methodology and culture</i>	12
<i>Problematizations and styles of thought</i>	19
<i>The cultural politics of targeted killing: lines of flight</i>	21
2 Beyond the exception: The legal problematization of targeted killing	29
<i>Introduction</i>	29
<i>Violence, the law, and the exception</i>	30
<i>Differentiating assassination and targeted killing in legal problematizations</i>	36
<i>Targeted killing in war: Jus ad bellum problematizations</i>	39
<i>Jus in bello problematizations</i>	43
<i>Problematizing targeted killing under international human rights law</i>	48
<i>National legal problematizations</i>	50
<i>Conclusions</i>	58
3 The politics of targeted killing: Introduction	65
<i>Assassination and targeted killing as biopolitical narratives of violence</i>	66

Manhunts: an opening into the cultural politics of assassination and targeted killing 68
Culture, politics, and violence 71
Political violence, assassination, resonance 75
Biblical representations of assassination 76
Judith, ambivalence, and the narration of assassination events 81
Conclusions 86

4 Science, capitalism, and the RPA: Introduction 93

The scientific way of warfare 94
Science, war, and economic organisation 97
Capitalism, science, and war 100
Science 106
Revolution, military transformation, the Rumsfeld doctrine, and the dawn of netwar 109
The RPA: conditions of possibility 113
RPA acquisition 116
RPA deployment 117
The shift from RPA to drone: 'autonomous' machines and deskilling 120
Desire, spectacle, and RPA proliferation 124
Conclusions 125

5 The aesthetic subjects of targeted killing: Introduction 135

The RPA as aesthetic subject 138
RPA operators as aesthetic subjects 145
Populations of interest as aesthetic subjects 158
Conclusions 162

6 The quotidian geopolitics of targeted killing strikes: Introduction 170

Vertical geopolitics, ungoverned spaces, and the everywhere war 171
Sacred places and counter-insurgency 175
The geopolitics of the home 178
The home and Islam 180
Drone strikes and houses 181
The geopolitical consequences of the destruction of homes 187
Broader geopolitical impacts 192
Conclusions 193

7	Concluding remarks on the cultural politics of targeted killing: Introduction	199
	<i>Chapter overview</i>	<i>200</i>
	<i>The cultural politics of targeted killing</i>	<i>202</i>
	<i>Implications</i>	<i>207</i>
	<i>The future of the targeted killing assemblage?</i>	<i>208</i>
	<i>Index</i>	210