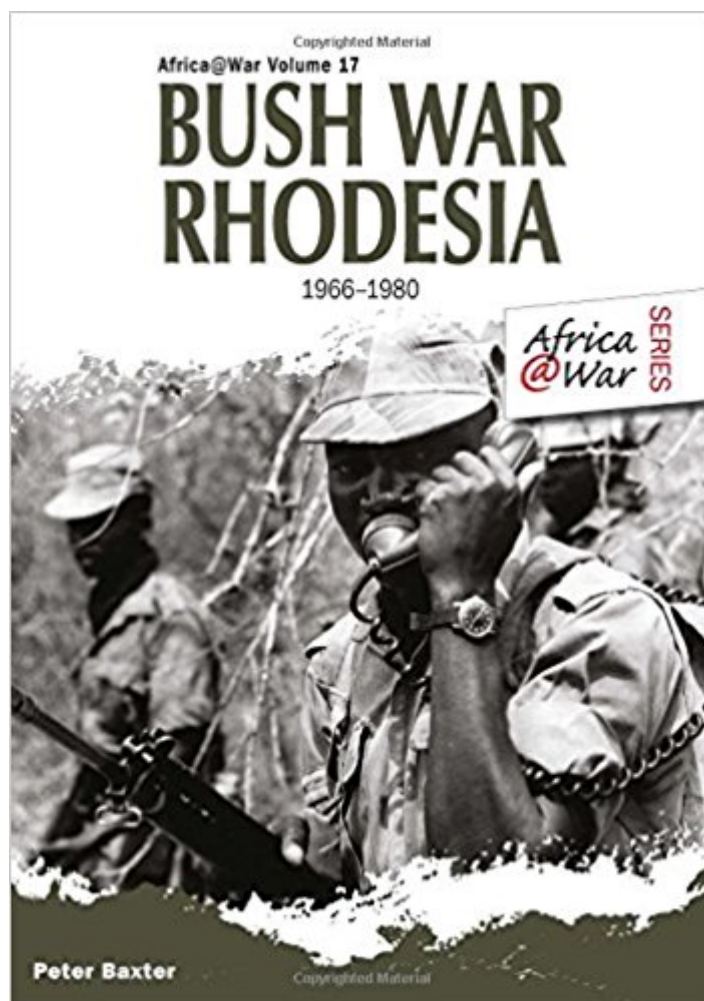


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Bush War Rhodesia 1966-1980 (Africa @ War Series)



Synopsis

It has been over three decades since the Union Jack was lowered on the colony of Rhodesia, but the bitter and divisive civil war that preceded it has continued to endure as a textbook counterinsurgency campaign fought between a mobile, motivated and highly trained Rhodesian security establishment and two constituted liberation movements motivated, resourced and inspired by the ideals of communist revolution in the third world. A complicated historical process of occupation and colonization set the tone as early as the late 1890s for what would at some point be an inevitable struggle for domination of this small, landlocked nation set in the southern tropics of Africa. The story of the Rhodesian War, or the Zimbabwean Liberation Struggle, is not only an epic of superb military achievement, and revolutionary zeal and fervor, but is the tale of the incompatibility of the races in southern Africa, a clash of politics and ideals and, perhaps more importantly, the ongoing ramifications of the past upon the present, and the social and political scars that a war of such emotional underpinnings as the Rhodesian conflict has had on the modern psyche of Zimbabwe. The Rhodesian War was fought with finely tuned intelligence-gathering and -analysis techniques combined with a fluid and mobile armed response. The practitioners of both have justifiably been celebrated in countless histories, memoirs and campaign analyses, but what has never been attempted has been a concise, balanced and explanatory overview of the war, the military mechanisms and the social and political foundations that defined the crisis. This book does all of that. The Rhodesian War is explained in digestible detail and in a manner that will allow enthusiasts of the elements of that struggle - the iconic exploits of the Rhodesian Light Infantry, the SAS, the Selous Scouts, the Rhodesian African Rifles, the Rhodesia Regiment, among other well-known fighting units - to embrace the wider picture in order to place the various episodes in context. REVIEWS "A concise, balanced account of the political and military events of the warlike activities in Rhodesia as it fought for independence." Australian Defence Forces Journal

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Peter Baxter is an author, amateur historian and African field, mountain and heritage travel guide. Born in Kenya and educated in Zimbabwe, he has lived and travelled over much of southern and central Africa. He has guided in all the major mountain ranges south of the equator, helping develop the concept of sustainable travel, and the touring of battlefield and heritage sites in East Africa. Peter lives in Oregon, USA, working on the marketing of African heritage travel as well as a variety of book projects. His interests include British Imperial history in Africa and the East Africa campaign of the First World War in particular. His first book was Rhodesia: Last Outpost of the British Empire; he has written several books in the Africa@War series, including France in Centrafrique, Selous Scouts, Mau Mau, SAAF's Border War and Somalia: US Intervention, 1992-1994.

Good and interesting overview of the subject. Thematic approach (as opposed to purely linear), necessary with such political conflict. The purely military aspects are a little bit underdeveloped (but that's not the point of the book anyway) and you'll have to rely on other authors to dig it up further. Many good pictures. Maps are disappointing though.

Peter Baxter "Bush War " a is a nice compact easy to read Military History of the Rhodeisan Bush War, filled with facts, maps and photo is a great introduction to anyone who wants to learn about a war own on the battle field and lost in Politics.

None.

Good overview of the conflict, minus 1 star for typos (Kindle edition).

Brings back a lot of memories. A good back ground to some of the bigger picture of which the Troopie was not always aware

Great coverage of imperialism's last gasp in Africa, before the "one man, one vote, one time" regime of Mugabe made life infinitely worse in that once wonderful country.

War, dirty and nasty but good history and preparation for what may be coming..

Good stuff here. Bit of overlap with some other Africa@War books that cover Rhodesia but still worth the money.

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