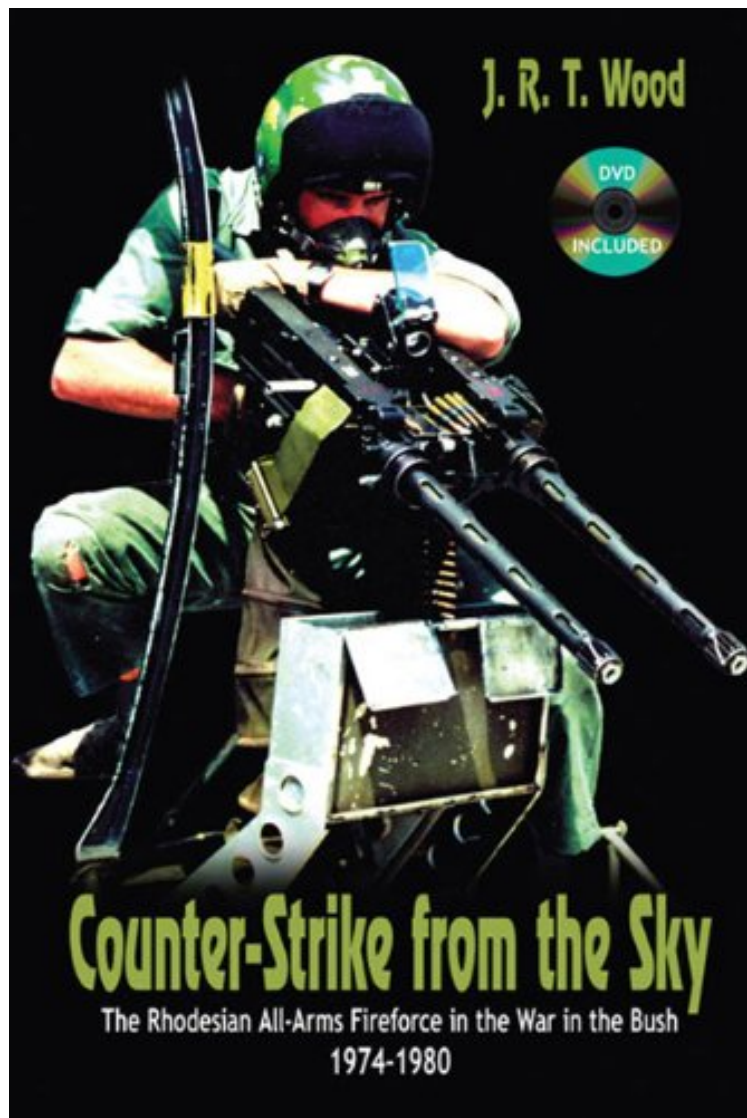


[Free download] Counter-Strike From the Sky: The Rhodesian All-Arms Fireforce in the War in the Bush 1974–1980

Counter-Strike From the Sky: The Rhodesian All-Arms Fireforce in the War in the Bush 1974–1980

J.R.T. Wood

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#542931 in Books 2009-05-01 2009-05-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.10 x .70 x 6.00l, 1.23 #File Name: 1920143610308 pages | File size: 68.Mb

J.R.T. Wood : Counter-Strike From the Sky: The Rhodesian All-Arms Fireforce in the War in the Bush 1974–1980 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Counter-Strike From the Sky: The Rhodesian All-Arms Fireforce in the War in the Bush 1974–1980:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. One word - Detail!By One of Marius' MulesThis is without question

the most thoroughly researched historical work available on "everything" related to Fire Force operations in the Rhodesian War. Although this is your typical 9 x 6 hardcover, it has a very Osprey "feel" to it. By that, I mean the author included several color plates and several sections of quality photos that make the book seem more like something Osprey would publish. That doesn't mean, however, that the written sections are given short shrift. On the contrary, so much detail is presented here that the casual reader may become bogged down. I don't want to give the impression that this is an encyclopedic reference, but I do wish to convey that it is wonderful in its detail of minutiae. Included here is a plethora of maps, bw photos, colour photos, prints, graphs, a glossary, an index, and even an accompanying documentary DVD. It's likely that Fire Force operations comprised the majority of lethal contacts with terrorists operating in and around Rhodesia during the war. Wood's "Counterstrike" is easily one of the best historical sources available on the Rhodesian War. So if you're a serious student of this conflict, this is a "must read." 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good discussion of Fireforce Ops By Mike V. Counterstrike From The Sky is JRT Wood's attempt to put to paper a comprehensive look at the the Fireforce concept of total envelopment of a terrorist/insurgent force within the Rhodesian conflict. Particulars cover the evolution, equipment, and doctrine of a Fireforce, as well as an in-depth look at Operation Dingo - the strikes against the ZANLA camps at Chimoio and Tembue. The book is, naturally, covers a very specific and narrow subject area and readers have to be interested in the subject to stick with this book. Furthermore, by virtue of their connection to the tactic, the Rhodesian Light Infantry receives a lot of coverage in the book at the expense of discussion of the RAR and RSAS who also used the tactic. That said - for those who are interested in it, this book makes good coverage of the topic, though for some it may not be in-depth enough in certain areas. The doctrine section (covered under the chapter on Fireforce commanders) is a very good read in particular. Those interested in learning the nitty-gritty of Operation Dingo will also find the second half of the book of particular interest. On the other hand, some will find the book a bit dry to read as it is written primarily for an academic/military audience. The examination of Operation Dingo is particularly plodding, but extremely useful in that it covers the movements of nearly every unit involved in the operation. Most will find themselves constantly flipping back and forth between the map section and the text when reading this portion, though the pictures and maps are of good quality and highly useful as an supplement to the text. My only other qualm is that a theoretical exercise in if/how the concept could be used in a modern counter-insurgency effort would have been a nice addition. If you are interested in the concept of Fireforce or Operation Dingo (though Dr. Wood has a separate book coming out on the operation later in 2011) this book will be an informative read so long as you have the patience and mindset to read an academically oriented book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Counter Strike from the Sky By D. Austin Brilliantly documented and events stunningly detailed retold. I was enthralled with reading this volume from start to finish. The author has incredibly well researched the history of Fireforce operations, and this is the evidence. A must-read for anyone interested in the history of Rhodesia / Zimbabwe and its current position within Africa, modern warfare, and / or counter-insurgency operational planning, behaviour, tactics and results. Five Stars!

The militarily acclaimed Fireforce concept Fireforce as a military concept dates from 1974 when the Rhodesian Air Force (RhAF) acquired the French MG151 20mm cannon from the Portuguese. Coupled with this, the traditional counter-insurgency tactics (against Mugabe's ZANLA and Nkomo's ZIPRA) of follow-ups, tracking and ambushing simply weren't producing satisfactory results. Visionary RhAF and Rhodesian Light Infantry (RLI) officers thus expanded on the idea of a 'vertical envelopment' of the enemy (first practised by SAS paratroopers in Mozambique in 1973), with the 20mm cannon being the principle weapon of attack, mounted in an Alouette III K-Car ('Killer car'), flown by the air force commander, with the army commander on board directing his ground troops deployed from G-Cars (Alouette III troop-carrying gunships and latterly Bell 'Hueys' in 1979) and parachuted from C-47 Dakotas. In support would be a propeller-driven ground-attack aircraft armed with front guns, pods of napalm, white phosphorus rockets and a variety of Rhodesian-designed bombs; on call would be Canberra bombers, Hawker Hunter and Vampire jets. Richard Wood, BA (Hons) (Rhodes), PhD (Edinburgh), FRHistS was born in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). He was educated at St George's College, Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa, and Edinburgh University, Scotland. He was a Commonwealth scholar and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He was the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Research Fellow at the University of Rhodesia and a Professor of History at the University of Durban-Westville. He is undoubtedly the foremost historian and researcher on the history of Rhodesia in the decades following World War II and, with exclusive access to the hitherto closed papers of Ian Smith, has written three definitive publications: *The Welensky Papers*; *So Far and No Further!* and *A Matter of Weeks Rather than Months*. He is a renowned military historian, having served as a territorial soldier in the Rhodesia Regiment, and the Mapping Research Unit of the Rhodesian Intelligence Corps. He has published *The War Diaries of André Dennison* (1989), numerous articles, conference papers and chapters in books. He has a lifelong interest in matters military, rugby and fly-fishing. He lives in Durban, South Africa with his wife Carole.

.... a very enjoyable book and JRT Wood does a commendable job at shedding light upon a concept of operations that served its originators very well (Major Chris Buckham, Logistics Officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force) About the

Author Dr Richard Wood is a Commonwealth Scholar, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and graduate of Rhodes and Edinburgh universities. He is one of the world's leading historians on Rhodesian and Zimbabwean political and military history. He was born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia) and currently lives in Durban, South Africa, where he is engaged in full-time research and writing