

M1286

RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RELATING TO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS
OF THE UKRAINE, 1918–1949

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

On the 6 rolls of this microfilm publication, M1286, are reproduced records relating to the internal affairs of the Ukraine, 1918–49, from File 860E of the Central Decimal Files, 1910–63, National Archives Identifier (NAID) 302021.* These records are part of General Records of the Department of State, Record Group (RG) 59.

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Department of State was established pursuant to an act of Congress of July 27, 1789 (1 Stat. 28) as the Department of Foreign Affairs, and renamed the Department of State by an act of September 15, 1789 (1 Stat. 68). The department assisted the President in carrying out his constitutional responsibility for conducting relations with foreign governments. It also handled a number of domestic functions in the earliest years of the republic.

Over the years, the department used a variety of record-keeping systems. In 1910, the Department began to arrange central file records by subject according to a new decimal file system in which records were placed under one of nine major subject classes and thereunder arranged by country. Each country was assigned a country number, and records pertaining to each country were further arranged into more specific subject classes, each of which was also numbered.

The Department of State instructed Foreign Service Posts to limit each reporting document to one discrete subject in order to facilitate indexing, filing, and retrieval. This was not always possible to do at the most detailed level so the filing system provided for levels of specificity and the indexers in the Department aimed to file documents at the appropriate level of detail/specificity with regard to both subject and country in a given record.

Class 8, internal affairs of states, was further divided into file categories on political affairs; public order, safety, health, and works; military affairs; naval affairs; social matters; economic matters; industrial matters; communications and transportation; navigation; and other internal affairs.

RECORDS DESCRIPTION

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication consist of despatches, telegrams, airgrams, instructions, diplomatic notes, reports correspondence, memorandums, and related documentation, such as newspaper clippings.

These records were filmed as National Archives Microfilm Publication M1286 in 1984, and a negative copy was placed in the National Archives microfilm duplicating collection, where it remained in 2017. For unknown reasons, however, M1286 was never issued as an

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official National Archives Microfilm Publication. In 2017, because the microfilm existed and was in good physical condition, the decision was made to finally issue M1286 as a NARA microfilm publication. Due to changes in technology, however, M1286 is available only in digital format.

One caveat is necessary, however. Many of the materials in the Central Decimal File were classified in the interest of national security. In 1984, when the records in M1286 were microfilmed, any documents that were classified were removed and are not available on the microfilm. The National Archives and Records Administration does not have the authority to make security-classified documents available to the public. However, it is possible that records that were security-classified in 1984 have since been declassified and are now available to researchers. As of December 1, 2017, the staff of the National Archives had not reviewed M1286 to determine if any records were omitted from it for national security reasons.

ROLL LIST

ROLL	YEARS	BEGIN	END
1	1918–29	860E.00/	860E.002/2
2	1918–29	860E.01/	860E.927/
3	1930–39	860E.00/108	860E.652/1
4	1940–44	860E.00/131	860E.01/238
5	1940–44	860E.01/239	860E.9111/2
6	1945–49	860E.00/11-545	860E.911/8–1845