

The Royal Institute of International Affairs press cuttings collection (1924-1939)

an index to the microfilm collection

compiled by the RIIA, with a preface by Catherine
Hume, Head of Library and Information Services

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Main Street
East Ardsley
Wakefield WF3 2AP
United Kingdom
map@microform.co.uk
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**The Royal Institute of International Affairs Press Cuttings Collection
(1924 – 1939)**

Preface by Catherine Hume

The RIIA

The Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA), also known as Chatham House, was established in 1920 to provide an independent forum for discussion, debate and research on current international issues. RIIA aims to facilitate the study of international questions and promote the exchange of information, knowledge and thought on international affairs. The RIIA library was established in 1921, to act as a core activity of the Institute. It rapidly became the principal library in the country specialising in post 1918 international affairs.

The staff of the Institute began to select, index and cross reference newspaper articles in 1924, initially to resource the annual *Survey of International Affairs*, under the supervision of Dr Arnold Toynbee. As the historical value of collecting newspaper articles was recognised, the source base extended rapidly from 4 newspapers in 1924 to around 20 in 1939. The collection includes all major aspects of international affairs, and how they affect all states, peoples and international organisations at both governmental and non-official levels in the spheres of politics, economics, finance, diplomacy, the law, and to a lesser extent social and cultural aspects. In addition, the internal politics, economy and security considerations of all countries was also included to provide vital background and context to the conduct of their external relations.

Organisation of the Material

Initially arranged in annual sequences by subject, the press cuttings have been extensively edited for microfilming to make them more accessible to researchers. They have been filmed in three date sequences: 1924-1929 (covering Reels 1-128), 1930-1934 (covering Reels 129-311) and 1935-1939 (covering Reels 312-512). Within each of these sequences the files are arranged alphabetically in the following groups:

1. Geographic/political areas: large entities such as the British Empire and the Far East; world and regional powers including Germany and the USA; individual states from Afghanistan to Zanzibar.
2. Great Britain: domestic political and economic affairs and all foreign relations with the countries and regions listed above.
3. International organisations such as the League of Nations and the Permanent Court of International Justice; all significant topics in international affairs of the period, including reparations and war debts, disarmament and refugees.

For ease of use, each section is individually referenced with the reel number and the appropriate sub-section, for example:

China Foreign policy (general) 1930	193.11
China Foreign policy (general) 1931	193.12

indicates that cuttings on broad Chinese foreign policy for 1930 and 1931 can be found on Reel 193, in Sections 11 and 12.

Also to assist the research, groups of the cuttings have been filmed more than once to provide self-contained sequences. For example, Italy – Great Britain is contained on Reel 214, in Section 13 under Italy and is repeated on Reel 284, in Section 13 under Great Britain – Italy.

The RIIA press cuttings collection (1924-1939) : list of newspapers covered

Country	Title	Period covered
Austria	<i>Arbeiter Zeitung</i>	1932
	<i>Neue freie Presse</i>	1930-1936
	<i>Neues Wiener Tageblatt</i>	1929
	<i>Reichspost</i>	1935-1938 (till Sep 30)
	<i>Voelkischer Beobachter</i>	1938 (Oct 1)-1939 (Feb 28)
	<i>Wiener neuste Nachrichten</i>	1938 (Jan 1-Apr 5)
Britain	<i>Daily express</i>	1939 (from Sep 1)
	<i>Daily herald</i>	1929-1931, 1935-1939
	<i>Daily telegraph</i>	1929-1939
	<i>Daily worker</i>	1939 (from Sep 1)
	<i>Financial news</i>	1931-1939
	<i>Manchester guardian</i>	1926-1939
	<i>Morning post</i>	1929-1930
	<i>News chronicle</i>	1935, 1937 (from Jul 12)-1939
	<i>The Observer</i>	1927-1939
	<i>The Sunday express</i>	1939 (from Sep 3)
	<i>The Sunday times</i>	1932-1933, 1937-1939
Czechoslovakia	<i>The Times</i>	1924-1939
	<i>Prager Presse</i>	1930-1939 (till Apr 6)
France	<i>Die Zeit</i>	1936 (Sep 19)-1938 (Sep 14)
	<i>La dépêche de Toulouse</i>	1927-1928, 1936
	<i>Echo de Paris</i>	1927-1928
	<i>L'Oeuvre</i>	1935-1937, 1939 (till Mar 1)
	<i>Le populaire</i>	1932-1936 (till Jan 31)
Germany	<i>Le Temps</i>	1924-1939
	<i>Berliner Tageblatt</i>	1931-1938
	<i>Deutsche allgemeine Zeitung</i>	1924, 1939 (from Feb 1)
	<i>Frankfurter Zeitung</i>	1925-1939
	<i>Voelkischer Beobachter</i>	1932-1939
Greece	<i>Vorwärts</i>	1927-1928
	<i>Journal des Hellènes</i>	1927-1928
	<i>Messenger d'Athènes</i>	1929-1937, 1939 (till Feb 28)
Hungary	<i>Pester Lloyd</i>	1929-1939
Italy	<i>Corriere della Sera</i>	1924-1937
	<i>Giornale d'Italia</i>	1935-1939 (till Nov 13)
	<i>Popolo d'Italia</i>	1938-1939 (till May 3)
Japan	<i>Popolo d'Italia</i>	1932-1934
	<i>Japan chronicle</i>	1936 (weekly ed.)
Netherlands	<i>Gazette de Hollande</i>	1927-1928
Poland	<i>Messenger polonais</i>	1927-1929
Romania	<i>Excelsior (weekly)</i>	1936, 1937 (Oct 30-Dec 31)
South Africa	<i>Cape Times</i>	1927-1928
Switzerland	<i>Journal de Genève</i>	1930-1934
	<i>Journal des nations</i>	1935-1938 (till Oct 7)
	<i>Journal des nations</i>	1939 (Jun 9-Sep 21) (weekly ed.)
	<i>Neue Zürcher Zeitung</i>	1938 (from Oct 9)-1939 (excl. Apr 3-Aug 27)
	<i>Christian Science monitor</i>	1927-1928
USA	<i>The New York Times</i>	1925, 1930-1939
	<i>United States daily</i>	1926-1932
	<i>Journal de Moscou</i>	1937 (Jun 8-Dec 31), 1939
USSR	<i>Moscow news</i>	1936-1937, 1939 (Jan 1-31)

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<i>Daily herald</i>	1929-1931, 1935-1939
<i>Daily telegraph</i>	1929-1939
<i>Daily worker</i>	1939 (from Sep 1)
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<i>Excelsior (weekly)</i>	1936, 1937 (Oct 30-Dec 31)
<i>Financial news</i>	1931-1939
<i>Frankfurter Zeitung</i>	1925-1939
<i>Gazette de Hollande</i>	1927-1928
<i>Giornale d'Italia</i>	1935-1939 (till Nov 13)
<i>Japan chronicle</i>	1932-1934
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<i>Sunday Times</i>	1932-1933, 1937-1939
<i>Le Temps</i>	1924-1939
<i>The Times</i>	1924-1939
<i>United States daily</i>	1926-1932
<i>Voelkischer Beobachter</i>	1932-1939 (German ed.)
<i>Voelkischer Beobachter</i>	1938 (Oct 1)-1939 (Feb 28) (Austrian ed.)
<i>Vorwärts</i>	1927-1928
<i>Wiener neuste Nachrichten</i>	1938 (Jan 1-Apr 5)
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