



Building the Trident Network: A Study of the Enrollment of People, Knowledge and Machines (Hardback)

By Maggie Mort

MIT Press Ltd, United States, 2001. Hardback. Book Condition: New. New.. 234 x 160 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In Building the Trident Network, Maggie Mort approaches the United Kingdom's Trident submarine and missile system as a sociotechnical network. Drawing on the sociology of scientific and technical knowledge and on actor-network theory, Mort recounts how the Trident program was stabilized in the United Kingdom and brought into successful production. She uncovers the nature of this success by retelling unofficial histories of Trident, of production roads not taken, and of potential technological distractions. The production of Trident, she shows, was not inevitable but contingent and problematic. Using material from interviews and local texts, Mort explores the emergence of a counternetwork in the form of a workers campaign for alternative technologies. She develops concepts of disenrollment and absent intermediaries, in which redundant workers and marginalized technologies serve to discipline and reinforce the dominant network as production shrinks. She also examines the maintenance of the barrier between the technical and the social/political in this context. The management of uncertainties within the Trident production program emerges as critical to its successful completion.



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Reviews

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