

# RIVER ROAD to CHINA

*The Search for the Source of the Mekong, 1866-73*



MILTON OSBORNE

# River Road To China The Search For The Source Of The Mekong 186673

**Milton E. Osborne**



## **River Road To China The Search For The Source Of The Mekong 186673:**

River Road to China Milton E. Osborne, 1996 In 1866 six Frenchmen set out on a dangerous mission to seek a trade route up the Mekong During the two years that followed they would journey through more than four thousand miles of unmapped territory from the tropical heat of the swamps of Vietnam and Cambodia to the bitter cold of the mountain ranges of southwestern China Their historic expedition is the dramatic subject of *River Road to China* by world renowned Southeast Asia expert Milton Osborne Selected by The New York Times as one of the best books of 1975 when it was originally published this edition has been updated to include a new postscript by the author and more than thirty full color illustrations by the expedition's artist

*River Road to China* Milton E. Osborne, 1976 Narrative of the nineteenth century expedition along the Mekong River

*River Road to China* Milton Osborne, 2003-07 In 1866 six Frenchmen set out on a dangerous mission to seek a trade route up the Mekong During the two years that followed they would journey through more than four thousand miles of unmapped territory from the tropical heat of the swamps of Vietnam and Cambodia to the bitter cold of the mountain ranges of southwestern China Their historic expedition is the dramatic subject of *River Road to China* by world renowned Southeast Asia expert Milton Osborne Selected by The New York Times as one of the best books of 1975 when it was originally published this edition has been updated to include a new postscript by the author and more than thirty full color illustrations by the expedition's artist

**River Road to China** Milton E. Osborne, 1996

**River Road to China** Milton Osborne, 2007-12-01 A compelling finely researched account of an adventure that was hailed as one of the grandest explorations of the nineteenth century The Washington Post A New York Times Notable Book In 1866 six Frenchmen set out on a dangerous mission to seek a trade route up the Mekong During the two years that followed they would journey through more than four thousand miles of unmapped territory from the tropical heat of the swamps of Vietnam and Cambodia to the bitter cold of the mountain ranges of southwestern China Their historic expedition is the dramatic subject of *River Road to China* a story of courage endurance and determination in the face of unpredictable dangers and near insurmountable odds This edition has been updated to include a new postscript by the author and more than thirty full color illustrations by the expedition's artist The highest of high adventure Osborne's documentation is flawless The New Yorker As exciting as it is historically illuminating A tale of heroism that has seldom been duplicated spurred by the continuing fatal attraction of the Great River The New Republic

*The Mekong: A Socio-legal Approach to River Basin Development* Ben Boer, Philip Hirsch, Fleur Johns, Ben Saul, Natalia Scurrah, 2015-12-22 An international river basin is an ecological system an economic thoroughfare a geographical area a font of life and livelihoods a geopolitical network and often a cultural icon It is also a socio legal phenomenon This book is the first detailed study of an international river basin from a socio legal perspective The Mekong River Basin which sustains approximately 70 million people across Cambodia China Laos Myanmar Thailand and Vietnam provides a prime example of the socio legal complexities of governing a transboundary river and its tributaries The

book applies its socio legal analysis to bring a fresh approach to understanding conflicts surrounding water governance in the Mekong River Basin The authors describe the wide range of uses being made of legal doctrine and legal argument in ongoing disputes surrounding hydropower development in the Basin putting to rest lingering caricatures of a single ASEAN way of navigating conflict They call into question some of the common assumptions concerning the relationship between law and development The book also sheds light on important questions concerning the global hybridization or crossover of public and private power and its ramifications for water governance With current debates and looming conflicts over water governance globally and over shared rivers in particular these issues could not be more pressing

**The Mekong** Ian Charles Campbell, 2009-11-20 The Mekong is the most controversial river in Southeast Asia and increasingly the focus of international attention It flows through 6 countries China Myanmar Laos Thailand Cambodia and Viet Nam The 4 downstream countries have formed the Mekong River Commission to promote sustainable development of the river and many of their people depend on it for their subsistence it has possible the largest freshwater fishery in the world and the Mekong waters support rice agriculture in the delta in Viet Nam which produces about 40% of that country s food as well as in Cambodia Laos and Thailand China is now building the first large mainstream dam on the river and has proposals for several more These dams are likely to affect the downstream countries Several of the downstream countries also have plans for large scale hydropower and irrigation development which could also impact the river This book will provide a solid overview of the biophysical environment of the Mekong together with a discussion of the possible impacts biophysical economic and social of some possible development scenarios It is intended to provide a technical basis which can inform the growing political and conservation debate about the future of the Mekong River and those who depend on it It is aimed at river ecologists geographers environmentalists and development specialists both in the basin and especially outside for whom access to this material is most difficult This book will be the first comprehensive treatment of the Mekong system The first comprehensive overview of all aspects of the Mekong River system Deals with a regionally critical ecosystem and one under threat The Mekong supports the world s largest freshwater fishery and provides water underpinning a major regional rice paddy system Presents the authoritative findings of the Mekong River Commission s research for a wider audience for the first time outside of limited distribution reports

*River Culture* UNESCO, UNESCO Office in Beijing, 2023-01-05

**The Mekong** Milton Osborne, 2007-12-01 A remarkable history of the great river of Southeast Asia Jill Ker Conway author of *The Road from Coorain* The Mekong River runs over nearly three thousand miles beginning in the mountains of Tibet and flowing through China Burma Laos Thailand Cambodia and Vietnam before emptying into the China Sea Its waters are the lifeblood of Southeast Asia and first begot civilization on the fertile banks of its delta region at Oc Eo nearly two millennia ago This is the story of the peoples and cultures of the great river from these obscure beginnings to the emergence of today s independent nations Drawing on research gathered over forty years Milton Osborne traces the Mekong s dramatic history through the rise

and fall of civilizations and the era of colonization and exploration He details the struggle for liberation during a twentieth century in which Southeast Asia has seen almost constant conflict including two world wars the Indochina War the Vietnam War and its bloody aftermath and explores the prospects for peace and prosperity as the region enters a new millennium Along the way he brings to life those who witnessed and shaped events along the river including Chou Ta kuan the thirteenth century Chinese envoy who recorded the glory of Angkor Wat the capital of the Khmer Empire the Iberian mercenaries Blas Ruiz and Diego Veloso whose involvement in the intrigues of Cambodia's royal family shook Southeast Asia's politics in the sixteenth century and the revolutionaries led by Ho Chi Minh whose campaigns to liberate Vietnam from the French and unify the nation under communism changed the course of history A pathbreaking ecologically informed chronicle A pulsating journey through the heart of Southeast Asia Publishers Weekly

**Voyages, Migration, and the Maritime World** Clara Ho, Ricardo Mak, Yue-him Tam, 2018-09-10 This is a multi author volume resulted from an international conference focusing on topics related to our understanding of the role of China in the global history Apart from introductory chapters exploring methodological issues and providing big pictures of framing China in the world in particular time zones this volume also covers rich discussions on the following themes from the ancient period to the twentieth century organized water transport cultural interactions navigators port cities smuggling activities customs service foreign relations migration and diasporas Written by scholars of different generations who are based in diverse regions including Canada Hong Kong Japan Singapore Taiwan the UK and the US the chapters in this volume either address old questions from new perspectives or table new topics that were largely ignored in previous scholarship Some go further to brainstorm possible research directions in the future This thought provoking volume will be beneficial to readers who are interested in rethinking China's position in the global historical stage against the backdrop of Post Orientalism

*Developing a hydrological model for the Mekong Basin: Impacts of basin development on fisheries productivity* G. W. Kite, 2000 This report describes the hydrological aspects of a CGIAR project to model the effects of water flows on aquatic resource production in the Mekong Basin The project was carried out by the International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management ICLARM Penang Malaysia and the International Water Management Institute IWMI Colombo Sri Lanka in cooperation with the Mekong River Commission MRC Phnom Penh Cambodia together with other institutes and national and regional agencies working in the riparian countries of Cambodia Lao PDR Thailand and Vietnam The project commenced in January 2000 and finished in December 2000 The land cover analysis for the Tonle Sap area was carried out and the data on existing and proposed dams were collated by Dilkushi De Alwis IWMI Colombo

**A Land on Fire** James Fahn, 2008-03-31 The future of Earth's environment will be decided in Asia home to 60 percent of the world's population and some of the world's fastest growing economies As an award winning investigative journalist based in Bangkok James Fahn spent a decade grappling with the challenges facing the region's mega cities tropical forests coastlines and societies dashing toward modernity In *A Land on Fire* he shares his findings the

profound implications for global issues such as climate change the loss of biodiversity and the greening of world trade He explores Southeast Asia's environmental battles through the eyes of the people fighting them and recounts his many adventures while covering them Whether chasing down log smugglers along the Thai-Burmese border exposing the dumping of toxic mercury into the Gulf of Thailand by multinational oil corporations or covering the controversy surrounding the filming of the movie *The Beach* Fahn provides unique insight into the relationship between sustainable development and democracy the crippling impact of corruption and the environmental challenges facing us all

*Dams and Development in China* Bryan Tilt, 2014-12-02 China is home to half of the world's large dams and adds dozens more each year The benefits are considerable dams deliver hydropower provide reliable irrigation water protect people and farmland against flooding and produce hydroelectricity in a nation with a seemingly insatiable appetite for energy As hydropower responds to a larger share of energy demand dams may also help to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels welcome news in a country where air and water pollution have become dire and greenhouse gas emissions are the highest in the world Yet the advantages of dams come at a high cost for river ecosystems and for the social and economic well-being of local people who face displacement and farmland loss This book examines the array of water management decisions faced by Chinese leaders and their consequences for local communities Focusing on the southwestern province of Yunnan a major hub for hydropower development in China which encompasses one of the world's most biodiverse temperate ecosystems and one of China's most ethnically and culturally rich regions Bryan Tilt takes the reader from the halls of decision-making power in Beijing to Yunnan's rural villages In the process he examines the contrasting values of government agencies hydropower corporations NGOs and local communities and explores how these values are linked to longstanding cultural norms about what is right proper and just He also considers the various strategies these groups use to influence water resource policy including advocacy petitioning and public protest Drawing on a decade of research he offers his insights on whether the world's most populous nation will adopt greater transparency increased scientific collaboration and broader public participation as it continues to grow economically

*Sub-regionalism and International River Basins* Soavapa Ngampramuan, Christian Ploberger, 2020-06-17 This book investigates the origins and dynamics of sub-regional phenomena based on international river basins namely the Mekong and Danube rivers It emphasizes the integration process of the Greater Mekong Sub-region and the European Strategy for the Danube Region which are located in two different geopolitical and structural settings one in Southeast Asia in the regional context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ASEAN and the other in Central and Eastern Europe within the regional context of the EU By comparing two unique case studies within different structural settings additional and valuable insights into the occurrence and formation of sub-regional integration processes are provided enabling an evaluation of similarities and differences Understanding sub-regional integration dynamics requires not only looking upward to the regional and even the global level but indeed looking downwards to the local level After all sub

regional integration processes are generally described as bottom up processes based on local interests and expectations. Despite the growing number of sub regional projects sub regionalism remains inadequately studied in the field of political science and as such this book offers unique contributions to the understanding of sub regional integration processes. Consequently it will be of interest to readers who are interested in regional and sub regional integration processes as well as those with a specific interest in both the EU and ASEAN geographic regions

**Water Resources Planning and Management** R. Quentin Grafton, Karen Hussey, 2011-02-17 Water is an increasingly critical issue at the forefront of global policy change management and planning. There are growing concerns about water as a renewable resource, its availability for a wide range of users, aquatic ecosystem health and global issues relating to climate change, water security, water trading and water ethics. This handbook provides the most comprehensive reference ever published on water resource issues. It brings together multiple disciplines to understand and help resolve problems of water quality and scarcity from a global perspective. Its case studies and foundation chapters will be greatly valued by students, researchers and professionals involved in water resources, hydrology, governance and public policy, law, economics, geography and environmental studies.

Where China Meets India Thant Myint-U, 2011-09-13 Thant Myint U's *Where China Meets India* is a vivid, searching, timely book about the remote region that is suddenly a geopolitical center of the world. From their very beginnings, China and India have been walled off from each other by the towering summits of the Himalayas, by a vast and impenetrable jungle, by hostile tribes and remote inland kingdoms stretching a thousand miles from Calcutta across Burma to the upper Yangtze River. Soon this last great frontier will vanish, the forests cut down, dirt roads replaced by superhighways, insurgencies crushed, leaving China and India exposed to each other as never before. This basic shift in geography as sudden and profound as the opening of the Suez Canal will lead to unprecedented connections among the three billion people of Southeast Asia and the Far East. What will this change mean? Thant Myint U is in a unique position to know. Over the past few years he has traveled extensively across this vast territory where high speed trains and gleaming new shopping malls are now coming within striking distance of the last far flung rebellions and impoverished mountain communities. And he has explored the new strategic centrality of Burma where Asia's two rising giant powers appear to be vying for supremacy. At once a travelogue, a work of history and an informed look into the future, *Where China Meets India* takes us across the fast changing Asian frontier, giving us a masterful account of the region's long and rich history and its sudden significance for the rest of the world.

*Inadvertent Expansion* Nicholas D. Anderson, 2025-01-15 In *Inadvertent Expansion*, Nicholas D. Anderson investigates a surprisingly common yet overlooked phenomenon in the history of great power politics: territorial expansion that was neither intended nor initially authorized by state leaders. Territorial expansion is typically understood as a centrally driven and often strategic activity. But as Anderson shows, nearly a quarter of great power coercive territorial acquisitions since the nineteenth century have in fact been instances of what he calls inadvertent expansion. A two step process, inadvertent expansion first involves agents on the

periphery of a state or empire acquiring territory without the authorization or knowledge of higher ups Leaders in the capital must then decide whether to accept or reject the already acquired territory Through cases ranging from those of the United States in Florida and Texas to Japan in Manchuria and Germany in East Africa Anderson shows that inadvertent expansion is rooted in a principal agent problem When leaders in the capital fail to exert or have limited control over their agents on the periphery unauthorized efforts to take territory are more likely to occur Yet it is only when the geopolitical risks associated with keeping the acquired territory are perceived to be low that leaders are more likely to accept such expansion

Accentuating the influence of small seemingly insignificant actors over the foreign policy behavior of powerful states

Inadvertent Expansion offers new insights into how the boundaries of states and empires came to be and captures timeless dynamics between state leaders and their peripheral agents     Liquid Territories Christoforos Romanos,2024-11-29 In addition to being a fundamental concept for planning the water infrastructure which supports extensive agricultural economies across Southeast Asia knowledge of the Mekong River s hydrological catchments has calibrated the control of land resources and people Liquid Territories shows how and why the areal dimensions of the Mekong s basin delta and floodplain have become a critical geographic reference for human activities This book concentrates on the way knowledge of the river s catchments has been recorded on and extracted from maps Repeatedly drawn by geographers engineers and cartographers since before the start of European colonization the book describes how cartographic projections of the basin delta and floodplain have affected geopolitical strategy the exercise of military power and anthropogenic modifications of the terrain Drawing on the discourses of hydrology geography and cartography as well as military science colonial politics and regional planning the book explains why the spatial articulation of surface water flows is reflected in the configuration of national boundaries soils and settlements today Focusing on geographic concepts the book provides insights into the process of urbanization in Southeast Asia the region s colonial and post colonial history the Mekong River s political ecology the scales of contemporary water management and the design of territory This book will be relevant to academics who are interested specifically in the Mekong River and Lower Mekong Basin as well as in integrated water management planning It would be especially relevant to architects urbanists and landscape architects     *Hot Sour Salty Sweet* Jeffrey Alford,Naomi Duguid,2000-10-07 Luminous at dawn and dusk the Mekong is a river road a vibrant artery that defines a vast and fascinating region Here along the world s tenth largest river which rises in Tibet and joins the sea in Vietnam traditions mingle and exquisite food prevails Award winning authors Jeffrey Alford and Naomi Duguid followed the river south as it flows through the mountain gorges of southern China to Burma and into Laos and Thailand For a while the right bank of the river is in Thailand but then it becomes solely Lao on its way to Cambodia Only after three thousand miles does it finally enter Vietnam and then the South China Sea It was during their travels that Alford and Duguid who ate traditional foods in villages and small towns and learned techniques and ingredients from cooks and market vendors came to realize that the

local cuisines like those of the Mediterranean share a distinctive culinary approach Each cuisine balances with grace and style the regional flavor quartet of hot sour salty and sweet This book aptly titled is the result of their journeys Like Alford and Duguid s two previous works Flatbreads and Flavors a certifiable publishing event Vogue and Seductions of Rice simply stunning The New York Times this book is a glorious combination of travel and taste presenting enticing recipes in an odyssey rich in travel anecdote National Geographic Traveler The book s more than 175 recipes for spicy salsas welcoming soups grilled meat salads and exotic desserts are accompanied by evocative stories about places and people The recipes and stories are gorgeously illustrated throughout with more than 150 full color food and travel photographs In each chapter from Salsas to Street Foods Noodles to Desserts dishes from different cuisines within the region appear side by side A hearty Lao chicken soup is next to a Vietnamese ginger chicken soup a Thai vegetable stir fry comes after spicy stir fried potatoes from southwest China The book invites a flexible approach to cooking and eating for dishes from different places can be happily served and eaten together Thai Grilled Chicken with Hot and Sweet Dipping Sauce pairs beautifully with Vietnamese Green Papaya Salad and Lao sticky rice North Americans have come to love Southeast Asian food for its bright fresh flavors But beyond the dishes themselves one of the most attractive aspects of Southeast Asian food is the life that surrounds it In Southeast Asia people eat for joy The palate is wildly eclectic proudly unrestrained In Hot Sour Salty Sweet at last this great culinary region is celebrated with all the passion color and life that it deserves

**Faces of China** Darrell Nunn, 2007-06

Watch Hong Kong Harbour awake Experience a local bus ride Visit out of the way walled cities Experience Chinese huge material changes Share the highs and lows of a foreign resident Read between the lines of the English China Daily newspaper Explore cross cultural confusions

The Top Books of the Year River Road To China The Search For The Source Of The Mekong 186673 The year 2023 has witnessed a noteworthy surge in literary brilliance, with numerous engrossing novels enthralling the hearts of readers worldwide. Lets delve into the realm of popular books, exploring the fascinating narratives that have captivated audiences this year. River Road To China The Search For The Source Of The Mekong 186673 : Colleen Hoovers "It Ends with Us" This poignant tale of love, loss, and resilience has captivated readers with its raw and emotional exploration of domestic abuse. Hoover expertly weaves a story of hope and healing, reminding us that even in the darkest of times, the human spirit can prevail. River Road To China The Search For The Source Of The Mekong 186673 : Taylor Jenkins Reids "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" This intriguing historical fiction novel unravels the life of Evelyn Hugo, a Hollywood icon who defies expectations and societal norms to pursue her dreams. Reids absorbing storytelling and compelling characters transport readers to a bygone era, immersing them in a world of glamour, ambition, and self-discovery. Discover the Magic : Delia Owens "Where the Crawdads Sing" This evocative coming-of-age story follows Kya Clark, a young woman who grows up alone in the marshes of North Carolina. Owens spins a tale of resilience, survival, and the transformative power of nature, captivating readers with its evocative prose and mesmerizing setting. These popular novels represent just a fraction of the literary treasures that have emerged in 2023. Whether you seek tales of romance, adventure, or personal growth, the world of literature offers an abundance of captivating stories waiting to be discovered. The novel begins with Richard Papen, a bright but troubled young man, arriving at Hampden College. Richard is immediately drawn to the group of students who call themselves the Classics Club. The club is led by Henry Winter, a brilliant and charismatic young man. Henry is obsessed with Greek mythology and philosophy, and he quickly draws Richard into his world. The other members of the Classics Club are equally as fascinating. Bunny Corcoran is a wealthy and spoiled young man who is always looking for a good time. Charles Tavis is a quiet and reserved young man who is deeply in love with Henry. Camilla Macaulay is a beautiful and intelligent young woman who is drawn to the power and danger of the Classics Club. The students are all deeply in love with Morrow, and they are willing to do anything to please him. Morrow is a complex and mysterious figure, and he seems to be manipulating the students for his own purposes. As the students become more involved with Morrow, they begin to commit increasingly dangerous acts. The Secret History is a exceptional and suspenseful novel that will keep you guessing until the very end. The novel is a cautionary tale about the dangers of obsession and the power of evil.

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