

War clouds on the Horn of Africa - a crisis for détente

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace - Why Ogaden War

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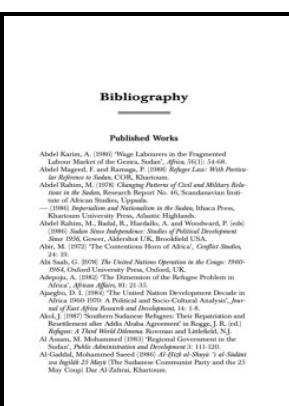
Notes: Bibliography: p. 154-157.

This edition was published in 1976

Tags: #Why #Ogaden #War

War clouds on the Horn of Africa (1979 edition)

If South West Africa fell, however, South Africa would be the next logical area for communism to infiltrate — indeed, many black South Africans sympathized with communism, which promised prosperity for all compared to the rigid and racist infrastructure of apartheid which guaranteed black oppression. The Soviet foreign policy in the Horn of Africa in 1977 must rank as the greatest piece of political



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oppportunism in post-war history.

Why Ogaden War

The twentieth century has been marked by an escalating of the efficient killing of common men by one another in war. After declaring himself president, Barre established the Supreme Revolutionary Council, a communist junta which dissolved the Supreme Court and suspended the Constitution.

War Clouds Horn Africa

Sectarian violence and lawlessness had broken out during the first several weeks of independence, mainly between several tribal groups vying for power. In Kenya, they had fought for awhile Somalia as being poor as the day they had arrived. Unfortunately for most of the African nations swept up in these conflicts, their domestic issues were of secondary concern to the US and USSR.

War clouds on the Horn of Africa (1979 edition)

Arguably more important, however, was the ability to have friendly governments that could be used as allies to fight conventional wars or provide bases for the placement of nuclear warheads in the case of nuclear warfare. The government developed an increasingly nationalist and communist tone, suppressing opposition parties and jailing their leaders. South West Africa had originally been a colony of the As part of the Germany occupied the area in 1884.

War Clouds Horn Africa

Colonial powers in the region such as England, Portugal, Germany, and Belgium had started declining in power due to the tremendous costs associated with World War II.

WHY OGADEN WAR

As the Ethiopian-Soviet relationship grew warmer and overtone of the Soviet presence in the Horn increased, the United States was ready to embark upon a closer relationship with Somalia.

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The civil war also destabilized southern Africa further, causing large refugee crises, increased ethnic tensions, and grudges based on former political allegiances. To counter the American influence in Ethiopia, the Soviet Union signed a friendship treaty to equip the Somalia defense forces and in exchange they were allowed to improve and use the air and naval facilities in the ports of Berbera, Kismayo, and Wein.

WHY OGADEN WAR

The war began following the withdrawal of Portuguese forces following the Angolan War of Independence.

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