

The French Foreign Legion Since 1945
Osprey Men-At-Arms series No. 300 (1996)
By Martin Windrow; illustrations by Mike Chappell

Contents:

The Legion in 1945
Indochina 1946-54
Morocco 1945-57
Algeria 1954-62
The Diaspora

Plates:

A: French Foreign Legion 1945-50
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F: French Foreign Legion ó France 1980s dress uniform
G: French Foreign Legion ó France/Africa 1980s
H: French Foreign Legion ó 1990s

First published in 1996, this book in fact covers a 50-year span for one of France's most deployed military forces. One has to wonder why it wasn't "future proofed" by adopting the title *The FFL 1945-1995*. The detail, whilst good, is naturally also quite limited for some of the many conflicts that the ever evolving FFL were involved in over this long timespan. The following breakdown gives the number of pages in the book devoted to each topic:

- Indochina (18 pages) -- good detail on the deployment and the major battles.
- Morocco (1 page) -- brief notes on FFL unit deployments.
- Algeria (12 pages) -- again good detail on deployments and details of major involvement in the conflict.
- Foreign Legion Organisation since 1962 (9 pages) -- this covers all the post-Algerian War deployments in Africa (including Chad), Beirut, the Gulf and Bosnia. The last three of that list get one paragraph each.

The uniform details, as would be expected from an MAA title, are good and for the wargamer interested in French Indochina and/or Algeria the book is a worthy purchase. However, overall it is probably trying to cover too much ground in just one MAA title.

--Jonathan Aird

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FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION SINCE 1945



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