## Contents

Acknowledgments xi Abbreviations xiii

Introduction 1

- 1 The Roots of the Sino-Vietnamese Conflict 13
- 2 Deng Xiaoping and China's War Decision 40
- **3** Planning and Preparation for the Invasion 67
- 4 Bloodshed over Vietnam's Northern Border Region 90
- **5** Reassessing the 1979 War 115
- 6 A Decadelong Continued Border Conflict, 1980–1990 141
- 7 In the Shadow of the Border Conflict 169
- 8 The Road to Conflict Termination 193

Conclusion: A Personal Retrospective on China's Border War, Rapprochement with Vietnam, and Implications for East Asian Affairs 211

Notes 221
Bibliography 253
Index 271