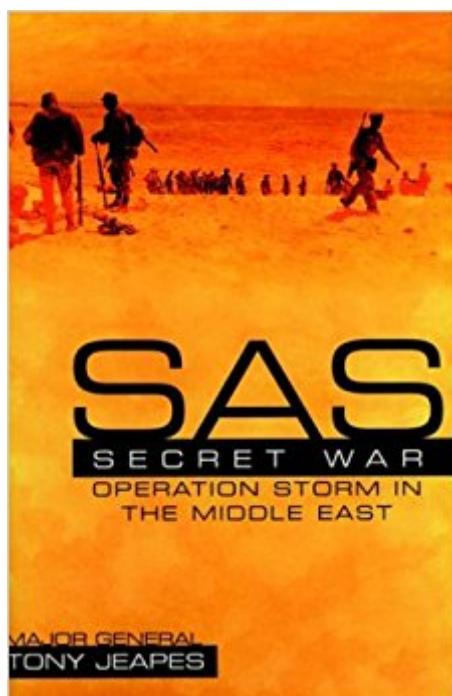


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# **SAS: Secret War- Operation Storm In The Middle East**



## **Synopsis**

In 1970 the SAS were called in to support the Sultan of Oman's armed forces in their fierce campaign against a communist armed insurrection. This was first and last a war about people. The task in hand was not to obliterate the enemy but to persuade them to join the government's side and at the same time win the support of the civilians of the Jebel Dhofar. This is the gripping story of the part played in the conflict by squadrons of the 22nd Special Air Service Regiment, the first full SAS squadron in the region. Written by the man who commanded that unit and who successfully raised the first bands of Dhofari irregulars to fight for the Sultan, SAS: Operation Storm provides a unique and personal insight into what was to become one of the most successful counter-insurgency campaigns of the 20th century.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

General Tony Jeapes joined the SAS in 1958 and continued to serve with them for the next nineteen years. He later became an instructor specializing in teaching counter-insurgency tactics and from 1974 to 1977 he went on to command 2nd SAS Regiment, during which time they were involved in active service both in Oman and Northern Ireland. General Jeapes was awarded the Military Cross in 1959 and made an OBE in 1977.

This volume is a must-read for any person wanting to see how the Special Air Service handled a Communist insurgency in Dhofar province, Oman. The author is clear and concise, and gives the reader a perspective both informative and intriguing. By the book!

A film documentary on the war in Oman motivated my purchase of this book. It was enlightening to say the least. Britain should be very pleased with the outcome of their efforts in this country especially now with all the other revolutions taking place around Oman. Of course, as a Christian and student of the Holy Bible (KJV), we also received valuable background material on life in the Middle East. The Western mind has a hard time grasping the tribalism, etc. still prevalent in these eastern countries. In summary, my discovery of the War of 1966-1976 in Oman was enlightening. My Bible knowledge found a parallel with the customs of the people of Oman. My awareness of counter-revolutionary military tactics was enhanced, and my appreciation for the SAS was also heightened. Thank you for making this wonderful book available. Sincerely, Daniel G. Waters

A well-written, interesting account and a must for any student or practitioner of counter-insurgency warfare. This should be on every military officer's reading list.

When I left 22 SAS in 1971, it was to commence my very first tour of duty in N. Ireland. At that time, elements of that particular regiment were fighting a little-known, and barely covered in the UK press!, war in Muscat and Oman. As I stood at the barracks gates in Hereford waiting for my taxi, a dear friend who was one of a small number of Fijian members of the regiment turned up in an open desert Landrover and drove me to the station. It was his way of saying farewell. He was a giant of a man in more ways than one and, as he dropped me off en route to my first operational tour of duty, I was already aware that he would soon be back in Oman undertaking what was for him, just another! That man was Corporal Labalaba and the following year he died in heroic circumstances along with a colleague at Mirbat. Author Tony Jeapes joined the SAS in Malaya in 1958 and won an MC in Oman in 1959. He later commanded 22 SAS Regiment for which he earned the OBE. Next he commanded the British Airborne Brigade and later still was appointed Commander Land Forces in Northern Ireland in the rank of Major General. It was at that time that I actually met him and was able to introduce him to some of his old diving buddies from around the Province. By now it was 1990 and I was completing my 7th year of duty there. Oh, how little had changed in those long years! This work is a history of a campaign that, even now, is never mentioned on Remembrance Sunday when most vicars, priests and padres try to recall as many campaigns as possible - having already mentioned the two obligatory world wars. Muscat and Oman was a campaign which was ignored throughout its duration and forgotten just as soon as it was completed in spite of those lives lost. This is the first-hand account that needed to be written and I am so very pleased that, not only

was it written, but it had been produced by one who understood the conflict as well as any man and that makes it a 'must' for amateur and professional historians alike.NM

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