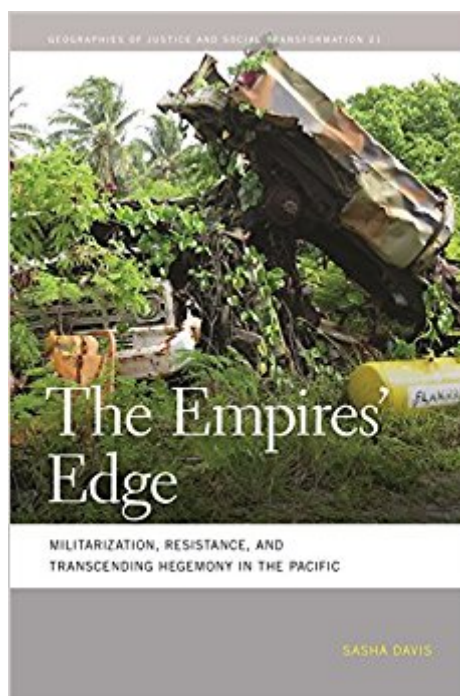




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# **The Empires' Edge: Militarization, Resistance, And Transcending Hegemony In The Pacific (Geographies Of Justice And Social Transformation Ser.)**



## Synopsis

In the past decade the Asia-Pacific region has become a focus of international politics and military strategies. Due to China's rising economic and military strength, North Korea's nuclear tests and missile launches, tense international disputes over small island groups in the seas around Asia, and the United States pivoting a majority of its military forces to the region, the islands of the western Pacific have increasingly become the center of global attention. While the Pacific is a current hotbed of geopolitical rivalry and intense militarization, the region is also something else: a homeland to the hundreds of millions of people that inhabit it. Based on a decade of research in the region, *The Empire's Edge* examines the tremendous damage the militarization of the Pacific has wrought on its people and environments. Furthermore, Davis details how contemporary social movements in this region are affecting global geopolitics by challenging the military use of Pacific islands and by developing a demilitarized view of security based on affinity, mutual aid, and international solidarity. Through an examination of "sacrificed" islands from across the region including Bikini Atoll, Okinawa, Hawaii, and Guam, *The Empire's Edge* makes the case that the great political contest of the twenty-first century is not about which country gets hegemony in a global system but rather about the choice between perpetuating a system of international relations based on domination or pursuing a more egalitarian and cooperative future.

## Book Information

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The Empires' Edge: Militarization, Resistance, and Transcending Hegemony in the Pacific. . . examines one of the most pernicious problems of the past two centuries in our region—militarization—and analyzes it in tandem with one of the great hopes of the same era—anti-imperialist resistance movements. . . . This book will help anyone who is interested in contemporary politics and international relations in the Pacific Islands region to appreciate just how high the stakes are when it comes to the militarization of the region—and this means not only scholars but also activists, journalists, and, indeed, military personnel. (Teresia Teaiwa *The Contemporary Pacific*) Davis shines a much needed light on the implications of what has seemingly become a normalized dominance—reminding us that the U.S. has been the dominant military power across the island pacific region since 1898—and uncovers how this military omnipotence has affected the lives of those on islands deemed to be strategically useful by, and to, the U.S. military, and on these islands' environments. . . . Davis deftly weaves complex geopolitical arguments through thick empirical research to unpack, unpick, and problematize the relationship of the U.S. military to these peoples and places, and the resistances that have grown up to its presence. (Alison J. Williams *Geographical Review*) A short review cannot do justice to Davis' rich set of observations and reformulations of standard thinking on issues of militarization, the state, and Pacific islander experiences of mythic and physical violence. It will be a book many islanders will want to read, and which many college instructors will want to consider for their undergraduate or graduate social science courses on the Pacific Rim, politics, space, militarization and the environment. (Catherine Lutz *Island Studies Journal*)

Social movements confronting military power in the Asia-Pacific region

Highly readable, unlike many other academic treatises on empire. Davis has a really radical and unique perspective on Asian Pacific politics, social movements, and ecology. Highly recommended for anyone interested in this region or in the 'newest' social movements of the 21st century that are striving for egalitarianism and sovereignty.

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