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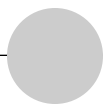
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Strained Relations



**A National Bureau
of Economic Research
Monograph**



Strained Relations

US Foreign-Exchange Operations and Monetary Policy in the Twentieth Century

**Michael D. Bordo, Owen F. Humpage,
and Anna J. Schwartz**

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Preface

This book has been in preparation for a long time. Michael Bordo and Anna Schwartz conceived of the idea for a history of US exchange-market intervention and began collaborating on the research in 1990. Owen Humpage joined the project in 2000. We are deeply indebted to many individuals and organizations for help and encouragement over the years.

Much of our research relied heavily on a unique, heretofore confidential, data set consisting of all official US foreign-exchange transactions conducted through the Federal Reserve Bank of New York between 1962 and 1995. We are very grateful to Dino Kos and Laura Weir at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Michael Leahy at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and Timothy D. DuLaney at the US Treasury for providing us with these data. We owe a huge debt to Zebo Zakir, a former research assistant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, for painstakingly entering these data into computer files from various printed documents. Likewise, we extend our sincere appreciation to Michael Shenk, who, as we learned more about the operations, helped us reorganize a large part of the data. We also sincerely thank Norman Bernard at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for providing us with many unpublished documents that explained US foreign-exchange operations.

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Our coauthor, Anna J. Schwartz, passed away on 21 June 2012. Anna wrote chapter 3 before we completed most of the other chapters and before we settled on the main organizing theme of the book. We decided not to alter Anna's chapter, since it is her last professional contribution to economic history.

The views expressed in this book are the authors' and not necessarily those of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the board staff, or the NBER.

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