

Modern Strategy Colin S Gray Article

Modern Strategy Strategy and Politics Theory of Strategy The Strategy Bridge Strategic Studies Strategy and History The Future of Strategy Fighting Talk Strategic Studies and Public Policy Perspectives on Strategy The Strategy Bridge Explorations in Strategy Transformation and Strategic Surprise The Geopolitics of Super Power Strategy in the Contemporary World War, Peace and International Relations The Illusion of Strategy Strategy and Defence Planning Bernard Brodie and the Foundations of American Nuclear Strategy Weapons Don't Make War Colin S. Gray John Baylis Colin S. Gray Vaughn L. Altemus Colin S. Gray Barry Howard Steiner Colin S. Gray Modern Strategy Strategy and Politics Theory of Strategy The Strategy Bridge Strategic Studies Strategy and History The Future of Strategy Fighting Talk Strategic Studies and Public Policy Perspectives on Strategy The Strategy Bridge Explorations in Strategy Transformation and Strategic Surprise The Geopolitics of Super Power Strategy in the Contemporary World War, Peace and International Relations The Illusion of Strategy Strategy and Defence Planning Bernard Brodie and the Foundations of American Nuclear Strategy Weapons Don't Make War Colin S. Gray John Baylis Colin S. Gray Vaughn L. Altemus Colin S. Gray Barry Howard Steiner Colin S. Gray

modern strategy explains how strategic reasoning makes sense of the great complexity of war on land at sea in the air in space and even cyberspace

this book examines the subject of strategy and its relationship with politics despite the fact that strategy is always the product of political process the relationship between the two concepts and their ancillary activities has scarcely been touched by scholars this book corrects that serious deficiency and explains the high relevance of political factors for matters of general defence each chapter aims to show how and why strategy and politics interact and how this interaction has had significant consequences historically neither strategy nor politics can make sense if considered alone strategy requires direction that can only be provided by political process while politics cannot be implemented without strategy in summary this volume will explain what strategy is and is not why strategy is essential what strategy does and how it does it how strategy is made and executed written by a leading scholar and former practitioner this book will be essential reading for all students of military strategy strategic studies security studies and war and conflict studies

this book provides a short and accessible introduction to the theory of strategy examines the general theory of strategy in accordance with 23 key principles and explains its nature functions and intended consequences theory of strategy makes the radical argument that the familiar structure of strategy s general theory political ends strategic ways military means and assumptions holds as sound for security at all times and in all places of human necessity strategy is ever varying in its character but not in its nature which is unchanging

the strategy bridge presents and explains the general theory of strategy and demonstrates the relevance of that theory to the real world of practice the author explains what strategy is and how it relates to politics and warfare the book is not about the theory of strategy rather it is that theory

strategy and history comprises a selection of professor gray s key contributions to strategic debate over the past thirty years these essays have been selected both because they had significant messages for contemporary controversies and because they have some continuing relevance for today and the future each essay in this book is really about strategy in the modern world and reflects the many dimensions of this complex subject this book covers a wide range of subjects and historical events but there are key issues covered throughout being strategic the consequences of actions a respect for clausewitz s theory of war historical dependency the importance of geography being critical of enthusiasm for technology over human factors the primacy of politics this important publication provides an invaluable insight into the development of strategic studies over the past 30 years from one of the world s leading theorists and practitioners of the subject the book will be of great interest to all students and analysts of strategy and international studies

strategy is not a modern invention it is an essential and enduring feature of human history that is here to stay in this original essay colin s gray world renowned scholar of strategic thought discusses the meaning of strategy and its importance for politicians and the military as a means of achieving desired outcomes in complex uncertain conditions drawing on a wide range of examples from the great peloponnesian war to the second world war vietnam and the ongoing conflicts in iraq and afghanistan gray ably shows how great military thinkers of the past and present have acted strategically in their various ideological political geographical and cultural contexts looking to the future he argues that strategy will continue to provide a vital tool kit for survival and security but that the global threat posed by nuclear weapons remains an on going challenge without obvious practical solutions as gray boldly asserts there is no promised land ahead only hard and dangerous times that will require us to master the theory and practice of strategy to secure our own future

gray presents an inventive treatise on the nature of strategy war and peace organized around forty maxims this collection of mini essays will forearm politicians soldiers and the attentive general public against many probably most fallacies that abound in contemporary debates about war peace and security while one can never guarantee strategic success which depends on policy military prowess and the quality of the dialogue between the two a strategic education led by the judgments in these maxims increases the chances that one s errors will be small rather than catastrophic the maxims are grouped according to five clusters war and peace tackles the larger issues of strategic history that drive the demand for the services of strategic thought and practice strategy presses further into the realm of strategic behavior and serves as a bridge between the political focus of part one and the military concerns that follow in military power and warfare turns to the pragmatic business of military performance operations tactics and logistics part four security and insecurity examines why strategy is important including a discussion of the nature dynamic character and functioning of world politics finally history and the future is meant to help strategists better understand the processes of historical change

strategic studies as a field of civilian scholarship has developed along distinctive lines in the united states since world war ii the rapid proliferation and increasing sophistication of weapons technology have required constant revision of strategic theory while the shifting political climate both internationally and in the united states has had an equally powerful impact one of the field s leading theorists now examines the history and development of american strategic studies the varied roles assumed by civilian strategists and their relationship with those charged with developing and carrying out american military and diplomatic policy this provocative book clearly demonstrates the importance of a sound strategic theory if america is to survive in an age of high arms technology and increased world tensions

perspectives on strategy examines in depth five aspects of strategy strategic thought and

behaviour are explored and explained from the perspectives of intellect morality culture geography and technology each perspective has attracted persisting controversy perspectives on strategy is strongly complementary to the author s previous book the strategy bridge theory for practice oup 2010 this new work takes a notably holistic view of strategic phenomena which serves as a master framework within which detailed examination of strategic history and issues can usefully be pursued in the light of particular perspectives foundational for the argument in perspectives on strategy is the proposition that distinctive aspects of strategy e g ethics culture inter alia can only be appreciated properly when they are regarded in context the author shares this view with t e lawrence of arabia who wrote of the whole house of war perspectives on strategy gratefully adapts lawrence and writes about the whole house of strategy the book insists that the nature of strategy is best represented by a venn diagram that shows overlapping perspectives thus the subject of each chapter is shown as having meaning for and in turn is influenced by the subjects of the other chapters for example the book explores the importance of strategic ideas relative to the significance of the material weapons of war the author poses the hardest of questions pertinent to each chosen perspective e g do ideas matter more than muscle in practice how robust is the ethical code with which warfare is waged is geography destiny as some theorists have claimed and do technically superior weapons win wars perspectives on strategy demonstrates that it is possible to look closely at strategic matters from limited but arguably powerful perspectives without being captured by them this book asks and answers the most challenging and rewarding questions that can be posed in order to reveal the persisting universal nature but ever changing character of strategy

the strategy bridge presents and explains the general theory of strategy and demonstrates the relevance of that theory to the real world of practice the author explains what strategy is and how it relates to politics and warfare

this study is one of the rare contributions to the very small library of genuine strategic studies strategy here covers all military activity the broad purpose is to show how strategy works using air power and special operations as substantial case studies but also addressing sea power nuclear deterrence and information warfare although this book says interesting things about the future of air power the reliability of non nuclear deterrence the true character of joint warfare the utility of special warriors and the limitations of excellence in information warfare the primary intention is to deepen the understanding of the nature and working of strategy and strategic effect

the current process of military transformation will enable the armed forces to do better what they already do superbly well it is important to excel at decisive maneuver and in the application of precise yet overwhelming firepower but those attributes though key in warfare against regular enemies tend to be less valuable in conflict with irregulars in war after war the united states has been surprised by the poor political reward it has earned for its military effort the it led transformation will do nothing to help correct the persisting american difficulty in functioning strategically and politically in its conduct of war the author develops a cumulative seven point argument

discusses the reasons for soviet american antagonism looks at four alternative policies for u s security and stresses the importance of deemphasizing nuclear weapons

this book offers a comprehensive introduction to the role of military power in today s world it explores both the enduring and historical issues which have shaped the study of strategy and the contemporary issues that dominate today s headlines

this new volume explores the theory and practice of war and peace in modern historical context in fifteen clear and concise chapters this book hits the high and low points of

international politics over a two hundred year period plus a brief foray into the future out to 2025 war peace and international relations serves as an excellent introduction to the international history of the past two centuries showing how those two centuries were shaped and reshaped extensively by war this book takes a broad view of what was relevant to the causes courses and consequences of wars this upper level textbook is an invaluable resource for students of strategic studies security studies international relations and international history

strategy and defence planning meeting the challenge of uncertainty explores and examines why and how security communities prepare purposefully for their future defence the author explains that defence planning is the product of interplay among political process historical experience and the logic of strategy the theory of strategy best reveals both the nature and the working of defence planning political ends strategic ways and military means all fed by reigning if not always recognized assumptions organize the subject well with a template that can serve any time place and circumstance the book is designed to help understanding of what can appear to be a forbiddingly complex as well as technical subject a good part of the problem for officials charged with defence planning duties is expressed in the second part of the book s title the real difficulty which rarely is admitted by those tasked with defence planning duty is that defence planning can only be guesswork but because defence preparation is always expensive not untypically is politically unpopular yet obviously can be supremely important claims to knowledge about the truly unknowable persist in truth we cannot do defence planning competently because our ignorance of the future precludes understanding of what our society will be shown by future events to need the challenge faced by the author was to identify ways in which our problems with the inability to know the future in any detail in advance the laws of nature in other words may best be met and mitigated professor gray argues that our understanding of human nature of politics and of strategic history does allow us to make prudent choices in defence planning that hopefully will prove good enough

steiner analyzes how and why brodie s understanding of weapons of unparalleled explosive force led him to posit the need for revolutionary strategic thinking in broadminded analytic method and in the focus upon cities as nuclear targets he shows the tremendous effect brodie s work had on the intellectual climate in which policy is determined particularly in his frequent combatting of conventional wisdom

weaponry does not equal strategy argues colin gray but the two are often confused resulting in such linguistic errors as strategic weapons there may be an interactive relationship between policy strategy and weaponry but he contends policy and strategy always take the front seat

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