

Chapter 1 : History of Modern Egypt / Useful Notes - TV Tropes

"McGregor offers a military history of modern Egypt from the Ottoman Turkish conquest of Egypt in to the Ramadan War with Israel in He stresses the role of Egypt and the Egyptians during this almost year period when Egypt was subjected to foreign rule--Mamluk or Turkish or British.

Anglo-Egyptian War -- Seeking to replace Muhammed Ali with a puppet ruler favorable to British interests, Britain invaded with nearly 5, troops on March 17, British forces led by General A. Mackenzie Fraser seized the city of Alexandria. British forces suffered several military defeats before retreating and evacuating Egypt on September Wahabi War -- After recognizing Ottoman suzerainty over Egypt a formality which left Ali in charge, but created a peace between Egypt and the Turks , Ali engaged in a war against the Wahabi Muslim sect in Arabia. The Wahabis had conquered the Muslim Holy cities of Mecca and Medina from Turkish rule, and in heavy fighting, the Egyptians retook these Holy areas from the Wahabis and then occupied them in the name of the Ottoman Empire. French troops expelled the Egyptian land forces. The Egyptian portion of the war lasted from This war led directly to the First Turko-Egyptian War. Russia sent troops and a fleet to stop the advance, causing the British and French to negotiate a peace, awarding Syria to Egypt. Eventually, Britain sided with the Ottomans to bring Egypt back into the Ottoman fold. Egyptian-Ethiopian War --Ethiopia retaliated against Egyptian forces attempting to colonize the Red Sea coast. Egypt gave up its attempt to colonize that area. On July 11, , in response to a massacre of Christians in Alexandria, the British fleet bombarded Alexandria, followed up by the landing of 25, troops at Ismailia. From this point on, Britain retained an army in the countryand effectively controlled Egypt, which remained technically an Ottoman yet recognized as independent in all but name , vassal. Sudanese War --The Sudanese "Mahdi", a religious leader, began a rebellion against Egyptian control of the Sudan. At this time, Egypt was effectively a protectorate of the British, who sent forces to aid the Egyptians. By , after suffering several bloody defeats, the Anglo-Egyptian forces withdrew from the Sudan. The First World War --Though not technically a participant in this war, several battles between the British and the Ottoman Turks were fought on Egyptian soil. Though legally a vassal of the Ottomans, in reality, Egypt was actually under the control of the British, while also technically an independent nation with its own ruler. That ruler was overthrown by the British at the beginning of the war due to his pro-German sympathies. The Second World War -While Egypt did not actually engage in combat in this war, significant campaigns took place in western Egypt as the Germans and Italians invaded with the intent of driving the British out and seizing the Suez Canal.

a military history of modern egypt from the ottoman conquest to THE RAMADAN WAR by LTC Shams El-Din, Osama, Egyptian Army, 90 pages. Egypt has one of the oldest civilizations and proudest national histories in the world with a.

Equipment from the Soviet Union is being progressively replaced by more modern U. Egypt is one of the few countries in the Middle East , and the only Arab state, with a reconnaissance satellite and has launched another one EgyptSat 1 in Senior members of the military can convene for the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces , so during the course of the Egyptian Revolution of , when Mubarak resigned and transferred power to this body on February 11, He would prove himself grossly incompetent as a general during the Suez Crisis. Nasser ordered a retreat from the Sinai which allowed the Israelis to wreak havoc and drive on the Canal; on 5 November British and French parachute landings began in the Canal Zone; but by 7 November U. The Egyptian army now comprised two armoured and five infantry divisions, all deployed in the Sinai. What fragmentary information is available suggests to authors such as Pollack that Amer was trying to improve the competence of the force, replacing political appointees with veterans of the Yemen war. The forward deployed Egyptian forces were shattered in three places by the attacking Israelis. Field Marshal Amer, overwhelmed by events, and ignoring previous plans, ordered a retreat by the Egyptian Army to the Suez Canal. Scholars such as Kenneth Pollack , deAtkine, and Robert Springborg have identified a number of reasons why Arab and Egyptian armies performed so poorly against Israel from to and afterwards. Units from the two divisions dispatched to Saudi Arabia in 1991, accompanied by U. This occurred whether or not they were accompanied by U. Conscripts for the Egyptian Army and other service branches without a university degree serve three years as enlisted soldiers. Conscripts with a General Secondary School Degree serve two years as enlisted personnel. Conscripts with a university degree serve one year as enlisted personnel or three years as a reserve officer. Officers for the army are trained at the Egyptian Military Academy. Currently, the backbone of the EAF is the F The Mirage is the other modern interceptor used by the EAF. The Egyptian Air Force has Fs plus 20 on order. Egypt currently operates 11 Dassault Rafale a French twin-engine fighter aircraft as of July with another 24 on order. Egypt patterned its Air Defense Force ADF after the Soviet Air Defence Force , which integrated all its air defense capabilities ˆ anti-aircraft guns, rocket and missile units, interceptor planes, and radar and warning installations. It appears to comprise five subordinate divisions, surface-to-air missile battalions, and 12 anti-aircraft artillery brigades. Some fleet units are stationed in the Red Sea , but the bulk of the force remains in the Mediterranean. Navy headquarters and the main operational and training base are located at Ras el Tin near Alexandria. The Coast Guard is responsible for the onshore protection of public installations near the coast and the patrol of coastal waters to prevent smuggling. See list of naval ships of Egypt for a list of vessels in service. Arab Organization for Industrialization[edit] The Arab Organization for Industrialization supervises nine military factories which produce civilian goods as well as military products. AOI now is entirely owned by the government of Egypt. AOI has about 19, employees out of which are engineers. AOI fully owns 10 factories and shares in 2 joint ventures, plus the Arab Institute for Advanced Technology Military schools[edit] Egyptian Military Police There is an undergraduate military school for each branch of the Egyptian Military establishment, and they include:

Chapter 3 : Egypt History Timeline

According to most scholars the history of modern Egypt dates from the emergence of Muhammad Ali's rule in the early 19th century and his launching of Egypt's modernization project that involved building a new army and suggesting a new map for Egypt.

Visit Website Neolithic late Stone Age communities in northeastern Africa exchanged hunting for agriculture and made early advances that paved the way for the later development of Egyptian arts and crafts, technology, politics and religion including a great reverence for the dead and possibly a belief in life after death. Visit Website Around B. A southern king, Scorpion, made the first attempts to conquer the northern kingdom around B. A century later, King Menes would subdue the north and unify the country, becoming the first king of the first dynasty. Archaic Early Dynastic Period c. King Menes founded the capital of ancient Egypt at White Walls later known as Memphis , in the north, near the apex of the Nile River delta. The capital would grow into a great metropolis that dominated Egyptian society during the Old Kingdom period. The Archaic Period saw the development of the foundations of Egyptian society, including the all-important ideology of kingship. To the ancient Egyptians, the king was a godlike being, closely identified with the all-powerful god Horus. The earliest known hieroglyphic writing also dates to this period. In the Archaic Period, as in all other periods, most ancient Egyptians were farmers living in small villages, and agriculture largely wheat and barley formed the economic base of the Egyptian state. The annual flooding of the great Nile River provided the necessary irrigation and fertilization each year; farmers sowed the wheat after the flooding receded and harvested it before the season of high temperatures and drought returned. Age of the Pyramid Builders c. The Old Kingdom began with the third dynasty of pharaohs. Pyramid-building reached its zenith with the construction of the Great Pyramid at Giza, on the outskirts of Cairo. Built for Khufu or Cheops, in Greek , who ruled from to B. C and Menkaura B. During the third and fourth dynasties, Egypt enjoyed a golden age of peace and prosperity. The pharaohs held absolute power and provided a stable central government; the kingdom faced no serious threats from abroad; and successful military campaigns in foreign countries like Nubia and Libya added to its considerable economic prosperity. First Intermediate Period c. This chaotic situation was intensified by Bedouin invasions and accompanied by famine and disease. From this era of conflict emerged two different kingdoms: A line of 17 rulers dynasties nine and 10 based in Heracleopolis ruled Middle Egypt between Memphis and Thebes, while another family of rulers arose in Thebes to challenge Heracleopolitan power. After the last ruler of the 11th dynasty, Mentuhotep IV, was assassinated, the throne passed to his vizier, or chief minister, who became King Amenemhet I, founder of dynasty A new capital was established at It-towy, south of Memphis, while Thebes remained a great religious center. The 12th dynasty kings ensured the smooth succession of their line by making each successor co-regent, a custom that began with Amenemhet I. Middle-Kingdom Egypt pursued an aggressive foreign policy, colonizing Nubia with its rich supply of gold, ebony, ivory and other resources and repelling the Bedouins who had infiltrated Egypt during the First Intermediate Period. The kingdom also built diplomatic and trade relations with Syria , Palestine and other countries; undertook building projects including military fortresses and mining quarries; and returned to pyramid-building in the tradition of the Old Kingdom. Second Intermediate Period c. The 13th dynasty marked the beginning of another unsettled period in Egyptian history, during which a rapid succession of kings failed to consolidate power. As a consequence, during the Second Intermediate Period Egypt was divided into several spheres of influence. The official royal court and seat of government was relocated to Thebes, while a rival dynasty the 14th , centered on the city of Xoïs in the Nile delta, seems to have existed at the same time as the 13th. The Hyksos rulers of the 15th dynasty adopted and continued many of the existing Egyptian traditions in government as well as culture. They ruled concurrently with the line of native Theban rulers of the 17th dynasty, who retained control over most of southern Egypt despite having to pay taxes to the Hyksos. The 16th dynasty is variously believed to be Theban or Hyksos rulers. Conflict eventually flared between the two groups, and the Thebans launched a war against the Hyksos around B. Under Ahmose I, the first king of the 18th dynasty, Egypt was once again reunited. During the 18th dynasty, Egypt restored its

control over Nubia and began military campaigns in Palestine, clashing with other powers in the area such as the Mitannians and the Hittites. In addition to powerful kings such as Amenhotep I B. The controversial Amenhotep IV c. The 19th and 20th dynasties, known as the Ramesside period for the line of kings named Ramses saw the restoration of the weakened Egyptian empire and an impressive amount of building, including great temples and cities. All of the New Kingdom rulers with the exception of Akhenaton were laid to rest in deep, rock-cut tombs not pyramids in the Valley of the Kings, a burial site on the west bank of the Nile opposite Thebes. Most of them were raided and destroyed, with the exception of the tomb and treasure of Tutankhamen c. The splendid mortuary temple of the last great king of the 20th dynasty, Ramses III c. The kings who followed Ramses III were less successful: Egypt lost its provinces in Palestine and Syria for good and suffered from foreign invasions notably by the Libyans , while its wealth was being steadily but inevitably depleted. Third Intermediate Period c. The next yearsâ€™ known as the Third Intermediate Periodâ€™ saw important changes in Egyptian politics, society and culture. The 22nd dynasty began around B. Many local rulers were virtually autonomous during this period and dynasties are poorly documented. In the eighth century B. Under Kushite rule, Egypt clashed with the growing Assyrian empire. One of them, Necho of Sais, ruled briefly as the first king of the 26th dynasty before being killed by the Kushite leader Tanuatamun, in a final, unsuccessful grab for power. Persian rulers such as Darius B. The tyrannical rule of Xerxes B. One of these rebellions triumphed in B. In the mid-fourth century B. Barely a decade later, in B. Six centuries of Roman rule followed, during which Christianity became the official religion of Rome and its provinces including Egypt. The conquest of Egypt by the Arabs in the seventh century A.

Chapter 4 : A Military History of Modern Egypt: From the Ottoman Conquest to the Ramadan War by Andrew

Egypt has one of the oldest civilizations and proudest national histories in the world, but most military histories treat it as a mere battleground for other great imperial powers such as the Ottoman Empire, the French, and the British.

Because of this affluence, it allowed the government to stabilize and in turn organize a functioning military. The Libyans from the Sahara to the west The Nubians from the south The Sinai and Canaanites to the northeast Internal conflict when the regions, or nomes , divided from the monarchy to form rival factions All of the areas outside Egypt were connected in conflict either by raiding parties entering Egypt or Egypt maintaining a policy of eradication imperialism. At this time, the main conflict was with Nubia to the south and Egypt felt the urge to defend their borders by building forts deep into this country. These forts were never actually attacked, but they acted as a deterring factor towards potential invaders. Many are currently underwater in Lake Nasser, but while they were visible they were a true testament to the affluence and military prowess of ancient Egypt during this time. During the Old Kingdom there was no professional army in Egypt. Governors of each Nome administrative division had to raise their own volunteer army. Because the army was not a very prestigious position, it was mostly made up of lower-class men, who could not afford to train in other jobs [5] Old Kingdom soldiers were equipped with many types of weapons, including shields, spears, cudgels, maces, daggers, and bows and arrows. The most common Egyptian weapon was the bow and arrow. During the Old Kingdom, a single-arched bow was often used. This type of bow was difficult to draw, and there was less draw length. After the composite bow was introduced by the Hyksos, Egyptian soldiers used this weapon as well. The Intermediate Period came as a huge shock to the Egyptian government and military since they had been secure in the stability and prosperity of the Old Kingdom. A dramatic shift in the military ideology began at the fall of the Old Kingdom; Egypt was no longer the dominating faction in the ancient Near East. They had to shift from a position of complete supremacy to one of constant struggle to maintain their territories. They needed to control their own borders for several reasons. First of all, Egypt was protecting her own strength, land, and resources. Also, she needed to control trade routes so Egypt could continue to be wealthy and powerful. Borders were also expanded during this time. After the Hyksos took control, many Egyptians fled to Thebes , where they eventually began to oppose the Hyksos rule. The Egyptians were trapped at this time; their government had collapsed. The Hyksos brought with them to Egypt the horse, the chariot , and the composite bow. The Hyksos introduced the Ourarit Chariot to the Egyptians. These advances ultimately worked against the Hyksos because they allowed the Egyptian military to mobilize and roust them from Egypt. Sekenre called the Thebans to a battle against the Hyksos, a battle that claimed his own life. Sekenre was succeeded by Kamose, who also attempted to battle the Hyksos, but spent only three years on the throne, before probably being killed in battle. He battled the Hyksos, and drove them from Egypt. However, the military contributions of the Hyksos allowed Egypt to defend themselves from these foreign invasions successfully. The Hittites hailed from further northeast than had been previously encountered. They attempted to conquer Egypt, yet were defeated and a peace treaty was made. Also, the mysterious Sea Peoples invaded the entire ancient Near East during this time. The Sea Peoples caused many problems, but ultimately the military was strong enough at this time to prevent a collapse of the government. The Egyptian soldiers carried a simple armament consisting of a spear with a copper spearhead and a large wooden shield covered by leather hides. A stone mace was also carried in the Archaic period, though later this weapon was probably only in ceremonial use, and was replaced with the bronze battle axe. The spearmen were supported by archers carrying a simple curved bow and arrows with arrowheads made of flint or copper. No armor was used during the 3rd and early 2nd Millennium BC. Foreigners were also incorporated into the army, Nubians Medjay , entered Egyptian armies as mercenaries and formed the best archery units. That made the Egyptian chariots lighter and faster than those of other major powers in the Middle East. Egyptian war chariots were manned by a driver holding a whip and the reins and a fighter, generally wielding a composite bow or, after spending all his arrows, a short spear of which he had a few. Their torso was thus more or less protected, while the lower body was shielded by the chariot itself. The pharaohs often wore scale armour with inlaid semi-precious

stones, which offered better protection, the stones being harder than the metal used for arrow tips. These bows, combined with the war chariot, enabled the Egyptian army to attack quickly and from a distance. Their presence also caused changes in the role of the military in Egyptian society and so during the New Kingdom , the Egyptian military changed from levy troops into a firm organization of professional soldiers. The encounter with other powerful Near Eastern kingdoms like Mitanni , the Hittites, and later the Assyrians and Babylonians , made it necessary for the Egyptians to conduct campaigns far from home. After the conquest by Alexander the Great , Egypt was heavily hellenised and the main military force became the infantry phalanx. The ancient Egyptians were not great innovators in weapons technology, and most weapons technology innovation came from Eastern Asia and the Greek world. By the New Kingdom c. Egyptian army of the 11th Dynasty Infantry troops were partially conscripted , partially voluntary. Chariotry in ancient Egypt Ancient Egyptian chariot Chariotry, the main backbone of the Egyptian army, was introduced into ancient Egypt from Western Asia at the end of the Second Intermediate Period c. Chariots were generally used as a mobile platform from which to use projectile weapons , and were generally pulled by two horses [21] and manned by two charioteers; a driver who carried a shield, and a man with a bow or javelin. Chariots also had infantry support.

Chapter 5 : A Military History of Modern Egypt from the Ottoman Conquest to the Ramadan War

Egypt has one of the oldest civilizations and proudest national histories in the world, but most military histories treat it as a mere battleground for other great imperial powers such as the Ottoman Empire, the French, and the British. In a lively and stirring narrative, this work tells the untold.

Nasser era Nasser evolved into a charismatic leader, not only of Egypt but of the Arab world, promoting and implementing " Arab socialism. This was also known as the Suez War. He considers Nasser to be far from a rational, responsible leader. Nasser helped establish with India and Yugoslavia the Non-Aligned Movement of developing countries in September , and continued to be a leading force in the movement until his death. Regional intervention[edit] Nasser had looked to a regime change in Yemen since and finally put his desires into practice in January by giving the Free Yemen Movement office space, financial support, and radio air time. A quick decisive victory in Yemen could help him recover leadership of the Arab world. Nasser also had his reputation as an anti-colonial force, setting his sights on ridding South Yemen, and its strategic port city of Aden , of British forces. Nasser ruled as an autocrat but remained extremely popular within Egypt and throughout the Arab world. His willingness to stand up to the Western powers and to Israel won him support throughout the region. This conflict saw the Egyptian, Syrian and Jordanian armed forces routed by the Israelis. Following the defeat, Nasser made a dramatic offer to resign, which was only retracted in the face of mass demonstrations urging him to stay. The last three years of his control over Egypt were far more subdued. However, Sadat had a long term in office and many changes in mind for Egypt and by some astute political moves was able to institute a "corrective revolution", announced on 15 May [6] which purged the government, political and security establishments of the most ardent Nasserists. Believing Islamists to be socially conservative he gave them "considerable cultural and ideological autonomy" in exchange for political support. This peace initiative failed as neither Israel nor the United States of America accepted the terms as discussed then. Syria agreed to join Egypt in attacking Israel. After Syrian forces were being repulsed, the Syrian government urged Sadat to move his forces deeper into Sinai. Without air cover, the Egyptian army suffered huge losses. In spite of huge losses they kept advancing, creating the chance to open a gap between army forces. That gap was exploited by a tank division led by Ariel Sharon, and he and his tanks managed to penetrate, reaching Suez City. A UN resolution supported by the United States and the Soviet Union called for an end to hostilities and for peace talks to begin. On 5 March Israel withdrew the last of its troops from the west side of the Suez Canal and 12 days later Arab oil ministers announced the end of the embargo against the United States. For Sadat and many Egyptians the war was much more a victory than a draw, as the military objective of capturing a foothold of the Sinai was achieved. In foreign relations Sadat instigated momentous change. President Sadat shifted Egypt from a policy of confrontation with Israel to one of peaceful accommodation through negotiations. Following the Sinai Disengagement Agreements of and , Sadat created a fresh opening for progress by his dramatic visit to Jerusalem in November In , Egypt fought a short border war with Libya. Sadat used his immense popularity with the Egyptian people to try to push through vast economic reforms that ended the socialistic controls of Nasserism. Sadat introduced greater political freedom and a new economic policy, the most important aspect of which was the *infitah* or "open door". This relaxed government controls over the economy and encouraged private investment. Liberalization also included the reinstatement of due process and the legal banning of torture. Sadat dismantled much of the existing political machine and brought to trial a number of former government officials accused of criminal excesses during the Nasser era. Sadat tried to expand participation in the political process in the mids but later abandoned this effort. Conflict with the Muslim Brotherhood[edit] Another change Sadat made from the Nasser era was a bow towards the Islamic revival. Sadat loosened restrictions on the Muslim Brotherhood, allowing it to publish a monthly magazine, *al-Dawa*, which appeared regularly until September although he did not allow the groups reconstitution.

Chapter 6 : Military of Egypt | Egypt Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

Some of the key lessons learned from modern Egyptian military history are: 1) The need for speed and mobility. 2) The importance of support structures -- both an industrial base for producing weaponry, and strong logistical supply system for campaigns.

Egypt had at this point spent years as a province of the Ottoman Empire, ruled in a complicated arrangement with elements dating back to The Crusades: So when Napoleon comes in with a modern army, modern laws, and a printing press, you can rather understand the shock to Egyptian society—and indeed, the whole of the Ottoman Empire. However, in 1800, an Albanian officer in the Ottoman Army named Muhammad Ali no, not the former Cassius Clay, resorting to some bloody tactics. Based on what the French had done, Muhammad Ali began modernizing Egypt, creating a European-style bureaucracy, establishing a military on Western lines called the Nizam al-Gadid, or "New Order," a term later adopted by the central Ottoman government for its similar plan, building a navy, constructing arsenals for the manufacture of modern weapons, building schools, and adopting a new cash crop—cotton—for Egyptian farmers to raise and sell to Europe, and particularly Britain, whose cotton-hungry textile mills were leading the Industrial Revolution. From this point on, Egypt was more or less independent of the Sultan—just how independent changed over time—and seemed on its way to becoming Japan about fifty years before Japan. As a consolation prize, however, his rule over Egypt was made hereditary, with the title of Pasha roughly equivalent to "Duke". In 1817 he died, passing power to his grandson Abbas. This ushered in the first quasi-independent Egyptian dynasty in centuries, the Muhammad Ali dynasty. Unfortunately for Egypt, the rulers after Muhammad Ali had neither his modernizing spirit as limited as it was nor his military prowess nor his political skills, and quickly fell prey to the schemes of the Europeans, of which the most significant was the Suez Canal. This in itself was not particularly troubling—the canal on its own would probably bring at least some wealth to Egypt—but it started a chain of events that ultimately led to some really nasty times for Egypt. You see, de Lesseps had counted on being able to sell shares in the project on the market in Europe, but nobody thought it realistic or profitable. Combined with really dumb financial management, the national debt skyrocketed from three million pounds to one hundred million truly astronomical numbers in the 1870s. However, this arrangement was unpopular enough that in 1882, the Egyptian people revolted. Led by the disaffected colonel Ahmed Orabi, they managed to keep things going for three years, but in 1882, British troops arrived to take control of the country. Egypt, while still nominally a part of the Ottoman Empire, was now a protectorate under British military occupation; maps of the day include Egypt as part of The British Empire. Egypt managed to continue to develop under British rule, but the first three decades were restless. Britain quickly moved to depose Abbas and declare Egypt an independent Sultanate, with his more pliable uncle Hussein Kamel as Sultan. Hussein Kamel died in 1891; his brother Fuad took his place. After the armistice of November 1918, the Paris Peace Conference was called, and like many colonized peoples, the Egyptians wanted the opportunity to speak their piece. One man, Saad Zaghloul, formed a delegation "Wafd" in Arabic to present their case for some kind of constitutional monarchy, just like Britain to the British Resident-General. Instead, the Wafd ended up putting pressure on the official Egyptian delegation to Paris, which, being hand-picked by the British, came back essentially empty-handed. This rather quickly led to another revolution, led by Zaghloul and his Wafd by now the Wafd Party. Unlike the Orabi Revolt, it was chiefly a nonviolent movement, consisting of demonstrations, marches, and sit-ins. Zaghloul quickly became a national hero; the traditionally-elitist Egyptian nationalist movement spread to all parts of society. The protest movement was eventually broken up by British military action, resulting in about 4,000 Egyptian deaths and many more wounded. Britain declared Egypt independent. Naturally, many Egyptians were confused, but the reality was that it was all a plot to change things on the surface without actually doing anything at all. While the new Kingdom of Egypt was nominally a constitutional parliamentary monarchy—just like Britain! The British Ambassador wielded just about as much power as the Resident-General had before. Nevertheless, Egypt managed to grow up quite nicely under this arrangement, although corruption, illiteracy, and other problems plagued the country. As time went on, one of the most

obvious problems came to the fore: Both the middle class and social mobility were virtually nonexistent. As a result, you had a tiny and absurdly rich upper class, highly Westernized, ruling over a mass of impoverished peasants. The gap became even more obvious under King Farouk, who acceded to the throne at the age of 16 in 1935. Things got to the point where even the Belly Dancer hired to entertain at one of his parties took the opportunity to chew him out "Your place is in the palace, helping govern the country, not at the casino! Thompson used it in *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. In any case, one of the few ways in which a peasant could better his status in society was through the military. Starting in the mid-20th century, a young peasant could even become an officer if he was sponsored by a member of the nobility this was how Orabi had become a colonel in the first place ; in the early 1950s, even this requirement was lifted. This proved to be a very bad move for the Egyptian monarchy. An initial Italian invasion in 1941 was easily fought off by the British. In response, the Germans sent Erwin Rommel and his newly formed Afrika Korps to halt the total collapse of the new North African front. After a series of back and forth battles across the desert, Rommel pushed all the way to the rail station of El Alamein, where he was decisively defeated by Bernard Law Montgomery and turned away from the Nile. The Axis forces retreated to Tunisia, where they finally surrendered in May 1943. One of the first officers to enter the Egyptian military academy without noble sponsorship was a fellow by the name of Gamal Abdel Nasser. Nasser, from the southern "Upper" part of Egypt, was something of an intellectual for a military type , and had read works on socialism and the relatively new movement of Arab nationalism before and during his time at the academy. Eventually, however, the officers decided that enough was enough. The Republic of Egypt was declared on 23 July 1952. Three days later, General Mohamed Naguib "the highest-ranking of the Free Officers" became the first President of Egypt, and the first native Egyptian to rule Egypt in over 3,000 years. Nasser and most of the RCC disagreed, believing that the revolution a coup, really still had work to do, and more to the point scared not without basis that the same liberal landlords who led the Wafd would win in any free democratic election. No, they concluded, there was too much drastic reform needed in the country, which they said was best done by the military. This included several public-works project and land reform. However, in 1956, one of these public-works projects "the Aswan High Dam" ran into an issue: Israel would attack the Sinai, and then Britain and France would take the Suez Canal to "separate" Egypt and Israel "in the interest of peace. This made Nasser a hero, not just in Egypt, but in the whole Arab world. This led to a short-lived union with Syria "the cradle of Arab nationalism" from 1958 to 1961, known as the United Arab Republic. In any case, in 1970 Nasser dies at 52, leaving his Vice President, Anwar Sadat, in charge of the country. The first is to declare the Arab Republic of Egypt "the current incarnation of the Egyptian state" with a nominally democratic, pluralistic, semi-presidential system. In actual fact, the National Democratic Party founded by Sadat won every election, by means both fair and foul. The third was appointing an Air Force general named Hosni Mubarak his vice president. Now, a word about Hosni Mubarak. The Egyptian people are notoriously fond of jokes "the stereotype of Egyptians among the other Arabic-speaking peoples is that they are, in effect, Boisterous Bruisers with a quick and sharp if rather crude sense of humor. Jokes about Nasser tended to be good-natured fun-poking at minor quibbles in his personality, as well as less-good-natured jokes about the excessive brutality of his Secret Police. Jokes about Mubarak consistently portray him as an abject idiot. One Egyptian-American journalist compares him to Dan Quayle. You can see where this is going. Fully embracing the Washington Consensus before it was cool, Mubarak opened the floodgates of foreign investment and privatization "but at a cost. Most of this privatization was done as sweetheart deals to cronies, and much of the foreign investment eventually proved to be so many numbers games. In the meantime, Mubarak remained unchanged. He ruled with a steady, uninspiring, and rather heavy hand. As economic problems began to mount and the notoriety of the SSIS began to grow, a new element was thrown into the mix "the likelihood that Mubarak would hand-pick his younger son Gamal to succeed him as President. This was quite enough for most Egyptians, and when rumors began to spread around 2004, a protest movement "called Kefaya "Enough" in Egyptian Arabic "demanded that this not happen and that some other things happen. A bunch of Egyptians were like, " hey, if they can do that, why not us? Egyptian Revolution" or words to that effect. Most everyone laughed it off. These people were wrong. Long story short, the 25 January protest movement became a full-fledged revolution. Parliamentary elections were held in late 2005 and early 2006. The parliament was dissolved by

court order on June 14th. In short, Mubarak just became an Egyptian Suharto. Presidential elections were held in , under a two-round system. The second round was held on June 16 and The results were supposed to be announced on the 21st, but were delayed to the 24th. The final results had Morsi taking 13,, votes Further complicating things was the fact that the SCAF took several powers for itself a day after the election, stripping much power away from the President. A few months later, Morsi retired the whole SCAF, gave them big fat pensions, and showered them with medals and decorations. The SCAF was taken utterly by surprise and acquiesced. Not all is well, though. After a few months of ruling, some have accused Morsi of falling into the pitfall that Mubarak exactly was in , started when he made some decrees giving him substantial legislative and executive powers until a new constitution is approved, which is to say, forever. The fact that the Egypt-Israel peace treaty is a textbook example of what you call a "Cold Peace" is a testament. The military decided to use this wonder of a chance to depose Morsi, ban the MB, reinstate every Realpolitik that Morsi abandoned including the reestablishment of the Israeli embassy , and the installment of the military under Abdel Fatah el-Sisi until the next constitution is approved, which it did in January , followed by Sisi announcing to run for president, which he ultimately won. An epic Full-Circle Revolution , indeed.

Chapter 7 : The Egyptian Military, Part One: From the Ottomans through Sadat | Middle East Policy Council

A Military History of Modern Egypt starts with a quick review of geography and ethnicity, useful and often missing in similar works. There follows a less helpful potted history of Egypt from BC to AD.

The Egyptian Military, Part One: A once somnambulant Egypt may be catching up with the more vibrant societies in the region such as Turkey, Iraq and Iran. The stance of the Egyptian military during the revolution sealed the fate of the Mubarak regime. For one thing, the subject is taboo. They do not welcome interviews. It was exceedingly hard to draw Egyptian officers into any meaningful discussion during my time at the U. There is little or no fraternization between American and Egyptian officers. Despite the numerous exercises that the U. Americans are not allowed to contact Egyptian officers by phone or email except through the Ministry of Defense in Cairo. Given the size, historical role and influence of the Egyptian military, literature on the subject is thin. Major book-length studies generally have said very little on the role of the military in Egyptian political and economic life, even though the military has constituted the backbone of the republican regime, since its founding in 1952. However, there is sufficient data to examine this black box. The primary purpose of this paper is to address the political role of the Egyptian military in these last few years, particularly in the wake of the events of 2011. This study is divided into two parts. Part I is a historical analysis of modern Egyptian civil-military relations from the nineteenth century to the end of the presidency of Anwar al-Sadat in 1970. Part II, which will follow in a subsequent issue, consists of an analysis of civil-military relations under Hosni Mubarak and the political role of the armed forces during the revolution of 2011 and the post-Mubarak period, when the army took direct political power, pending a revamping of the political system. In the words of one historian: Throughout the pharaonic era, from the foundation of the Egyptian state ca. 3100 BC, the military played a central role in Egyptian history. Though his plans for modernization and industrialization were deeply flawed, at the height of his power, Muhammed Ali succeeded in turning Egypt into the strongest military power in the Middle East. The officer corps consisted of Turco-Circassians in the senior ranks, foreign officers from the West in the middle and technical ranks, and "native" Egyptians in the middle and junior ranks. The enlisted personnel consisted overwhelmingly of peasants, the fellahin. In 1825, at the battle of Konya in the Anatolian heartland of the Ottoman Empire, this army managed to defeat an imperial force three times its size. The military shrank to a small and inept force dominated by a politicized senior Turco-Circassian officer corps that was intricately tied to the monarchy. Rulers Said and Ismail attempted to revive Egyptian economic and military power, but the effort to enlarge the military was hindered by Turco-Circassian control of the officer corps, which feared that an increase in the size of the army would dilute its power. The representative of the major European powers also wanted Egypt to pay off its enormous debts to European creditors and not spend funds on "luxuries" it could ill-afford. Egyptians of native or Arab background found it difficult to get promoted from the ranks into the officer corps; those who were already officers found the ranks above colonel completely closed off. This created considerable tension within the army. The blatant Western interference in the political life of the country generated considerable discontent in all sectors of the Egyptian populace, particularly among provincial notables, pro-constitutionalist urban intelligentsia and the middle ranks of the officer corps. The latter, who formed a secretive organization under Colonel Ahmad Urabi, resented the humiliation of the country by external powers, the weakness of the monarchy, and the domination of the top brass by Turco-Circassians and Albanians. In 1882, a British official, Sir John Bowring, noted the paramount position of the foreign, Osmanli, elite over Egyptian society: The situation of the Osmanlis in Egypt is remarkable; they exercise an extraordinary influence, possess most of the high offices of state, and, indeed, are the depositories of power throughout the country. Barudi appointed Urabi to be war minister. Urabi purged the top 40 Turco-Circassian officers, promoted native Egyptians, granted commissions to non-commissioned officers, and raised salaries across the board. At his trial, Urabi highlighted his grievances: In the Egyptian army was composed of twelve infantry regiments. In 1882, during the ministry of Uthman Pasha Rifqi, it was decided to reduce it to only six regiments. The practice in Egypt was to tend to discriminate by race. And so all the promotions, decorations, and rewards went to those of the Circassian race. Thereafter came those Egyptian by race; they were neither promoted nor

indeed employed except by necessity, only when others were not available. Tewfik was forced to disband the army, and the British took over and trained a small, anti-nationalist constabulary. It grew to 16, by the early s, commanded by a senior British officer; indeed, 10 percent of the officer corps was British, and they commanded down to battalion level as late as the s. British control prevented the army from playing a key role in the competition among feuding social forces and classes. Egyptian nationalists strove mightily but without success to wrest control of the army back from the British. In , the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty granted Egypt greater freedom, though it allowed Britain to maintain thousands of troops in the Suez Canal and to re-occupy the country if stability broke down. The treaty also granted Egypt control over its military for the first time since . By , the army had grown and was slowly transformed from a constabulary into a mobile but still lightly armored conventional force. In , the armed forces consisted of officers and 11, NCOs and enlisted men. About a year later, the numbers rose to officers and 20, of other ranks. Until the s, officer recruitment and "promotion in the armed forces under the monarchy had been determined more by birth and girth than by merit. The new entrants came from social strata that viewed the monarchy as corrupt and subservient to the British. Each group offered the promise of a solution and a radically different Egypt. In fact, in the view of many observers, Egypt was in a "pre-revolutionary" situation in the late s and early s. The officer corps was now politically conscious and neither insulated from nor indifferent to the declining political and socioeconomic fortunes of the country. The weaknesses of the military, reflected in the rampant nepotism and corruption within its senior ranks and the appalling mistreatment and poverty of the enlistees, was galling to the nationalistic officers. A British commentary on the eve of the overthrow of the monarchy concluded the following: Basically, the Egyptian Army has been built up not so much for the defense of Egypt as for the bolstering of Egyptian prestige and pride, and its senior officers are appointed on the basis of their political leanings rather than their military qualities. Many good officers have been dismissed, the senior ones for becoming too popular and the juniors for being too independent. A remarkable event took place in , when assembled senior officers meeting with the king managed to publicly insult him, with little consequence to their careers. The officers were not united behind the monarchy, nor did they support radical change. There was a group of very senior officers who owed their careers to the patronage of the palace. A larger inchoate bloc of officers who knew that something needed to be done in the country was actively plotting against the regime. A third group, mainly officers from middle- and lower-middle-class backgrounds were involved in a wide variety of conspiratorial groups. Some of these groups were disorganized and included officers with competing ideological visions who could not bear the weight of these differences. One group of conspirators, who came to be known as the "Free Officers," emerged in the late s. It was made up largely of officers of mid-level rank. Many had fought together in the Arab-Israeli war of , where they developed a distaste for the monarchy and their superiors. One of these officers was Gamal Abdel Nasser, who had the following to say about them: They were overfed, lazy and selfish, and they spent their time eating, drinking, carousing, smoking hashish and engaging in many different forms of tyranny and corruption. They were fawning and subservient to the British Military Mission and a disgrace to the uniform they wore. They spent money that belonged to the Egyptian army on food and drink for themselves. I was shocked at the treatment of the soldiers. While it is historically inaccurate to argue that the Free Officers revolution was motivated only by the experiences of junior and middle-ranking officers in that war, they did play a significant role. Some were leftists, while others had dabbled in patently fascist groups. Some were close to the large and influential mainstream Islamic movement, the Muslim Brotherhood. More significantly, unlike other short-lived conspiratorial groups, the Free Officers managed to maintain their cohesion, eschewed ideological splits despite the wide gulf that separated many of them, and moved into active plotting against the monarchy during . They proceeded to abolish the monarchy and set up a republic. The Nasser Years As soon as the Free Officers seized power, they proceeded to purge the top echelons of the officer corps. They installed General Mohammed Neguib, a respected senior officer, as a figurehead. A struggle ensued between Neguib and his supporters, on the one hand, and Nasser, the strongman behind the ruling Revolutionary Command Council, on the other. By , the new regime had defeated its political opponents and consolidated power. The coup plotters were not modernizers and developers. The fact that they became so once in power was accidental; indeed, it was

opposed by segments of the officer corps. The Egyptian officers who seized power in may have had "progressive" ideas, but the institution they emerged from was certainly not a modern or advanced institution. Nor were the officers who seized power in able to convince the rest of the officer corps of the necessity of radical social transformation and modernization. Under Nasser, the position of the ruling Free Officers and the military at large in the Egyptian state and society was unquestioned. During the Nasser presidency, the percentage of officers in cabinet positions ranged from 32 percent to 65 percent. Of the 65 men who held political positions between and , 27 were officers. Most of the key ministries came under the control of serving officers " a newly minted breed of technocrats who had received degrees in diverse non-military fields such as political science, law and medicine " or of ex-officers retirees or of a large and very professional corps of military engineers. They were not aligned for any length of time with a social class. The armed forces were not a monolithic bloc facing the rest of society and ostensibly acting in its name. The situation was vastly more complex and belied the popular myth-making among the regime and political scientists that the military in Egypt represented the vanguard of modernization and development. One could characterize the political system under Nasser as one of the ruling Free Officers and their co-opted technocrats, on the one hand, and the bulk of the officer corps and the armed forces on the other. Nasser installed Amer in this position to maintain control over the armed forces. Indeed, from their very first days in power, the Free Officers, who represented only a small fraction of the officer corps, strove to establish control over the military. The problems between Nasser and Neguib revealed the necessity of controlling the armed forces. An Egyptian journalist quotes Nasser as saying: We cannot leave the army without control! We will all be threatened if we do not establish an effective control over it. You have ascertained that there is a certain malaise which has begun to make itself felt in the units.

Chapter 8 : History of modern Egypt - Wikipedia

Egypt has one of the oldest civilizations and proudest national histories in the world with a tradition of a well-maintained, advanced and relevant military force.

See Article History Alternative Titles: Pharaonic Egypt thrived for some 3, years through a series of native dynasties that were interspersed with brief periods of foreign rule. After Alexander the Great conquered the region in bc, urban Egypt became an integral part of the Hellenistic world. Under the Greek Ptolemaic dynasty , an advanced literate society thrived in the city of Alexandria, but what is now Egypt was conquered by the Romans in 30 bc. Pyramids dating from the 3rd millennium bc, Giza plateau near Cairo. Following the conquests, both urban and rural culture began to adopt elements of Arab culture, and an Arabic vernacular eventually replaced the Egyptian language as the common means of spoken discourse. The French occupation, which ended in , marked the first time a European power had conquered and occupied Egypt, and it set the stage for further European involvement. The concern of the European powers namely France and the United Kingdom , which were major shareholders in the canal to safeguard the canal for strategic and commercial reasons became one of the most important factors influencing the subsequent history of Egypt. In a military coup installed a revolutionary regime that promoted a combination of socialism and Pan-Arab nationalism. Egypt led the Arab states in a series of wars against Israel but was the first of those states to make peace with the Jewish state, which it did in With opposition political activity tightly restricted, decades of popular frustration erupted into mass demonstrations in The uprising forced Pres. Power was transferred to an elected government in , and a new constitution was adopted at the end of the year. This elected government, however, was toppled a year later when the military intervened to remove the newly elected president, Mohammed Morsi , a member of the Islamist Muslim Brotherhood , following a series of massive public demonstrations against his administration. For a discussion of unrest and political change in Egypt in , see Egypt Uprising of Present-day Egypt, however, is largely urban. Tourism has traditionally provided an enormous portion of foreign exchange, but that industry has been subject to fluctuations during times of political and civil unrest in the region. In the north its Mediterranean coastline is about miles 1, km , and in the east its coastline on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba is about 1, miles 1, km. Relief The topography of Egypt is dominated by the Nile. For about miles 1, km of its northward course through the country, the river cuts its way through bare desert, its narrow valley a sharply delineated strip of green, abundantly fecund in contrast to the desolation that surrounds it. The Nile divides the desert plateau through which it flows into two unequal sectionsâ€”the Western Desert , between the river and the Libyan frontier, and the Eastern Desert , extending to the Suez Canal, the Gulf of Suez , and the Red Sea. Each of the two has a distinctive character, as does the third and smallest of the Egyptian deserts, the Sinai. The Western Desert a branch of the Libyan Desert is arid and without wadis dry beds of seasonal rivers , while the Eastern Desert is extensively dissected by wadis and fringed by rugged mountains in the east. The desert of central Sinai is open country, broken by isolated hills and scored by wadis. Egypt is not, as is often believed, an entirely flat country. In addition to the mountains along the Red Sea, mountainous areas occur in the extreme southwest of the Western Desert and in the southern Sinai Peninsula. The coastal regions of Egypt, with the exception of the delta, are everywhere hemmed in either by desert or by mountain; they are arid or of very limited fertility. The coastal plain in both the north and east tends to be narrow; it seldom exceeds a width of 30 miles 48 km. The Nile valley and delta The Nile delta, or Lower Egypt , covers an area of 9, square miles 25, sq km. It is about miles km long from Cairo to the Mediterranean, with a coastline stretching some miles km from Alexandria to Port Said. As many as seven branches of the river once flowed through the delta, but its waters are now concentrated in two, the Damietta Branch to the east and the Rosetta Branch to the west. Though totally flat apart from an occasional mound projecting through the alluvium, the delta is far from featureless; it is crisscrossed by a maze of canals and drainage channels. The conversion of the delta to perennial irrigation has made possible the raising of two or three crops a year, instead of one, over more than half of its total area. Since the completion of the Aswan High Dam in , the 3,square mile 10, square km valley has been under perennial irrigation. Lake Nasser was

developed during the s for its fishing and as a tourist area, and settlements have grown up around it. The Eastern Desert The Eastern Desert comprises almost one-fourth of the land surface of Egypt and covers an area of about 85, square miles , square km. The outlets of some of the main wadis form deep bays, which contain small settlements of seminomads. The plateau is also deeply indented by ravines, but they are relatively free from obstacles, and some are usable as routes. The hills run from near Suez to the Sudanese border; they are not a continuous range but consist of a series of interlocking systems more or less in alignment. They are geologically complex, with ancient igneous and metamorphic rocks. At the foot of the Red Sea Hills the narrow coastal plain widens southward, and parallel to the shore there are almost continuous coral reefs. In popular conception and usage, the Red Sea littoral can be regarded as a subregion in itself. The Western Desert The Western Desert comprises two-thirds of the land surface of Egypt and covers an area of about , square miles , square km. West of the Qattara Depression and near the Libyan border is the largest and most populous oasis , that of Siwa. It has been inhabited for thousands of years and is less influenced by modern development. South of the Qattara Depression, and extending west to the Libyan border, the Western Desert is composed of great ridges of blown sand interspersed with stony tracts. Beyond the Qattara Depression northward, the edge of the plateau follows the Mediterranean Sea, leaving a narrow coastal plain. Its southern portion consists of rugged, sharply serrated mountains. Toward the Mediterranean Sea, the northward plateau slope is broken by dome-shaped hills; between them and the coast are long, parallel lines of dunes, some of which are more than feet metres high. Drainage Apart from the Nile, the only natural perennial surface drainage consists of a few small streams in the mountains of the southern Sinai Peninsula. Most of the valleys of the Eastern Desert drain westward to the Nile. They are eroded by water but normally dry; only after heavy rainstorms in the Red Sea Hills do they carry torrents. The shorter valleys on the eastern flank of the Red Sea Hills drain toward the Red Sea; they, too, are normally dry. Drainage in the mountains of the Sinai Peninsula is toward the gulfs of Suez and Aqaba; as in the Red Sea Hills, torrent action has produced valleys that are deeply eroded and normally dry. One of the features of the Western Desert is its aridity, as shown by the absence of drainage lines. There is, however, an extensive water table beneath the Western Desert. Where the water table comes near the surface it has been tapped by wells in some oases. Page 1 of

Chapter 9 : Wars of Modern Egypt

Tells the story of the Egyptian military experience. This work looks at the lives of Egyptian soldiers fighting at home and abroad and shows the role those soldiers and their leaders played in Middle.