

Gale Primary Sources

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Archives of Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II

During the Second World War, some 60 million individuals across Europe, North Africa, and Asia were forcibly displaced from their homes. *Archives of Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II* presents unpublished manuscript records that document the causes, effects, and responses to refugee crises across the world immediately before, during, and shortly after World War II. Government records, refugee agency files, and correspondence reveal the hidden history of those uprooted within and across national borders as well as the relief, resettlement, and repatriation efforts that followed.

Thousands of Germans enter and leave from the British to the Russian Zone of Occupation on the road to the Friedland Refugee Camp. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of Joseph Eaton.



ABOUT THE COLLECTIONS

- *Refugee Files from the Records of the Foreign, Colonial, Work, Defence, and Home Office, 1938-1950* explores the plight of refugees and the various roles these departments played overseeing the relief, resettlement, and repatriation of dozens of refugee groups from across the globe.
- *Record of the Department of State Relating to the Problems of Relief and Refugees in Europe Arising from World War II and Its Aftermath, 1938-1949* focuses on the department's efforts regarding "how to deal with refugees displaced by persecution and fighting and unable to return to home in the war's aftermath."
- *Archives of the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief, 1933-1960* documents this agency's role in aiding refugees from Nazi oppression and survivors of the Holocaust, opening a window onto the inner workings of this NGO's relief efforts.
- *Refugee Records from the Public and Judicial Department Collections of the British India Office, 1939-1952* documents the plight of refugees from Thailand, Burma, China and other Japanese-occupied territories.

ARCHIVE SNAPSHOT

Approximate Size
670,000 pages

Year of earliest document
1933

Year of last document
1960

Language
English

Sources

Selected Foreign Office, Colonial Office, Home Office and War Office files on refugees from the National Archives, Kew, UK

State Department Records relating to relief and refugees in Europe during World War II from the National Archives Records Administration, USA

Archives of the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief

Selected refugee records in the British India Office collection at the British Library, UK

Document Type

Manuscripts, pamphlets, ephemera, government documents, relief organisation records, and refugee reports

Search Options

This archive can be searched by nationality and ethnicity, country fled, and settlement and resettlement destinations

SUBJECTS SUPPORTED

- Refugee Studies
- 20th century Jewish and European Studies
- European Studies
- African and Asian Studies
- Global, Diplomatic, and Military History
- Public Health, Sociology, Economics, Political Science

FEATURES AND TOOLS

Textual Analysis Tools Identify and visualise patterns, trends, and relationships to explore content in new ways.

Stand-alone or Cross-search Capabilities Use the archive on its own or cross-search with other Gale primary source collections to make connections that were not possible previously.

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