

**RECORDS RELATING TO GERMANY 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 German international political relations and German 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:

711.62 -- German-United States Relations  
862.00 -- German Political Affairs  
862.20 & 862.30 -- German Military Affairs  
862.50 -- German Economic Affairs

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

In 1950 the Department revised the Central File changing the numerical designations. The File is divided into three segments for these years: 1950-54, 1955-59, and 1960-63. Germany's division after World War II complicates the filing scheme. While there are some files pertaining to Germany as a whole (country number A62"), most of the records are filed under either the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) or the German Democratic Republic (East Germany). You should begin your research with the following files:

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY**

611.62A -- West German-U.S. Relations  
762A.00 -- West German Political Affairs  
762A.5 -- West German Military Affairs  
862A.00 -- West German Economic Affairs

**GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

611.62B -- East German-U.S. Relations  
762B.00 -- East German Political Affairs  
762B.5 -- East German Military Affairs  
862B.00 -- East German Economic Affairs

**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. In this file there are also records for both Germanys. You may wish to begin your research with these subject classes: Economic (E);

Finance (FN); Foreign Trade (FT); Strategic Trade Control (STR); Defense (DEF); and Politics (POL). The Subject-Numeric File also contains a substantial amount of material pertaining to the city of Berlin for the years 1964-73, especially in the Economic (E) and Politics (POL) categories, as well as a small amount of material pertaining to Germany as a whole. The following list provides the box numbers for the subject classes listed above for both Germanys and Berlin in each time segment.

**THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (WEST GERMANY)**

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964-66</u>	<u>1967-69</u>	<u>1970-73</u>
E	3404	713-714	616-618	745-746
FN	3455	860-863	755-760	882-887
FT	3494-3494	1004-1008	917-922	1067-1073
STR	3650-3652	1433-1436	1406-1409	1541-1544
DEF	3768-3769	1632-1635	1545-1548	1736-1737
POL	4140-4145	2207-2231	1968-1987	2296-2322

**THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC -- (EAST GERMANY)**

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964-66</u>	<u>1967-69</u>	<u>1970-73</u>
E	3375	713	616	745
FN	3431	860	755	882
FT	3476	1003-1005	917-918	1067-1068
STR	3639	1433	1406	1541
DEF	3719	1632	1545	1736
POL	3893	2201-2206	1965-1968	2294-2303

**BERLIN**

	<u>1964-66</u>	<u>1967-69</u>	<u>1970-73</u>
E	713	615-616	745
POL	1859-1863, 2197-2200	1961-1964	2284-2294

**Note:** Files pertaining to Germany as a whole precede those pertaining to Berlin.

**Many of these records are available on microfilm. Researchers can examine the film in our microfilm research room during regular business hours.**

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