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Titolo	Strategy and command [[electronic resource]] : the Anglo-French coalition on the Western Front, 1914 / / Roy A. Prete
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (318 p.)
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Soggetti	World War, 1914-1918 - Campaigns - Western Front World War, 1914-1918 - France World War, 1914-1918 - Great Britain France Military policy 20th century France Military relations Great Britain Great Britain Military policy 20th century Great Britain Military relations France
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Nota di contenuto	French and British prewar defence policies -- Entente strategic planning after 1911 -- War : power relationships and the deployment of the BEF in France -- Collapse and renewal : from the Battle of the Frontiers to the Battle of the Marne -- The move north, defence of Antwerp, and competition over Belgium -- The march on Lille, the Battle of Ypres, and the second command crisis -- End of an era -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Histories of the First World War are often written from a British perspective, ignoring the coalition element of the conflict and the French point of view. In Strategy and Command, Roy Prete offers a major new interpretation supported by in-depth research in French archival sources. In the first of three projected volumes, Prete crafts a behind-the-scenes look at Anglo-French command relations during World War I, from the start of the conflict until 1915, when trench

warfare drastically altered the situation. Drawing on extensive archival research, Prete argues that the British government's primary interest lay in the defence of the empire; the small expeditionary force sent to France was progressively enlarged because the French, especially Commander-in-Chief Joseph Joffre, dragged their British ally into a progressively greater involvement. Several crises in Anglo-French command relations derived from these competing strategic objectives. New information gleaned from French public and private archives - including private diaries - enlarge our understanding of key players in the allied relationship. Prete shows that suspicion and distrust on the part of both sides of the alliance continued to inform relations well after the circumstances creating them had changed. Strategy and Command clearly establishes the fundamental strategic differences between the allies at the start of the war, setting the stage for the next two volumes.
