My Journey at the Nuclear Brink
By William Perry

DESCRIPTION

My Journey at the Nuclear Brink is a continuation of William J. Perry's efforts to keep the world safe from a nuclear catastrophe. It tells the story of his coming of age in the nuclear era, his role in trying to shape and contain it, and how his thinking has changed about the threat these weapons pose.

- Stanford Security Press

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

Perry was one of the architects of U.S. nuclear policy, and in this book, he adeptly reflects on the broad sweep of the nuclear era, from the Cold War to the present day, based on his direct experience in the nuclear realm over the past 70 years. Perry paints a somewhat bleak picture of the state of nuclear affairs in the world today, but his thoughts and recommendations for the way forward, informed by his own personal experience, are well worth heeding.
The Case for U.S. Nuclear Weapons in the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century

By Brad Roberts

DESCRIPTION

The case against nuclear weapons has been made on many grounds—including historical, political, and moral. But, Brad Roberts argues, it has not so far been informed by the experience of the United States since the Cold War in trying to adapt deterrence to a changed world, and to create the conditions that would allow further significant changes to U.S. nuclear policy and posture.

- Stanford Security Press

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

Roberts draws on his experience and academic acumen in this thoughtful, well-researched book. Contrary to those scholars making calls for global nuclear disarmament, Roberts argues the need for and utility of U.S. nuclear weapons now and into the future. After a review of post-Cold War U.S. nuclear policies, Roberts provides in-depth analysis of some of the major nuclear proliferation and deterrence challenges for U.S. policy today, particularly focusing on the nuclear arsenals of North Korea, China, and Russia.
On Limited Nuclear War in the 21st Century
Edited by Jeffrey Larsen and Kerry Kartchner

DESCRIPTION

The authors argue that a time may come when a nuclear-armed state makes the conscious decision that using a nuclear weapon against the United States, its allies, or forward deployed forces in the context of a crisis or a regional conventional conflict may be in its interests. They assert that we are unprepared for these types of limited nuclear wars and that it is urgent we rethink the theory, policy, and implementation of force related to our approaches to this type of engagement.

- Stanford Security Press

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

Much of the existing literature on the subject of nuclear weapons and nuclear deterrence simply assumes that the taboo against their use will continue to be strong. Rather than doing so, this volume realistically assesses both the likelihood of the future use of nuclear weapons and the consequences thereof. As such, this book supports contemporary DoD nuclear operations planning.
Nuclear Deterrence in the 21st Century
By Therese Delpech

DESCRIPTION

In this book, Therese Delpech calls for a renewed intellectual effort to address the relevance of the traditional concepts of first strike, escalation, extended deterrence, and other Cold War–era strategies in today's complex world of additional superpowers (e.g., China), smaller nuclear powers (e.g., Pakistan and North Korea), and non-state actors (e.g., terrorists), as well as the extension of defense and security analysis to new domains, such as outer space and cyberspace.

- RAND Corporation

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

This volume, by the late Therese Delpech, is a thorough review of the extant literature on nuclear deterrence, an analysis of whether and to what extent it applies for 21st century deterrence problems, and a call to action for a new wave of research on the subject. The DoD nuclear enterprise will benefit from the inclusion of concepts such as cross-domain deterrence and deterrence of non-state actors.
Nuclear Strategy in the Modern Era
*By Vipin Narang*

**DESCRIPTION**

Vipin Narang identifies the diversity of regional power nuclear strategies and describes in detail the posture each regional power has adopted over time. Developing a theory for the sources of regional power nuclear strategies, he offers the first systematic explanation of why states choose the postures they do and under what conditions they might shift strategies.

- *Princeton University Press*

**SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY**

Much of the classical literature on deterrence focused on U.S. or Soviet nuclear strategy, but deterrence in the modern era also requires understanding the nuclear strategies of regional nuclear powers. Vipin Narang offers an analytical framework and typology to understand and characterize the nuclear strategies of six countries: China, France, Israel, India, Pakistan, and South Africa. Narang’s framework is useful for deterrence practitioners and scholars wanting to gain a better understanding of states’ nuclear strategies and how those strategies could change in the future.
Nuclear Statescraft: History and Strategy in America’s Atomic Age  
*By Francis Gavin*

**DESCRIPTION**

How do these nuclear states—and potential future ones—manage their nuclear forces and influence international conflict? Examining the reasoning and deterrence consequences of regional power nuclear strategies, this book demonstrates that these strategies matter greatly to international stability and it provides new insights into conflict dynamics across important areas of the world such as the Middle East, East Asia, and South Asia.

- *Princeton University Press*

**SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY**

Gavin asserts that policy makers and academics too often misunderstand or are ignorant of nuclear history, which leads to problems developing proper policy or theory. This book provides thoroughly researched accounts of key debates and moments in the history of U.S. nuclear policy and shows how history’s lessons can apply to contemporary nuclear policy debates. Gavin also challenges some of the current conventional wisdom or myths surrounding nuclear deterrence and proliferation and pays special attention to challenging camps of the nuclear proliferation debate.
The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: An Enduring Debate
By Scott Sagan and Kenneth Waltz

DESCRIPTION

Over the past fifteen years, The Spread of Nuclear Weapons has been a staple in International Relations courses because of its brevity and crystal-clear explanations. The new edition, An Enduring Debate, continues the important discussion of nuclear proliferation and the dangers of a nuclear-armed world. With new chapters on the questions surrounding a nuclear North Korea, Iran, and Iraq and the potential for a world free of nuclear weapons...

- WW Norton and Co.

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

This update to what is now a decades long debate between two of the most well-known and knowledgeable scholars of both the causes and consequences of the spread of nuclear weapons is significant as it provides new insights on current and future proliferation challenges. In order to better develop military capabilities for deterrence, it is vital to understand all sides of the debate on global nuclear proliferation.
Asia’s Latent Nuclear Powers
By Mark Fitzpatrick

DESCRIPTION

This book analyses these past nuclear pursuits and current proliferation drivers. In explaining the nuclear technology that the three (Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan) now possess, it considers how long it would take each to build a nuclear weapon if such a fateful decision were made.

- Routledge

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

Drawing on his extensive government experience working in and on Asia, Mark Fitzpatrick comprehensively reviews the nuclear past and present of Northeast Asia, focusing on the so-called latent nuclear power of Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. Fitzpatrick explores how those three countries could develop nuclear weapons, but he also presents political arguments for why those three have not gone nuclear, despite possessing the technical capability to do so. In addition to domestic politics, Fitzpatrick emphasizes the role the United States plays in restraining further nuclear proliferation in Northeast Asia.
Deterrence

By Lawrence Freedman

DESCRIPTION

In this book, Freedman charts the evolution of the contemporary concept of deterrence, and discusses whether - and how - it still has relevance in today's world. He considers constructivist as well as realist approaches and draws on criminological as well as strategic studies literature to develop a concept of a norms-based, as opposed to an interest-based, deterrence.

- Polity Press

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

One of the most well known works on nuclear deterrence written in the past two decades, Freedman presents a thorough exploration of both the origins and evolution of modern deterrence theory. Practitioners and academics alike will find its succinct analysis useful and approachable. An essential reading selection for all Airmen.
Command and Control
By Eric Schlosser

DESCRIPTION

Written with the vibrancy of a first-rate thriller, Command and Control interweaves the minute-by-minute story of an accident at a nuclear missile silo in rural Arkansas with a historical narrative that spans more than fifty years. It depicts the urgent effort by American scientists, policy makers, and military officers to ensure that nuclear weapons can’t be stolen, sabotaged, used without permission, or detonated inadvertently.

- Penguin Books

SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DETERRENCE COMMUNITY

Schlosser’s Command and Control is unique among works investigating the history of the US nuclear weapons program, as it is written not from the perspective of a historian, but as a journalist. As such, it takes an investigative approach that readers will find both informative and engaging. While it engages the past, the author makes the case for the need for a safe, secure, and reliable nuclear stockpile today.