

# How Reason Almost Lost Its Mind

The Strange Career of Cold War Rationality

PAUL ERICKSON,  
JUDY L. KLEIN,  
LORRAINE DASTON,  
REBECCA LEMOV,  
THOMAS STURM,  
AND MICHAEL D. GORDIN

The University of Chicago Press  
Chicago and London

## CONTENTS

*Preface and Acknowledgments / vii*

INTRODUCTION / *The Struggle over Cold War Rationality / 1*

ONE / *Enlightenment Reason, Cold  
War Rationality, and the Rule of Rules / 27*

TWO / *The Bounded Rationality of Cold War Operations Research / 51*

THREE / *Saving the Planet from Nuclear  
Weapons and the Human Mind / 81*

FOUR / *"The Situation" in the Cold War Behavioral Sciences / 107*

FIVE / *World in a Matrix / 133*

SIX / *The Collapse of Cold War Rationality / 159*

EPILOGUE / *Cold War Rationality after the Cold War / 183*

*Notes / 189*

*Bibliography / 227*

*Index / 251*