The MILITARY and DEMOCRACY in ASIA and the PACIFIC
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R.J. May & Viberto Selochan
Editors
CONTENTS

Preface vii
Preface to the ANU E Press publication ix
Contributors xi

1 Introduction: democracy and the military in comparative perspective
   R.J. May, Stephanie Lawson, and Viberto Selochan 1

2 The military and democracy in Indonesia
   Michael R.J. Vatikiotis 29

3 The military and democracy in Thailand
   Suchit Bunbongkarn 47

4 The military and the fragile democracy of the Philippines
   Viberto Selochan 59

5 Burma’s struggle for democracy: the army against the people
   Josef Silverstein 69

6 Pakistan: civil-military relations in a praetorian state
   Hasan Askari Rizvi 88

7 The military and democracy in Bangladesh
   Emajuddin Ahamed 101

8 Patterns of military rule and prospects for democracy in South Korea
   Yung Myung Kim 119

9 The military versus democracy in Fiji: problems for contemporary political development
   Stephanie Lawson 132

10 Government and the military in Papua New Guinea
   R.J. May 148

References 176
Index 189
PREFACE

Over the past decade the military in a number of countries has played an important role both in bringing about changes of political regime and in resisting pressures for change. This volume, whose compilation was undertaken within the context of the Regime Change and Regime Maintenance in Asia and the Pacific project of the Australian National University’s Department of Political and Social Change, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, brings together a number of prominent regional specialists to take a fresh look at the military’s changing role in selected countries of Asia and the island Pacific, with particular regard to their performance against criteria of democratic government. The book provides a sequel to Selochan’s earlier collection, *The Military, the State, and Development in Asia and the Pacific* (Westview, 1991).

Claire Smith, Bev Fraser and Allison Ley again provided expert midwifery in bringing the book into being and our colleagues Harold Crouch and Bob Lowry made helpful comments on the manuscript. As always it has been difficult to avoid being overtaken by events and we are grateful to our co-contributors for their forbearance in providing updates and waiting out the (mostly) inevitable delays in finalising the volume.

V.S. and R.J.M.
Canberra
We are fortunate to be able to produce this title six years after the initial publication of *The Military and Democracy in Asia and the Pacific*. It forms part of an ANU E Press series that is intended to make critical research done at The Australian National University available to a wider readership.

The original edition of *The Military and Democracy in Asia and the Pacific* was undertaken within the context of the Regime Change and Regime Maintenance in Asia and the Pacific project of The Australian National University’s Department of Political and Social Change, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, bringing together a number of prominent regional specialists to look at the military’s changing role in selected countries of Asia and the Pacific.

As the original edition sold out, we hope that this new publication will reach an even wider audience who can reflect on the issues raised in this volume and watch with interest the developments within the region.
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