

Afghanistan and the U.S., 1945-1963: Records of the U.S. State Department Classified Files

Peer into the mountains, villages and cities of mid-20th century Afghanistan, and find a window of understanding into the nation of today.

- Date Range: 1945-1963
- Content: 9,674 pages
- Source Library: U.S. National Archives

7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Relations: Bi-Lateral Treaties, United States And Afghanistan, August 26, 1952 - February 1953, 1952
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	August 26, 1952 - February 1953, 1952
COLLECTION	Afghanistan and the U.S., 1945-1963
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, United States And Trans-Jordan, Other Relations, Other Bi-Lateral Treaties, May 22, 1952
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	May 22, 1952, 1952
COLLECTION	Afghanistan and the U.S., 1945-1963
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, United States And Afghanistan, Commercial And Navigation, January 2, 1953
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	January 2, 1953, 1953
COLLECTION	Afghanistan and the U.S., 1945-1963
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Political, United States And Afghanistan, Canadian Functions, Commercial, January 4, 1953
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	January 4, 1953, 1953
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Political, United States And Afghanistan, War, Peace, Friendship, Alliance, Non-Association, Commemorative Incident To World War II Recorded Under 702.00, January 2, 1953
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	January 2, 1953, 1953
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Relations: Bi-Lateral Treaties, United States And Afghanistan, June 7, 1953; July 5, 1953
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	June 7, 1953 - June 7, 1953, 1953
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Relations: Bi-Lateral Treaties, United States And Afghanistan, February 8, 1953
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	February 8, 1953, 1953
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Relations: Bi-Lateral Treaties, United States And Afghanistan, July 12, 1953
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	July 12, 1953, August 16, 1953, 1953
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Relations: Bi-Lateral Treaties, United States And Afghanistan, November 9, 1953
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	November 9, 1953, 1953
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 711.8994, Political Relations Of States, Relations: Bi-Lateral Treaties, United States And Afghanistan, April 17, 1954
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Political Relations: U.S. and Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	April 17, 1954, November 14, 1954, 1954
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 8901.0245, Internal Affairs Of States, Judicial Branch Of Government, Laws, Statutes, Ordinances, Decrees, Codes, Proceedings, Afghanistan, Colonial, January 27, 1949
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	January 27, 1949, 1949
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 8901.0245, Internal Affairs Of States, Public Health, Sanitation, Hospital Services, Afghanistan, Sanitary Examinations, February 25, 1949
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	February 25, 1949, 1949
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 8901.0245, Internal Affairs Of States, Agriculture, Food Crops, Seeds, Sugar, Cattle, Poultry, Afghanistan, Sugar, Beef, February 26, 1949
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	February 26, 1949, 1949
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 8901.0245, Internal Affairs Of States, Agricultural, Food Crops, Seeds, Sugar, Cattle, Poultry, Afghanistan, Sugar, Beef, February 26, 1949
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	February 26, 1949, 1949
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 8901.0245, Internal Affairs Of States, Special Member Of Citizens Or Residents Of Afghanistan Not Otherwise Classified, Arrivals, Afghanistan, April 28, 1949
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	April 28, 1949, 1949
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7114	Central File, Declassified File 8901.0245, Internal Affairs Of States, Entertainment In Afghanistan, Afghanistan, Re The Society Of Its Officers, New York, Recreation, May 27, 1949; June 1, 1949
SOURCE	Records of the Department of State relating to Internal Affairs: Afghanistan, 1945-1963
DETAILS	May 27, 1949 - June 1, 1949, 1949
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Afghanistan's history, internal political development, foreign relations and very existence as an independent state have largely been determined by its location at the crossroads of Central, West and South Asia. From antiquity to modern times, vast armies of the world passed through Afghanistan, temporarily establishing local control and often dominating Iran and northern India.

Growing influence and impact

Although it was the scene of great empires and flourishing trade for more than 2,000 years, Afghanistan did not become a truly independent nation until the 20th century – and for much of that century it remained neutral. Afghanistan did not participate in World War II, for instance, nor did it align with either power bloc during the Cold War. However, the country was a beneficiary of the Cold War rivalry as both the Soviet Union and the United States vied for influence by building such infrastructure works as roads, airports, water and sewer systems and hospitals.

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