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Historical Military Behavior Military Doctrine; Conventional Capabilities; Military Exercises; Paths to Conflict; Conflict in Response to International Pressures and Actions Perceived as Acts of War; Conflict in Response to a U.S. or Israeli Attack Against Iran's Nuclear Facilities; Conflict to Expand Regional Influence or Consolidate Domestic Power: Iran's Potential Use of Nuclear Weapons; Current U.S. Policies and Capabilities; Policy Choices for Deterring Iran's Use of Nuclear Weapons Against U.S. Military Forces; Deter by Managing Conflict Escalation Deter by Raising the Costs of Using Nuclear Weapons by Threat of Retaliation Deter by Denying Iran the Benefits of Using Nuclear Weapons: Policy Choices for Deterring Iran's Use of Nuclear Weapons Against U.S. Regional Partners; Conclusion; Chapter Five Reassuring U. S. Regional Partners; The Setting; Views of the GCC States; Views of Israel; Current U.S. Policies for Reassurance; U.S. Reassurance Goal: Ensure Confidence in Credibility of a U.S. Nuclear Deterrent; Explicit and Public Security Guarantees; U.S. Conventional Forces; U.S. Nuclear-Related Military Activities: U.S. Nuclear Guarantee Conclusion Chapter Four Approaches to Influencing Iran; Approaches to Influencing Iran; Chapter: 7; Air Force Contributions and Preparing for the Future; The Way Ahead; Appendixes; A. Context for U.S. Reassurance Strategies: GCC; B. Context for U.S. Reassurance Strategies: Israel; Bibliography

Sommario/riassunto

As Iran's nuclear program evolves, U.S. decision makers will confront a series of critical policy choices involving complex considerations and policy trade-offs. These policy choices could involve dissuading Iran from developing nuclear weapons; deterring Iran from using its nuclear weapons, if it were to acquire them; and reassuring U.S. regional partners. The U.S. Air Force will need to prepare to carry out whatever policies are chosen.