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Nota di contenuto	Prelude to decolonization : the Popular Front and the Second World War -- New political context, 1944-6 -- Decolonization through assimilation : the struggle for emancipation, 1946-50 -- Building the nationalist movement, 1950-6 : the trade union, student and youth movements -- Policy and politics, 1950-6 -- The Loi-cadre and the 'Balkanization' of French West Africa, 1956-60 -- Nationalist politics and the campaign for independence, 1957-60 -- Conclusion : decolonization and the French colonial legacy.
Sommario/riassunto	In an effort to restore its world-power status after the humiliation of defeat and occupation, France was eager to maintain its overseas empire at the end of the Second World War. Yet just fifteen years later France had decolonized, and by 1960 only a few small island territories remained under French control. The process of decolonization in Indochina and Algeria has been widely studied, but much less has been written about decolonization in France's largest colony, French West Africa. Here, the French approach was regarded as exemplary -- that is, a smooth transition successfully managed