

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910822447403321
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Titolo	Power, threat, or military capabilities : US balancing in the later Cold War, 1970-1982 // Carmel Davis
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lanham, Md., : University Press of America, 2011
ISBN	1-283-32052-5 9786613320520 0-7618-5552-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (220 p.)
Disciplina	909.82/5 909.827
Soggetti	Cold War United States History, Military 20th century
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Acknowledgments; Chapter 1: Explanations of Balancing: Power, Threat, and Military Capabilities; Chapter 2: Balance of Power: Population, Military Personnel, and Economic Resources; Chapter 3: Balance of Power: National Security Expenditures and the Military Burdens; Chapter 4: Balance of Threat: US Assessments of Soviet Intentions; Chapter 5: Balance of Military Capabilities: Sufficiency of General Purpose Forces; Chapter 6: Balance of Military Capabilities: US Wartime Prospects; Chapter 7: Conclusions; Bibliography
Sommario/riassunto	This book assesses two mainstays of international relations, balance of power and balance of threat, using the case of US balancing against the Soviet Union in the later Cold War. It uses offense-defense theory to argue that countries balance against the ability of others to conquer or compel them.