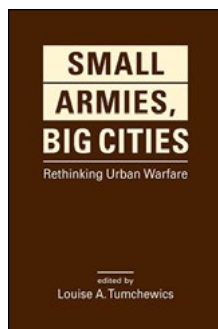


Pay Day;" "Happiness Is the Generator Starting on the First Crank;" and "Happiness Is Translating the Monopoly Game into Vietnamese and Not Losing Your Shirt in Vietnamese Poker Games."

In conclusion, *In the Mouth of the Dragon* is a valuable addition to the Vietnam War body of knowledge. The role of advisors, especially at the end of the war has not seen a great deal of scholarship, and Haseman has assisted in filling the void. This is a volume which is superbly written and organized, containing several valuable features. I have no question readers will be thankful for the publishing of this outstanding volume... however, perhaps not as thankful as Haseman's family members!

**Small Armies, Big Cities:  
Rethinking Urban Warfare**  
Edited by Louise A. Tumchewics  
Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner  
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Urban warfare is today and tomorrow's war. Recent events in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War, Second Nagorno-Karabakh War, and now in Gaza following the Hamas-led 7 October attack on Israel are occurring in urban settings. Since the Industrial Revolution, trends in urban demographics indicate urbanization is rapidly expanding. The population living in cities has more than doubled over the past 40 years and is projected to reach 55 percent of the world's population by 2050. Future conflicts — whether counterinsurgencies, peer confrontations, or near-peer confrontations — will likely incorporate urban warfare.

Louise Tumchewics and 12 other authors — who are all recognized researchers in the field of strategic studies, intelligence, defense, and urban conflicts research — produced a timely study that aims to inform and stimulate thinking on how small armies have fought in cities, reflecting on the enduring nature and changing character of urban warfare through a number of case studies. *Small Armies, Big Cities* is broken into three key themes: urban warfare, operational art, and conclusion.

Among the authors' many significant observations and reflections, four stand out. First, the perils and pitfalls for urban warfare have been recognized for millennia. Military theorists from Sun Tzu onwards have warned against operating in urban areas. Urban fighting favors the defender while leveling the playing field against a superior military force. In "The Totemic Value of Cities," Alex Neads informs readers that urban warfare doctrine requires a concentration of eight attackers for every one defender in urban

environments. This environment impedes movement, command and control, and communication; channels attacking forces into kill zones; constrains employment of weapons; and places the safety and welfare of non-combatants on attacking forces.

Second, understanding and training for urban environments are paramount for militaries today and in the future. Steve Tatham notes that taking a simplistic view of the population is a precursor to failure. Urban areas are usually not homogeneous in nature but may be dissimilar in regards to socio-economic status, language, ethnicity, and religion. There are formal and informal leaders within urban areas who can assist with intelligence, force protection, humanitarian, and post-military operations planning. Furthermore, there is a need to understand how even distant locations can be socially connected and how security force action in one area can have consequences elsewhere. Training for urban operations will assist in protecting the force, reducing civilian interference and promoting legitimacy of security forces.

Third, Tatham also underscores the role and importance of influence operations in urban warfare. Both sides are engaged in influencing and persuading the legitimacy of their cause. Tatham describes how influence operations are more than tailoring messages for an intended audience; they are about nudging, shoving, and shaping behaviors through a variety of means. These operations require a detailed and quantifiable understanding of behavior, psychology, and social environment. Commanders and their staffs must know the physical and social urban environments if they expect to dominate the information battle for the urban environment.

Fourth, Andrew Graham's "Conducting Urban Warfare in the Twenty-First Century" is the centerpiece of this excellent work. It builds on previous chapters and lays out the potential future directions of hostile intent and counterterrorism research. Graham provides four framework principles:

- 1) Strategic direction, alignment, and integration of effort;
- 2) Winning in the cities;
- 3) An unconventional, polydimensional, and multiagency mindset; and
- 4) Understanding along with strategic and operational considerations for military commanders and their staffs in planning future urban military operations.

*Small Armies, Big Cities* illustrates the challenges and unique reality that future armies will face during urban warfare. This work is highly readable and provides a comprehensive discussion on the topic. This work is a must read for policymakers, strategists, and others in planning for future conflicts. In addition, it will provide a valuable resource to security stakeholders at policy and practitioner levels.