Contents

Acknowledgments ix
Introduction 1
Nineteenth-Century Legacy 6

The Ku Klux Klan

1 • Weaving a Tangled Web: The Great War and Its Aftermath 17
2 • Americans We: People of the KKK 42
3 • The Klan in Action 68

Father Charles E. Coughlin and the Union for Social Justice

4 • Hard, Harder, Hardest of Times 99
5 • “Ballots—Not Bullets!” 122
6 • The Center Restored 141

Anti-Communism and the John Birch Society

7 • Better Dead Than Red 175
8 • Extremism in Defense of Influence: The John Birch Society 196
9 • Other Options, Other Causes 226

The Michigan Militia

10 • The “Duty of Defense”: Organizing the Michigan Militia 253
11 • An Unorganized, Organized Militia 276

Epilogue 305
Notes 311
Index 343