World War II Jungle Warfare Tactics

Osprey Elite series No. 151 (2007) Text by Stephen Bull; colour plates by Steve Noon

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Comments:

This is another excellent book from Osprey that any WWII wargamer really should read. Previous volumes covered tactics in Western Europe and this volume gives you pretty much everything you need to run a game using authentic tactics in the mainland Far Eastern theatre.

Essentially, what you have here is a history of the war in this theatre, explained through a discussion of tactics ó the Japanese initial successes were not the result of them being natural jungle fighters, but because they used tactics suited to the environment and the British did not. We then see the evolution of allied tactics whereby the allies learned to adapt to the jungle. The chapter on Chindits is interesting and the statement that by the end of the war all allied units had become Chindits is a telling one.

As with other volumes in this series, the wargamer can set up scenarios based on the colour plates ó a Japanese flanking attack in 1941, an Australian ambush later in the war, patrols, night attack, attack and defence scenarios with either side in the role of attacker. All such scenarios would provide simple, easily set up games using authentic tactics which would I think be interesting in their own right and be an acid test for your rules.

Highly recommended.



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