

# KILL KHALID

**Mossad's  
failed hit ...  
and the rise  
of Hamas**



**PAUL McGEOUGH**

## Praise for *Kill Khalid*

Not for nothing is Paul McGeough regarded among his colleagues around the world as one of the finest reporters ever to come out of Australia, a country that has produced more than its share of tough guys with typewriters. In *Kill Khalid*, McGeough has written a pacey, riveting and controversial book that has all the compulsion of a Le Carré novel. He leads his reader through the turbulent landscape of recent Middle Eastern history and, true to his iconoclastic form, takes few prisoners of his own.

JOHN F. BURNS, *The New York Times*

Paul McGeough is a fine journalist, and his latest book is one of those rare beasts: an incisive, insider's history about one of the world's most intractable conflicts, and a ripping yarn to boot. *Kill Khalid* is a must-read.

JON LEE ANDERSON, *The New Yorker*

Paul McGeough's account of Israel's clumsy attempt to kill Hamas leader Khalid Mishal reads like a thriller. It includes extraordinary detail about a botched assassination plot and a deal to reverse the effects of a deadly toxin. This is a cracking story, masterfully and colorfully told.

TONY WALKER, co-author of *Arafat: The Biography*

*Kill Khalid* excels at interweaving journalistic immediacy with the persistent, long-term undercurrents; the personal with the political; the accidental with the structural; and the comic moments with divine interventions—which all together explain so vividly the ascendancy of the Hamas movement.

AMIRA HASS, *Ha'aretz* correspondent and author of *Drinking the Sea at Gaza*

Hollywood seldom comes up with a story this good—Mossad assassins, exotic poison, a desperate chase through downtown Amman, captured agents, a king's ransom and the race for a deathbed cure. Paul McGeough, one of Australia's best-known journalists, tracked down the players and tells their tale with verve.

BARTON GELLMAN, *The Washington Post* and author of *Angler: The Cheney Vice Presidency*

Paul McGeough's *Kill Khalid* masterfully examines the Palestine-Israel war at the micro and macro levels. His detailed analysis of Israel's attempt to murder Hamas chief Khalid Mishal is unlikely to be surpassed, but more important is his evaluation of the attack's lasting consequences on Israel-Palestine affairs. Here is McGeough's key contribution: he provides an irrefutable picture of the zero-sum game that is the Palestine-Israel war. He shows Fatah's terminal, bone-deep corruption and feckless leaders; the arrogant ignorance of U.S. and Western diplomats and the fools' role they play in Palestinian and Israeli hands; the growth of Mishal's political and Hamas's military power which is obscured by wishful Western thinking and Fatah's slow death; and Israel's implacable intent to destroy Palestine by whatever means necessary: starvation, steadily expanding settlements, military force, and/or assassinations. Above all, McGeough illuminates the West's bankrupt belief that the Palestine-Israel war is about democracy, nationalism, or humanitarian issues. *Kill Khalid* indelibly proves the war is about religion and power, and that it will not end until either Israel or Palestine is the last man standing.

MICHAEL SCHEUER, author of *Imperial Hubris*, 22-year CIA veteran and former head of its Osama Bin Laden desk

This is that rare and most exciting of books—a serious political history that reads like a fast-paced thriller. The cast includes presidents, politicians, spies, diplomats and murderers who play out their destinies against a background of conspiracy and intrigue.

PHILLIP KNIGHTLEY, special correspondent, *The Sunday Times*, and author of *The First Casualty*

Also by Paul McGeough

*Manhattan to Baghdad: Despatches from the Frontline in the War on Terror*

*In Baghdad: A Reporter's War*

*Mission Impossible: The Sheikhs, the U.S. and the Future of Iraq*

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**PAUL McGEOUGH**

  
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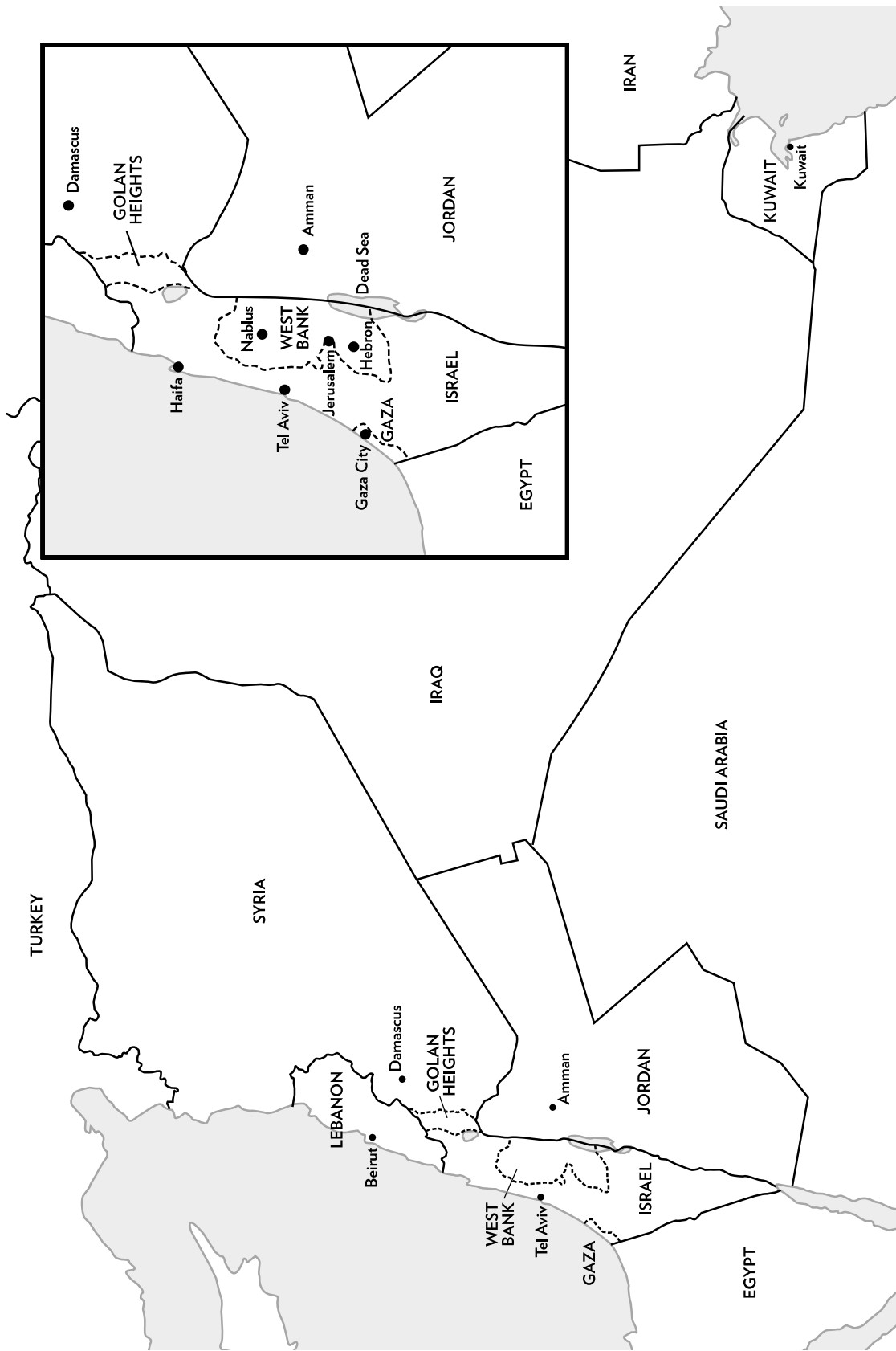
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