

Preface

The eleven articles published in this issue of *Modern Asian Studies* are concerned with the subject of War in Modern China. They were specially commissioned for the journal to mark its thirtieth anniversary. Professor Edward McCord kindly organized a conference in February 1995 at The George Washington University for the discussion of preliminary drafts of the papers. I am grateful to him for undertaking this work and for the scholars who agreed to be discussants at the seminars.

The articles fall into three main groups: those by Peter Perdue, Edward McCord and Hans Van de Ven deal with war, the state, and politics. The next group of essays, by Joanna Waley-Cohen, Chang-tai Hung, Stephen MacKinnon and Arthur Waldron cover aspects of war and culture. The papers by Lyman Van Slyke, Allen Fung and Chang Jui-te focus on battles and armies.

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Editorial responsibility for this issue has been shared with my colleague in Cambridge, Dr Hans Van de Ven, and much of the credit for the success of this venture goes to him. I would like to thank Miss Breglia, who prepares copy and reads proofs: she has been a mainstay of *Modern Asian Studies* ever since the publication of volume 5. I would also like to thank Mrs Penny Carter and her colleagues in the journals department at Cambridge University Press, especially Susan Chadwick who now serves as Editorial Assistant, for their continuing help and support.

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