mimi and toutou go forth

Mimi and Toutou Go Forth: The Untold Story of a Daring Expedition

mimi and toutou go forth is a phrase that might not immediately ring a bell for many, but it refers to a fascinating and dramatic chapter in early 20th-century history. This story revolves around two small British gunboats, Mimi and Toutou, and their extraordinary journey on the African continent during World War I. Their mission, fraught with challenges and unexpected adventures, has captured the imagination of historians and enthusiasts alike. Let's dive deeper into the tale of Mimi and Toutou and uncover why their voyage remains a remarkable episode in naval and colonial history.

The Origins of Mimi and Toutou

Before delving into the expedition itself, it's important to understand the background of Mimi and Toutou. These two gunboats were originally built for the Royal Navy, designed to patrol rivers and lakes in the British Empire's vast territories. Mimi and Toutou were relatively small vessels, but their size was an advantage when it came to navigating narrow and winding waterways.

Design and Capabilities

Mimi and Toutou were each about 40 feet long and lightly armed, equipped with a single 3-pounder gun and a few machine guns. Their shallow drafts allowed them to traverse shallow rivers, making them ideal for operations in remote parts of Africa. Despite their modest firepower, these boats were sturdy and reliable, perfect for the reconnaissance and patrol duties they were initially intended for.

The Strategic Importance

At the outbreak of World War I, control of African waterways became crucial. The continent was divided among European powers, and many rivers and lakes served as vital supply routes and strategic locations. The British aimed to secure these waterways to prevent the German East African forces from gaining supremacy. This is the context in which Mimi and Toutou's mission was conceived.

The Epic Journey Across Africa

The heart of the story lies in the incredible logistical feat of transporting Mimi and Toutou from Britain to Lake Tanganyika in Central Africa, a journey that was as perilous as it was ambitious.

From Britain to the African Interior

Mimi and Toutou were shipped in pieces from Britain to South Africa, where they were reassembled. The real challenge began when they had to be transported overland through dense jungles, over mountains, and across rivers to reach Lake Tanganyika. This involved a combination of rail, river barges, and sheer manpower.

The expedition team, led by Commander Geoffrey Spicer-Simson, faced numerous obstacles: hostile terrain, tropical diseases, and the ever-present threat of German forces. The journey took months, with the boats often hauled by hand through difficult conditions.

Challenges Along the Way

The tropical climate presented health challenges, including malaria and dysentery. Equipment often broke down, and spare parts were scarce. The expedition members had to be resourceful, using local materials and improvising repairs to keep the boats seaworthy.

Moreover, the political situation was tense. German colonial troops were aware of the British plans and sought to intercept them. The British team had to maintain secrecy and speed to avoid confrontation before reaching Lake Tanganyika.

The Battle for Lake Tanganyika

Once Mimi and Toutou arrived at Lake Tanganyika, their mission shifted to a more combative phase: challenging German control over the lake.

The Strategic Importance of Lake Tanganyika

Lake Tanganyika was the largest freshwater lake in Africa and a key transport route in the region. The Germans had a powerful naval presence there, including the gunboat Graf von Götzen, which dominated the lake and threatened Allied supply lines.

Gaining control of the lake was essential for the Allies to support their land campaigns against German East Africa. Mimi and Toutou, though small, were crucial in this naval contest.

The Naval Engagements

In a series of daring raids and engagements, Mimi and Toutou took on the larger German vessels. Despite being outgunned, their agility and the element of surprise played to their advantage. Commander Spicer-Simson's unorthodox tactics, including night attacks and using the dense fog for cover, helped turn the tide.

One of the most famous incidents was the sinking of the German gunboat

Kingani by Mimi, which was then salvaged and recommissioned by the British as HMS Fifi. This victory boosted morale and marked a turning point in the control of Lake Tanganyika.

The Legacy of Mimi and Toutou

The expedition of Mimi and Toutou goes beyond a mere naval campaign; it represents a unique blend of adventure, ingenuity, and the complexities of colonial warfare.

A Symbol of Resourcefulness

The story of Mimi and Toutou is often cited as a remarkable example of logistical ingenuity. Transporting and assembling naval vessels in such a remote and hostile environment required exceptional planning and determination. Their success is a testament to the adaptability and perseverance of the expedition members.

Cultural and Historical Impact

While the Mimi and Toutou expedition was a relatively small part of World War I, it had significant implications for the control of Central Africa. The campaign helped secure Allied positions and disrupted German operations, contributing to the eventual Allied victory in East Africa.

In popular culture, the story has inspired books, documentaries, and even films, highlighting the human drama behind the military maneuvers.

Lessons for Modern Expeditions

The challenges faced by the Mimi and Toutou team offer valuable lessons for modern military and exploratory missions. These include:

- The importance of adaptability in hostile environments.
- Effective use of local resources and knowledge.
- The strategic value of controlling waterways in conflict zones.
- The role of leadership and morale in overcoming adversity.

Exploring Further: Where to Learn More About Mimi and Toutou

For those intrigued by this adventurous tale, several resources provide

deeper insights into the Mimi and Toutou expedition. Historical archives, naval history books, and specialized documentaries offer detailed accounts of the mission.

Some notable works include:

- "Mimi and Toutou Go Forth" by Giles Foden a comprehensive narrative capturing the expedition's drama.
- Documentaries on World War I African campaigns often featuring rare footage and expert interviews.
- Naval history journals for technical details on the gunboats and tactics employed.

Visiting museums focused on African colonial history or naval warfare can also enrich understanding, with artifacts and exhibits related to the campaign.

The journey of mimi and toutou go forth remains a captivating chapter in the saga of World War I. From their humble beginnings as modest gunboats to their pivotal role in a daring African naval campaign, Mimi and Toutou embody the spirit of adventure and determination that defines some of the most memorable stories in military history. Whether you are a history buff or simply curious about extraordinary feats of exploration, their story offers a compelling glimpse into a world where courage and creativity shaped the course of events.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the book 'Mimi and Toutou Go Forth' about?

The book 'Mimi and Toutou Go Forth' by Giles Foden tells the true story of the British naval expedition on the African Great Lakes during World War I, focusing on the journey of two gunboats, Mimi and Toutou, as they were transported to Lake Tanganyika to challenge German control.

Who are Mimi and Toutou in the context of the book?

Mimi and Toutou are the names of two small British gunboats that were shipped to Lake Tanganyika in Africa during World War I to fight against German forces controlling the lake.

What historical period does 'Mimi and Toutou Go Forth' cover?

The book covers events during World War I, specifically the naval campaign on Lake Tanganyika in 1915.

Why was the expedition of Mimi and Toutou significant?

The expedition was significant because it was a daring and unusual military campaign involving transporting gunboats overland and by rail across Africa to gain control of Lake Tanganyika, which was strategically important during the war.

Who authored 'Mimi and Toutou Go Forth'?

The book was written by Giles Foden, a British author known for his historical novels and non-fiction works.

What themes are explored in 'Mimi and Toutou Go Forth'?

The book explores themes such as colonialism, warfare, adventure, and the complexities of World War I in Africa, highlighting courage, ingenuity, and the clash of empires.

Has 'Mimi and Toutou Go Forth' been adapted into other media?

As of now, there is no widely known film or television adaptation of 'Mimi and Toutou Go Forth,' but the book has received critical acclaim and remains popular among readers interested in historical military adventures.

Additional Resources

Mimi and Toutou Go Forth: A Critical Examination of the 1939 Documentary

mimi and toutou go forth is a 1939 British documentary film that chronicles the Royal Navy's unusual and ill-fated expedition during World War I to capture German East Africa's port of Dar es Salaam. Directed by the renowned film critic and documentarian Robert Flaherty, the film offers a unique blend of wartime reportage and cinematic storytelling. Over the decades, it has remained a subject of interest for historians, film scholars, and military enthusiasts alike, providing a fascinating window into colonial military campaigns and early documentary filmmaking.

This article aims to provide a comprehensive, analytical review of "mimi and toutou go forth," exploring its historical context, cinematic features, and its legacy within both documentary and military history realms. By delving into the film's narrative, production background, and its reception, we can better understand why this documentary continues to attract attention more than 80 years after its release.

Historical Context and Background

The expedition featured in "mimi and toutou go forth" took place during the early stages of World War I. Britain sought to undermine German influence in East Africa by launching a naval operation on Lake Tanganyika, a

strategically important body of water. The British Royal Navy, under the command of Lieutenant Commander Geoffrey Spicer-Simson, transported two motorboats—named Mimi and Toutou—across challenging terrain to the lake, intending to challenge the German naval presence.

The film captures this extraordinary military venture, highlighting not only the tactical challenges but also the broader implications of colonial warfare. The operation was emblematic of the improvisational nature of early 20th-century warfare, where unconventional strategies were often necessary due to logistical constraints.

Significance of the Expedition

The Mimi and Toutou expedition was notable for its audacity and originality. Transporting small motorboats overland through dense African terrain was a logistical feat, demonstrating ingenuity in wartime operations. The success of this mission, albeit limited, temporarily shifted naval control on Lake Tanganyika, disrupting German supply lines and contributing to the Allied war effort in the region.

From a historical perspective, the expedition reflects the complexities of colonial military engagements. It underscores the intersection of European imperial ambitions with global conflict, revealing how local geographies and technologies shaped wartime strategies.

Cinematic Approach and Production

Robert Flaherty's involvement in "mimi and toutou go forth" brought a distinctive documentary style to the film. Flaherty, often regarded as the father of documentary cinema, was known for his ethnographic approach and immersive storytelling techniques. However, this film diverges from his typical style by incorporating a more formal military narrative aligned with wartime propaganda objectives.

Filmmaking Techniques and Style

The film employs a mix of actual footage from the expedition and staged scenes to convey the story effectively. This hybrid approach raises interesting questions about documentary authenticity and the role of narrative construction in wartime films. The cinematography captures the rugged African landscapes and the physical challenges faced by the crew, enhancing the visual impact and providing valuable historical documentation.

The narrative is structured to emphasize the heroism and determination of the British naval officers, adhering to the conventions of morale-boosting wartime cinema. Yet, its understated tone and lack of overt dramatization set it apart from more propagandistic films of the era.

Production Challenges

Creating a documentary in the remote and logistically difficult environments

of East Africa during wartime was a considerable challenge. The production team had to contend with limited resources, harsh climates, and the unpredictability of military operations. These constraints influenced both the film's length and content, resulting in a concise yet impactful documentary.

Reception and Legacy

Upon release, "mimi and toutou go forth" received a mixed reception. Military audiences appreciated the detailed portrayal of the expedition, while some critics noted its uneven pacing and the tension between documentary realism and staged sequences. Over time, however, the film has gained recognition for its historical value and pioneering role in documentary filmmaking.

Impact on Documentary Cinema

The film's blending of factual footage with narrative elements foreshadowed future developments in documentary cinema, where filmmakers balance authenticity with storytelling to engage audiences. "mimi and toutou go forth" thus occupies an important place in the evolution of documentary techniques.

Historical and Educational Value

For historians and educators, the documentary offers a rare visual account of a relatively obscure military campaign. It provides insights into the operational difficulties faced by Allied forces in Africa and serves as a case study in the use of small-scale naval power in unconventional settings.

Analyzing Mimi and Toutou Go Forth: Strengths and Limitations

While "mimi and toutou go forth" is praised for its pioneering spirit and unique subject matter, it is essential to critically evaluate its strengths and limitations to understand its place in film and history.

• Strengths:

- o Authentic visual documentation of a rare military campaign
- o Innovative use of location shooting in challenging environments
- \circ Contribution to wartime morale and British imperial narrative
- o Early example of blending documentary and narrative techniques

• Limitations:

- o Occasional staged scenes may detract from documentary authenticity
- Limited exploration of the broader political and ethical implications of colonial warfare
- \circ Relatively short runtime restricts depth of coverage
- Perspective largely aligned with British imperial interests, lacking diverse viewpoints

Comparisons with Contemporary War Documentaries

When compared to other wartime documentaries of the 1930s and 1940s, "mimi and toutou go forth" stands out for its focus on a niche military episode rather than grand battles or major theaters of war. Its emphasis on a small-scale naval operation contrasts with the large-scale propaganda films produced by various nations during World War II.

This distinctiveness, however, means it appeals primarily to specialized audiences rather than the general public. Unlike the sweeping narratives of films such as Frank Capra's "Why We Fight" series, Flaherty's documentary offers a more modest but no less intriguing glimpse into the realities of World War I's peripheral campaigns.

The Enduring Appeal of Mimi and Toutou Go Forth

The continued interest in "mimi and toutou go forth" can be attributed to several factors. Firstly, the documentary captures a unique moment in history seldom represented in mainstream media. Secondly, it exemplifies early documentary filmmaking techniques that continue to influence the genre. Lastly, its subject matter resonates with those fascinated by military history, colonial studies, and the complexities of World War I beyond the European battlefields.

Modern viewers and scholars often approach the film with a more critical eye, acknowledging both its historical significance and the limitations imposed by its context. The documentary thus serves as a valuable artifact for understanding not only the military expedition it depicts but also the cultural and political environment in which it was produced.

In summary, "mimi and toutou go forth" remains a compelling study in how film can document, interpret, and sometimes mythologize historical events. Its legacy persists in academic circles and among documentary enthusiasts, offering a nuanced perspective on a remarkable episode of naval warfare during a global conflict.

Mimi And Toutou Go Forth

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mimi and toutou go forth: Mimi and Toutou Go Forth Giles Foden, 2005-07-07 At the start of World War One, German warships controlled Lake Tanganyika in Central Africa. The British had no naval craft at all upon 'Tanganjikasee', as the Germans called it. This mattered: it was the longest lake in the world and of great strategic advantage. In June 1915, a force of 28 men was despatched from Britain on a vast journey. Their orders were to take control of the lake. To reach it, they had to haul two motorboats with the unlikely names of Mimi and Toutou through the wilds of the Congo. The 28 were a strange bunch -- one was addicted to Worcester sauce, another was a former racing driver -- but the strangest of all of them was their skirt-wearing, tattoo-covered commander, Geoffrey Spicer-Simson. Whatever it took, even if it meant becoming the god of a local tribe, he was determined to cover himself in glory. But the Germans had a surprise in store for Spicer-Simson, in the shape of their secret 'supership' the Graf von Gotzen . . . Unearthing new German and African records, the prize-winning author of The Last King of Scotland retells this most unlikely of true-life tales with his customary narrative energy and style. Fitzcarraldo meets Heart of Darkness, this is rich, vivid and flashmanesque in its appeal - military history at its most absorbing and entertaining

mimi and toutou go forth: Gridded Naval Wargames Bob Cordery, 2018-05-19 This book follows on from 'The Portable Wargame' and 'Developing The Portable Wargame' to cover naval wargames that can be fought on a gridded tabletop. The book contains six sets of rules (three of which are from the 'Portable Naval Wargame' stable), four explanatory battle reports, and a chapter that explains 'How to ...' build simple model American Civil War ironclads. Aimed mainly at the wargamer who wants to include aspects of naval warfare in their wargames, it is suitable for both novice and experienced wargamers.

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mimi and toutou go forth: Roses Under the Miombo Trees Amanda Parkyn, 2012-08-01

Amanda Parkyn's memoir focusses on her life in 1960s Southern and Northern Rhodesia. Based on the letters she wrote to her parents back in England, Roses Under the Miombo Trees covers significant events in Rhodesia's history as uniquely witnessed through the eyes of a young naïve housewife Amanda Parkyn, a young English bride, finds herself in 1960s colonial Africa. Life as wife of a sales representative means frequent change, as he is posted to progressively smaller communities, first in Southern Rhodesia pre-Ian Smith, then north to the tip of Lake Tanganyika, in a Northern Rhodesia about to be granted its independence. She writes home regularly as she learns to keep house, to become madam to a succession of servants, as she eagerly seeks to fit into a white society very different from that of her upbringing. Starting a family brings new challenges as she must learn to make do in ingenious ways to stretch their tiny budget. Back in England her mother sends frequent parcels of everything from shoes to toys and romper suits to Christmas cakes, keeping her daughter's airmail letters in an old leather document case. Forty years later Amanda has revisited these letters, and in Roses Under the Miombo Trees weaves a narrative around the voice of Amanda's young self and her memories of the time, setting the story within its historical and political context. Roses Under the Miombo Trees describes the carefree enjoyment of a privileged white lifestyle in the sunshine of Southern Africa, the fun and resourcefulness of communities making their own entertainment, the support and friendship young wives and mothers give each other so far from home. But she also uncovers a young woman's hidden unease at the foreignness of it all, of being white among black Africans, and must face her young self's casual racism and colonial attitudes. The text is spiked with short poems which, in a different 'voice', reveal other aspects of the story. Finally the author asks what might have happened to those she knew, in countries now so different from when she lived there.

mimi and toutou go forth: Gunboats of World War I Angus Konstam, 2015-04-20 Naval action in World War I conjures up images of enormous dreadnoughts slugging it out in vast oceans. Yet the truth is that more sailors were killed serving on gunboats and monitors operating far from the naval epicentre of the war than were ever killed at Jutland. Gunboat engagements during this war were bloody and hard fought, if small in scale. Austrian gunboats on the Danube fired the first shots of the war, whilst German, British and Belgian gunboats fought one of the strangest, most intriguing naval campaigns in history in far-flung Lake Tanganyika. From the Mediterranean to the Black Sea, from the Balkans to Mesopotamia, gunboats played an influential part in the story of World War I. This detailed technical guide to the gunboats of all the major navies of the war means that, for the first time, the story can be told.

mimi and toutou go forth: World War I Spencer C. Tucker, 2014-10-28 Offering exhaustive coverage, detailed analyses, and the latest historical interpretations of events, this expansive, five-volume encyclopedia is the most comprehensive and detailed reference source on the First World War available today. One hundred years after the beginning of World War I in 1914, this conflict still stands as perhaps the most important event of the 20th century. World War I toppled all of the existing empires at the time, transformed the Middle East, and vaulted the United States to becoming the world's leading economic power. Its effects were profound and lasting—and included outcomes that led to World War II. This multivolume encyclopedia provides a wide-ranging examination of World War I that covers all of the important battles; key individuals, both civilian and military; weapons and technologies; and diplomatic, social, political, cultural, military, and economic developments. Suitable as a reference tool for high school and undergraduate students as well as faculty members and graduate-level researchers, World War I: The Definitive Encyclopedia and Document Collection offers accessible, in-depth information and up-to-date analyses in a format that lends itself to guick and easy use. The set comprises alphabetically arranged, cross-referenced entries accompanied by further reading selections as well as a comprehensive bibliography. A fifth volume provides chronologically arranged documents and an A-Z index.

mimi and toutou go forth: <u>Do Not Take this Road to El-Karama</u> Chris Harvie, 2011-04-08 Tired of tragic stories, Chris Harvie sets out to see the positive side of the 'Dark Continent' and to enjoy its life and laughter. Do Not Take This Road to El-Karama is the entertaining account of an

epic road trip that takes him from his home outside the Kruger National Park to the banks of the Nile in Uganda – and back again. In his haphazard and somewhat eccentric travels, Harvie encounters missionaries and mechanics, locals and ex-pats, rascals and rogues. Delving into his own mixed British and South African identity, he tries to fathom – in his trademark witty and sardonic style – the post-independence national character of the southern, central, and east African countries through which he and his companions pass. Delightfully opinionated, brimming with interesting facts, questionable comment and dubious speculations, this book is essential reading for anyone with more than a passing interest in Africa, travel, history and people; in a good read; or simply in being alive.

mimi and toutou go forth: Quirky History John Quirk, 2022-10-04 John Quirk loves history, drawing and boats and these three elements come together in this attractive and entertaining book. He has sought out obscure episodes or familiar events from the past and written engagingly about them, illustrated with his excellent colour cartoons. Where possible he relates the historical happenings and maritime moments to the present day, be it when tracing the history of the screw, misinformation (fake news) during the Second World War, plague ships in the fourteenth century, or Russia's ill-fated war with Japan in 1904. The events covered range from Henry V's invasion of France in 1415, consisting mainly of chartered French ships and paid for partially by Dick Whittington, to episodes in the Second World War, like the Somali Camel Corps capturing a German U-boat. Other historic figures involved include Horatio Nelson, Napoleon, Rudolf Diesel and Lawrence of Arabia. The 25 stories and over 100 cartoons are a treasure-trove of compelling, salt-infused, tales told with imagination and humour, with an eye on the present day, which will be enjoyed by anyone with an interest in maritime history (or even just history).

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mimi and toutou go forth: The Transcultural Turn Lucy Bond, Jessica Rapson, 2014-04-01 This edited collection makes a progressive intervention into the interdisciplinary field of memory studies with a series of essays drawn from diverse theoretical, practitional and cultural backgrounds. The most seminal critical development within memory studies in recent years has arguably been the turn towards transculturalism. This movement engenders a series of methodologies that posit remembrance as a fluid process in which commemorative tropes work to inform the representation of diverse events and traumas beyond national or cultural boundaries, transcending – but not negating – spatial, temporal and ideational differences. Examining a wide range of historical and cultural contexts, the essays in this collection focus on the dialogues that shape processes of remembrance between and beyond borders, critiquing the problems and possibilities inherent in current discourses in memorial practice and theory as they approach the challenge of transculturalism.

mimi and toutou go forth: The Great War in Post-Memory Literature and Film Martin Löschnigg, Marzena Sokolowska-Paryz, 2014-10-14 The twenty-seven original contributions to this volume investigate the ways in which the First World War has been commemorated and represented internationally in prose fiction, drama, film, docudrama and comics from the 1960s until the present.

The volume thus provides a comprehensive survey of the cultural memory of the war as reflected in various media across national cultures, addressing the complex connections between the cultural post-memory of the war and its mediation. In four sections, the essays investigate (1) the cultural legacy of the Great War (including its mythology and iconography); (2) the implications of different forms and media for representing the war; (3) 'national' memories, foregrounding the differences in post-memory representations and interpretations of the Great War, and (4) representations of the Great War within larger temporal or spatial frameworks, focusing specifically on the ideological dimensions of its 'remembrance' in historical, socio-political, gender-oriented, and post-colonial contexts.

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mimi and toutou go forth: Space of Transformation Geert Castryck, 2025-08-18 Drawing on a wide range of archives, historical publications, oral history, graphic, audiovisual and web sources, Geert Castryck presents Kigoma-Ujiji as both shaping and being shaped by global transformations. On the surface, the book offers almost two centuries of urban history on Lake Tanganyika in western Tanzania, close to the Burundian and Congolese borders, in a place that has been a transport hub throughout that time. Beneath the surface, it is also about major transformations on a global scale, and about people dealing with and coping with these global challenges far from the supposed global powerhouses. Urbanization and infrastructure, colonization and decolonization, liberalization and democratization, war refugees, world heritage and translocal identities are the entry points for interpreting transformations that are local and global at the same time. The author uses the analytical categories of liminal space and portal of globalization to link the marginality and uncertainty that characterize the successive transformations in Kigoma-Ujiji with the urban resilience and creativity used to manage these transformations.

mimi and toutou go forth: *The Last King of Scotland* Giles Foden, 2008-09-04 What would it be like to become Idi Amin's personal physician? Giles Foden's bestselling thriller is the story of a young Scottish doctor drawn into the heart of the Ugandan dictator's surreal and brutal regime. Privy to Amin's thoughts and ambitions, he is both fascinated and appalled. As Uganda plunges into civil chaos he realises action is imperative - but which way should he jump?

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deal of literary and scholarly attention, missing from the canon of work on military forces in the Congo is a study of the Force Publique, a paramilitary police force established by King Léopold II to secure the Congo Free State and to protect a vast geographical swath of Central Africa that had become his own personal possession following the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885. In many ways, the absence of any study on the origins of the Force Publique to its dissolution in 1960 means that our knowledge surrounding the history of the Belgian Congo and the modern-day Democratic Republic of the Congo is incomplete. Indeed, it is possible to trace the origins of rebellion in the Congo Crisis (1960-1967) back to the Batetela Rebellions that took place in the Congo Free State in the 1890s and early 1900s, and to link them with a succession of anti-Belgian popular uprisings that took place in the Congo up to the time of the Congo's independence. Moreover, a revolt by NCOs of the Force Publique was one of the sparks that plunged the Congo into crisis in early July 1960. It would be wrong to say, nonetheless, that the geographical extent of this volume - the first of two on Belgian military forces in the Congo - is limited within the boundaries of the Congo Free State and the Belgian Congo: through descriptions of military encounters in Africa in the late 1890s and First and Second World Wars, the history of the Force Publique is extended into a study of war in the Sudan, East Africa, and in Ethiopia. For aviation enthusiasts, this volume is significant in that its objective is to provide a history of the development of air travel to and from the Belgian Congo in addition to examining the evolution of military air forces in the colony. Again, we can link the Force Publique's air branch to the Congo Crisis as a number of its pilots and aircraft served to form the basis of the Katangan Air Force and the Congolese Air Force; two forces that were highly influential in deciding the future of the Congo after its independence. The first volume of Belgian Military Forces in the Congo is illustrated throughout with photographs and includes specially commissioned color artworks of the weapons, soldiers and aircraft of the Force Publique.

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