

PRELIMINARY



INVENTORIES

Number 111

RECORDS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FOREIGN AID

1947 - 48

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The National Archives  
National Archives and Records Service  
General Services Administration

Washington: 1958

National Archives Publication No. 59-10

Library of Congress Catalog Card No. A58-9909

## FOREWORD

To analyze and describe the permanently valuable records of the Federal Government preserved in the National Archives Building is one of the main tasks of the National Archives. Various kinds of finding aids are needed to facilitate the use of these records, and the first step in the records-description program is the compilation of preliminary inventories of the material in the almost 300 record groups to which the holdings of the National Archives are allocated.

These inventories are called "preliminary" because they are provisional in character. They are prepared as soon as possible after the records are received without waiting to screen out all disposable material or to perfect the arrangement of the records. They are compiled primarily for internal use, both as finding aids to help the staff render efficient reference service and as a means of establishing administrative control over the records.

Each preliminary inventory contains an introduction that briefly states the history and functions of the agency that accumulated the records. The records themselves are described series by series, that is, by units of records of the same form or that deal with the same subject or activity or that are arranged serially. Other significant information about the records may sometimes be given in appendixes.

When the record group has been studied sufficiently and the records have been placed in final order, the preliminary inventories will be revised and the word "preliminary" dropped from the title of the revision. Meanwhile, as occasion demands and time permits, special reports, indexes, calendars, and other finding aids to the record group will be prepared.

Several finding aids that give an overall picture of materials in the National Archives have been published. A comprehensive Guide to the Records in the National Archives (1948) and a brief guide, Your Government's Records in the National Archives (revised 1950), have been issued. Forty-four Reference Information Papers, which analyze records in the National Archives on such subjects as transportation, small business, and the Middle East, have so far been issued. Records of World War I have been described in the Handbook of Federal World War Agencies and Their Records, 1917-1921, and those of World War II in the two-volume guide, Federal Records of World War II (1950-51). Many bodies of records of high research value have been edited by the National Archives and reproduced on microfilm as a form of publication. Positive prints of some 9,000 rolls of this microfilm, most of which are described in the List of National Archives Microfilm Publications (1953), are now available for purchase.

## INTRODUCTION

The Select Committee of the House of Representatives on Foreign Aid was created by House Resolution 296, 80th Congress, which was adopted on July 22, 1947.

The resolution, submitted by Representative Christian A. Herter, of Massachusetts, on July 15, 1947, provided for the appointment of a committee of 19 members. The resolution further provided:

The committee is authorized and directed to make a study of (1) actual and prospective needs of foreign nations and people, including those within the United States military zones, both for relief in terms of food, clothing, and so forth, and of economic rehabilitation; (2) resources and facilities available to meet such needs within and without the continental United States; (3) existing or contemplated agencies, whether private, public, domestic, or international, qualified to deal with such needs; (4) any or all measures which might assist in assessing relative needs and in correlating such assistance as the United States can properly make without weakening its domestic economy.

The committee shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) from time to time as it shall deem appropriate, but finally not later than March 1, 1948.

For the purposes of this resolution the committee, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act during the present Congress at such times and places, either within or without the continental limits of the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary.

On July 29, 1947, the Speaker of the House appointed as members of the select committee Representatives Charles A. Eaton, of New Jersey (chairman); Christian A. Herter, of Massachusetts; Thomas A. Jenkins, of Ohio; Charles A. Wolverton, of New Jersey; August H. Andresen, of Minnesota; Francis Case, of South Dakota; John C. Kunkel, of Pennsylvania; John M. Vorys, of Ohio; Charles W. Vursell, of Illinois; W. Kingsland Macy, of New York; Richard M. Nixon, of California; William M. Colmer, of Mississippi; James P. Richards, of South Carolina; Francis E. Walter, of Pennsylvania; Harold D. Cooley, of North Carolina; George H. Mahon, of Texas; Overton Brooks, of Louisiana; Eugene J. Keogh, of New York; and A. S. Mike Monroney, of Oklahoma. Shortly thereafter Representative Eaton appointed Representative Herter as vice chairman of the committee, and W. Y. Elliott became the staff director. Representative E. E. Cox, of Georgia, joined the committee on August 19, 1947, succeeding Representative William M. Colmer, who had resigned.

The committee met for the first time on August 26, 1947, at New York City, immediately before its members, with the exception of the chairman, sailed for Europe. In Europe the committee divided itself into five sub-committees: one to study European agriculture; and the others to divide the study of conditions in Great Britain, Austria, Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Italy, Greece, and Trieste. In addition, members of the committee journeyed to Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Turkey on fact-finding missions. Government officials, and "political, business, labor, and peasant leaders" were interviewed; "workers' and farmers' homes" were visited; and trips were made through shops, market places, and factories. The members were given every opportunity for unrestricted observation and study in all of the free countries visited. The activities of the committee resulted in the accumulation of a "mass of data," which was to be reflected in its reports.

Executive departments and the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress contributed data and information for the committee's studies. The House Foreign Affairs Committee aided the select committee in the preparation of three special reports: "Voluntary Foreign Aid," "Economic and Political Conditions in the Far East: Japan, China, and Korea," and "Japanese Resources and the Policy of the United States."

In the course of its work, the committee issued 24 preliminary reports and supplements thereto, and a report on "the projected imports of western Europe from the rest of the world," prepared in the main by the Tariff Commission. Preliminary reports 1 through 8 of the committee were published before November 22, 1947, that they might be of immediate assistance to Congress in considering the special program for interim aid to France, Italy, and Austria proposed by the Truman administration. Preliminary reports 9 through 24 and their supplements were concerned with the longer-range program of foreign aid. The committee felt that its preliminary reports assisted the Senate and the House of Representatives to frame legislation and to conduct hearings on subjects involving foreign aid. It noted that many of its recommendations for administering foreign aid had been adopted. The committee's final report appeared on May 1, 1948, and it included the previous reports of the committee, some of which had been revised. The committee was confident that its final report would serve three continuing purposes:

- (1) To equip the Congress, through appropriate committees, for the continuing studies both of the original applications and of the subsequent authorizations and enforcement of responsibilities to Congress for the execution of the aid programs;
- (2) to afford to the administrator of foreign aid and to the other agencies of the Federal Government with responsibilities under the foreign-aid program, a broad and detailed study of the major factors affecting its success and the recommendations of the committee for administrative action and policies, and
- (3) to afford to the people of the United States as objective a guide as possible to the understanding of the scope, necessity, administrative mechanisms, methods of financing and the

necessary protections for the interests and the economy of the United States, for a program adequate to assist the recovery of Europe and other areas of the world.

With the issuance of the final report, the committee concluded its work.

The records of the committee, which amount to approximately 25 cubic feet, are part of Record Group 233, Records of the United States House of Representatives. No person may have access to the records of the committee or receive information contained therein except upon express authorization by the House of Representatives.

RECORDS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FOREIGN AID

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS. July 1947-May 1948. 1 ft.

1

Include press releases, letters from citizens requesting copies of the committee's reports, minutes of staff meetings, personnel records of staff members, and vouchers for payroll and other expenses. Arranged by subject.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE. July 1947-Apr. 1948. 10 in.

2

Consists mainly of correspondence and memoranda of committee and staff members in respect to the committee's agenda, and, in particular, the preparation of the committee's reports. Also in this series are correspondence regarding applications for employment with the committee, and correspondence with citizens commenting on its work. Arranged alphabetically.

LEGISLATIVE FILE. May 1947-Mar. 1948. 6 in.

3

Contains prints of Senate and House bills and resolutions which deal with subjects directly or indirectly related to foreign aid. In addition, the series comprises prints of committee reports on these bills and resolutions, and of public laws of the 80th Congress of interest to the committee. Arranged numerically by bill, resolution, report, or public law number.

RECORDS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FRANCE AND THE LOW COUNTRIES. Sept. 1947-Oct. 1947. 4 ft.

4

Records of the subcommittee, headed by Representative Charles A. Wolverton, of New Jersey, include memoranda from the Monnet Ministry, reports from the American Embassy in Paris concerning France's international financial position, memoranda of the American Chamber of Commerce in France, memoranda recording the substance of interviews of subcommittee members with French Government officials, French publications on the situation in France, clippings from French newspapers concerning the subcommittee, informational materials from the Bank of France, minutes of the meetings of the subcommittee with representatives of the Federation of Belgian Industries and of the Federation Generale du Travail Belge, reports from the American Embassy in Brussels on conditions in Belgium, memoranda from the American consulates at Amsterdam and Rotterdam describing their duties and responsibilities, reports from the American Embassy at The Hague dealing with the work of the Embassy and with conditions in the Netherlands, publications of the Netherlands Government, and memoranda on the administration of the American Legation at Luxembourg and on the economic reconstruction of Luxembourg. Arranged by subject.

RECORDS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON GERMANY. Sept. 1947-Feb. 1948. 2 ft.

5

Records of the subcommittee, headed by Representative Francis Case, of South Dakota, comprise reports and other documents from the United States Office of Military Government for Germany, and from the State Department, dealing with conditions in occupied Germany. Also among the papers of this series are correspondence and other documents from German

citizens relating to the administration of occupied Germany, correspondence and memoranda of the subcommittee concerning its German tour, and informational materials on occupied Austria. Arranged alphabetically.

RECORDS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ITALY, GREECE, AND TRIESTE. Sept. 1947-Nov. 1947. 2 ft.

Records of the subcommittee, whose chairman was Representative Thomas 6  
A. Jenkins, of Ohio, comprise the itinerary of the subcommittee, Italian publications on railroad reconstruction in Italy, reports and statistics of the Italian Government on the economy of Italy, translations of speeches of Italian officials on the economic and financial situation of Italy, memoranda of conferences of subcommittee members with representatives of Italian labor and management and with officials of the Italian Government, reports from the American Embassy at Rome on Italy's economic situation, publications of the United States Government on Greece, documents from the State Department concerning economic aid to Greece, documents relating to the American Mission for Aid to Greece, a memorandum of a meeting of subcommittee members with American officials in Trieste, and a report of the Allied Military Government of Trieste on the industries of this territory. Arranged by subject.

RECORDS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE UNITED KINGDOM. Aug. 1947-Sept. 1947. 1 ft. 7

Records of the subcommittee, headed by Representative John C. Kunkel, of Pennsylvania, consist of communications from the British Government to the American Embassy in London relating to the economy of Great Britain, informational materials from the same source and on the same subject (including issuances of the British Information Service), reports of the American Embassy in London on the British economic position, and correspondence of Representative Kunkel. Arranged by subject.

RECORDS RELATING TO THE COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION. Aug. 1947-Oct. 1947. 3 ft. 8

Mimeographed copies of reports to the Committee on European Economic Cooperation from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom, dealing mainly with situations in these countries with respect to food and agriculture, fuel and power, iron and steel, destruction and damage as a result of war, internal reconstruction, transportation, manpower, and timber. The Committee on European Economic Cooperation consisted of representatives of 16 European nations who met in Paris in the summer of 1947 to adopt a program pursuant to a suggestion made by Secretary of State George C. Marshall in a speech at Harvard University on June 5, 1947. The Secretary had stated that before the United States Government could further aid Europe to economic recovery, the European States must formulate a joint economic recovery program and determine how they could, by individual and collaborative efforts, implement its objectives. The series also includes mimeographed memoranda of conversations held by the State Department in Washington during October 1947 on European economic cooperation. Arranged alphabetically by name of country or by subject.

RECORDS RELATING TO THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES. Nov. 1947.  
2 ft.

Detailed statistical reports on the foreign trade of the United States from 1938 to the early part of 1947 (prepared by the Special Programs Division, Areas Branch, Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce), and staff memoranda dealing with the "Import-export picture [of the United States] for 1947." Arranged by subject. 9

REFERENCE FILE. Sept. 1947-Apr. 1948. 6 ft.

Consists of informational materials filed in folders with descriptive titles. Included in the series are prints of reports of the Committee on Foreign Affairs concerning foreign aid and other subjects; press releases of the select committee and of the State Department; drafts of staff reports; staff memoranda; memoranda and correspondence of the Business Advisory Council for the Department of Commerce; economic data and reports of the State Department on overseas countries; Brookings Institute papers on the problems of foreign aid; calendars of the House of Representatives; circulars of the Council on Foreign Relations; memoranda of the Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe, Inc. (CARE); news clippings on foreign aid; publications of the Commodity Credit Corporation; reports from private sources on European mining and on the domestic coal situation; memoranda of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; reports of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; data from the Department of Commerce on the trade of European countries; reports and memoranda from private sources on economic conditions in occupied Germany; copies of the newsletter "Human Events"; copies of World Report; reports of the President's Committee on Foreign Aid; copies of the testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, concerning foreign aid; copies of "Import Policies and Programs of the War Production Board and Predecessor Agencies" (a historical report); reports of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund; and copies of the President's message on the Marshall plan. For related records, see series 11. Arranged alphabetically. 10

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS. Sept. 1947-Mar. 1948. 8 ft.

These materials are like those in the Reference File, but they are filed as unarranged loose papers. 11

"COMMITTEE PRINTS." Nov. 1947-Mar. 1948. 7 in.

Committee prints of preliminary staff studies on subjects such as Latin America and the European recovery program, the East European economy in relation to the European recovery program, selected machinery and equipment for the proposed foreign aid program, functions and organization of United States and international agencies related to a program of foreign aid and recovery, inflation and methods of financing any foreign aid program, transportation as it affects the European recovery program, and the extension and organization of governmental control powers affecting the foreign-aid program. Also in this series are a few printed preliminary reports of the select committee. All of the committee 12

prints are reproduced in the final report of the select committee (H. Rept. 1845, 80th Cong., 2d sess.). Arranged by subject.

INDEX CARDS. n.d. 2 ft.

13

Index cards (3" x 5") which list the names and addresses of persons and organizations receiving reports of the committee, or which contain references to publications having information relevant to the committee's inquiry. Arranged alphabetically by name or by subject.