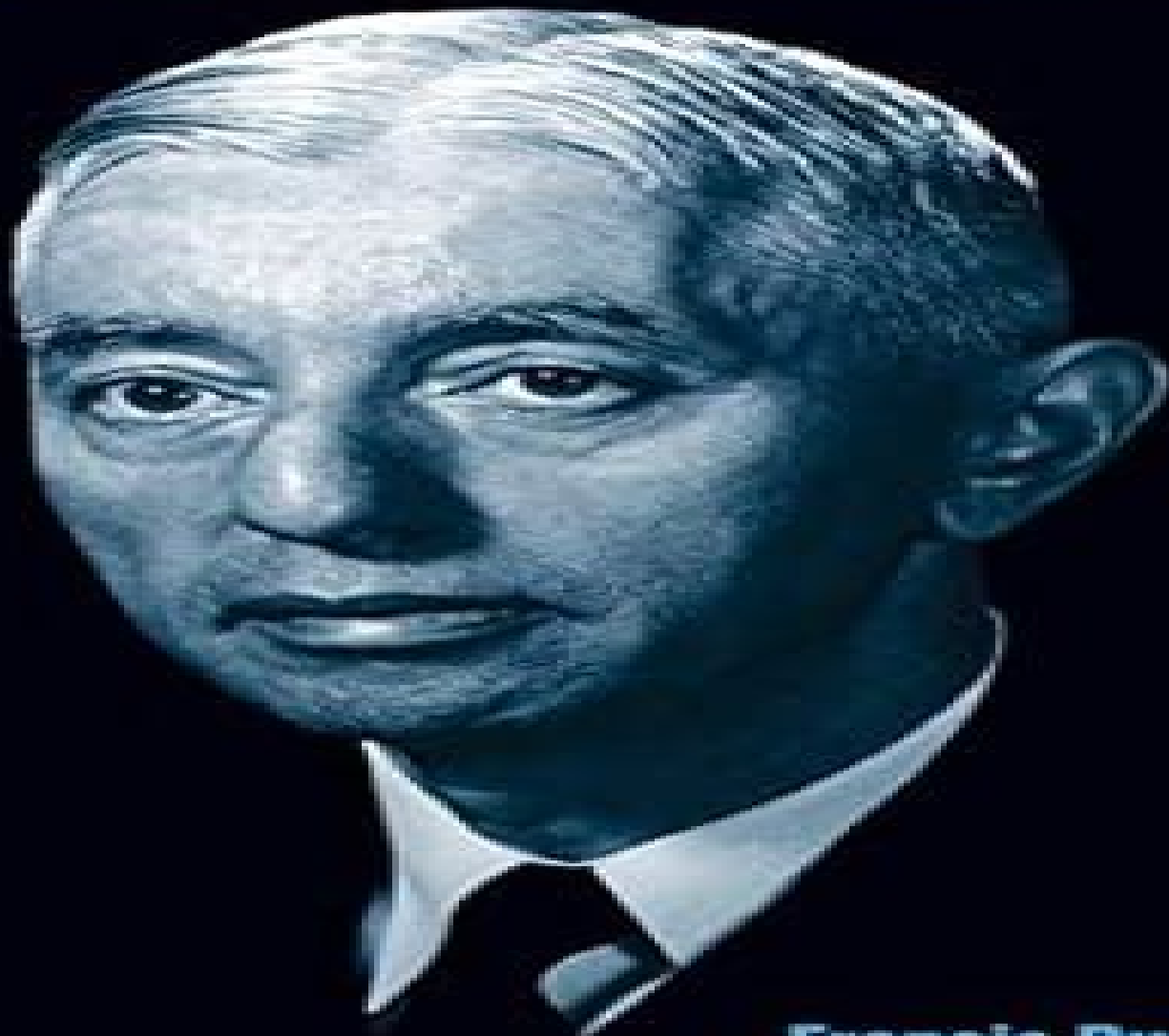


RICKOVER

The Struggle for Excellence



Francis Duncan

Rickover The Struggle For Excellence

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Rickover The Struggle For Excellence:

Rickover: The Struggle for Excellence Francis Duncan, 2021-06-17 Admiral Hyman G Rickover 1900 1986 the Father of the Nuclear Navy was born Chaim Godalia Rickover in eastern Poland to Jewish parents Fleeing Russian antisemitic pogroms in 1906 with his mother and sister he joined his father who had traveled to America since 1897 in New York City The family soon moved to Chicago where Rickover's father worked as a tailor Congressman Adolph Sabath a Czech Jewish immigrant nominated Rickover for appointment to the US Naval Academy Rickover passed the entrance exams and entered the Academy in 1918 After sea duty on several ships and submarines he served as head of the Electrical Section in the Bureau of Ships and in 1946 was sent to Oak Ridge to start working on nuclear naval propulsion reactors a program he would lead for the rest of his career He became a four star admiral in 1973 Rickover's work on nuclear propulsion had a profound effect on the post World War II world and on the development of civilian nuclear reactors for electricity generation His demand for excellence and accountability was felt far beyond the naval community yet few other flag officers in the US Navy have been so controversial Drawing on the admiral's private papers and the personal insights of friends and family members this biography examines Rickover's extraordinary naval career and his private life Francis Duncan in his long awaited full biography of Hyman Rickover achieves that difficult dual goal of close personal insight and honesty of distance Duncan details Rickover's many controversies his towering rages and his contempt for tradition bureaucracy and stupidity a very readable cruise through the life of a notorious curmudgeon who after all served his country well and had a major impact on the ships of the U S Navy on the engineering profession and on the development of nuclear power in the United States Rodney Carlisle The Journal of American History This fine treatment of a remarkable man is highly recommended Malcolm Muir Jr Technology and Culture Francis Duncan is uniquely qualified to write the biography of Admiral Hyman G Rickover He is the only person to whom Admiral Rickover ever made himself available for interviews and allowed use of his personal papers including the letters between himself and his first wife Ruth This is an enjoyable book especially for the thousands who served or serve now in the nuclear programs civilian or military It is also an important addition to the history of a man who was one of the giants of the twentieth century United States Robert Loewenthal The Journal of Military History Victorious in his struggle for excellence Rickover's personal baton of highly disciplined professionalism was passed without a hitch to those he had selected educated and trained to run nuclear power plants safely and efficiently We still feel his presence his legacy endures This book does him long awaited justice Admiral James D Watkins USN Ret Chief of Naval Operations 1982 86 Impressively researched insightful and readable Duncan captures the Rickover behind the myths and sea stories This account of his remarkable life an only in America story will appeal to a wide audience midshipman to CEO Admiral Bruce DeMars USN Ret Director Navy Nuclear Propulsion 1988 96 This excellent book offers insights not available to previous authors who did not enjoy Francis Duncan's close association with Rickover and his family Particularly useful are

early chapters that define the character of the man Admiral Kinnard R McKee USN Ret Director Navy Nuclear Propulsion 1982 88 This is the authentic biography of Hyman Rickover one of the most influential persons in naval history and in the creation of an international civilian nuclear power industry Duncan has given us a national treasure that is both authoritative and enjoyably readable There s something in it for everyone Dr Theodore Rockwell former technical director of Rickover s naval reactors program Rickover The Struggle for Excellence is an original and absolutely fundamental contribution both to naval history and to a general understanding of nuclear power development It is very objective and accessible There is no comparable book Dr Gary Weir Naval Historical Center I believe Rickover The Struggle for Excellence by Francis Duncan is the best biography of Admiral Rickover Robert Rickover son of Admiral Rickover **The Art of Command** Harry Laver,2008-10-17 What essential leadership lessons do we learn by distilling the actions and ideas of great military commanders such as George Washington Dwight D Eisenhower and Colin Powell That is the fundamental question underlying The Art of Command Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell The book illustrates that great leaders become great through conscious effort a commitment not only to develop vital skills but also to surmount personal shortcomings Harry S Laver Jeffrey J Matthews and the other contributing authors identify nine core characteristics of highly effective leadership such as integrity determination vision and charisma and nine significant figures in American military history whose careers embody those qualities The Art of Command examines each figure s strengths and weaknesses and how those attributes affected their leadership abilities offering a unique perspective of military leadership in American history Laver and Matthews have assembled a list of contributors from military academic and professional circles which allows the book to encompass diverse approaches to the study of leadership **Encyclopedia of War and American Society** Peter Karsten,2006 Publisher description *Against the Tide* David R Oliver,2014-11-15 *Against the Tide* is a leadership book that illustrates how Adm Hyman Rickover made a unique impact on American and Navy culture Dave Oliver is the first former nuclear submarine commander who sailed for the venerable admiral to write about Rickover s management techniques Oliver draws upon a wealth of untold stories to show how one man changed American and Navy culture while altering the course of history The driving force behind America s nuclear submarine navy Rickover revolutionized naval warfare while concurrently proving to be a wellspring of innovation that drove American technology in the latter half of the twentieth century As a testament to his success Rickover s single minded focus on safety protected both American citizens and sailors from nuclear contamination a record that is in stark contrast to the dozens of nuclear reactor accidents suffered by the Russians While Rickover has been the subject of a number of biographies little has been written about his unique management practices that changed the culture of a two hundred year old institution and affected the outcome of the Cold War Rickover s achievements have been obscured because they were largely conducted in secret and because he possessed a demanding and abrasive personality that alienated many potential supporters Nevertheless he was

an extraordinary manager with significant lessons for all those in decision making positions The author had the good fortune to know and to serve under Rickover during much of his thirty year career in the Navy and is singularly qualified to demonstrate the management and leadership principles behind Rickover's success *Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Part II: My Firm* Patri K. Venuvinod, 2011 The book discusses how an established firm could prosper in the contemporary world of globalized competition *America - The Last Best Hope* William J. Bennett, 2008-04 Respected scholar Bennett reacquaints America with its heritage in this engaging narrative that slices through the cobwebs of time memory and prevailing cynicism to reinvigorate America with an informed patriotism **Waking to Danger** Robert A. Rosenbaum, 2010-07-20 This intriguing study is the first comprehensive survey of American public opinion about Nazi Germany in the prewar years The 1930s were years when Americans struggled to define their country's role in a dangerous world Opinions were deeply divided and passionately held *Waking to Danger* Americans and Nazi Germany 1933-1941 traces the evolution of American public opinion about Germany as it spiraled from ignorance and isolationism to a sense of danger and interventionism This brief but broad survey fills a gap in the historical literature by bringing together for the first time the reactions toward Nazi Germany of a variety of groups peace advocates Jews fascists communists churches the business community and the military that have hitherto only been treated separately in monographic literature The result is a picture of evolving national public opinion that will be a walk down memory lane for the members of The Greatest Generation while offering those who did not live through these turbulent years a fresh understanding of the era *The Presidents and the Planet* Jay Hakes, 2024-08-05 *The Presidents and the Planet* recounts the story of the world's greatest environmental dilemma through the eyes of early climate change pioneers It begins in the 1950s when American scientists first warned about the risks of pollution altering the natural climate in dramatic ways the national media began covering the matter and experts first offered testimony to congressional committees on the topic The story ends in the early 1990s by which time global efforts to confront the challenge were advancing while political turmoil had begun to undermine U.S. leadership's ability to address current and future environmental threats While some early proponents endorsing climate action are well known many of the major players have gone largely unrecognized The oceanographer Roger Revelle exerted influence on eight White Houses during his life and even one after his death when his former student Al Gore assumed the office of vice president William Nordhaus had already written seminal studies on climate change when President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the Council of Economic Advisors Four decades later the Yale professor won the Nobel Prize in economics for his work on the subject John Chafee a Republican from Rhode Island chaired the Senate's first committee on the problem and provided concrete solutions to face the dangers of a warming planet during the Reagan administration The drama reached a full pitch during the George H.W. Bush years as vocal advocates for climate action and staunch foes of government regulation wrestled over the direction of U.S. energy and environmental policy To better trace the evolving climate debate in America

author Jay Hakes inspected the archives and writings of prominent scientists and the pivotal reports of the National Academy of Sciences and traveled to presidential libraries to discover how commanders in chief and their science economic and political advisors addressed the issue The Presidents and the Planet affords fresh perspectives that will alter the public's understanding of when officials first grasped the dire consequences of climate change **The Carter Years** Burton Ira Kaufman, 2009 An A to Z reference guide to the people places policies and events significant during the presidency of Jimmy Carter **The President as Leader** Michael Eric Siegel, 2017-12-06 By analyzing the leadership skills of seven recent American presidents this book seeks to demystify the elements and dynamics of effective presidential leadership which our democracy has come to depend upon and value Building on the pioneering work of political scientist Fred Greenstein and others this book argues that leadership in the White House can be explained and assessed by using a consistent set of criteria to analyze presidential performance Siegel shows that presidential leadership is exercised by real flawed human beings and not by superheroes or philosopher kings beyond the reach of scrutiny or critique New to the Second Edition Includes a new chapter covering both terms of the Obama administration Applies the author's four part leadership framework to the early part of the Trump administration Discusses the possibilities of presidential leadership in an era of intense partisanship

Witness to Power: The Life of Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy Henry H. Adams, 2021-12-12 Fleet Admiral William Daniel Leahy 1875 1959 served as the most senior US military officer on active duty during World War II As Chief of Naval Operations 1937 1939 he oversaw the US Navy's preparations for war After retiring from the Navy he was appointed governor of Puerto Rico in 1939 by his close friend President Franklin D Roosevelt before serving as US Ambassador to France 1940 42 in Vichy where he had limited success keeping the Vichy government free of German control Leahy was recalled to active duty as personal Chief of Staff to FDR in 1942 and chaired the Joint Chiefs of Staff throughout World War II He continued as personal Chief of Staff under President Harry S Truman until his retirement in 1949 This is probably the definitive biography of Admiral Leahy Adams has worked hard on this book it is well written well researched and comprehensive James Leutze The American Historical Review A workmanlike and overdue biography of a naval officer too long relegated to the shadows Biographer Adams reminds us that the reticent admiral was a truly unique figure The author relates that Leahy once told an aide that when asked about him the aide should Tell him anything so long as it's the truth Professor Adams has heeded that admonition and while the result isn't racy it is certainly sound Richard S Cloward Naval War College Review Henry Adams has produced an excellent and much needed chronicle of a man generally ignored during most of his active life by the mass media In addition the book is enjoyable to read Burton Wright Armed Forces Society

Energy Crises Jay Hakes, 2021-04-01 The 1970s were a decade of historic American energy crises major interruptions in oil supplies from the Middle East the country's most dangerous nuclear accident and chronic shortages of natural gas In Energy Crises Jay Hakes brings his expertise in energy and presidential history to bear on the questions of why these crises

occurred how different choices might have prevented or ameliorated them and what they have meant for the half century since and likely the half century ahead Hakes deftly intertwines the domestic and international aspects of the long misunderstood fuel shortages that still affect our lives today This approach drawing on previously unavailable and inaccessible records affords an insider's view of decision making by three U S presidents the influence of their sometimes combative aides and their often tortuous relations with the rulers of Iran and Saudi Arabia Hakes skillfully dissects inept federal attempts to regulate oil prices and allocation but also identifies the decade's more positive legacies from the nation's first massive commitment to the development of alternative energy sources other than nuclear power to the initial movement toward a less polluting more efficient energy economy The 1970s brought about a tectonic shift in the world of energy Tracing these consequences to their origins in policy and practice Hakes makes their lessons available at a critical moment as the nation faces the challenge of climate change resulting from the burning of fossil fuels

President as Leader

Michael E Siegel,2017-10-03 By analyzing the leadership skills of five recent American presidents this book seeks to demystify the elements and dynamics of effective presidential leadership which our democracy has come to depend upon and value Building on the pioneering work of political scientist Fred Greenstein and others this book argues that leadership in the White House can be explained and assessed by using a consistent set of criteria to analyze presidential performance Siegel shows that presidential leadership is exercised by real flawed human beings and not by superheroes or philosopher kings beyond the reach of scrutiny or critique

The Wind and Beyond: Theodore von Kármán, Pioneer in Aviation and Pathfinder in Space

Theodore von Kármán, Lee Edson,2022-05-22 An autobiography that happily is an engrossing full bodied reflection of the man a neatly balanced combination of technical insights and always pertinent often irreverent anecdotes an upbeat tale of a man who had a great love of life and a well merited sense of achievement told with genuine gusto and fascinating detail Richard Witkin The New York Times It is the triumph of this book that it manages to combine a chatty anecdotal and highly readable tale of a distinguished scientist's everyday life with a substantial number of penetrating insights into the creative process I B Holley Jr Science The present biography is eminently readable sometimes puckish and von Karman himself is rather inspiring in his faith in science Kirkus Every paragraph grips the reader's attention a book almost impossible to put down until it is read Aerospace Historian This account of von Kármán's life and his contributions to the science of aerodynamics is most fascinating reading The Science Teacher Every page of this superb classic is infused with von Karman's humanity As his narrative makes clear he was not simply a clever technician but a man of character whose vision advanced the aerospace sciences and fostered international cooperation Aviation History

Atomic America

Todd Tucker,2009-03-03 On January 3 1961 nuclear reactor SL 1 exploded in rural Idaho spreading radioactive contamination over thousands of acres and killing three men John Byrnes Richard McKinley and Richard Legg The Army blamed human error and a sordid love triangle Though it has been overshadowed by the accident at Three Mile Island SL 1 is

the only fatal nuclear reactor incident in American history and it holds serious lessons for a nation poised to embrace nuclear energy once again Historian Todd Tucker who first heard the rumors about the Idaho Falls explosion as a trainee in the Navy's nuclear program suspected there was more to the accident than the rumors suggested Poring over hundreds of pages of primary sources and interviewing the surviving players led him to a tale of shocking negligence and subterfuge The Army and its contractors had deliberately obscured the true causes of this terrible accident the result of poor engineering as much as uncontrolled passions A bigger story opened up before him about the frantic race for nuclear power among the Army the Navy and the Air Force a race that started almost the moment the nuclear bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki The National Reactor Testing Station NRTS where the meltdown occurred had been a proving ground where engineers generals and admirals attempted to make real the Atomic Age dream of unlimited power Some of their most ambitious plans bore fruit like that of the nation's unofficial nuclear patriarch Admiral Rickover whose true submarine the USS Nautilus would forever change naval warfare Others like the Air Force's billion dollar quest for a nuclear powered airplane never came close The Army's ultimate goal was to construct small portable reactors to power the Arctic bases that functioned as sentinels against a Soviet sneak attack At the height of its program the Army actually constructed a nuclear powered city inside a glacier in Greenland But with the meltdown in Idaho came the end of the Army's program and the beginning of the Navy's longstanding monopoly on military nuclear power The dream of miniaturized portable nuclear plants died with McKinley Legg and Byrnes The demand for clean energy has revived the American nuclear power industry Chronic instability in the Middle East and fears of global warming have united an unlikely coalition of conservative isolationists and fretful environmentalists all of whom are fighting for a buildup of the emission free power source that is already quietly responsible for nearly 20 percent of the American energy supply More than a hundred nuclear plants generate electricity in the United States today Thirty two new reactors are planned All are descendants of SL 1 With so many plants in operation and so many more on the way it is vitally important to examine the dangers of poor design poor management and the idea that a nuclear power plant can be inherently safe Tucker sets the record straight in this fast paced narrative history advocating caution and accountability in harnessing this feared power source

A Companion to American Technology Carroll Pursell, 2008-04-30 A Companion to American Technology is a groundbreaking collection of original essays that analyze the hard to define phenomenon of technology in America 22 original essays by expert scholars cover the most important features of American technology including developments in automobiles television and computing Analyzes the ways in which technologies are organized such as in the engineering profession government medicine and agriculture Includes discussions of how technologies interact with race gender class and other organizing structures in American society

Is War Necessary for Economic Growth? Vernon W. Ruttan, 2006-01-05 Military and defense related procurement has been an important source of technology development across a broad spectrum of industries that account for an important share of United States

industrial production In this book the author focuses on six general purpose technologies interchangeable parts and mass production military and commercial aircraft nuclear energy and electric power computers and semiconductors the INTERNET and the space industries In each of these industries technology development would have occurred more slowly and in some case much more slowly or not at all in the absence of military and defense related procurement The book addresses three questions that have significant implications for the future growth of the United States economy One is whether changes in the structure of the United States economy and of the defense industrial base preclude military and defense related procurement from playing the role in the development of advanced technology in the future comparable to the role it has played in the past A second question is whether public support for commercially oriented research and development will become an important source of new general purpose technologies A third and more disturbing question is whether a major war or the threat of major war will be necessary to mobilize the scientific technical and financial resources necessary to induce the development of new general purpose technologies When the history of United States technology development in the next half century is written it will focus on incremental rather than revolutionary changes in both military and commercial technology It will also be written within the context of slower productivity growth than of the relatively high rates that prevailed in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s or during the information technology bubble that began in the early 1990s These will impose severe constraints on the capacity of the United States to sustain a global class military posture and a position of leadership in the global economy

US Naval Strategy and National Security Sebastian Bruns, 2017-09-22 This book examines US naval strategy and the role of American seapower over three decades from the late 20th century to the early 21st century This study uses the concept of seapower as a framework to explain the military and political application of sea power and naval force for the United States of America It addresses the context in which strategy and in particular US naval strategy and naval power evolves and how US naval strategy was developed and framed in the international and national security contexts It explains what drove and what constrained US naval strategy and examines selected instances where American sea power was directed in support of US defense and security policy ends and whether that could be tied to what a given strategy proposed The work utilizes naval capstone documents in the framework of broader maritime conceptual and geopolitical thinking and discusses whether these documents had lasting influences in the strategic mind set the force structure and other areas of American sea power Overall this work provides a deeper understanding of the crafting of US naval strategy since the final decade of the Cold War its contextual and structural framework setting and its application To that end the work bridges the gap between the thinking of American naval officers and planners on the one hand and academic analyses of Navy strategy on the other hand It also presents the trends in the use of naval force for foreign policy objectives and into strategy making in the American policy context This book will be of much interest to students of naval power maritime strategy US national security and international relations in general

War in Peacetime:

The History and Lessons of Korea J. Lawton Collins, 2023-02-16 As Army Chief of Staff during the Korean war General Collins directly monitored operations in the Far East for the Joint Chiefs of Staff He describes the actions of President Truman Dean Acheson George C Marshall Robert Lovett Omar Bradley and the field commanders Walton Walker s desperate defense of the Pusan perimeter MacArthur s brilliant success at Inchon and disaster at the Yalu river and Ridgway taking over from MacArthur to rebuild the morale of a dispirited army General Collins has produced an absorbing book which will be of great interest to the general reader The book is clearly written and covers its subject well Denis Stairs International Journal A superior memoir of policy making on Korea Richard K Betts The American Historical Review T he story is told in compact and clear fashion from the broadest standpoint and in gripping detail and is supported by excellent cartography Collins weaves an extremely useful account of his own role within the Joint Chiefs of Staff system He is particularly informative on the unified department of defense If he was a cold war warrior Collins was of the most responsible breed a general of intelligence and balance who recoiled from the insanity of playing with global fire Alvin D Coox The American Historical Review This volume should not be missed by those of our citizens who want a view of the Korean war from the vantage point of the Chief of Staff of the United States Army at that time Virgil Ney Ordnance As a primary source for decision making studies and American historians the book has self evident value Kirkus

Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors

William B. Bonvillian, Charles Weiss, 2015-08-18 The American economy faces two deep problems expanding innovation and raising the rate of quality job creation Both have roots in a neglected problem the resistance of Legacy economic sectors to innovation While the U S has focused its policies on breakthrough innovations to create new economic frontiers like information technology and biotechnology most of its economy is locked into Legacy sectors defended by technological economic political social paradigms that block competition from disruptive innovations that could challenge their models Americans like to build technology covered wagons and take them out west to open new innovation frontiers we don t head our wagons back east to bring innovation to our Legacy sectors By failing to do so the economy misses a major opportunity for innovation which is the bedrock of U S competitiveness and its standard of living Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors uses a new unifying conceptual framework to identify the shared features underlying structural obstacles to innovation in major Legacy sectors energy air and auto transport the electric power grid buildings manufacturing agriculture health care delivery and higher education and develops approaches to understand and transform them It finds both strengths and obstacles to innovation in the national innovation environments a new concept that combines the innovation system and the broader innovation context for a group of Asian and European economies Manufacturing is a major Legacy sector that presents a particular challenge because it is a critical stage in the innovation process By increasingly offshoring production the U S is losing important parts of its innovation capacity Innovate here produce here where the U S took all the gains of its strong innovation system at every stage is being replaced by innovate here produce there which threatens to lead to produce

there innovate there To bring innovation to Legacy sectors authors William Bonvillian and Charles Weiss recommend that policymakers focus on all stages of innovation from research through implementation They should fill institutional gaps in the innovation system and take measures to address structural obstacles to needed disruptive innovations In the specific case of advanced manufacturing the production ecosystem can be recreated to reverse jobless innovation and add manufacturing led innovation to the U S s still strong research oriented innovation system

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