

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782379203321
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Titolo	Religion and American foreign policy, 1945-1960 : the soul of containment / / William Inboden [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2008
ISBN	1-107-18990-X 1-281-77580-0 9786611775803 0-511-42383-7 0-511-49917-5 0-511-42431-0 0-511-42266-0 0-511-42200-8 0-511-42332-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 356 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	973.91
Soggetti	Cold War Christianity and politics - United States - Protestant churches - History - 20th century Religion and politics - United States - History - 20th century Civil religion - United States - History - 20th century United States Foreign relations 1945-1953 United States Foreign relations 1953-1961
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 323-329) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Hopes deferred: Protestants and foreign policy, 1945--1952 -- Unity dissolved: Protestants and foreign policy, 1953-1960 -- The "real" Truman Doctrine: Harry Truman's theology of containment -- To save China: Protestant missionaries and Sino-American relations -- Guided by God: the unusual decision-making of Senator H. Alexander Smith -- Chosen by God: John Foster Dulles and America -- Prophet, priest, and president: Dwight D. Eisenhower and the new American faith.
Sommario/riassunto	The Cold War was in many ways a religious war. Presidents Truman and

Eisenhower and other American leaders believed that human rights and freedom were endowed by God, that God had called the United States to defend liberty, and that Soviet communism was evil because of its atheism and enmity to religion. Along with security and economic concerns, these religious convictions helped determine both how the United States defined the enemy and how it fought the conflict. Meanwhile, American Protestant churches failed to seize the moment. Internal differences over theology and politics, and resistance to cooperation with Catholics and Jews, hindered Protestant leaders domestically and internationally. Frustrated by these internecine disputes, Truman and Eisenhower attempted to construct a new civil religion to mobilize domestic support for Cold War measures, determine the strategic boundaries of containment, unite all religious faiths against communism, and to undermine the authority of communist governments abroad.

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