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### The Portuguese Way of War, 1961-1974

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million military deaths since World War II have come from conventional weapons.

However, the ability to observe from space produces intelligence that fosters confidence in the validity of treaty provisions. The chapter that addresses the relationship between democracies and a low propensity for war seemed to this reviewer to belabor the obvious. In sharp contrast is the final chapter, which discusses the unresolved role of the media in war, stressing the need to achieve a balance between support for the national effort and the necessity for legitimate criticism.

The bibliography of over three hundred sources constitutes a valuable addition to the volume, although, regrettably, it is not critically annotated. The dates given for the Chinese dynasties in the chapter on Mao Zedong are backward, giving B.C. where it should be A.D. Naval readers will regret the lack of any discussion of blue-water warfare in this otherwise useful work.

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Cann, John P. *The Portuguese Way of War, 1961-1974* (Contributions in Military Studies, no. 167). Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1997. 240pp. \$59.95

This book was written by a U.S. naval officer who served in the Nato Lisbon headquarters in the 1980s and had the opportunity to discuss Portugal's African wars with a large number of

Portuguese officers. The wars took place in Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau. Therein lies both the strength and the weakness of the work. We learn much not available elsewhere about the Portuguese armed forces in these wars, but as the dates in the title would suggest, the work is not a complete history of the campaigns. Nevertheless, Cann's account of the several aspects of the wars, as they appeared to the Portuguese, will remain an important contribution.

In 1960, Portugal was not a considerable military power like Britain or France, and the effort and strains occasioned by the wars form an interesting study. The Portuguese military, such as it was, had trained to fulfill a Nato conventional-warfare role. The speed with which the Portuguese army restructured itself to counterinsurgency was remarkable, drawing heavily on British and French experience, but, as Cann shows, the army also contributed its own thinking to doctrine. In addition to entering the fields of military intelligence and psychological operations, the Portuguese army developed its own expertise in deep, small-unit penetration, and bush and jungle patrolling.

A small country, Portugal was obliged to draw heavily on African manpower, and Cann usefully sets out to identify the different units and their roles: *Tropas Especiais*, *Grupos Especiais*, *Milicias*, *Comandos*, and *Flechas*. Most of these units comprised mixed metropolitan and indigenous personnel; in 1962, pay rates were equalized. Three points made by the author are of special interest. First, delinquency rates grew from 11.6 percent in 1961

to 20.3 percent in 1972 in the metropolitan draft; second, the percentage death rate was higher among metropolitan personnel than among the indigenous peoples; and third, a factor for sustaining the effectiveness of the indigenous soldiers was their belief that Portugal was going to win.

A special chapter is devoted to Portuguese concepts of mobility, showing how the Portuguese were able to draw on advances in the design and uses of helicopters while deploying horse-cavalry at the same time, to good effect. Further chapters set out Portuguese thinking on social operations and the *aldeamento* (villageization) policy, as well as the enormous logistical problems presented by three costly and distant campaigns.

This is a work primarily for the military specialist, and inevitably, in view of the sources used, it presents a generally approving view of the Portuguese military. The reverse side—for instance the ferocity of the repression of the first Angola uprising, and excesses of which the Wiriyamu massacre was not the only example—is somewhat glossed over. However, colonial campaign or counterinsurgency libraries will find that they need the detail and Portuguese perspectives set out in this work to complement other studies.

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Green, Michael J. *Arming Japan: Defense Production, Alliance Politics, and the*

*Postwar Search for Autonomy.* New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 1995. 205pp. \$16.50

The national security of Japan has been of increasing interest lately, and for good reason. Dramatic changes in the security environment of Northeast Asia have shocked the Japanese populace out of its long slumber, forcing Japanese politicians to realize they can no longer ignore issues of security. China's rise as the long-term regional military power, North Korea's missile launch over the Japanese archipelago, and economic stagnation within Japan have all contributed to Japan's current feeling of insecurity for the future. Japan is now grappling with such fundamental military issues as coastal protection for the first time since the end of World War II.

Responding to the situation, Japan's Diet has been debating new laws that would implement the revised Defense Guidelines and define the extent of Japan's assistance to U.S. forces in the country and the region. Meanwhile, calls from Japanese politicians for the nation to contribute actively to United Nations peacekeeping forces and establish legislative committees to explore revision of the "peace constitution" lead many Tokyo watchers to conclude that Japan is becoming a more "normal nation" in the security realm.

To understand where that journey to normalcy may lead, one must understand how far it has already come. *Arming Japan* illuminates Japan's postwar security blending of autonomy and dependence on the United States. It also provides rare insight to the future of the U.S.-Japan security relationship.