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Autore	Tuyll van Serooskerken Hubert P. van
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Sommario/riassunto	When a devastated Belgium emerged from World War I, some of its leaders had high hopes that the upcoming negotiations would enable achievement of a long-cherished goal; annexing parts of the Netherlands lost in the final 1839 settlement which had established the country. Belgium's strong historical and military arguments were bolstered by its courageous Great War image. Yet the Dutch proved

ready and able to launch an energetic counterattack which ultimately stymied the Belgian campaign. This book explains why and how this happened, and demonstrates that small states are active participants in their own destinies, not just spectators or victims.

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