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Sommario/riassunto	Nuclear weapons, once thought to have been marginalized by the end of the Cold War, have returned with a vengeance to the centre of US security concerns and to a world bereft of the old certainties of deterrence. This is a major analysis of these new strategic realities. The George W. Bush administration, having deposed the regime of Saddam Hussein in Iraq, now points to a new nuclear ""Axis of Evil"": Iran and North Korea. These nations and other rogue states, as well as terrorists, may pose key threats because they are ""beyond deterrence"", which was based on the credible f