Building on David Schmitz’s earlier work, *Thank God They’re on Our Side*, this is an examination of American policy toward right-wing dictatorships from the 1960s to the end of the Cold War. During the 1920s, American leaders developed a policy of supporting authoritarian regimes because they were seen as stable, anticommunist, and capitalist. After 1965, however, American support for these regimes became a contested issue. The Vietnam War served to undercut the logic and rationale of supporting right-wing dictators. By systematically examining U.S. support for right-wing dictatorships in Africa, Latin America, Europe, and Asia and bringing together these disparate episodes, this book examines the persistence of older attitudes, the new debates brought about by the Vietnam War, and the efforts to bring about changes and an end to automatic U.S. support for authoritarian regimes.

To Polly

For enhancing it all
The United States and Right-Wing Dictatorships, 1965–1989

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Acknowledgments

First and foremost, I want to thank my wife, Polly, for her love and support, without which this book would not have been finished. She enhances all of my work and my life.

Whitman College provided generous support that allowed me to travel to various archives to conduct research. Moreover, through the Lewis B. Perry Summer Research Scholarship Program I was able to work with Vanessa Walker, Erin Gettling, Eugene Hansen, and Mark Lanning as research assistants; they helped in locating documents at the National Archives, the presidential libraries, Seely Mudd Library at Princeton University, and Penrose Library at Whitman College. In 2002, a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend provided needed assistance.

I thank all of the archivists and librarians at the presidential libraries, the National Archives, and the university libraries that I visited for all of their assistance, aid, and advice. Without fail, I encountered dedicated professionals who went out of their way to help make my work possible. The staff at Penrose Library deserves a special thanks for all of the assistance they provided in helping me locate necessary materials. Kathy Guizar of Image Management assisted me with the cover photograph.

I owe an enormous debt to Lewis Bateman, senior editor at Cambridge University Press, for his continued support and expert advice. He provided wise guidance on revisions and numerous suggestions to make this a better work. Ciara McLaughlin, senior editorial assistant, provided professional assistance in preparing the work for publication.

Part of Chapter 4 was published as “Senator Frank Church, the Ford Administration, and the Challenges of Post-Vietnam Foreign Policy” in Peace and Change 21, no. 4 (1996); and part of Chapter 5 appeared as “Jimmy Carter and the Foreign Policy of Human Rights,” with Vanessa Walker, in Diplomatic History 28, no. 1 (2004). I wish to thank the publishers and editors of both journals for permission to republish that material here.
In addition to their work as research assistants, Vanessa Walker and Erin Gettling read the entire manuscript and made excellent suggestions for improvements; Vanessa’s collaboration on Jimmy Carter was a high point in the writing of this book. Amy Portwood and Bruce Magnusson read Chapter 1 and shared their expertise on Africa and American foreign policy. Amy, who is a great friend and colleague, also shared some of her research on the United States and the Congo from her dissertation. Brad Simpson generously shared some documents on John Kennedy’s policy toward Indonesia, and his work has greatly influenced my thinking on that subject. My colleagues in the History Department at Whitman College read an early draft of Chapter 2 during our First Friday sessions and provided valuable feedback and suggestions. Markham McIntyre assisted me with the bibliography.

Fred Logevall read an early draft of the first three chapters and provided excellent suggestions for changes and improvements. Michael Krenn remains a trusted colleague whose advice and ideas always influence my thinking for the better. Bill Walker’s close reading of the manuscript challenged me to rethink and sharpen some components of my analysis. T. Christopher Jespersen read early drafts of the manuscript, and then the completed work, and as always was a challenging critic and source of good ideas. They are all true friends for their criticisms and support. I cannot fully express my gratitude, but I can take full responsibility for any remaining mistakes of fact or interpretation. I cannot finish any work without acknowledging my debt to Lloyd Gardner as a mentor and friend. His teaching and scholarship, as always, informed my work.

Richard and Carla Scudellari were ideal hosts during research trips, and I want to thank them again for their friendship. The support of my family has been a constant over the years, and I am grateful to all of them, especially my mother, Mary Schmitz, who is always ready and willing to discuss my work and ideas, and my sister Terry and her husband, Kevin, for allowing me a place to stay when I return to Long Island on research and other trips. My children, Nicole and Kincaid, are sources of wonder, joy, and needed interruptions.

Finally, as I began, I dedicate this book to Polly.