

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS
PAMPHLET DESCRIBING M354

**Records of the
Department of State
Relating to
Political Relations
Between Germany
and Other States
1910-1929**



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are from

General Records of the Department of State

Record Group 59

in the National Archives

RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RELATING TO POLITICAL RELATIONS BETWEEN
GERMANY AND OTHER STATES
1910-1929

On the 4 rolls of this microfilm publication are reproduced the records from the decimal file of the Department of State, 1910-29, that relate to political relations between Germany and other states. The records, consisting of bound volumes and unbound documents, are mostly instructions to and despatches from diplomatic and consular officials; the despatches are often accompanied by enclosures. Also included in these records are notes between the Department of State and foreign diplomatic representatives in the United States, memorandums prepared by officials of the Department, and correspondence with officials of other Government departments and with private firms and persons. The List of Documents or "purport sheets" reproduced on roll 1 give brief abstracts of the documents reproduced in this microfilm publication and serve as a finding aid to the documents themselves. The arrangement of the entries on these lists generally corresponds to the arrangement of the documents in the file.

From 1910 to 1963 the Department of State used a decimal system for its central files, assembling and arranging individual documents according to subject and assigning decimal file numbers. The decimal file consists of nine primary classes numbered 0 through 8, each covering a broad subject area. The records reproduced in this microfilm publication are in Class 7, Political Relations of States. Each country has been assigned a two-digit number. The country numbers assigned to Germany and to Austria for example, are 62 and 63, respectively. Thus the documents bearing the file number 762.63 concern political relations between Germany and Austria.

When two country numbers are used in a single file number, the lower number is the controlling one and precedes the decimal point; the number after the decimal point must be higher. Most of the documents reproduced in this microfilm publication concern relations between Germany and those countries assigned a number higher than 62. Documents on relations between Germany and countries having a number lower than 62 would be among records for the other country; for example, those on relations between Germany (62) and France (51) would be filed under 751.62. Documents relating to German relations with other countries in general, however, are filed under 762.00 and are included in this microfilm publication.

When one or more digits follow the second country number, they represent a specific subject. This number, in turn, may be followed by a slant mark (/). In such cases the numbers after the slant mark were assigned to individual documents as they

were accumulated on a specific subject. For example, a decimal file number taken from a document reproduced in this microfilm publication is 762.632/65. The number 2 following the country number for Austria (63) signifies that the subject is commerce and navigation and the number after the slant mark indicates the number of documents on this subject.

The documents under one subject classification are generally in chronological order, coinciding with the document number assigned (which follows the slant mark). There are instances, however, when a document file number was not assigned until a date considerably later than the one on which the document was received.

Cross-reference sheets referring to related records under other subject classifications in the decimal file have been reproduced as they occur, and appropriate cross-reference notations appear in the Lists of Documents. Other cross-reference notations are to documents in the "numerical file," a system used for the central files of the Department of State for the period 1906-10. The checkmarks that appear by most entries in the left-hand column of the Lists of Documents indicate that the papers are in the file; entries without marks, it is believed, refer to documents that were not among the records when they were received from the Department of State.

Some of the documents that have been checked in the Lists of Documents do not appear in this microfilm publication. The file contains security-classified documents and communications received from and classified by foreign governments and Federal agencies, in addition to those classified by the Department of State. Documents that have not been declassified are not available as part of this microfilm publication. The National Archives and Records Service does not have authority to make reproductions of such documents available to searchers.

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication are part of the records in the National Archives designated as General Records of the Department of State, Record Group 59.

In the same record group are several diplomatic correspondence series containing additional documents on relations between Germany and the United States. They are copies of instructions from the Department of State to U.S. Ministers to all countries, 1808-33 (rolls 2-8 of M77), and to U.S. Ministers to the German States and Germany, 1835-1906 (rolls 65-72 of M77); notes to foreign ministers and consuls in the United States from the Department, 1793-1834 (rolls 1-5 of M38), and notes to the Legation of the German States and Germany in the United States from the Department, 1834-1906 (rolls 27-34 of M99); despatches from U.S. Ministers to the German States and Germany to the Department, 1799-1906 (M44); and notes from the Legation of the German

States and Germany in the United States to the Department, 1816-1906 (M58). Also related to matters concerning the German States and Germany are communications to special agents of the United States from the Department, 1823-86 (rolls 152 and 154 of M77).

Despatches from U.S. consular officials in the German States and Germany are available as separate microfilm publications for each post with varying date spans between 1790 and 1906. Complementary to the despatches are instructions to consuls.

The arrangement of the diplomatic and consular series cited above was discontinued in 1906, when the Department of State adopted the practice of filing incoming and outgoing correspondence, memorandums, and other documents by subject in a single numerical series. Information on documents relating to Germany for the 1906-10 period may be found through the use of card indexes and Lists of Documents in the National Archives.

Among the records in the same record group in the Department of State decimal file, 1910-29, are three other series regarding German affairs that are closely related to the records reproduced in this microfilm publication. One is another series in Class 7, which concerns political relations between the United States and Germany (M355). Another, also in Class 7, concerns World War I and its termination (M367), and the third is a series in Class 8, which relates to the internal affairs of Germany (M336).

Additional documents are in the remaining classes of the Department of State decimal file as follows:

- Class 0. General. Miscellaneous.
- Class 1. Administration, Government of the United States.
- Class 2. Extradition.
- Class 3. Protection of Interests.
- Class 4. Claims.
- Class 5. International Congresses and Conferences.
Multi-lateral Treaties. League of Nations.
- Class 6. Commerce. Customs Administration. Commerical
Relations, Treaties and Conventions.
Commerical and Trade Agreements.

In Records of the Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State, Record Group 84, are records originally kept at U.S. diplomatic and consular posts. Among these are records of the U.S. Legation (later Embassy) in the German States and Germany and of consular posts in those States.

Other records relating to Germany are in Records of Boundary and Claims Commissions and Arbitrations, Record Group 76,

concerning the agreement regarding Samoa, 1899, and the Mixed Claims Commission of the post-World War I period.

Other related records may be found in Records of the Office of Alien Property, Record Group 131, and in Records of the American Commission To Negotiate Peace, Record Group 256.

National Archives Collection of Foreign Records Seized, 1941- , Record Group 242, includes records of the Foreign Ministry and other German Government agencies. Microfilm publications of many of these records are in the National Archives.

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication were prepared for filming by Ralph E. Huss, who wrote these introductory remarks and provided the other editorial material.

RollFile Number and DescriptionGreece

762.68 - 762.682/7

General; treaty of commerce and navigation, 1928.

Rumania

762.71 - 762.7112

General; decision of the Mixed German-Rumanian
Arbitration Court, 1925.Bulgaria

762.74 - 762.7421/2

General; treaty regarding judicial relations, 1926;
German-Bulgarian consular treaty, 1925.Liberia

762.82 - 762.82113/1

General; treaty of war, peace, friendship, and
alliance; treaty regarding enemy property.Egypt

762.833

Extraterritoriality.

Ethiopia (Abyssinia)

762.84/1-2

General.

Syria

762.90d

General.

Afghanistan

762.90h - 762.90h11/2

General; treaty of friendship.

4

Iran (Persia)

762.91 - 762.919Establishment/5

General; treaty of friendship and alliance; treaty
of commerce and navigation; treaty of extraterri-
toriality; treaty of establishment.Siam

762.92 - 762.922/18

General; treaty of commerce and navigation.

China

762.93 - 762.932/3

General; treaty of peace, 1922; German extension of
Kiaochow, 1910; treaty of commerce and navigation;
extraterritoriality.Japan

762.94 - 762.942/14

General; treaty of commerce and navigation.