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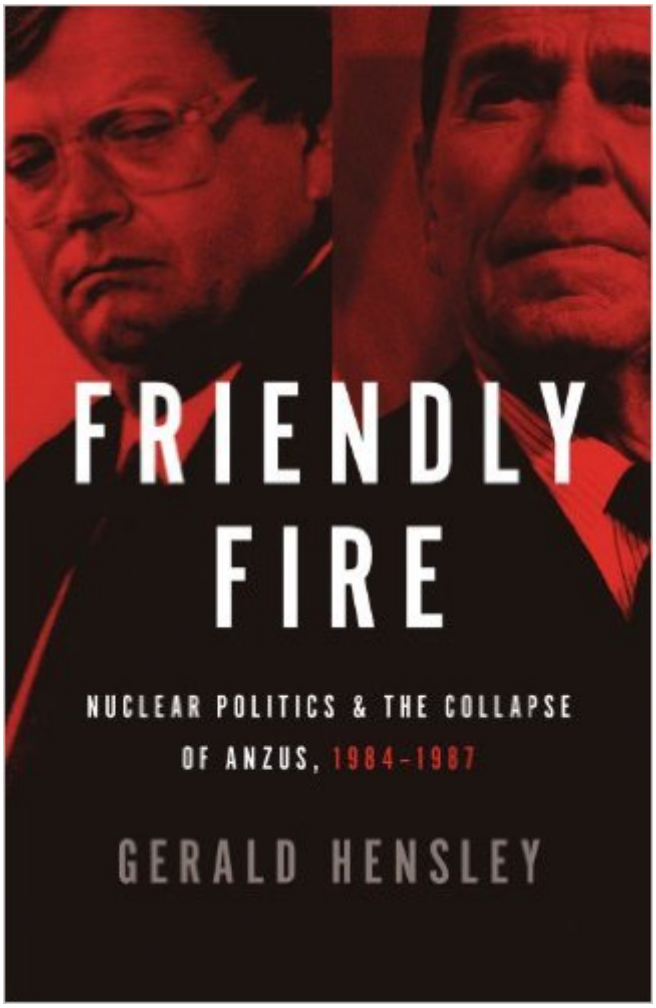
Friendly Fire: Nuclear Politics & The Collapse Of ANZUS, 1984–1987



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Synopsis

In 1984, the newly elected Labour Governmentâ ™s antinuclear policy collided with a United States foreign policy based on nuclear deterrence. After two years of angry meetings, fraught diplomacy, and free-wheeling press conferences, this outbreak of â œfriendly fireâ • led to the unraveling of the Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty (ANZUS) military alliance, established in 1951. Based on previously classified government files in New Zealand, Australia, the United States, and the United Kingdom as well as interviews with key protagonists and the authorâ ™s own involvement in events, this account tells the inside story of this dramatic confrontation. This is the definitive account of a key turning point in New Zealand history and a dramatic story of powerful personalities tackling critical questions on the world stage.

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Customer Reviews

A very well written account of how a rabid anti US section of the New Zealand Labour Govt controlled foreign policy, with the Prime Minister, a man of no strong beliefs,acquiescing. He, David Lange, was called a buffoon by the Australian Prime Minister; a bit extreme, but his forte was as a stand up comedian, not a statesman.The US Government did not want NZ's anti nuclear policy.to infect the rest of the world so that a small and unimportant country had an influence of great importance for a number of yearsThe US was extremely patient and long suffering and acted honorably, only expelled NZ from ANZUS when it no longer had any other option and did not seek retribution.

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