

**The MILITARY
and DEMOCRACY in
ASIA and the
PACIFIC**

The MILITARY and DEMOCRACY in ASIA and the PACIFIC

R.J. May & Viberto Selochan
Editors



E P R E S S



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CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	vii
<i>Preface to the ANU E Press publication</i>	ix
<i>Contributors</i>	xi
1 Introduction: democracy and the military in comparative perspective <i>R.J. May, Stephanie Lawson, and Viberto Selochan</i>	1
2 The military and democracy in Indonesia <i>Michael R.J. Vatikiotis</i>	29
3 The military and democracy in Thailand <i>Suchit Bunbongkarn</i>	47
4 The military and the fragile democracy of the Philippines <i>Viberto Selochan</i>	59
5 Burma's struggle for democracy: the army against the people <i>Josef Silverstein</i>	69
6 Pakistan: civil-military relations in a praetorian state <i>Hasan Askari Rizvi</i>	88
7 The military and democracy in Bangladesh <i>Emajuddin Ahamed</i>	101
8 Patterns of military rule and prospects for democracy in South Korea <i>Yung Myung Kim</i>	119
9 The military versus democracy in Fiji: problems for contemporary political development <i>Stephanie Lawson</i>	132
10 Government and the military in Papua New Guinea <i>R.J. May</i>	148
<i>References</i>	176
<i>Index</i>	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

PREFACE TO THE ANU E PRESS PUBLICATION

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.

CONTRIBUTORS

Emajuddin Ahamed is professor and chairman of the Department of Political Science at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, and former pro vice chancellor of that university. His numerous publications include *Military Rule and Myth of Democracy* (1988) and *Society and Politics in Bangladesh* (1989).

Suchit Bunbongkarn is professor and head of the Department of Government at the Political Science Faculty, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. He was an adviser to former Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanoud from 1981 to 1987. His many publications on Thai politics include *The Thai Military in Politics 1981-1986* (1987).

Stephanie Lawson is a fellow in the Department of International Relations, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University. Her doctoral thesis from the University of New England, Australia, on *The Failure of Democratic Politics in Fiji*, was published by Oxford University Press in 1991 and she has recently completed a book on *Tradition and Democracy in the South Pacific*.

Ronald J. May is senior fellow in the Department of Political and Social Change, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University, and former director of the Papua New Guinea Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research (now National Research Institute). He is a graduate of Sydney and Oxford universities and has published extensively on the politics of Papua New Guinea and the Philippines, including *The Changing Role of the Military in Papua New Guinea* (1993).

Yung Myung Kim is a graduate of Seoul National University and the State Uni-

versity of New York at Buffalo and currently associate professor in Political Science at Hallym University, Chunchon, Kangwon-do, Korea. He has written on various aspects of Korean politics, including civil-military relations.

Hasan Askari Rizvi is professor and chairman of the department of Political Science at the University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan. He holds a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr Rizvi's many publications include *The Military and Politics in Pakistan* (1986) and *Pakistan and the Geostrategic Environment* (1993).

Viberto Selochan is a graduate of the Australian National University and former research fellow at the Centre for the Study of Australia-Asia Relations at Griffith University, Australia, currently working with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He is the author of *Could the Military Govern the Philippines?* and editor of *The Military, the State, and Development in Asia and the Pacific* (1991). His PhD thesis on 'Professionalisation and Politicisation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines' is being prepared for publication.

Josef Silverstein has recently retired as professor and chairman of the Department of Political Science at Rutgers University, USA. He is a leading authority on Burma, whose extensive publications include *The Political Legacy of Aung San* (1972), *Burma: Military Rule and the Politics of Stagnation* (1977), and *Burmese Politics: The Dilemma of National Unity* (1980).

Michael Vatikiotis is a graduate of the London School of Oriental and African Studies who has spent a number of years in Southeast Asia working for the BBC and as bureau chief and ASEAN correspondent for the *Far Eastern Economic Review*. His book on *Indonesian Politics Under Suharto* was published in 1993.