

World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files

Vital documents illustrate how American aid influenced the outcome of postwar Greece

Date Range: 1940-1949
 Content: 85,413 pages
 Source Library: U.S. National Archives

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<p>TITLE: Central File: Decmal File 868.24, Internal Affairs Of States, Greece, Equipment And Supplies, no date</p> <p>SOURCE: Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Greece 1940-44</p> <p>DETAIL: N.d. 1pp.</p> <p>COLLECTION: World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files Find it @ JGU View Document Full Citation About this Collection</p>			
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<p>TITLE: Central File: Decmal File 868.0128, Internal Affairs Of States, Government, Mandates, Recognition, Citizenship, Greece, Passports, no date</p> <p>SOURCE: Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Greece 1940-44</p> <p>DETAIL: N.d. 2pp.</p> <p>COLLECTION: World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files Find it @ JGU View Document Full Citation About this Collection</p>			
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<p>TITLE: Central File: Decmal File 868.01, Internal Affairs Of States, Greece, Government, Mandates, Recognition, no date</p> <p>SOURCE: Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Greece 1940-44</p> <p>DETAIL: N.d. 1pp.</p> <p>COLLECTION: World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files Find it @ JGU View Document Full Citation About this Collection</p>			
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<p>TITLE: Central File: Decmal File 868.517, Internal Affairs Of States, Financial Conditions, Budget, Dept. Bond Issues, Loans, Public Securities, Credits, Taxation, Processing Tax, For Treaties, Conventions, Arrangements, Ect., Add Country Number 11, Using Smaller Number Of Country For ..., Greece, Inheritance Tax, no date</p> <p>SOURCE: Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Greece 1940-44</p> <p>DETAIL: N.d. 1pp.</p> <p>COLLECTION: World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files Find it @ JGU View Document Full Citation About this Collection</p>			
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<p>TITLE: Central File: Decmal File 868.5124, Internal Affairs Of States, Financial Conditions, Budget, Dept. Bond Issues, Loans, Public Securities, Credits, Taxation, Processing Tax, For Treaties, Conventions, Arrangements, Ect., Add Country Number 11, Using Smaller Number Of Country For ..., Greece, Income Tax, Excess Profits Tax, no date</p> <p>SOURCE: Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Greece 1940-44</p> <p>DETAIL: N.d. 2pp.</p> <p>COLLECTION: World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files Find it @ JGU View Document Full Citation About this Collection</p>			
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<p>TITLE: Central File: Decmal File 868.504, Internal Affairs Of States, Economic Matters, Greece, Labor, no date</p> <p>SOURCE: Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Greece 1940-44</p> <p>DETAIL: N.d. 1pp.</p> <p>COLLECTION: World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files Find it @ JGU View Document Full Citation About this Collection</p>			
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<p>TITLE: Central File: Decmal File 868.51, Internal Affairs Of States, Greece, Financial Conditions, Budget, Dept. Bond Issues, Loans, Public Securities, Credits, no date</p> <p>SOURCE: Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Greece 1940-44</p> <p>DETAIL: N.d. 2pp.</p> <p>COLLECTION: World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files Find it @ JGU View Document Full Citation About this Collection</p>			

The Axis occupation of Greece during World War II brought about terrible hardships. Hundreds of thousands of civilians died of starvation, Jews and other minorities were deported to concentration camps and ethnic cleansing attempted to eradicate generations of residents. When liberation came in October 1944, Greece was in economic and social crisis, which led to civil war.

The Greek civil war (1946 -1949) emerged from a struggle between leftists and rightists. With the United States and the United Kingdom supporting the Greek governmental army in its clash with the communist-backed Democratic Army of Greece, this war, according to some analysts, represented an early example of postwar Western interference in the internal politics of a foreign country. "It must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressure," President Truman said in 1947. Truman backed his words with large-scale military and economic aid to both Greece and Turkey.

World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece provides an insightful look at Greece in political, economic and social ruin at the end of the war and the emergence of a postwar Greek conflict that rivaled the war years. In addition, there is much discussion of the American aid program that determined the political and economic configuration of Cold War-era Greece.

Scholars of European and Slavic studies, human rights, political history, international government and the Cold War will find an unmatched selection of digitized primary source documents, including translations of speeches, memoranda, official reports and transcripts of political meetings.

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World War II, Occupation, and the Civil War in Greece, 1940-1949: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files

This collection presents the raw primary perspective on the political, economic and social development of post-liberation Greece, including the Greek Civil War crisis and the implementation of America's Truman Doctrine in the eastern Mediterranean.

Documents include:

- Special reports on political and military affairs, particularly U.S. military aid to Greece, the Cold War and the Churchill-Stalin Percentages Issue
- Studies and statistics on socioeconomic matters
- Interviews and minutes of meetings with foreign government officials
- Full texts of important letters, instructions, and cables sent and received by U.S. diplomatic personnel
- Voluminous reports and translations from foreign journals and newspapers
- Countless translations of high-level foreign government documents, including speeches, memoranda, official reports, and transcripts of political meetings and assemblies

This collection supports research in:

- Political parties and elections
- Unrest and revolution
- Human rights
- Fiscal and monetary issues
- Labor and housing
- Police and crime
- Foreign policymaking
- Religion and culture
- World War II studies
- And much more

Enclosure no. 1 to despatch no. 4022, dated September 2, 1944, from the American Legation, Stockholm, Sweden, entitled: "Conditions in Greece - A Swedish Survey".

Source: Fackförenings-Rörelsen, no. 33, 1944.

TRANSLATION

Title: Inflation and Famine in Greece.

An article entitled "Inflation and Famine in Greece" by a Walter Pöppel, which appeared in the Swedish periodical, Fackförenings-Rörelsen, no. 33, 1944, gives a brief general survey of present-day conditions in Greece, which may be summarized as follows:

Both as an agricultural and an industrial producer, Greece may be described as a backward country. Moreover, its physical structure does not allow an extension, and intensification, of agricultural husbandry. As regards industrial development, the prospects are better, although up to now only limited use has been made of the country's potentialities.

Despatch adverse factors in the country... only...

AIR PORT

CONFIDENTIAL

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : HICOG FRANKFURT AUG 13 1952 261

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE August 12, 1952

REF : DEPCIRCA June 19, 1952; HICOG Frankfurt Despatch 79, July 27, 1952

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SUBJECT: PERIPHERAL: CZECHOSLOVAKIA: TRANSMITTING RADIO FREE EUROPE REPORTS ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR PERIOD JUNE 15, 1952 - JUNE 30, 1952

Transmitted herewith are approximately 130 reports on Czechoslovakia obtained from Radio Free Europe in Munich. The reports, in duplicate, are in the Czech, Slovak, German, and English languages. The reports contain political, economic, military, and sociological intelligence obtained by Radio Free Europe interviewers from escapee sources.

In general the information must be considered as unconfirmed and unevaluated; a number of the reports bear brief comments by RFE analysts (Czechoslovak refugees themselves), generally with regard to the availability of confirmation. Within the Department the contents of the reports may be designated as unclassified or restricted as desired. The enclosed memorandum has been prepared by the Peripheral Reporting Unit as a guide to the contents of the reports.

749.00/8-125

FEB 11 1950

To: Mr. Ness

From: Mr. Willis

Please send the following cable from State and Treasury to Glendinning and Gessa care of ANAG, Athens, Greece.

SECRET

1. Financial and monetary survey should be broad and should examine adequacy present US policy and any changes needed to forward objective of stabilizing civilian economy. Primary problem is continued inflationary developments and resulting instability. Survey should point up feasibility of applying measures to arrest inflationary trend.
2. Your attention directed following subjects and effectiveness existing controls applied to them: currency and credit conditions; budget position; present gold sales policy and its effectiveness in preventing price increases; rationing and distribution.

EW 868.51