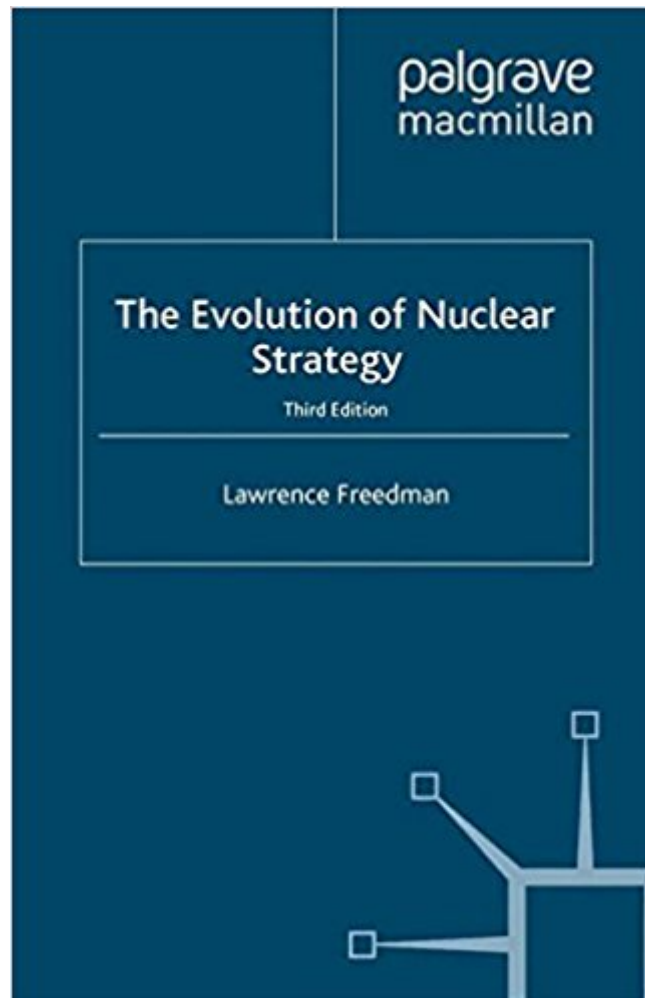


The book was found

The Evolution Of Nuclear Strategy, Third Edition



Synopsis

First published twenty years ago, Lawrence Freedman's *Evolution of Nuclear Strategy* was immediately acclaimed as the standard work on the history of attempts to cope militarily and politically with the terrible destructive power of nuclear weapons. It has now been rewritten, drawing on a wide range of new research, and updated to take account of the period following the end of the cold war, taking the story to contemporary arguments about missile defence.

Book Information

Paperback: 566 pages

Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan; 3rd edition (July 18, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0333972392

ISBN-13: 978-0333972397

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.2 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #158,479 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Arms Control #85 in Books > History > Military > Weapons & Warfare > Nuclear #298 in Books > History > Military > Strategy

Customer Reviews

LAWRENCE FREEDMAN is Professor of War Studies and Head of the School of Social Science and Public Policy at King's College, London. He is the author of many books and articles, including *The Gulf Conflict* (with Efraim Karsh) and *Kennedy's Wars: Berlin, Cuba, Laos and Vietnam*. In 1997 he was appointed Official Historian of the Falklands Campaign.

Freedman does a great job of covering the history and evolution of Nuclear Strategy - It is enlightning to see how different theories developed over time and what logic trails led to different conclusions.

A must have compendium for all readers who are interested in the evolution of nuclear strategy throughout the twentieth century.

I am using this a text for an International Security class. It is a well constructed summary of the

history of thought in this area. However, as I am reading, gently opening the book causes pages to just fall out without any sort of tension. They have clearly never been glued in in the first place. It's just a really disappointing purchase. If I could take time out of reading to return it I would.

Lawrence Freedman has written many important articles and books but *The Evolution of Nuclear Strategy* is probably his best. He presents a comprehensive analysis of the development nuclear strategy from 1945 to the end of the Cold War. The book usefully explains a multitude of concepts such as second strike capabilities, massive retaliation, and selective options. Freedman gives added depth by covering nuclear strategy in China, Europe, and the Soviet Union. One of the great strengths of this book is its objectivity. Most works on nuclear strategy focus on arguing whether nuclear war is still possible, how a nuclear war would be fought, or if mutually assured destruction is a stable and inevitable strategy. Freedman definitely questions the logic of strategies that aim to fight nuclear wars and favors mutually assured destruction. However, the text is devoid of rhetoric or argumentation that would cloud his historical analysis. Some may criticize the book because it does not concentrate on certain issues relevant today, such as non-proliferation or nuclear terrorism. From the perspective of 2001, though, Freedman's work serves as a history of the major strategic discourse of the Cold War. In a way, his work serves as the cap on fifty years of writings on nuclear strategy. For students of strategy, *The Evolution of Nuclear Strategy* is an essential read. In terms of comprehensiveness, objectivity, and good explanation, this book cannot be matched.

This is certainly for the serious student of nuclear war. We get the entire history of nuclear strategy from the end of World War 2 to the Twenty-first Century. Freedman emphasizes the changes over time but also the great gulf between the superpowers who had very different approaches and assumptions. The existence of other nuclear powers like France and China further complicates the mix. The writing is a bit technical and dry and I wish there had been more on game theory and nuclear planning, but this is still fairly good.

Lawrence Freedman is a superbly accomplished historian of the Cold War, and his expertise is on display in *"The Evolution of Nuclear Strategy"*, first published in 1981 and most recently updated in 2003. Freedman explores in detail the struggle of the nuclear-armed states, beginning with the US in 1945, to define a credible military strategy in which nuclear weapons might be used to achieve a reasonable political end short of annihilation. Freedman's narrative carries the reader from Trinity, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki in 1945 up to the eve of the US-led intervention into Iraq in 2003. Much of

the book is taken up with the long Cold War confrontation between the US and USSR, the powers that accumulated the largest strategic arsenals, dominated the debate over strategy, and were nearly the opponents in a nuclear confrontation over Cuba in 1962. Freedman devotes space along the way to briefer discussions of the attempts at nuclear strategy by the United Kingdom, France, China, and in late chapters, India, Pakistan, and North Korea. In the end, Freedman cannot bring himself to accept that nuclear weapons have a function beyond deterring the use of other nuclear weapons. This might not be an entirely satisfying conclusion after over 450 pages; the author was clearly reluctant to explore the dynamics of limited exchanges. However, his presentation is even-handed and he does not foreclose other lines of thought. This reviewer wishes he had spent more time on the present instance of deterrence between a small nuclear state such as North Korea and a larger nuclear state such as the US. "The Evolution of Nuclear Strategy" is highly recommended to students of international and military affairs, as a topic unlikely to go away in the near term.

I picked this up thinking it would be a detailed, comprehensive treatment that would lay out the reasons behind why nuclear strategy is what it is. Instead, I got a political science text that traces the history of nuclear strategy, but fails to lay it out. There's almost zero focus on the technical side of things and much actual analysis either. In fact, there's no real delving into strategy either - everything is merely presented, and not very well at that. The prose is dry and humorless - it is at best a broad overview of points of view held by various factions. Although I'm sure Freedman tried to present everything in an impartial and unbiased manner, it seems like he is dismissive of some issues, and places too much emphasis on others.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Nuclear Prepared - How to Prepare for a Nuclear Attack and What to do Following a Nuclear Blast: Everything you Need to Know to Plan and Prepare for a Nuclear Attack Nuclear energy. Radioactivity. Engineering in Nuclear Power Plants: Easy course for understanding nuclear energy and engineering in nuclear power plans (Radioactive Disintegration) The Evolution of Nuclear Strategy, Third Edition Handbook of Nuclear Chemistry: Vol. 1: Basics of Nuclear Science; Vol. 2: Elements and Isotopes: Formation, Transformation, Distribution; Vol. 3: ... Nuclear Energy Production and Safety Issues. Third Eye: Third Eye Activation Mastery, Easy And Simple Guide To Activating Your Third Eye Within 24 Hours (Third Eye Awakening, Pineal Gland Activation, Opening the Third Eye) Nuclear War Survival Skills (Upgraded 2012 Edition) (Red Dog Nuclear Survival) Nuclear Energy, Seventh Edition: An Introduction to the Concepts, Systems, and Applications of

Nuclear Processes Nuclear Energy, Fourth Edition: An Introduction to the Concepts, Systems and Applications of Nuclear Processes Nuclear Energy, Fourth Edition: An Introduction to the Concepts, Systems, and Applications of Nuclear Processes (Pergamon Unified Engineering Series) Nuclear Danger - An Inconvenient Discovery: Americans Are Vulnerable To Nuclear Radiation Nuclear War Survival Skills: Lifesaving Nuclear Facts and Self-Help Instructions Essentials of Nuclear Medicine Imaging: Expert Consult - Online and Print, 6e (Essentials of Nuclear Medicine Imaging (Mettler)) Radiopharmaceuticals in Nuclear Pharmacy and Nuclear Medicine Nuclear Reactor Design (An Advanced Course in Nuclear Engineering) Keeping the Lights on at America's Nuclear Power Plants (Shultz-Stephenson Task Force on Energy Policy Reinventing Nuclear Power Essay) My Nuclear Nightmare: Leading Japan through the Fukushima Disaster to a Nuclear-Free Future Nuclear Accidents and Disasters (Nuclear Power) Fusion (Nuclear Power) (Nuclear Power (Facts on File)) Nuclear Engineering: Theory and Technology of Commercial Nuclear Power Nuclear Chemical Engineering (McGraw-Hill series in nuclear engineering)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)