

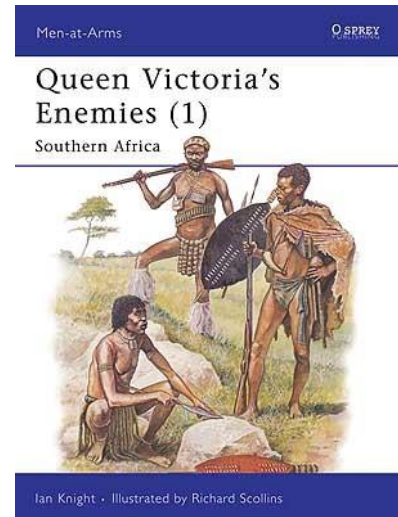
**Queen Victoria's Enemies (1): Southern Africa**  
**Osprey Men-at-Arms series no. 212 (1989)**  
**Text by Ian Knight. Colour plates by Richard Scollins.**  
**ISBN 0-85045-901-X**  
**Osprey Publishing Ltd.**  
**Review by Martin Smith**

**Contents:**

Introduction  
The Xhosa  
The Basotho  
Sekhukhune  
The Tswana  
Natal  
Zimbabwe  
The Boers

**Colour Plates:**

A Cape Frontier Wars, mid-19th C.  
B Cape Frontier Wars, 1870s.  
C Basotho warriors.  
D Untitled (but shows Hlubi, Zulu and Pedi warriors)  
E Ndebele warriors muster in ceremonial regalia, c1893.  
F Ndebele warriors.  
G The Boers.  
H The Anglo-Boer War.



Ian Knight is well known for his deep knowledge of the military history of southern Africa. In this MAA, looking from the perspective of British Imperial expansion in the south of the African continent, he covers a multitude of conflicts against diverse opponents, from the poorly armed tribesmen of the Cape Frontier Wars to relatively well-equipped Boer citizen soldiers. Each section of the text includes insightful historical background and a short description of the campaigns involved against the relevant opponent, and also some details of their dress, weaponry and fighting style. Coverage of each of these enemies of Imperial expansion is well written but brief, as might be expected. The subject matter of Rick Scollins' colour plates and their accompanying text is well chosen, and gives the reader a good appreciation of the differences between the nations encountered. Additional black and white newspaper illustrations and photos of warriors appear throughout the text.

This is an exceptionally good overview, if necessarily 'broad brush', for those interested in Britain's colonial wars in southern Africa in the later C19th, and a good introduction to the African and white migrations which caused them.

However, if a wargamer has a more specific conflict in mind or wants further details of troops involved they might be better advised to seek out some of the many other Ospreys which deal with southern Africa. For example, for British uniforms for these wars an Author's Note in this book redirects the reader to the British Army on Campaign series - MAA's 193, 196, 198 and 201. Other Ospreys relating to this period and geographical area include for the Anglo-Zulu War MAA 57 and 388, WAR 14, ELI 21 and 32, plus CBT 3, whilst for the Anglo-Boer Wars there are MAA's 62, 301 and 303, plus CBT 26 and WAR 86 'Boer Commando'.