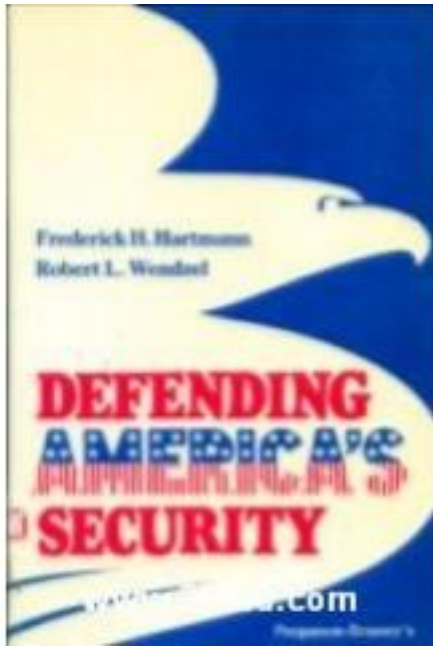


Defending America's Security



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Preface
This book is primarily about defense and how it contributes to national security. The focus of this book is defense but the range of its coverage is necessarily broader. Defense is only one facet of national security and defense has value only as it contributes to that security. Nor is national security itself something that can be viewed in a vacuum--it is not something Americans can have once they finish deciding exactly what they want. There is a world of nation-states outside our borders. That world includes hostile nations with policies of their own that we Americans cannot directly control but must take into account. In the "game" of international relations no one nation can always play a controlling hand. So U.S. defense has to be understood within the wider context of U.S. national security just as national security has to be seen

within the wider context of international affairs.
 A book focused on defense that does not do so in the context of these
larger considerations would have limited utility. It would look narrowly
at problems like weapon systems and procurement
deployments of
forces
Pentagon organization
and military career patterns
but it
would not be able to place any of these in a meaningful perspective
national or global. Also
it would not do justice to the actual way in
which all such aspects of defense in the United States are addressed. A
fundamental American defense document is the secretary of defense's
annual report to Congress. It invariably begins with an analysis of what
is going on outside U.S. frontiers
especially activities of hostile or
unfriendly nations whose armed forces may be used against us. The
defense budget is framed by an administration that has one eye on
public opinion and what the domestic economy can afford or produce
and the other eye on what is happening in the international arena.
Defense is the output of such analyses
not the source. Because
defense problems must be seen in the context of that much more
extended perspective
this book begins with the world environment and

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