

Mao's army goes to sea

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Note sur le contenu : Introduction An Overlooked History The East China Navy The People's Navy The Xiamen, Jinmen, and Zhoushan Campaigns The Hainan and Wanshan Campaigns An Assessment of the PLA's Seaward Turn Discerning Institutional Continuities Conclusion

Résumé ou extrait : "This is a history of the creation of China's People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) and Mao Zedong's attempt to end the civil war with the conquest of key offshore islands. The civil war had been fought with a peasant army, yet to complete the consolidation of power and pursue its rivalry with Nationalist China, Mao had to develop maritime capabilities. Drawing extensively from newly available Chinese-language sources, this study shows that the navy-building process, the sea battles, and the contested landings on offshore islands had a lasting influence. Even today, the PLAN's identity, strategy, doctrine, and force structure are conditioned by these early experiences and myths. By providing the definitive account of this little-known, yet critical, moment in China's naval history, this book overturns the conventional wisdom that the People's Republic of China was inattentive to naval affairs during the early years"

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