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Forecasting Science and Technology for the Department of Defense (Paperback)

By John W Lyons, Richard Chait, James J Valdes

Createspace, United States, 2012. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Since World War II, predictions of science and technology for military applications have occurred periodically. A study chartered by the Army Air Force predicted in 1947 a broad range of developments in aeronautics and air power and has been a model for such forecasts ever since. Projections in science and technology have been issued for many years by the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies, which publishes decadal studies for specific disciplines. Such studies for astronomy and astrophysics, for example, go back to at least 1964. An important task of DOD science and technology (ST) programs is to avoid technological surprise resulting from the exponential increase in the pace of discovery and change in ST worldwide. The nature of the military threat is also changing, with the result being new military requirements, some of which can be met by technology. Shaping the ST portfolio requires predicting and matching these two factors well into the future. Some examples of technologies that have radically affected the battlefield include the Global Positioning System coupled with inexpensive, handheld receivers; the microprocessor revolution, which has...

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