

# The Peace of Illusions

*American Grand Strategy  
from 1940 to the Present*

CHRISTOPHER LAYNE

*Cornell University Press*

ITHACA AND LONDON

# Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
INTRODUCTION	1
1. THEORY, HISTORY, AND U.S. GRAND STRATEGY	15
2. WORLD WAR II AND THE FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN GLOBAL HEGEMONY	39
3. U.S. GRAND STRATEGY AND THE SOVIET UNION, 1945-1953	51
4. THE OPEN DOOR AND AMERICAN HEGEMONY IN WESTERN EUROPE	71
5. THE CONTAINMENT OF EUROPE: AMERICAN HEGEMONY AND EUROPEAN RESPONSES	94
6. LIBERAL IDEOLOGY AND U.S. GRAND STRATEGY	118
7. THE END OF THE UNIPOLAR ERA	134
8. THE STRATEGY OF OFFSHORE BALANCING	159
CONCLUSION	193
Notes	207
Index	283