

IMAGINARY WEAPONS Sharon Weinberger

How did a fluke experiment in 1998, involving a used dental X-ray machine and a dubiously obtained sample of radioactive material called hafnium, become the Pentagon's number one pet weapons project within five years? And why did this occur in spite of objections from the nation's top scientists?

Sharon Weinberger, author and editor-inchief of Defense Technology International, explores the military's fascination with fringe science. Imaginary Weapons details the attempt to build the isomer bomb, a hypothetical weapon based on a radioactive material called hafnium.

In her book *Imaginary Weapons*, Sharon Weinberger—no stranger to harebrained military schemes from her years covering the Pentagon—takes us on a wild ride through the hidden underworld of official fringe science in America. From antimatter weapons to psychic warriors,

Weinberger shows that the U.S. government is increasingly susceptible to outlandish claims. But the isomer weapon—a futuristic device that would rival the power of a nuclear bomb—may be the strangest case of them all.

2:30 - 4:30 pm, Saturday, Feb 10, 2007

Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043-2099

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