

Politics in Occupied Western Europe, 1940-1945



“The scope of the collection is vast, and it is difficult to describe its contents briefly without doing an injustice either to the quantity or the quality of the material in it.”

— Professor Roy A. Austensen, Illinois State University (on the microfilm version)

Part of our unprecedented *Gale Digital Collections, Conditions and Politics in Occupied Western Europe, 1940-1945* is an authoritative collection of primary source materials on life in Europe under Nazi occupation. These unique materials, from the The National Archives, London, were the working papers of the British Foreign Office, and cover a wide range of issues related to the hostile, occupied and neutral states of continental Europe throughout World War II.

Invaluable to historians, *Conditions and Politics in Occupied Western Europe, 1940-1945* includes first-hand reports, including ambassadorial dispatches, representations of foreign diplomats, telegrams, letters from British diplomats abroad, memoranda, minutes and news cuttings revealing a complex web of information sharing and appraisal as the British government sought to understand local sentiment and the political and social conditions in both occupied and neutral countries.

An essential resource for research in international relations, propaganda, intelligence gathering and the cultural history of warfare, *Conditions and Politics in Occupied Western Europe, 1940-1945* provides 24/7 access to these rare materials, making them available to all researchers. Among the events and perspectives documented in the collection are:

- German attempts to win over important groups in occupied countries
- The reaction to, and effect of, the German occupation
- The propaganda struggle in both occupied and neutral Europe

FEATURES:

- Fully searchable digital collection of more than 22,000 items from approximately 1,000 British Foreign Office files
- Introductory essay by Michael Stenton, Clare Hall, Cambridge and thematic essays by leading scholars on key subjects
- Full search functionality and the ability to print and/or e-mail items
- Athens and Shibboleth authentication
- Six browseable indexes facilitate research (Foreign Office file number, persons, organisations, senior officials, document type, language)
- Multimedia elements, including photographs, maps, illustrations, plans and sketches, as well as an excerpt from the film “Now it can be told” from the Imperial War Museum, London
- Links to related Web resources
- Usage statistics
- Free training and technical support
- And much more

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- Collaboration in France and the emergence and growing success of resistance
- The repercussions of the German invasion of Russia
- The plight of the Jews — suppression, emigration, concentration camps
- Emigration to Palestine: policy and practice
- Normal diplomatic information from neutral countries whose access to Europe played a vital role in the creation of the Allies' policies
- And many others

In addition to the Foreign Office papers and commentaries, *Conditions and Politics in Occupied Western Europe, 1940-1945* also includes an introductory essay and specially commissioned thematic essays by leading scholars with direct links to primary source documents. These essays provide a scholarly analysis of some of the important issues and offer an accessible introduction to the collection for researchers.

Foreign Office reports were gathered from diplomatic posts in Barcelona, Lisbon, Geneva, Tangier, Berne and Stockholm. The reports were then discussed by various departments within the Foreign Office. This additional analysis is also included, providing historians with criticism and commentary on these Foreign Office reports from other Ministries and departments.

Conditions and Politics in Occupied Western Europe, 1940-1945 offers history researchers investigating the conditions in Europe during World War II a unique source of invaluable information collected from the British Foreign Office and is essential for studies in 20th century British and European History, studies in World War II and international politics.

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