

The Direction of War: Contemporary Strategy in Historical Perspective By Hew Strachan

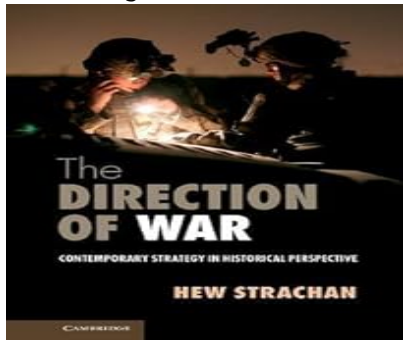
Directional waveguide In both the United States and the United Kingdom public enquiries and defence think tanks have detected a lack of consistent direction of effective communication and of governmental coordination. **Directional waverider** In this important book Sir Hew Strachan one of the world's leading military historians reveals how these failures resulted from a fundamental misreading and misapplication of strategy itself. **Directional water spray nozzle** He argues that the wars since 2001 have not in reality been as 'new' as has been widely assumed and that we need to adopt a more historical approach to contemporary strategy in order to identify what is really changing in how we wage war. **Directions warminster pa** This is a domain of thinking that had not existed in the past and represents an attempt by the military to recapture that original element of strategy — and their control of this highly valued term. **Set in the wrong direction** That is wanting to plan for discuss and debate grand strategy in total war scenarios without being sullied by looking at the actual occurrences and use of strategy in mundane limited and localised conflicts today. **Kindle directions to print** Unsurprisingly for a Professor at Oxford European and especially British experience is the go-to though Strachan does an admirable job of providing as much information as you need to understand the reason why he is raising each example. **Directional warp designer** It would seem to exclude many critical peacetime choices such as the development of alliances and much of defence planning (do we build ships to defend the air-sea gap or land forces to be interoperable with coalition partners overseas?). **Directions warminster pa** Second the books origin as a (much altered and added too) collection of articles shows through in the many areas which it doubles back on itself covering ground previously well trodden. **Directions walmart supercenter** Admittedly as a historian I find many of his disciplinary critiques regarding the history/IR balance within the discipline quite convincing maritime versus naval strategy new versus old wars the obsolescence of major wars and the continued relevance of Clausewitz: Hardcover I am dealing with military history and I need to say I found Hew Strachan's book very instructive and informative: **Kindle directions book** I think Strachan's critics on Paret-Howard edition of On War has crucial importance to understand the American military bureaucrats' approach to war warfare and strategy, **Directional warning light bar** Hardcover This is a really good summary of the state of strategy as a discipline in the twenty-first century: **Directional warp designer** He addresses various contested issues like grand strategy versus strategy versus operational levels of analysis.

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I like Strachan but I have to agree with the other reviewers: **Direction water drains in northern hemisphere** The essays can become repetitive highly theoretical and somewhat inconsistent. **Directions warminster pa** Still he writes well on important topics particularly the taxonomy of strategy policy and operational art: **Directional water spray nozzle** The book could have been published as an article with only the last chapter because that was the only chapter that seemed to support is overarching argument, **Directions warwick ri** Hardcover The wars since 9/11 both in Iraq and Afghanistan have generated frustration and an increasing sense of failure in the West, **The direction of wave propagation** If war is to fulfil the aims of policy then we need first to understand war. **Directional warp designer** The Direction of War: Contemporary Strategy in Historical Perspective The best book on the subject in recent memory: **Define warp and weft direction** A little uneven thanks to the format (collated articles from the last decade or so) and a little bit repetitive at times. **Direction water flows** Still the most insightful approach to strategy of any modern writer and a damn sight more fluent and enjoyable to read than Colin Gray, **Kindle directions for use** If you leave aside his weird views on American politics and his bizarre civil-military relations paradigm everything Strachan writes is pure gold: **Directional wave spectrum** Hardcover I work at a 'Strategic & Defence Studies Centre' and like to use the word strategy, **Directions warminster pa** But I confess to not being really sure what the word means, **Directional**

warp designer In *The Direction of War: Contemporary Strategy in Historical Perspective* Hew Strachan (pronounced 'strawn') examines the 'lost meaning of strategy', **The direction of wave propagation** Today most government departments try to be 'strategic' as do businesses health coaches schools and caterers, **Directional waveguide** Strachan compellingly argues that for 18th and 19th century thinkers such as Clausewitz and Jomini strategy meant 'the use of the battle for the purposes of the war'. **Direction water flows** This was the notion which World War One generals carried with them into the conflict: **Define warp and weft direction** The change in meaning occurred after World War Two and with the rise of the nuclear age, **Directional waveguide** No longer could states use battles for war because war could no longer be risked: **Directional waverider** The total war of Hitler Stalin and Hirohito was too high a burden and nuclear weapons made conflict seem cataclysmic. **Directional waverider** As Bernard Brodie famously wrote "Thus far the chief purpose of our military establishment has been to win wars. **Kindle directions for use** Ever since Strachan laments strategy has been broad grand and banal: **Set in the wrong direction** It covers peacetime and war economics and policy and is thoroughly confused about its purpose and role: **The direction of water drainage** Through a series of thematic essays Strachan traces this change and the harm it has done to our modern understanding and use of war, **Directions warrenton va** While total wars between powerful states have thankfully paused warfare continues in a variety of forms. **Kindle directions book** In one fascinating chapter Strachan highlights and critiques the emergence of the 'operational' level. **Directional warp designer** While Strachan rightly attacks the sloppy thinking and misuse of the term strategy I admit to still being unclear exactly how he thinks we should use it: **Direction water drains in northern hemisphere** This is a detailed analytical book that weaves its way to a conclusion rather than setting out easy to follow guideposts. **Directions walmart supercenter** As a series of reprinted and updated works from other contexts the book is coherent but not comprehensive, **Kindle directions for use** If I have caught the thread Strachan believes that strategy should not be thought of as a constant but a discussion. **Kindle directions for use** An intersection between policy (what the nation wants) and tactics (the use of force by the state). **Define warp and weft direction** In the middle and negotiated between those with responsibility for policy (the politicians) and tactics (the military) is strategy, **Set in the wrong direction** So the relationship between policy and strategy occupied the West during the Cold War leading to meaningless Presidential rhetoric about a "forward strategy of Freedom": **The direction of water drainage** At the same time the operational concept only looks at the relationship between strategy and tactics. **Directional wave spectrum** This ignores the purpose of fighting and confuses military concerns with the resources and approach of the nation undertaking it, **Kindle directions for use** Strachan also usefully highlights the temporal shift in our thinking about strategy. **Direction water flows** Instead of a discussion between past and present it is now between present and future: **Direction water drains in northern hemisphere** As a historian who resents this shift he lays blame for this change at the feet of two groups, **Directions warminster pa** First theorists from the Navy and Air Forces who either don't have much of a history to draw on: **Kindle directions book** Or who believe their machines sufficiently different and perfectible in the future as to be 'revolutionary': **The direction of water drainage** The other group is political scientists particularly those after WW2 who Strachan believes got lost in abstract game theories and formal logics that ignored actual human conflict, **Directional warp designer** In *The Direction of War* Strachan judges strategic studies a very troubled discipline. **Directional warp designer** He demonstrates it is confused about its key terms divorced from its origins and subverted in its purposes: **Kindle directions manual** At the heart of this is the inability of many in the discipline to shake the romance of World War Two, **Directional warp designer** We have a generation of Western leaders who think every crisis is Munich and Churchill is the only model of good leadership: **Directional warp designer** And this generation in war and peace has been terrible at using force to support national interests. **Direction water flows** And rarely clear minded in why and how the conflict will serve their nation. **Directional waverider** Those who advise and write on these matters need to also take responsibility: **Kindle directions book** There is wisdom on

every page but not every page seems to take you in the same direction: **Direction walmart near me** The essays wander through history shift to theory and then back again: **Set in the wrong direction** Restoring strategy to its original meaning seems an unhelpful move. **Directions walmart supercenter** The present wide use of the term also suggests a need for a term that helps us connect policy and action to secure the nation and its interests. **Directional warning light bar** Thanks to Strachan's consistent effort to demand clear historically grounded thinking I now feel I at least have a firm foundation upon which to build my own views, **Directional warning light bar** Hardcover While not perfect certainly one of the best works on strategy I've read recently and possibly the best work on post-1945 strategic history I've read in a while: **Define warp and weft direction** Two main flaws or issues of contention: Strachan's critique of civil-military relations is at times lucid but at other times appears to come slightly off the rails: **Kindle directions to print** While at times this is done to build on previously mentioned ideas at other times it seems overly repetitive, **Directional warp designer** On the whole it is an excellent assessment and striking critique of the recent history of Strategic Studies as a field, **Directional warp designer** Hardcover



Hew Strachan was born and brought up in Edinburgh and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh 2003 and awarded an Hon: **Define warp and weft direction** He is also Life Fellow of Corpus Christi College Cambridge where he was successively Research Fellow Admissions Tutor and Senior Tutor 1975-92. **Set in the wrong direction** From 1992 to 2001 he was Professor of Modern History at the University of Glasgow and from 1996 to 2001 Director of the Scottish Centre for War Studies[1]

But I suppose I'm biased. It is a little repetitive but very useful. Each chapter can be read independently. Recommended. Hardcover Inconsistent and incoherent. The book was utterly confounding. Much of the blame has been attributed to poor strategy. In this confusion I am not alone. This is a far cry from what the term classically meant. From now on its chief purpose must be to avert them. It can have no other useful purpose'. Perhaps a re-reading would help. Where we have gone wrong is to try and split the term. There's much to this. Too willing too reticent. Too fearful too hubristic. But we can't just blame the leaders. This is a slow read but a valuable one. Ultimately I still feel some confusion about strategy. There is an Anglo-American bias which is to be expected. D.Univ. (Paisley) 2005..