

## Contents

<b>1</b>	President Reagan: The Age of MAD Is Over	1
<b>2</b>	The Straitjacket of MAD	9
<b>3</b>	The Pros and Cons	17
<b>4</b>	Firepower: Beams Have It!	26
<b>5</b>	How a Beam Weapon Works	36
<b>6</b>	Why High Frequency Lasers Are More Effective Against Missiles	49
<b>7</b>	The Missile Crisis of the 1980s	58
<b>8</b>	How Soon Can We Have Beam Weapons?	63
<b>9</b>	The Russians Are Doing It!	72
<b>10</b>	Answering the Critics	87
<b>11</b>	Beam Weapons on the Battlefield	100
<b>12</b>	The Laser Amplifier	107
<b>13</b>	The X-ray Laser Revolution	112
<b>14</b>	Lasers in Industry Today	121
<b>15</b>	Fusion, the Plasma Beam, and Beam Weapons	129
<b>16</b>	The Next Space Frontiers	138
<b>17</b>	The Coming of the Plasma Age	148