

# NAVAL **ARTILLERY** FRENCH NAVY 1650-1850 HISTORICAL AND TECHNICAL STUDY

Collection of 93 plates

Jean BOUDRIOT - Hubert BERTI Translated by François Fougerat

knowledge of artillery is essential to the understanding of The evolution of the military navy, since the combat ship was basically for its artillery.

From the bronze cannon bearing the arms of Richelieu in 1636 to the 36-pdr howizter of the same year to the Paixans model of 1849, this study follows the intricate evolution of these weapons step by step. After studying iron and bronze barrels, we turn our attention successively to mountings, portholes, rigging and the use of cannon. The description of pieces of ordnance with explosive shot - howizters and mortars - are another important aspects of this group complemented by a description of light artillery in tops and

on bulwarks. We approach our subject from the practical standpoint of the descriptions of materials and their uses. Research on ballistics and metallurgy is only cited in passing, although we recognize the importance of these areas.

True to form Jean Boudriot gives special emphasis to drawings. Plates of general views and detailed sketches abound in the fact-filled pages of this exhaustive study. The excerpts we present here warrant that ship's model builders and amateurs of naval history will be more than pleased with this volume. With singular exceptions, the traditional inferiority of the French navy vis-à-vis its rivals often provided the stimulus necessary for successful innovations. For instance, the French bomber galiots or the Paixhans howizters come to mind. On the other hand the French often adopted inventions and practices of the British Navy, their arch-rival, such as the general adoption of carronades in 1804, twenty years after the taking of Hébée and the failure of sea-borne howitzers. All of the above evolutions are presented in this study of naval artillery.

With access to primary sources and archives becoming increasingly difficult to obtain, we complete our presentation in the text with a lavish set of 93 facsimile plates that reproduce the essence of the original naval iconography in French archives.

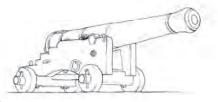
## PRESENTATION OF THE WORK

A large volume, -24 x 31cm format, full blue-grey cloth binding, laminated inside dust -

- 200 pages of text with numerous plans, perspective sketches and representations of historical documents.
- 93 plates reproducing the essence of the relevant archival iconography, including many unpublished documents.
- Plans and drawings in the text are generally at 1:20 scale; the plates range from 1:10 to 1:25 scale.
- The text is printed on 135 gr paper and the plates

on 115 gr paper.

A large volume, 24 x 31cm format, full blue-grey cloth binding, laminated inside dust jacket illustrating the between decks of a combat ship of the First Empire..



# contents Cannons

jacket

# Table of CHAPTER I

Iron cannon

Bronze cannon

Manufacturing the guns

Use of different calibers.

#### CHAPTER II

Gun carriages

Gun carriages 1647-1758

Gun carriages 1763 -1786

Gun carriages 1786-1820

Gun carriages after 1820

## **CHAPTER III**

Portholes

### **CHAPTER IV**

Rigging and arming the guns

# **CHAPTER V**

Using the guns

Ammunition

Stocking and storing of powder

Using the gun

Primary principles of combat

Aggressive manoeuvers

Moorings

#### CHAPTER VI

Pieces of ordnance with explosive shot

The howizter of a 1787 ship

Carronades



Rigging and arming the carronades

Ammunition, manoeuvring and using the carronade.

#### **CHAPTER VII**

The Paixham-model howizter

Howitzers

Howitzer carriages

Portholes for the howitzer

Rigging and arming howitzers

Ammunition for and use of the howitzer

Paixhan's reflections of the navy

## **CHAPTER VIII**

Mortars

#### **CHAPTER IX**

Mortar-bearing ships

Bomber galiots

Mortar bearing ships other than the bomber galiot

## **CHAPTER X**

Light artillery in the tops and on bulwarks

Swivel-guns

Blunderbusses

Grenades

Fireballs

## **CHAPTER XI**

The artillery park of Toulon

### **CHAPTER XII**

Two centuries of evolution

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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