ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my informants. I am indebted to them for allowing me into their lives when it was sometimes difficult to do so. Although in pain and suffering, they were always friendly and courteous. The veterans’ associations were an enormous help in providing information and in finding people for me to interview. I would particularly like to thank the members and the organisers of the veterans’ association with whom I worked – without them this book would not be written.

This book is the product of discussions, dialogue and input from a large number of people. Roland Littlewood’s work on new illnesses was an inspiration for this work and his constant presence was much appreciated, as was his supervision. Allan Young deserves special thanks for inspiring me – at that time an undergraduate at McGill University – on that first day of his medical anthropology class. My Ph.D. examiners, Jeanette Edwards and Simon Cohn, challenged me and helped me to begin the process of refining the dissertation into a publishable piece of work. Their insights have improved this book enormously, and I am grateful to them for their continued encouragement and generosity. Vieda Skultans encouraged me to continue the process of publishing this book and made valuable suggestions on how to improve it.

I would like to thank Amanda Bale, Brenda Hazlewood, and Harry Lee and others at the Medical Assessment Programme for their input and allowing me time in their offices. Edgar Jones read my work and allowed me to explore historical issues; I appreciated his insightful comments. Simon Wessely provided a wealth of information on Gulf War Syndrome (GWS) and related issues. Many of the ideas in this work grew out of discussions with other researchers involved in GWS, making it difficult to remember who said what.

My thanks to friends and colleagues at UCL who provided me with encouragement and allowed me to develop and test my ideas. Murray Last, Nanneke Redclift, Sushrut Jadhav, Sahra Gibbon, Mukulika
Banerjee, Danny Miller, Simon Dein and David Napier, among other UCL colleagues, offered a stimulating environment in which to work. A special thanks to Sandra Wallman who provided ongoing supervision and helped me to develop my ideas. My conversations with Alex Shand about seminal issues were exciting and stimulating.

Chapter 5 was closely based on a published paper (Kilshaw, S. 2004. ‘Friendly Fire: The Construction of Gulf War Syndrome Narratives’, *Anthropology and Medicine* Vol.11: 2, pp.149–160) and has been reprinted by permission of the publisher (Taylor and Francis Ltd). I am grateful for funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and additional funding from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the Canadian Department of National Defence. John Royle’s early support made funding from the MoD possible. Ken Scott and Mark Zamorski in Canada gave me the opportunity to explore GWS issues in that country. ESRC made this work possible by funding both the Ph.D. research and a postdoctoral fellowship which enabled me to begin converting my work into this book. The final stage of writing was made possible by a Wenner-Gren Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship.

My friends and family have kept me sane, particularly by humouring my ability to insert GWS into every conversation. A special thanks to Alixe Bovey and Jeremy Phillips for being such fantastic friends; and for not laughing when my Ph.D.-fuelled madness descended into odd cooking obsessions. Also to my mother, Margaret, and father, Miles, who have always inspired me and whose love of medicine started me on this journey.

A very special thanks to my husband, to whom this book is dedicated, who understood and accepted living on two different continents in order for me to undertake this research. I have been very lucky to have a partner who not only will read my work, but offer intelligent comments. For that, and much, much more, I am eternally grateful.