

**RECORDS RELATING TO THE RYUKYU ISLANDS (OKINAWA) AMONG THE
GENERAL RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE (RG 59) 1945-73:
A SELECTED LIST**

The following is an overview of the most important files pertaining to the Ryukyu Islands among the records files of the Department of State. 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, 1945-63 [ARC ID: 302021]

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

1945-49

Information pertaining to the Ryukyus assumed importance only after World War II when the United Nations gave the United States responsibility for administering the islands. There is no file designation specifically for the Ryukyus during these years; information is widely dispersed throughout files pertaining to Asia in general. The richest file is:

890.0146 -- Territories in Asia Occupied by Foreign Military Forces

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 created a file designation specifically for the Ryukyu Islands (country number "94C"). 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:

794C.00 -- Political Matters in the Ryukyus

794C.0221 -- Territory Occupied by Foreign Military Forces

794C.5 -- Military Matters in the Ryukyus

894C.00 -- Economic Matters in the Ryukyus

711.56394C -- American Military Bases in the Ryukyus

THE CENTRAL FOREIGN POLICY (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: Defense (DEF); and Politics (POL). The following list provides the box numbers for these subject classes for each time segment.

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964-66</u>	<u>1967-69</u>	<u>1970-73</u>
DEF	3737	1674	1617	1790-1791
POL	4029	2625-2627	2456-2461	2570-2574

NOTE: There is substantial information pertaining to the Ryukyu Islands among the Department's central file relating to Japan for the years 1945-73. After examining the files in this report, researchers should consult the report on Japan to identify starting points for research in those files.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICE FILES

In addition to the central file, the records of the Department's offices are significant files after 1945. While there are records relating to the Ryukyus dispersed throughout files of the Bureau of Far Eastern Affairs, researchers should pay particular attention to:

Entry 1340 [ARC ID: 2127221] -- Subject Files Relating to the Ryukyu Islands, 1952-58. Boxes 13-14. 250/49/19/07

Entry 3069 [ARC ID: 1934643] -- Subject and Country Files, 1941-62. Boxes 2-4. 250/62/22/07

OTHER RECORDS

Researchers should also plan to examine the following record groups that contain a significant amount of material pertaining to the Ryukyus: RG 126, Office of Territories; RG 260, U.S. Occupation Headquarters, WWII (especially the records of the United States Civil Administration, Ryukyu Islands, USCAR); RG 273, the National Security Council; and RG 319, Records of the Army Staff.

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