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**CHINA'S TECHNO-WARRIORS:
NATIONAL SECURITY AND STRATEGIC COMPETITION
FROM THE NUCLEAR TO THE INFORMATION AGE**

BY EVAN A. FEIGENBAUM

"A wonderfully multi-dimensional book on a subject about which little has been written. It has the added virtue of making its new material relevant to current academic and policy issues, including U.S. export controls, China's entry into the WTO, globalization, and China's economic and military modernization."

—David M. Lampton, Director, China Studies,
Nitze School of Advanced International Studies,
John Hopkins University

"Draws on materials that have seldom been used before, in new ways, to make a very bold argument about the Chinese state and high technology development in China."

—David Bachman, Director, China Studies,
Jackson School of International Studies,
University of Washington

In the spring of 1987, the founding father of China's strategic missile program, Qian Xuesen told colleagues that China must steel itself for a century of sustained "intellectual warfare." Evan A. Feigenbaum, the author of *China's Techno-Warriors: National Security and Strategic Competition from the Nuclear to the Information Age* (April 2003 from Stanford University Press), contends that the use of such military metaphors by Chinese scientists and politicians is not a linguistic quirk, but reflects the role of the military in China's emergence as a modern state.

This book tells the story of how and why the Chinese military came to play such a pivotal role in China's economic development. Feigenbaum describes the powerful role played by the People's Liberation Army and its technical advisors in economic and institutional debates, and details the programmatic and organizational solutions they have advocated to the key problems of China's development. Although this military-influenced approach to development first emerged between 1950 and 1969, during China's period of greatest external threat, these ideologies, policies, and management methods continue to manifest themselves even as the PRC has come to enjoy a relatively benign strategic environment.

The persistence of such patterns in China's economic policy and defense planning results from a complex interplay between domestic power politics and China's technological weakness. While the country is rapidly catching up in many sectors, such as computing, its indigenous technology base in key strategic industries lags behind, particularly in microelectronics and related industries. In these areas, China has long depended on imported systems and know-how. According to Feigenbaum, "With a technology base that remains ten to twenty years behind international standards in so many areas that China's leaders consider to be 'strategic,' [Chinese] strategists must hedge against uncertainty in a world whose international politics could change radically at any time." The intersection of national security and economic development objectives thus continues to buttress a uniquely military approach to China's modernization.

At a moment of rapid globalization and the emergence of new security risks in East Asia, this book is crucial in developing a deeper understanding of the China that is emerging onto the international stage as a major power.

Evan A. Feigenbaum, currently serving as a Member of the Secretary's Policy Planning Staff at the U.S. Department of State, has taught Chinese foreign policy at Harvard University, where he has been Lecturer on Government in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Executive Director of the Asia-Pacific Security Initiative at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is the author of *Change in Taiwan and Potential Adversity in the Strait*.

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