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Nuclear War

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Brown, Neville. Nuclear War. London: Praeger, 1964. 227 p.

The author, a research associate at the Institute for Strategic Studies in London, has presented an interesting and helpful work for both the layman and the military professional. It is an orderly development of the available tools of war and the current strategies governing their use. It contains excellent descriptions of current weapons and their capabilities. The technology and effects of nuclear weapons are outlined in comparatively understandable terms. A comparison is made of the complete gamut of Soviet and Western bloc weapons. The book would be of value as an unclassified source of information and comparative statistics if there was nothing else in it.

In addition, however, the author discusses current Soviet and Western doctrine and goes into detail concerning the strategies and relative strengths and weaknesses of NATO and the Soviet bloc. He outlines the basic difference between Western and Soviet thinking with regard to the control possible in a modern conflict. He traces the changes in Western thinking and the resulting "Forward Strategy" adopted by NATO. He compares not only the major powers forces but includes the smaller powers capabilities and contribution. He also discusses the possibilities and probabilities of direct confrontation on the NATO flanks.

After the careful and factual preparation offered the reader, Mr. Brown then discusses his ideas of some of the problems involved in the present NATO strategy as he envisions it in actual execution. He then offers his ideas as to how it could be improved. The reader may or may not agree with the author's ideas but the exposure to them is both educational and worth the effort involved.

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Kissinger, Henry A. The Troubled Partnership. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1965. 266 p.

This book grew out of a series of lectures delivered at the Council of Foreign Relations in March 1964. It focuses attention upon the structural problems of the Atlantic Alliance, by pointing out the changes that have occurred in the basic nature of alliances. Mr. Kissinger says that the deepest problem before NATO is that the pressures of technology run counter to the traditional notions of sovereignty. He examines the nature of the strategic debate