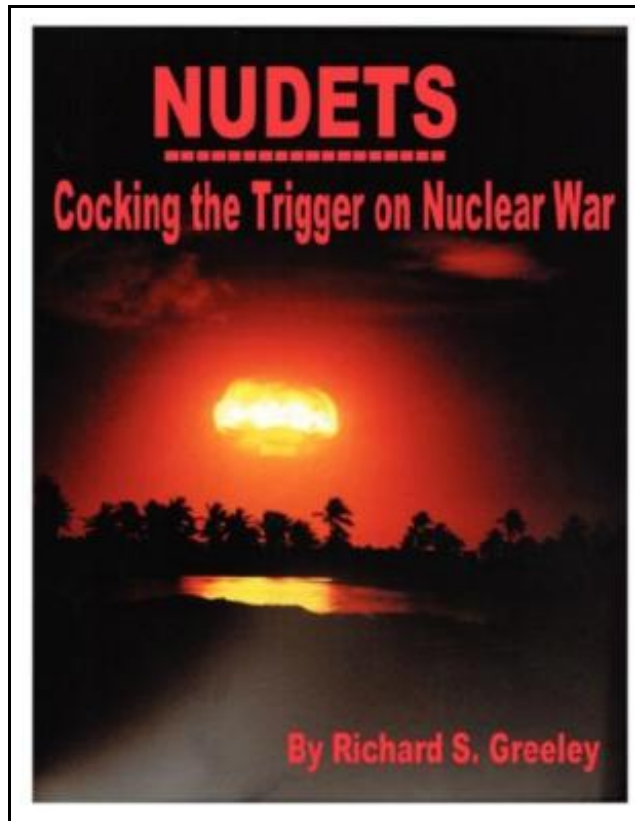


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Reviews

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(Myah Williamson)*

NUDETS - COCKING THE TRIGGER ON NUCLEAR WAR (PAPERBACK)



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Alternative Energy Systems Consultant, United States, 2000. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 277 x 211 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.NUDETS - Cocking the Trigger on Nuclear War describes the concept behind the Nuclear Detection and Reporting System which President Kennedy and Secretary of Defense McNamara wanted to be installed to give very prompt notice that a Soviet nuclear bomb had detonated within the continental U. S. The specific location, explosive yield and height of burst were to be automatically reported to the National Command Authorities (the President, Pentagon, North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) and the Strategic Air Command (SAC). The decision to retaliate against the Soviets could then be made based on accurate and timely information. The book provides details about the design of NUDETS and its testing on Palmyra Island during the U. S. atmospheric nuclear tests above the Pacific Ocean off Christmas and Johnston Islands in 1962. The author describes in graphic detail one of the nuclear weapon bursts (Shot Alma - 782 kilotons) that he witnessed from a distance of 35 miles on Christmas Island. Thirty-six nuclear tests were conducted, most of which were detected by the NUDETS brass-board equipment. However, it was learned that lightning would be a problem by possibly triggering the system to report a false alarm. Indeed, once the prototype of the actual system was installed in the Washington D. C. area, three false alarms during the first week of operation caused the system to be scrapped in favor of a satellite-based system. The book continues by discussing the Cuban Missile crisis, which luckily occurred before NUDETS became operational, and the various attempts to develop an attack assessment capability based on other approaches. The book warns about the present day threat fromterrorist groups who might attempt...



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