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EUROPEAN COLONIALISM IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY: FRENCH COLONIALISM IN AFRICA: FROM ALGERIA TO MADAGASCAR, 1910-1930



This collection comprises correspondence, studies and reports, cables, maps, and other kinds of documents related to U.S. consular activities. U.S. Consulates were listening posts reporting on the activities of the French colonial government and the activities of the native peoples. Highlights include the beginning of an anti-colonial movement and problems along the Moroccan-Algerian border.

Date Range: 1910-1930

Content: 17,834 images

Source Library: National Archives (U.S.)

Detailed Description:

Source Note: Record Group 59, Records of the U.S. State Department, Central Classified Files, Class 800, France, 1910-1929. Includes content only for French colonial possessions in Africa, including country codes: 51r, 51s, 51t, 51u, 51v, 51w, 51x.

N.B. Formerly part of National Archives microfilm publication M560, reels 154-162.

ALGERIA

851r.00 - 851r.1152

Political administration of North Africa; the Governor General's annual report, 1922; political and economic aspects of colonization; proposed extension of political rights and representation in the French Parliament to Algerians; report on Communist activity; the Governor General; the movement for unification of the Governments of Algeria, Tunisia, and French Morocco, 1925-26; nationality laws; maps; pollution of port waters by vessels burning and carrying oil; powers of attorney; laws governing travel; 1922; regulations governing firearms, explosives, liquor, habit-forming drugs, and white slave traffic.

851r.12 - 851r.48

Public health, 1922; disposal of the dead; care of the blind; seamen's building in Algiers; public works at Oran, 1927; water supply in the Algerian Sahara, 1927; the Algerian

State Highway System, 1927-28; harbor improvement; laws relating to stevedoring, 1927; regulations concerning military service of Algerians; report on the status of the Jewish race in Algeria, 1921; development of Pan-Islamism, 1926; motion pictures, 1926; monument at Bougie to the dead of World War I; centenary celebrations to be held in 1930, education, 1921-22; July 4th celebrations; earthquakes and floods.

851r.50 - 851r.544Black Cat Films/2

Economic conditions; censuses, 1921, 1926; cost-of-living statistics, 1900-24; housing; rural credits, 1928; commercial laws; labor conditions and the labor supply; strikes; operation and taxation of U.S. insurance companies, 1924; financial loans; taxation; circulation of money; banks; colonization; motion picture copyrights for Black Cat Films, 1928.

851r. 607 - 851r.6461

Expositions; agricultural experts, 1918; regulations for irrigation, quarantines, and laws concerning plant control, 1925; cotton cultivation; tobacco production; public control of privately owned forest land; the cork industry; sheep; Dr. Serge Voronoff's gland grafting experiments on sheep to improve live stock, 1927; silk culture; mineral production and concessions, 1920-27; report on lead deposits; coal mining; petroleum production and concessions, 1918-20; production of phosphates, fluorspar, and manganese ore; hydraulic works.

851r.70 - 851r. 927/8

Reports on postal service, telephone system, and general organization; new facilities for traveling in the Sahara; telegraph laws and regulations; new radio station, 1927; railways, 1923-26; civil aviation and aviation regulations, 1929; automobile taxes, 1921; automobile travel across the Sahara, 1922-24; automobile races, 1929; laws and regulations concerning automobiles; lighthouses; fees of maritime brokers, 1923; harbor and port dues; new pilotage rates at the harbor of Algiers; freight rates on merchant vessels; newspaper clippings on Algerian attitudes toward the United States, 1925; the climate; archaeological and anthropological research, 1921-1929.

TUNIS

(Tunisia)

851s.00 - 851s.1157

Reports of political events; the Bey of Tunis; the government and administrative organization of Tunisia, 1925-26; laws and regulations concerning nationality and naturalization; adoption of the name "Tunisia" for Tunis, the French protectorate in North Africa, 1925; powers of attorney; regulations governing entry into Tunisia; report on traffic in arms and ammunition; the temperance movement and the prohibition of poppy cultivation; traffic in obscene matters.

851s.122 - 851s.5549b

Vital statistics; improvements in the city of Tunis, 1928; Tunisian highways; port facilities; regulations of the public markets; naval policy relating to Bizerte, 1923; aspirations of Tunisian Jews, 1925; report about photographic invention by Philippe David, 1927; movie censorship; commemorative celebrations; economic problems; the 1927 census; cost-of-living statistics, 1924-27; commercial laws; operation and taxation of U.S. insurance companies in Tunisia; financial and budgetary matters; reports on taxation, 1926-27; decree by the Bey, 1921, affecting patent rights; trademarks registered during 1917-18; immigration from Malta, 1929.

851s.60 - 851s.7971/3

Agricultural policies of the French Government; expositions and exhibitions; agricultural extension work and home economics; report on agriculture, 1927; the need for irrigation projects, 1918; laws governing the entry of plants and plant products; the rat problem; report on field crops, grapes, olives, and dates; forests; sheep; mineral production during 1920; iron; zinc; deposits and production of fluorspar and phosphates; olive oil production estimates, 1918-19; increase in postal and telegraph rates, 1925-26; decree governing the creation and use of radio stations, 1926; telephone rates, 1926; railways, 1922-27; regulations concerning airplane flights, 1929; laws and regulations governing automobiles.

851s.83 - 851s.927/41

Menaces to navigation; increases in port charges, 1918, 1926; censorship, 1929; archaeological discoveries and excavations at the sites of Carthage, Utica, and other locations in Northern Africa, 1923-29.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA AND THE SAHARA

851t.001 - 851t.461

The Chief Executive, 1928; nationality laws and naturalization, 1924-25; report on Dakar, 1925; Nigerian ordinances, regulations, and orders-in-council affecting trade; commercial laws, 1923; regulations governing residence, trade, travel, and passports, 1919-25; importation of liquor; traffic regulation, 1924; the Takoradi harbor project, 1925; education, 1922; official entertainments, 1918-19.

851t.50 - 851t.637/5

Economic conditions, 1920-22; population, 1927; cost of living at Dakar, 1921; the operation and taxation of insurance companies, 1924; budgets, 1927; taxation, 1922; French bank notes in circulation; banks and banking; legal interest rates, 1922; plan for a canal and an inland sea in the Sahara Desert, 1928-29; laws, quarantines, and regulations governing the entry of plants or plant products, 1925; cotton cultivation; peanut raising; coconut cultivation; mahogany concessions, 1923; rubber culture; sheep raising and wool marketing; the fishing industry, 1922; mineral deposits and industries; petroleum; ilmenite sand deposits of Senegal, 1925, 1929.

851t.73 - 851t.9243

Cable communication; wireless telegraphy, 1922-25; railway development, 1923-27; regulation of airplane flights; lighthouses; port, harbor, lighthouse, pilotage, and other taxes, 1922, 1925; fuel oil supply at Dakar, 1925; restriction of the press, 1922; radio broadcasting of weather reports, 1926.

FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA

(French Congo)

851u.61322 - 851u.77

Prohibition of hemp culture, 1926; mahogany concessions, 1923; mineral deposits, 1918; construction of the Pointe Noire-Brazzaville Railway, 1924.

FRENCH SOMALI COAST AND DEPENDENCIES

(Somali Coast)

851v.00 - 851v.77/1

Uprising in Tajourah Island, 1923; permission to transport arms to Ethiopia through Djibouti, 1927, 1929; sheep raising; mining; railways, 1926-27.

MADAGASCAR

851w 00PR/1 - 851w.156

Political reports, 1928; the Governor General; administration of the islands of St. Paul, Amsterdam, and other dependencies, 1925; nationality laws; working hours in the civil service, 1923; organization of the judiciary, 1922; mixed courts of commerce, 1910; powers of attorney; adjudication of claims against the Government, 1919; regulations governing foreigners settling in Madagascar, 1922-24; restriction of some crops as a public health measure, 1925-26; removal of bodies of persons dying of the plague, 1925; public works programs, 1925-27; improvement of ports and harbors in Madagascar and Reunion, 1924-27.

851w.22- 851w.48/14

Recruitment of native troops in French colonies; military equipment and supplies, 1928; organization of Madagascar Marine Corps, 1923; motion picture theaters and U.S. films; monument to Marshal Joseph Gallieni at Tananarive, 1923; celebrations of July 4th and 4th holidays; ceremonial communications; social functions sponsored by officials of Madagascar, 1918-21; entertainments by resident U.S. officers; hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, epidemics, earthquakes, and tidal waves.

851w.50 - 851w.51/26

Economic matters: population, 1911, 1920; cost of living, 1925; application of French commercial law in Madagascar, 1922; labor costs, 1925-26; war risk insurance, 1917; financial matters, including budgetary problems, bond issues, and revenues.

851w.51/27 - 851w.55/1

General; taxation; automobile, salt, and tobacco taxes; currency circulation; banking; land laws and regulations; immigration.

851w.602 - 851w.63/29

Concessions; expositions and trade and industrial fairs; annual report on commerce and industry, 1925; restrictions and regulations on the entry of plants and plant products; the cotton industry; vanilla beans; public control of privately owned forest lands; rubber vine cultivation; veterinary medicine; animal breeding and stockraising; commercialization of cayman hunting; shellfishing; mineral prices and production, 1920-28.

851w.6343 - 851w.723

Platinum; radium deposits, 1923-26; graphite production; coal; lead; petroleum exploration; fluorspar; arsenic ore and arsenious acid; phosphates; quartz; hydroelectric power development; leather manufacturing; cost of transportation by cart; insured mail; Government airmail service; parcel-post rates; parcel post arrangements with Portuguese East Africa and with Mozambique; telegraph rates.

851w.73 - 851w.9243/3

Reestablishment of cable service, 1921; cable laws and regulation; wireless telegraph; railways; airmail transportation; automobile laws and regulations; coastal navigation; lighthouses; menaces to navigation; navigation taxes; pilotage regulations; steamship passenger and freight rates; arrivals and departures of vessels at Port Louis, Mauritius, 1925-1926 reports of earthquake, 1924; meteorological observations, 1924-25.

OTHER AFRICAN ISLANDS

851x.001 - 851x.659

Death of Prince Said-Ali, former Sultan of the Comoro Archipelago, 1916; ceremonial communications with Reunion, 1919; the budget of Reunion, 1923-27; agricultural products exposition at St. Denis, Reunion, 1925; Reunion sugar crop, 1923; proposed fertilizer plant in Reunion.