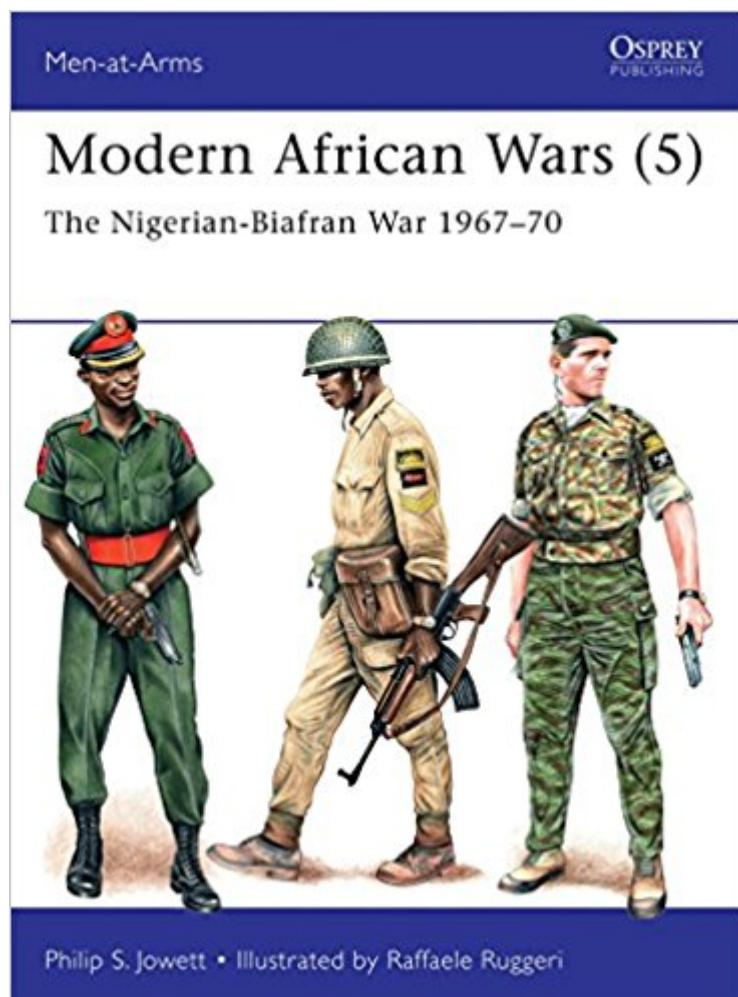


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Modern African Wars (5): The Nigerian-Biafran War 1967–70 (Men-at-Arms)



Synopsis

With decades of research to draw from, Philip Jowett explores this extraordinary David-and-Goliath conflict, where the rag-tag Igbo tribal army of secessionist Biafra faced off against the Nigerian Federal forces. It was an African war that captured the attention of the western media, with individual commanders such as Biafran leader Colonel Ojukwu and Federal Colonel Adekunle becoming familiar figures across the globe. The Nigerian forces easily outnumbered their opponents, and benefitted from British and Soviet equipment, yet against all the odds the Biafrans held out for two and a half years, inflicting many setbacks on the Federal forces before their eventual surrender in 1970. Specially commissioned artwork and historical photos, including some from respected Italian war photographer Romano Ganoni, reflect the diverse array of uniforms and equipment on both sides, with images ranging from Sandhurst-educated officers in immaculate uniform to ragged militiamen armed with World War II kit.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Philip Jowett's first Osprey book was the ground-breaking Men-at-Arms 306: Chinese Civil War Armies 1911–49; he has since published the three-part sequence The Italian Army 1940–45 (Men-at-Arms 340, 349 and 353). He is married and lives in Lincolnshire. Raffaele Ruggeri was born in Bologna, where he works and lives with his wife. He worked in several areas of graphics and design before deciding to devote himself to illustration. He has illustrated a number of books for Osprey.

Little remembered today, the Biafran War was a fight for independence by the Christian Ibos against the Muslim majority of Nigeria following Nigeria's independence from Britain. The war involved not just ground forces but also air and naval forces by both sides and improvisation was the name of the game. Colorful leaders and colorful characters from the rank-and-file abounded, if the photos and plates are anything to go by. It's a fascinating story and the photographs and artwork of this Osprey book makes for a great reference or for a good read in its own right.

There have been numerous African wars and it's interesting to study the different conflicts and their stories. This is a solid entry that meticulously details the opposing sides to the war chronicling their armaments, uniforms and insignia. A good read with beautiful plates

Great overview of the conflict that tore a nation apart. It's echoes reverberate even more than ever with the current happenings within the land. Never knew white mercenaries were involved in the conflict.

Good addition to the MAW series

Wonderful Read

An excellent short account of a forgotten and very tragic conflict.

Good read.

This is the 5th book in this series and covers Modern African Wars.

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