

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910818117203321
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Titolo	Dominance by design : technological imperatives and America's civilizing mission // Michael Adas
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2006
ISBN	0-674-02007-3
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (480 p.)
Classificazione	ML 5740
Disciplina	327.73/009/04
Soggetti	Technology - United States - History - 20th century Technological innovations - United States - History Political messianism - United States United States Foreign relations 20th century United States Territorial expansion
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [419]-514) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- INTRODUCTION: A TRAIN FOR THE SHOGUN -- 1. "ENGINES" IN THE WILDERNESS -- 2. MACHINES AND MANIFEST DESTINY -- 3. ENGINEERS' IMPERIALISM -- 4. FOUNDATIONS OF AN AMERICAN CENTURY -- 5. IMPOSING MODERNITY -- 6. MACHINES IN THE VIETNAM QUAGMIRE -- 7. TECHNOWAR IN THE PERSIAN GULF -- EPILOGUE: THE PARADOX OF TECHNOLOGICAL SUPREMACY -- ABBREVIATIONS -- NOTES -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	Long before the U.S. became a major force in global affairs, U.S. expansionists assumed a mandate to "civilize" non-Western peoples by demanding submission to American technological prowess and design. Adas pursues the history of this mission through America's foreign relations over nearly four centuries.