The United States in the Asia-Pacific since 1945

In a fast-moving and incisive narrative, Roger Buckley examines America's close and continuous relationship with the Asia-Pacific region from the end of the Pacific War to the first days of the presidency of George W. Bush. The author traces the responses of the US government to the major crises in the area through the Cold War decades and the initial post-Cold War years. He demonstrates how the United States sought to maintain its dominant regional position through a series of security alliances and its own political, military and economic strengths. Roger Buckley examines the subject from geopolitical perspectives to provide a gateway to the understanding of a complex region certain to be of global importance in the twenty-first century.

Roger Buckley is Professor of the History of International Relations at the International Christian University, Tokyo. His publications include *Japan Today* (3rd edition) (1999), *Hong Kong: The Road to 1997* (1997) and US–Japan Alliance Diplomacy, 1945–1990 (1992).

> To Ian Nish and Hosoya Chihiro, without permission, with gratitude

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> ... it seems to me that my friend Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore was right when he said, a couple of years ago, that the least distrusted great power in this part of the world is the United States.

Helmut Schmidt, Tokyo, 29 October 1994

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Preface

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Abbreviations

ANZUS APEC	Australia, New Zealand and the United States Defence Treaty Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum
ARF	Asia Regional Forum
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
ASEM	Asia–Europe Meeting
CCP	Chinese Communist Party
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GHQ	general headquarters
IMF	International Monetary Fund
KEDO	Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization
KMT	Kuomintang
LDP	Liberal Democratic Party (Japan)
MITI	Ministry of International Trade and Industry (Japan)
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Area
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NLF	National Liberation Front (Vietnam)
NSC	National Security Council (USA)
NVN	NorthVietnam
ODA	Overseas Development Assistance (Japan)
PLA	People's Liberation Army (PRC)
POWs	prisoners of war
PPS	Policy Planning Staff (USA)
PRC	People's Republic of China
ROK	Republic of Korea
SAR	Special Administrative Region
SCAP	Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (USA)
SEAC	South-East Asia Command (UK)
SEATO	South-East Asia Treaty Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization