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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Definitions: tactics, operations, strategy -- Factors and constants: space, time, and forces -- The beginnings: planning, mobility, and a system of expedients -- The sword of Damocles: a two-front war -- Bitter awakening: World War I -- Old wine in new wineskins: operational thinking in the Reichswehr and the Wehrmacht between reality and utopia -- Lost victories, or the limits of operational thinking -- Operational thinking in the age of the atom -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	In this seminal study, Gerhard P. Gross provides a comprehensive examination of the development and failure of German operational thinking over a period of more than a century. He analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of five different armies, from the mid-nineteenth century through the early days of NATO. He also offers fresh interpretations of towering figures of German military history.