THE RUSSIAN ARCHIVES

New and Recent Collections

PRIMARY SOURCE MICROFILM™

THOMSON GALE™

The Russian Archives

The Napoleonic Wars, 1805-1815 NEW

From the Military Science Archive at the Russian State Military History Archive (RGVIA)

The Napoleonic Wars are one of the most famous and most studied episodes in modern European history, yet Russia's role has drawn little attention or serious study in the West. Now — with the recent opening of the Russian Military History Archive — scholars may fully explore Russia's part in these crucial events.

This collection from the Military History section (Voenno-Uchenyy Arkhiv/VUA) contains the rich core of the Archive's holdings on the Napoleonic era, presenting a huge mass of documents, mostly military but also political and diplomatic. It includes the official and private correspondence of the Emperor Alexander, of the Minister of War, and of the key generals. This correspondence features the official battle and campaign reports of units of varying size, from corps to regiments, but it also offers more ephemeral correspondence between Russian commanders, allowing scholars to trace how operations developed through Russian eyes and without the benefit of hindsight.

Rare insight for scholarly exploration

This collection also provides intelligence reports from before and after the 1812 campaign. It has a number of key position papers on logistics and requisitioning, on fortification of Russia's borders, on the topography of various regions in which the army fought, and on Russian grand strategy and campaign plans at various moments in the struggle against Napoleonic France.

Included in the archive is also a mass of day-to-day correspondence on the crucial questions of how the army was recruited, trained, fed and supplied before and during campaigns, which sometimes took regiments thousands of miles from their bases.

Within this archive there are a number of individual smaller collections, including those made by General Mikhailovsky-Danilevsky for his histories and by the General Staff itself for the anniversary celebrations and publications in 1912. These collections often include unpublished memoirs and notes of participants in the wars, which are of great value. They contribute to a collection of immense richness, undoubtedly the world's largest and — until now — barely touched source of new materials on the Napoleonic era.

92 reels

Russo-Japanese War, 1904-1905 NEW

From the Military Science Archive at the Russian State Military History Archive (RGVIA)

The Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905 marked the first major defeat of a European power by an Asian power in the modern era. Tsarism's humiliation on the Pacific was the first in a series of convulsions that would ultimately topple the Romanov dynasty. The confrontation in Manchuria, with its enormous land battles involving the use of trenches, artillery barrages, and machine gun fire, heralded many of the murderous innovations of World War I. For these reasons, the conflict that pitted Eurasia's largest land empire against the rising East Asian power is one of the pivotal events of the 20th century.

Contemporaries in the West paid a great deal of attention to the Russo-Japanese War; journalists, military attachés and others wrote scores of books about the dramatic events in the East that enjoyed a wide readership in the immediate aftermath of the conflict. Yet with the outbreak of the Great War less than 10 years later, interest in the confrontation slowed to a trickle, and it remained a backwater of military history for much of the previous century. While Russians continued to study the war, much of what they published was heavily distorted by political imperatives, especially during the Soviet era.

Rich archives explore forgotten history

The approaching centenary of the Russo-Japanese War and the increasing attention paid to conflicts outside of Europe is reviving interest worldwide in this historical landmark. Until very recently those studying Russia's role have had to rely on secondary accounts, most of which are

either dated or tainted by propaganda. But with the easing of restrictions on scholarship, the most important primary source — the rich archive of the tsarist army itself — have become accessible. And now the holdings of the Military History section, the crown jewel of the tsarist army's archives of the Japanese War, have been microfilmed.

In the wake of Russia's defeat against Japan, the Military History section (Voenno-Uchenyi Arkhiv or VUA) gathered a mass of documents to provide the primary source base for the General Staff's official multi-volume history of the war. Although the focus is on the military, the collection also contains much important material dealing with politics and international relations, as well as the Trans-Siberian Railway.

As a conflict involving more than a 100,000 troops fighting some 8,000 kilometers from the imperial capital, the war's logistical challenges were immense. The Military History section also holds records about the railways, road transport and provisioning in the field. Material about fortifications and operations in the rear are also included.

Another major challenge to the tsarist armies in the East was morale. The political turmoil that ravaged the imperial capital and the countryside in 1905 was paralleled on the front by railway and telegraph worker strikes, revolutionary agitation, mutinies, and an armed rising in the Siberian city of Chita. These events are also well represented in the collection.

This microfilm collection will prove to be the basic primary source about Russia's role in its war against Japan. It will be of tremendous importance to scholars of Russian and East Asian history, as well as military history and international relations.

Approx. 200 reels

The Papers of Prince Gregory Potemkin

From the Russian State Military History Archive (RGVIA)

This superlative collection for scholars of Russian history and armed forces contains diverse documents from the most prominent Russian political and military leader of the 18th century. G. A. Potemkin-Tavricheskiy (1739-1791) is generally considered to have been the foremost minister of Catherine the Great. Potemkin's major role in Russia's internal and external policies, as well as the broad array of issues that came under his jurisdiction, explain the wide range of documents in his archive and make it a collection of the first rank.

Catalogue No. 1, the bulk of the collection, features documents from Potemkin's military field office. It also contains files pertaining to Potemkin's term of duty in the Russian-Turkish war of 1768-1774, the Novorossiisk expedition, Potemkin's General Term of Duty (1783), the General Term of Duty of the Yekaterinoslavl Army (1788), and the General Term of Duty of the Combined Army. Documents outside the collection's main time period, dating after 1792 as well as between 1655-1760, make the collection unique.

This collection includes journals of outgoing documents, official documents, and decrees of Catherine II, the Senate, the Synod, and the Military Collegium. Issues covered include conditions and inspection results of the armed forces; composition of military detachments; transportation and provisions for the troops; military personnel records; management of state gunpowder and cloth mills; and armed forces stationed in the Novorossiisk, Azov, and Astrakhan provinces.

The majority of documents are handwritten manuscripts but there are also printed and cartographic materials. The collection contains documents in French, German, Polish, Greek, Italian, Arabic, Farsi, Armenian and Georgian. Files are catalogued in the numerical order of the printed catalogue, mostly chronologically, with some deviations.

253 reels in two parts

Voice of the People under Soviet Rule NEW

From the People's Archive of Moscow

The People's Archive was established in December 1988 on the initiative of a group of professors and students of the Moscow State Historico-Archival Institute. The People's Archive focuses on materials inadequately represented in official state archives from the 18th century to the present, such as unofficial social organizations, political parties, religious and ecological organizations, and private documents of individual citizens not normally acquired by state archives.

Its leading collection concerns documentation of personal origin with over 270 fonds of personal papers and family archives, most of which focus on little-known individuals and include diaries, memoirs, photographs and extensive personal correspondence. The People's Archive also holds several hundred thousand letters to the editors of various newspapers and magazines that otherwise would have not been preserved.

Approx. 90 reels

The Cold War and the Central Committee

From the Russian State Archive of Contemporary History (RGANI)

Created in 1991, the Russian State Archive of Contemporary History is the archive of the Central Committee (CC) of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), the governing body of the U.S.S.R.

Series 1: The International Department, 1953-1957

The files of the International Department of the Central Committee document Soviet foreign policy decision-making during the time of Nikita Khrushchev's consolidation of power.

126 reels

Series 2: The General Department of the Central Committee, 1953-1966

The collection covers the years from Stalin's death through the Khrushchev era and into the first years of the Brezhnev regime and contains the reports, memoranda, agendas and records of deliberation involving a broad range of Soviet policy.

118 reels

Series 3: Congresses of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, 1955-1986

Fond 2, Opisi 1,3,5

This collection contains the full records of the Party Congresses of the CPSU from 1955 through 1986. Included are the 20th through the 27th Congresses in, respectively, 1956, 1959, 1961, 1965, 1971, 1976, 1981 and 1986. Not only does the collection provide the full record of deliberations but also, significantly, relevant protocols, agendas and supporting documentation.

196 reels and 701 fiche

Series 4: Plenums of the Central Committee of the CPSU, 1941-1990

Fond 1, Opisi 2-9

This collection documents the plenums of the Central Committee of the CPSU from the Stalin era until the demise of the Soviet Union and provides the record of debate and the highest level of documentation for both foreign and domestic policies of the Soviet Union.

181 reels and 656 fiche

The Soviet Censuses of 1937 and 1939

From the Russian State Archive of the Economy (RGAE)

This is the first full publication of the long suppressed Soviet censuses of 1937 and 1939. In 1936, Joseph Stalin told I.A. Kraval, the head of the agency preparing to conduct the first national census since 1926 — the Central Economic Accounts Administration — that the new census should report 170 million, a significant increase over the 147 million in 1926. But the census takers results showed a total national population of only 162 million and revealed that nearly half of the population was religious. Stalin denounced the census as a "wrecker's census" and those who took it were either imprisoned or shot. A new census showed 162 million, but the census takers, mindful of their predecessors' fate, reported 170 million. Understandably, the actual aggregate figures were immediately classified and remained so until the 1990s.

The two censuses offer a remarkable statistical portrait of Soviet society. Not only are the catastrophes of collectivization, famine and "The Great Terror" quantified, but also the immense ethnic, racial, cultural and religious diversity of the Soviet Union is documented.

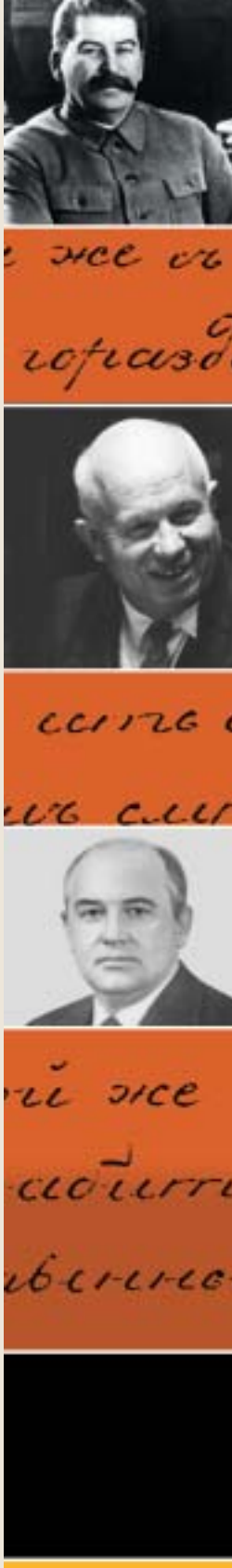
319 reels

The Russian Peasantry on the Eve of Collectivization: The Dynamic (Cluster) Censuses of Peasant Farms, 1920's

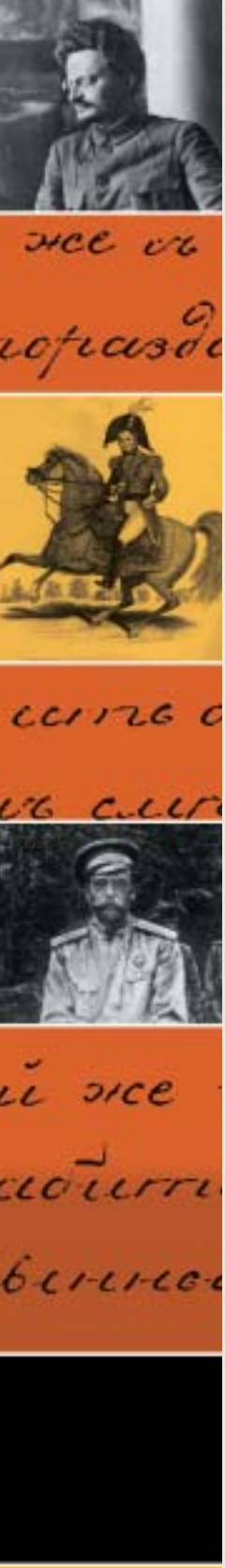
From the Russian State Archive of the Economy (RGAE)

The archival documentation found within this collection offers clear examples of how dynamic censuses were undertaken by the Russian zemstvo — local councils of self-government. This publication offers an unprecedented opportunity for scholars in social and economic history, political science and sociology, demography and geography to study the social development of the early Soviet period.

278 reels, available by year



For a printed guide to each collection, contact your Sales Representative



The Intercepted Correspondence of Russian Revolutionaries from the Special Department of the Police, 1906-1917

From the State Archive of the Russian Federation (GARF)

This key collection of intercepted correspondence offers unique insights into the logistics, organization and temperament of the socialist uprising, and of the police efforts to infiltrate and thwart insurrection.

Researchers will be able to explore crucial details of theory, planning and influence from original, previously unseen letters that were intercepted and analyzed by the Department of Police, the central agency of the state police in the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

175 reels

The Military Papers of Leon Trotsky, 1918-1925

From the Russian State Military Archive (RGVA)

The full archive of Trotsky's correspondence, accumulated during the time of his military leadership, is presented here for the first time. Rich in military and political significance, this voluminous and diverse collection includes telegrams, letters, articles and speeches.

71 reels

Institute of Economics of the Communist Academy, 1921-1937

From the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ARAN)

For the Soviet Union, the 1920s and 1930s were years of convulsive economic activity, including implementation of the New Economic Plan (NEP); revival of the Russian economy; ideological battles to succeed Lenin; the abandonment of NEP; the process of collectivization; the rise of Gosplan; and the Five Year Plans. Charged with producing and expounding the academic justifications for the socialist economy, the Institute of Economics of the Communist Academy faced the task of imposing the theories of Stalinist economics on Soviet education. The collection includes the documentation of the intellectual debates regarding NEP and Stalinist economics and contains correspondence, records of meetings, academic papers, statistical reports, printed works and ephemera.

74 reels

The Papers of the White Army, 1918-1921

From the Russian State Military Archive (RGVA)

The counter-revolutionaries, opposed to the Bolsheviks during the Russian Civil War of 1918-1922, drew strength from across the political spectrum. The Whites included all shades of anti-Communist opinion, from Czarists to Socialist Revolutionaries, and posed a deadly threat to the Bolshevik regime. During the first stages of the Civil War, the Whites scored notable victories and at times seemed poised to overthrow the Reds. However, poorly supplied, united only by opposition to Bolshevism, lacking a unified command, and forced to fight on exterior lines of communication, the Whites suffered savage defeats. By the end of 1920, they had been effectively defeated.

This important collection, which contains both documents captured by the Bolsheviks during the war and those obtained by Soviet authorities after the fighting ceased, offers scholars an unprecedented opportunity to examine the nature and history of the White opposition. Included are papers of the White high command, including those of Kolchak, Savinkov, Alekseev, Kornilov and Denekin. Other sections of the collection deal with White occupation policy and governance. Particular attention is paid to the White's ineffective and oppressive response to ethnic aspirations and national independence movements.

71 reels

The Papers of the Red Army: Political and Internal Intelligence Reports, 1918-1938

From the Russian State Military Archive (RGVA)

From the time of its establishment, the Red Army served the particular political needs of the Soviet state. During the Civil War (1918-1921), the army conducted extensive intelligence operations not only of counter-revolutionary forces but of their own ranks as well. This recently declassified collection contains unfiltered, unedited intelligence reports — many of them handwritten — from Red Army operatives throughout the country. Included are traditional operational and intelligence reports and evaluations. Of particular interest are the political intelligence reports. These contain surveys of civilian attitudes and assessments of the mood and circumstances of Red Army troops. These reports provide extraordinary opportunities for the scholar to examine the nature of the Soviet military's apparatus of surveillance, as well as the extent and nature of opposition, both small and large, to the Communist regime.

76 reels

ALSO FROM *THE RUSSIAN ARCHIVES*

Association of Workers of Revolutionary Cinematography

From the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art (RGALI)

This collection presents an array of written materials from the Association of Workers of Revolutionary Cinematography (AWRC), the proletarian organization established and maintained by leading Soviet filmmakers. The collection includes correspondence, memoranda, notes and minutes of meetings and the organization's periodicals.

14 reels

MOSFILM, 1938-1945

From the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art (RGALI)

The largest and most prestigious Soviet film studio during the era of the "Great Patriotic War" was Mosfilm in Moscow. It was in this premier studio that many of the landmarks in Russian cinema were imagined and produced. The collection includes correspondence, memoranda, scripts and shooting scripts.

12 reels

The Meyerhold Theatre, 1920-1938

From the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art (RGALI)

This landmark collection offers a treasure trove of full manuscripts, records, stage directions, correspondence, notebooks, costume designs and ephemera from Vsevolod Meyerhold — one of the most influential stage producers and directors of the 20th century.

165 reels

Soviet Genetics

From the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ARAN)

Documenting the transformation of Russian genetics, this publication contains the records of experimentation and the personal papers of the leading scientists as well as the documents and records of the scientific institute. It contains the full archives of the following scientists: T.D. Lysenko, I. Prezent, O.V. Lepishinsakaya, Kh. S. Koshtoyants, N.K. Kol'tsov, M.M. Zavadovskii and O.V. Serebrovskii. This valuable resource will be of tremendous interest to those researching the history of science, geneticists and historians of "The Great Terror."

188 reels, available by scientist

OF RELATED INTEREST

Newspapers from the Russian Revolutionary Era

Describing events leading up to and including the overthrow of the Russian Empire, this significant collection makes available rare holdings of Russian newspapers from Columbia University's Herbert Lehman Library and other major sources. Among the 100 titles provided here are Journal de St. Petersbourg (1873-1908), Russkia Viedomosti (1904-1914), and Drug (1906-1907). These newspapers and 97 others, covering the years 1873-1927, detail almost every facet of the Revolution.

458 reels

Russian Revolutionary Literature

Based on the holdings of Harvard University's Houghton Library and supplemented with valuable materials from other sources, this collection offers more than 1,000 books, broadsides and pamphlets by both anonymous and well-known authors in and around Russia.

47 reels

PRIMARY SOURCE MICROFILM™

In the U.S. and Canada
Gale
12 Lunar Drive
Woodbridge, CT 06525-2398
Tel: 800-444-0799
Fax: 203-397-3893
E-mail: sales@gale.com

Outside the U.S. and Canada
Gale
50/51 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4LR U.K.
Tel:+44 (0) 20 7067 2500
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7067 2600
E-mail: international@gale.com

Japan
Yushodo Co. Ltd.
29, San-ei-cho,
Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo
160-0008 Japan
Tel: +81 3 3357 1411
Fax: +81 3 3351 5855
E-mail: sales@yushodo.co.jp

THOMSON GALE™

All trademarks and registered names are used herein under license.

GML25002 MSP/SM 11/02

For more information, visit www.gale.com/psm