

**RECORDS RELATING TO FRANCE AMONG THE  
CENTRAL FILE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE (RG 59) 1910-73:  
A SELECTED LIST**

The following is an overview of the most important files pertaining to French international political relations and French political, military, and economic matters. It is not comprehensive and intended merely as a starting point for research. Researchers undertaking a major study of this topic should be certain to examine appropriate finding aids within RG 59 and other record groups for additional information.

**THE CENTRAL DECIMAL FILE, 1910-63 [ARC ID: 302021]**

Between August 1910 and January 1963, the Department of State's Central File was arranged according to a decimal classification scheme.

**1910-49**

In its original form, the Decimal File is divided into four segments for these years: 1910-29, 1930-39, 1940-44, and 1945-49. You should begin your research with file numbers:

711.51 -- Franco-United States Relations  
851.00 -- French Political Affairs  
851.20 & 851.30 -- French Military Affairs  
851.50 -- French Economic Affairs

**Except for 1940-44, all of these records are available on microfilm. Researchers can examine the film in our microfilm research room during regular business hours.**

**THE CENTRAL DECIMAL FILE, (1950-63 SEGMENTS) [ARC ID: 302021]**

In 1950 the Department revised the Central File and the numerical designations for Japan change. The File is divided into three segments for these years: 1950-54, 1955-59, and 1960-63. You should begin your research with file numbers:

611.51 -- Franco-United States Relations \*  
751.00 -- French Political Affairs \*  
751.5 -- French Military Affairs \*  
851.00 -- French Economic Affairs

**\* Records for the years 1950-54 are available on microfilm. Researchers can examine the film in our microfilm research room during regular business hours.**

**THE SUBJECT-NUMERIC FILE, 1963-73 [ARC ID: 580618]**

In February 1963, the Department adopted a new filing scheme that is radically different from the preceding file. This filing scheme extended through July 1973. There are eight primary subject classes and each primary class has between 3 and 19 secondary subject classes. Within each

secondary class the records are arranged by country. The entire File is divided into four segments: 1963, 1964-66, 1967-69, and 1970-73. You may wish to begin your research with these subject classes: Economic (E); Finance (FN); Foreign Trade (FT); Labor & Manpower (LAB); Strategic Trade Control (STR); Defense (DEF); and Politics (POL). The following table provides the box numbers for these subject classes in each time segment.

	1963	1964-66	1967-69	1970-73
E	3376	711-712	614-615	744-745
FN	3432-3433	857-860	750-754	879-881
FT	3477	1002-1003	907-908	1067
LAB	3581	1294-1295	1235-1237	1399-1400
STR	3639	1432-1433	1405-1406	1539-1541
DEF	3721-3723	1625-1631	1542-1545	1734-1736
POL	3907-3913	2168-2189	2088-2105	2270-2280

<http://www.archives.gov/research/foreign-policy/state-dept/finding-aids/rg-59-france.pdf>