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Nota di contenuto	Cover -- Title Page -- Copyright -- Dedication -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Part I. Early Postwar Concerns -- 1. American Jews and the German Problem Until the End of the War -- 2. Morgenthau's Plan, Supporters, and Opponents -- 3. Safeguarding the Survivors and Refugees -- 4. Denazification and the Major War Crimes Trials -- Part II. Getting Involved or Staying Aloof -- 5. Advocates of Moderation -- 6. Critics and Opponents -- 7. Anti-German Protests at Home -- 8. Waiting in Vain for a German Change of Heart -- Part III. Reparations: Their Impact and Limits -- 9. The Twisted Road Toward Shilumim -- 10. German Diplomats: The Initial Efforts to Soften American Jewish Hostility -- 11. Antisemitic Manifestations and Their Abatement -- Part IV. Holocaust Consciousness and the Role of Israel -- 12. The Eichmann Trial and the Quest for Punishment of Nazi Criminals -- 13. Changing Circumstances and Futile Dialogues -- 14. Disappointment with the Social Democrats -- 15. The Growth of

Holocaust Consciousness and Its Impact on American Jewish-German Relations -- 16. Bitburg and Its Repercussions -- Part V. American Jews and East Germany -- 17. From Grotewohl to de Maizière -- Part VI. Unification and Beyond -- 18. Expectations and Question Marks -- 19. An Ambiguous Balance -- Abbreviations -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

The reemergence of a united Germany as a dominant power in Europe has increased even more its importance as a major political ally and trade partner of the United States, despite the misgivings of some U.S. citizens. Ambiguous Relations addresses for the first time the complex relationships between American Jews and Germany over the fifty years following the end of World War II, and examines American Jewry's' ambiguous attitude toward Germany that continues despite sociological and generational changes within the community. Shlomo Shafir recounts attempts by American Jews to influence U.S. policy toward Germany after the war and traces these efforts through President Reagan's infamous visit to Bitburg and beyond. He shows how Jewish demands for justice were hampered not only by America's changing attitude toward West Germany as a postwar European power but also by the distraction of anti-communist hysteria in this country. In evaluating the impact of Jewish pressure on American public opinion and on the West German government, Shafir discusses the rationales and strategies of Jewish communal and religious groups, legislators, and intellectuals, as well as the rise of Holocaust consciousness and the roles of Israel and surviving German Jewish communities. He also describes the efforts of German diplomats to assuage American Jewish hostility and relates how the American Jewish community has been able to influence German soul-searching regarding their historical responsibility and even successfully intervened to bring war criminals to trial. Based on extensive archival research in Germany, Israel, and the United States, Ambiguous Relations is the first book to examine this tenuous situation in such depth. It is a comprehensive account of recent history that comes to groups with emotional and political reality.