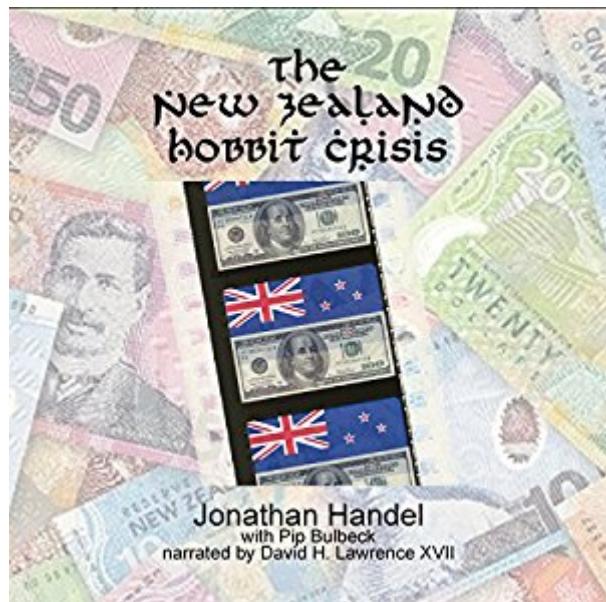


The book was found

# The New Zealand Hobbit Crisis: How Warner Bros. Bent A Government To Its Will And Crushed An Attempt To Unionize 'The Hobbit'



## **Synopsis**

All was not well in Middle-earth.... After the third Lord of the Rings movie premiered in 2003, fans of the series eagerly anticipated production and release of its prequel, The Hobbit. It turned out they had a while to wait, as a series of troubles delayed production for years. Then, in September 2010, when almost everything seemed resolved, U.S. and international actors unions issued a public alert advising their members "not to accept work on this non-union production." Warner Bros. threatened to rip the troubled production from the country and events quickly spiraled out of control. New Zealand plunged into crisis. Saving The Hobbit was do or die for the local film industry, and the government scrambled to avoid disaster. Protests and rallies erupted and the island nation's currency fell on the possibility of losing the half-billion dollar project. Director Peter Jackson vowed to "fight like hell" to keep the shoot in New Zealand. But then studio executives flew in from Los Angeles like colonial masters ready to bring down the hammer. What happened next was almost unbelievable - and proved, if nothing else, that not all Hollywood drama is on the screen.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

In all the fawning coverage accompanying the opening of The Hobbit, it is useful to have a record of the shenanigans surrounding the production of the film in New Zealand, and the bullying ways of Warner Brothers to get their way ie taxation concessions, quick changes in NZ labour laws. A useful little book but some irony in that it is written by an American media lawyer, and not a local. It is a useful update to my chapter on Peter Jackson in New Zealand Film: An Illustrated History (Te Papa Press, 2011). Geoff Lealand Screen and Media Studies University of Waikato

It's hard to make a legal book interesting, even exciting, but Jonathan Handel has succeeded here. Knowing all the facts makes an amazing story.

not heavy to read it

Very interesting insight into a world that most have no idea about. The format- e.g. the way the news stories are put together, makes it compelling reading!

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