Record Nr. UNINA9910973434303321 Autore Young Ken Titolo Super Bomb: Organizational Conflict and the Development of the Hydrogen Bomb / / Ken Young, Warner R. Schilling Pubbl/distr/stampa Ithaca, NY:,: Cornell University Press,, [2020] ©2020 **ISBN** 9781501745188 1501745182 9781501745171 1501745174 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (1 online resource.) Collana Cornell Studies in Security Affairs Disciplina 355.8/251190973 Soggetti Hydrogen bomb - United States - History Hydrogen bomb - Government policy - United States - History Arms race - History - 20th century United States Military policy United States Politics and government 1945-1953 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Also issued in print: 2020. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments --Introduction -- 1. The Shock of the "New World" -- 2. Advising on the Super -- 3. A Decision Reached -- 4. Moral and Political Consequences -- 5. Dissent and Development -- 6. Tactical Diversions -- 7. Rewriting Los Alamos -- Conclusions -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto Super Bomb unveils the story of the events leading up to President Harry S. Truman's 1950 decision to develop a "super," or hydrogen, bomb. That fateful decision and its immediate consequences are detailed in a diverse and complete account built on newly released archives and previously hidden contemporaneous interviews with more than sixty political, military, and scientific figures who were involved in the decision. Ken Young and Warner R. Schilling present the expectations, hopes, and fears of the key individuals who lobbied for and against developing the H-bomb. They portray the conflicts that

arose over the H-bomb as rooted in the distinct interests of the Atomic

Energy Commission, the Los Alamos laboratory, the Pentagon and State Department, the Congress, and the White House. But as they clearly show, once Truman made his decision in 1950, resistance to the H-bomb opportunistically shifted to new debates about the development of tactical nuclear weapons, continental air defense, and other aspects of nuclear weapons policy. What Super-Bomb reveals is that in many ways the H-bomb struggle was a proxy battle over the morality and effectiveness of strategic bombardment and the role and doctrine of the US Strategic Air Command.