

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910220159103321
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Titolo	Domestic trends in the United States, China, and Iran : implications for U.S. Navy strategic planning // John Gordon IV [et al.]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Santa Monica, CA : , : RAND, , 2008 ©2008
ISBN	1-282-03336-0 9786612033360 0-8330-4672-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxix, 202 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Rand Corporation monograph series.
Altri autori (Persone)	GordonJohn <1956->
Disciplina	359/.030973
Soggetti	Economic forecasting - China Economic forecasting - Iran Economic forecasting - United States Social prediction - China Social prediction - Iran Strategic planning - United States Social prediction - United States Social prediction United States Economic forecasting United States Social prediction China Economic forecasting China Social prediction Iran Economic forecasting Iran
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Prepared for the U.S. Navy." "RAND National Defense Research Institute."
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 191-202).
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Preface; Contents; Figures; Tables; Summary; Acknowledgments; Abbreviations; CHAPTER ONE- Introduction and Objectives; Introduction; Study Approach; Organization of This Monograph; CHAPTER TWO- Strategic Trends in the United States; Summary; Introduction; U.S. Demographic Trends; Gross Domestic Product; The

Federal Budget; Energy; Defense Spending; Conclusions; CHAPTER THREE- The United States' Near Abroad; The Current Situation; Future Trends and Possibilities in Northern South America; Future Trends and Possibilities in the Caribbean; An Overview of Future Trends in the Region

The Special Case of Mexico CHAPTER FOUR- Strategic Trends in the People's Republic of China; The Current Situation; China's Energy Future; Macroeconomic Trends; Demographic Trends and Related Problems; Environmental Degradation; Conclusion; CHAPTER FIVE- China's Near Abroad; The Current Situation; Future Trends and Possibilities in the West; Future Trends and Possibilities in the South; Future Trends and Possibilities in the East and Northeast; CHAPTER SIX- Strategic Trends in Iran; The Current Situation; Economic Trends; Sociopolitical Trends; Environmental Trends; Conclusion

CHAPTER SEVEN- Iran's Near Abroad The Current Situation; Future Trends and Possibilities in Russian and Chinese Support for Iran; Future Trends and Possibilities in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Cooperation Council States; Future Trends and Possibilities in Turkey and the Kurdish Independence Movement; Future Trends and Possibilities in Israel, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria; Summary; CHAPTER EIGHT- Japan's Near Abroad; The Current Situation; Current State of U.S.-Japanese Relations; Japan's Current Relations with Its Asian Neighbors; Future Trends and Possibilities

CHAPTER NINE- Russia's Near Abroad The Current Situation; Current Russian-European Relations; Current Sino-Russian Relations; Current Russian-Iranian Relations; Current Russian-Japanese Relations; Future Trends and Possibilities; CHAPTER TEN- Conclusions; Major Future Domestic and Near-Abroad Challenges; Common Challenges; Implications; Investment Implications for the U.S. Navy; Final Thoughts; APPENDIX A- Comparisons; APPENDIX B- China's Coal Future; Bibliography

Sommario/riassunto

The U.S. Navy faces uncertainty about the degree to which it will have to prepare for a high-end future conflict versus the so-called Long War. To help the Navy understand how critical near-, mid-, and far-term trends in the United States, China, and Iran might influence U.S. security decisions in general and the Navy's investments in particular, RAND examined emerging domestic and regional nonmilitary trends in each of the three countries.
