This talk will draw on a broad range of sources to illuminate the connections between the colonial practices of Britain and Spanish in their asymmetric and "small" wars and today's counterinsurgency wars fought by the US and Israeli militaries in the Middle East. These practices not only encompass specific pacification and counterinsurgency battlefield tactics, but also incorporate law, administrative procedures, aid regimes, and "information operations" targeted at shaping populations and knowledge about the war.

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