1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910299788203321
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Titolo	Whitehall and the Black Republic : A Study of Colonial Britain's Attitude Towards Liberia, 1914–1939 / / by Jyotirmoy Pal Chaudhuri
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2018
ISBN	3-319-70476-1
Edizione	[1st ed. 2018.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (293 pages)
Collana	African Histories and Modernities, , 2634-5773
Disciplina	327.6662
Soggetti	Imperialism
	Diplomacy
	African History
	Imperialism and Colonialism
	History of Britain and Ireland
	Africa History
	Great Britain History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	1. An Outline of the Past -- 2. The British Foreign Office and Liberian Neutrality during World War I -- 3. The Sequel to the Declaration of War -- 4. The British Reaction to the Firestone Investment in Liberia -- 5. The Fernando Po Labour Crisis of 1929–1930 -- 6. The League of Nations Plan of Assistance -- 7. The British and the Unrest on the Kru Coast -- 8. An Improving Image Abroad 1934–1939.
Sommario/riassunto	This book examines the history of the relationship between Liberia and Britain—the world's first black republic, founded by former slaves, and the world's strongest colonial power. Jyotirmoy Pal Chaudhuri excavates a wealth of archival sources to reconstruct a turbulent narrative spanning key points in twentieth-century Liberian history. Pal Chaudhuri argues that the Black Republic was never a serious item on the British agenda for constructive action in West Africa, as seen in the repeated failure of their concessionaires, their interference with the Firestone rubber project, and their efforts to have Liberia expelled from the League of Nations. Untangling the conflicts and contradictions

between Britain's colonial interests and humanitarian ideals, Whitehall and the Black Republic is a long overdue contribution to the history of Liberia and the British Empire.