

Extended Deterrence

The United States and NATO Europe

Stephen J. Cimbala
The Pennsylvania State University



Lexington Books

D.C. Heath and Company/Lexington, Massachusetts/Toronto

Contents

Figures and Tables xi

Foreword xiii

William J. Taylor, Jr.

Acknowledgments xx

1. Introduction: Extended Deterrence in Perspective 1

I Strategic Forces and Extended Deterrence: Problems and Prospects in Europe 5

2. Deterrence under Siege 7

Strategic Defense 9

Conventional Deterrence 14

Nuclear Warfighting 19

Rationality 23

Conclusion 27

3. Strategic Vulnerability: A Multivariate Assessment 33

Delicate or Indelicate Balance? 34

The Scowcroft Commission and ICBM Vulnerability 36

Strategic Defense 39

Cybernetic Vulnerability and "Cybernosis" 42

Conventional Deterrence 46

Conclusion 49

II Soviet Strategy, Operations, and Objectives: Opportunities and Risks for NATO 55

4. Conventional Wisdom about Conventional War in Europe: Do the Soviets Really Have to Win Quickly? 57

- The Short War Scenario 57
- Soviet Incentives 63
- Eastern Europe 65
- Economic Potential 67
- Escalation and the Conventional Option 72
- Policy Implications and Options 77

5. Operational Art and the Soviet Blitzkrieg: The Role of Nuclear Weapons 91

- NATO and Soviet Objectives 91
- Incentives for Soviet Nuclear Use 93
- Operational Art and Blitzkrieg 96
- Implications 100

III Strategic Forces, Arms Control, and Command and Control: The Search for Flexibility and Restraint 105

6. Flexible Targeting, Escalation Control, and War in Europe 107

- Soviet Doctrine and Experience 108
- U.S. Expectations and Controlled War 110
- Active and Passive Defense 112
- The Soviet Conventional Attack 114
- Conclusion 118

7. Strategic Devolution 123

- U.S. Nuclear Deterrence 124
- Conventional Defense 127
- Strategic Devolution: Forward Deterrence and Extended
Deterrence 133
- Conclusion 140

IV Improving Extended Deterrence in Europe: Risks and Dilemmas 143

8. The Strategic Defense Initiative and Flexible Response 145

- Flexible Response: Doctrinal Issues 145
- SDI and U.S.–Soviet Strategic Parity 147
- Theater Offenses and Defenses 148
- Escalation and Deterrence 151
- Coupling and Graduated Deterrence 155
- Deterrence and Compellence: Alliance Cohesion 160
- Conclusion 162

9. U.S. Maritime Strategy and the Defense of Europe: The Bear in Troubled Waters 169

- General Guidance 169
- War in Europe 172
- Escalation 175
- The Maritime Strategy and Its Critics: Underformulated Issues 180
- Conclusion 187

V Conclusion 195

10. Extended Deterrence and the Defense of the West 197

- Soviet Objectives 200
- Real Defense 206
- Recommendations 208

Index 221

About the Author 231