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THE CHANGING STRATEGIC LANDSCAPE

Edited by

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Contents

<i>Preface</i>	vii
The Strategic Environment: Present and Future – a View from London The Rt Hon. George Younger, TD DL MP <i>Secretary of State for Defence, London</i>	1
IISS – The First Thirty Years: A General Overview Professor Sir Michael Howard <i>Regius Professor of Modern History, Oxford University; President of the IISS</i>	8
Is Soviet Military Strategy Changing? Dr Paul Dibb <i>Director, Joint Intelligence Organization, Department of Defence, Canberra</i>	18
The Soviet High Command Looks at Gorbachev Dale R. Herspring <i>Department of State, Washington</i>	31
The United States: Decline or Renewal? Professor Samuel P. Huntington <i>Director, Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA</i>	46
The United States: Strengths and Weaknesses Dominique Moisi <i>Assistant Director, French Institute of International Relations, Paris</i>	64
The Use of Military Force: Constant Factors and New Trends Professor Robert O'Neill <i>Chichele Professor of the History of War, All Souls College, Oxford; Director, IISS, 1982–87</i>	74
The European Pillar: The American View Hon. Helmut Sonnenfeldt <i>Guest Scholar, Brookings Institution, Washington</i>	89
Western Europe's Strategic Role: Towards a European Pillar? Dr Christoph Bertram <i>Diplomatic Correspondent, 'Die Zeit', Hamburg; Director, IISS, London 1974–82</i>	104

The Evolution and Future of Extended Nuclear Deterrence	
Professor Lawrence Freedman	
<i>Professor of War Studies, King's College, University of London</i>	114
The Logic of Strategy and the Upkeep of Extended Deterrence	
Dr Edward N. Luttwak	
<i>Senior Fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Georgetown University, Washington</i>	128
The East–West Military Balance: Assessing Change	
Simon Lunn	
<i>Defence Planning and Policy Division, NATO HQ, Brussels</i>	145
An Unfavourable Situation: NATO and the Conventional Balance	
Dr James A. Thomson	
<i>Vice President, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, CA</i>	168
Arms Control: Problems of Success	
Professor Adam Roberts	
<i>Montague Burton Professor of International Relations, Oxford University</i>	199
From Arms Control to Arms Reductions: Achievements and Perspectives	
Ambassador Gerard C. Smith	
<i>Delegation Chief of the US SALT 1 negotiations; Chairman of the Board, Arms Control Association, Washington</i>	212
Directions of Change in the World Strategic Order	
Professor Karl Kaiser	
<i>Director, Research Institute of the German Foreign Policy Society, Bonn; Professor of Political Science, University of Cologne</i>	221
Directions of Change in the World Strategic Order: Part II	
Yehoshafat Harkabi	
<i>Department of International Relations, Hebrew University of Jerusalem</i>	239
The Super-Powers, Regional Conflicts and World Order	
Dr Shahram Chubin	
<i>Director of Research, Programme on Strategic and International Security Studies, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva</i>	244
Regional Conflicts: Trends in a Period of Transition	
Professor José Thiago Cintra	
<i>Centre for Asian and African Studies and Latin American Centre for Strategic Studies (CLEE), El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico</i>	264

The Quest for Technological Superiority – A Misunderstanding of War?	
Dr Steven L. Canby	
<i>Defence Consultant, Washington</i>	279
Strategy: The Impact of Technology	
Erik Klippenberg	
<i>Director, Norwegian Defence Research Establishment, Kjeller</i>	294
Economic Change and Alliance Breakdown	
Professor Bernard K. Gordon	
<i>Professor of Political Science, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH</i>	304
The Strategic Impact of World Economic Changes	
Dr Hanns W. Maull	
<i>Lecturer, Department of Politics, University of Munich</i>	315
The Contribution of Strategic Studies: Future Challenges	
Professor Joseph S. Nye, Jr	
<i>Director, Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA</i>	327
Conclusion	
François Heisbourg	
<i>Director, IISS, London</i>	342
<i>Index</i>	360

Preface

The papers contained in this volume were first presented to the 30th Anniversary Annual Conference of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, held in Brighton, England, from 8 to 11 September 1988 under the chairmanship of the Institute's President, Sir Michael Howard. They have been amended and revised in the light of comment and discussion at the Conference.

With the IISS entering its fourth decade, the Conference was designed to take stock of the changes which had occurred in the strategic arena, to analyse current trends and to evaluate the possible implications for international security. Its theme was therefore *The Changing Strategic Landscape: Lessons from the Past, Prospects for the Future*.

Following an inaugural address by the UK Secretary of State for Defence, four plenary sessions were concerned with, respectively, a general overview of the first thirty years of the IISS; constant factors and new trends in the use of military force; directions of change in the world strategic order; and the contribution of strategic studies and the future challenges they may face. There were nine conference committees which discussed: the evolution and future of extended nuclear deterrence; changes in Soviet strategy; the United States' strengths and weaknesses; Western Europe's strategic role and the concept of a European pillar; progress from arms control to arms reductions; the East-West military balance and the assessment of change; the impact of technological change on strategy; trends in regional conflict and their implications for world strategic order; and the strategic implications of world economic change. The conference was concluded with a review of the issues debated.