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	Nota di contenuto	Ch. 1. Deja Vu All Over Again: A Short History of "Star Wars" Ch. 2. Anti-Missile Defense and the Political Maze Ch. 3. Two views of the World Ch. 4. The Exaggerated Threat of Ballistic Missiles Ch. 5. Why National Missile Defense Won't Work Ch. 6. Other Proposed National Missile Defense Systems Ch. 7. Geopolitical Implications of National Missile Defense Ch. 8. Arms Control and Policy Alternatives App. 1. Countermeasures App. 2. Waste, Fraud, and Abuse App. 3. The Center for International Policy
	Sommario/riassunto	In the past four decades, the United States has spent $85 billion pursuing the fantasy of an effective missile defense system to shield our nation against the threat of a nuclear attack. Recent public tests, while less exotic than some of the original "Star Wars" proposals, were spectacular failures and call into question the whole program's rationale. Neither the land-based system proposed by the Clinton administration, nor the alternatives proposed by earlier administrations, would ever work--regardless of how much R & D money is channeled into the project. Rather than enhancing national security, these doomed efforts would provoke a new arms race and alienate key allies. The authors apply their extensive insiders' expertise to argue that thoughtful diplomacy is the only real answer to meet