

Neutrality and Collaboration in South China

The South China enclave of Macau was the first and last European colonial settlement in East Asia and a territory at the crossroads of different empires. In this highly original study, Helena F. S. Lopes analyses the layers of collaboration that developed from neutrality in Macau during the Second World War. Exploring the intersections of local, regional and global dynamics, she unpacks the connections between a plurality of actors with competing and collaborative interests, including Chinese Nationalists, Communists and collaborators with Japan, Portuguese colonial authorities and British and Japanese representatives. Lopes argues that neutrality eased the movement of refugees of different nationalities who sought shelter in Macau during the war and that it helped to guarantee the maintenance of two remnants of European colonialism – Macau and Hong Kong. Drawing on extensive research from multilingual archival material from Asia, Europe, Australasia and America, this book brings to light the multiple global connections framing the experiences of neutrality and collaboration in the Portuguese-administered enclave of Macau.

Helena F. S. Lopes is Lecturer in Modern Asian History at Cardiff University. She held a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship at the University of Bristol and lectureships at the University of Oxford and the University of Bristol.

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Neutrality and Collaboration in South China

Macau during the Second World War

Helena F. S. Lopes

Cardiff University



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Helena F. S. Lopes
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For my parents

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| <i>List of Figures</i> | page viii |
| <i>List of Tables</i> | x |
| <i>Acknowledgements</i> | xi |
| <i>Note on Chinese Names</i> | xv |
| <i>List of Abbreviations</i> | xvi |
| Introduction: An ‘East Asian Casablanca’ | 1 |
| 1 Caught in the Middle: Macau between Chinese Resistance and Collaboration | 29 |
| 2 Old Allies and New Friends: The Macau Portuguese Administration, Japan and Britain before the Fall of Hong Kong | 63 |
| 3 Crisis and Opportunity: Refugees in Wartime Macau | 101 |
| 4 The Last ‘Lone Island’: Pressure, Profits and Philanthropy | 147 |
| 5 Colonial Transplantation: Hong Kong in Macau | 196 |
| 6 Seeking Justice and Recognition: Dealing with Neutrality and Collaboration after the War | 236 |
| Epilogue: Enduring Legacies of a Globally Connected Periphery | 273 |
| <i>Appendix 1</i> | 281 |
| <i>Appendix 2</i> | 282 |
| <i>Glossary of Chinese Names</i> | 283 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> | 287 |
| <i>Index</i> | 317 |

Figures

| | |
|--|--------|
| I.1 Aerial view of Macau city centre, late 1930s. Source: Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford, <i>Anuário de Macau</i> , 1939. Per. 20659 e.92 | page 2 |
| I.2 The Barrier Gate (Portas do Cerco) in 1933. Built in 1871, it marked the land border between Macau and mainland China. Author's collection | 21 |
| I.3 Harbour view, Macau, c.1938. P-A1.41-111. Courtesy of Archives Research Centre of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand | 26 |
| 1.1 Li Jinlun (centre left), Chinese minister to Portugal between 1934 and 1943, after presenting his credentials at the presidential palace in Lisbon, 1934. Empresa Pública Jornal O Século, Álbuns Gerais n.º 31, doc. PT/TT/EPJS/SF/001-001/0031/2226I. Imagem cedida pelo ANTT. Courtesy of Arquivo Nacional Torre do Tombo | 35 |
| 1.2 Map of South China showing the Macau–Shiqi road and the Kowloon–Guangzhou railway. Map by Rui Teixeira Alves (based on a map by P. C. Chen published in <i>China Weekly Review</i> , 13 April 1940, in the public domain via Internet Archive) (https://archive.org/details/millards-1940.04.13/page/228/mode/2up) | 39 |
| 1.3 A Chinese woman fighting for the resistance in Zhongshan, 1939. Sueddeutsche Zeitung Photo / Alamy | 46 |
| 2.1 Map of Macau, 1945, showing the Portuguese-ruled Macau peninsula and the islands of Taipa and Coloane and, on the left, the islands of Lappa, Dom João and Montanha, ruled by China and occupied by Japan during the Second World War. The National Archives, ref. ADM234/670 | 83 |
| 3.1 Refugees waiting to leave Shanghai, 1937. Photograph by Malcolm Rosholt. Image courtesy of Mei-Fei Elrick and Special Collections, University of Bristol Library (www.hpcbristol.net) | 103 |

| List of Figures | ix |
|--|-----|
| 3.2 Staff and children of the Tak Kei Primary School in Macau, June 1941. P-A1.37-128a. Courtesy of Archives Research Centre of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand | 138 |
| 4.1 Partial map of wartime China showing Macau surrounded by Japanese-occupied areas in 1945 (shaded). Map by Rui Teixeira Alves (based on a US Army map in the public domain via Wikimedia Commons) (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Situation_at_the_End_of_World_War_Two.PNG) | 149 |
| 4.2 Pedro José Lobo, head of the Macau Economic Services, 1950. Photograph by Harrison Forman. From the American Geographical Society Library, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Libraries | 185 |
| 5.1 The British consul in Macau John Reeves (right) shaking hands with Admiral Chan Chak (left), who escaped from Hong Kong into Free China in 1941, while observed by the acting governor of Macau, Samuel Vieira, early post-war period. J. M. Braga Collection. Courtesy of the National Library of Australia | 205 |
| 5.2 Rosary Hill Red Cross Home, Hong Kong, October 1944. Reference: V-P-HIST-E-01199. Copyright: International Committee of the Red Cross | 216 |
| 6.1 T. V. Soong, his wife, Zhang Leyi, and the Portuguese consul in Guangzhou, José Calvet de Magalhães, January 1948. PT/MNE/AHD/ C. E.18 P.2 UI/999 (2P, A47, M151). Courtesy of Instituto Diplomático | 268 |

Tables

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| A.1 Net entries and departures to and from Macau by land and by water | <i>page 281</i> |
|--|-----------------|

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Oxford, September 2022

Note on Chinese Names

Chinese names are indicated with the surname first (as are Japanese names) and spelled according to the *Hanyu Pinyin* romanisation system with a few exceptions. These include the names of figures who are commonly known in Europe with other spellings (e.g. Sun Yat-sen, Chiang Kai-shek, T. V. Soong), in their English versions (e.g. Robert Ho Tung), or whose *Pinyin* equivalent could not be traced due to the lack of Chinese characters in the sources (e.g. a few Cantonese names mentioned in sources in European languages). Exceptions also include Chinese institutions that still exist today and whose official name romanisation does not follow *Hanyu Pinyin* (e.g. Kuomintang, Kiang Wu Hospital, Tung Sin Tong).

The spelling of Chinese place names will, with few exceptions, follow *Hanyu Pinyin* (e.g. Chongqing, Guangzhou). Other spellings might be used when quoting from primary sources (e.g. Chungking, Canton). ‘Macau’ is used to refer to the territory known in Mandarin as Aomen and in Cantonese as Ou Mun. ‘Macao’ will only be used when citing from primary sources.

Unless otherwise stated, all translations are by the author.

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|--|
| BAAG | British Army Aid Group |
| BNU | Banco Nacional Ultramarino (National Overseas Bank) |
| CCP | Chinese Communist Party |
| CMC | Chinese Maritime Customs |
| CO | Colonial Office |
| CRB | Central Reserve Bank, RNG |
| DAB | Deutsch-Asiatische Bank |
| FO | Foreign Office, United Kingdom |
| HKU | University of Hong Kong |
| HSBC | Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation |
| KMT | Kuomintang |
| MC | Ministério das Colónias (Ministry of Colonies, Portugal) |
| MELCO | Macao Electric Lighting Company |
| MNE | Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal) |
| MOFA | Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ROC |
| NHW | Netherlands Harbour Works Company |
| OSS | Office of Strategic Studies |
| PPC | People's Political Council |
| PRC | People's Republic of China |
| RNG | Reorganised National Government |
| ROC | Republic of China |
| SOE | Special Operations Executive |
| UK | United Kingdom |
| UN | United Nations |
| USA | United States of America |
| USSR | Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics |
| WATCO | Macao Waterworks Company |
| YWCA | Young Women's Christian Association |