

NEWSLETTER

The British International History Group

under the auspices of the British International Studies Association

Forthcoming Conferences

The Democratic Powers and the Challenge of the Right in Europe

29-30 June 2006

An international conference to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War entitled 'The Democratic Powers and the Challenge of the Right in Europe, 1933-1939', will take place at the University of Salford, on 29-30 June 2006. The keynote lecture will be given by Professor Paul Preston (London School of Economics): 'The Spanish Conflict, 1936-1939: A Battlefield in the European Civil War'. The programme will also include papers as follows: Professor Glyn Stone (University of the West of England, Bristol): 'Italo-German-Portuguese Collaboration in the Spanish Civil War, 1936-1939'; Dr Miklos Lojko (Eötvös Lorand University, Budapest): 'British Views on the Hungarian Arrow Cross and the Romanian Iron Guard, 1936-1939'; Professor Alan Cassels (McMaster University): 'Mussolini and the Axis: A Two-fold Strategy, or How to Make Friends with Mussolini and Influence Hitler'; Professor Anthony Adamthwaite (University of California at Berkeley): 'The French Connection and the Spanish Civil War Revisited'; Dr Gaynor Johnson (University of Bolton), 'The British Government, the League of Nations and the Rise of Fascism in Europe, 1933-1939'; Mr Stephen Dorril (University of Huddersfield), 'Universal Fascism: Sir Oswald Mosley and His Relationship with Hitler and Mussolini'; Dr Dominic Tierney (Harvard University): 'FDR and the Last Great Cause: US Foreign Policy and the Spanish Civil War'; Professor Bill Keylor (Boston University): 'Between Appeasement and Resistance: The Roosevelt Administration's Initial Response to Nazi Foreign Policy Revisionism'. There will also be a visit to the Imperial War Museum North, at Salford Quays. For further details contact Dr Gaynor Johnson, (GJ1@bolton.ac.uk) or Debbie Hughes (D.Hughes1@salford.ac.uk).

War without Limits: Spain 1936-1939 and Beyond

17-19 July 2006

The 10th annual conference of the Group for War and Culture Studies in association with the Bristol Institute for Research in the Humanities and Arts, entitled 'War without Limits: Spain 1936-39 and Beyond' will take place at the University of Bristol between 17-19 July 2006. The aim of this three-day, international conference is to

explore the international social, political, military and cultural history of this conflict from 1936 to the present. The organisers therefore welcome proposals for papers on any aspect of the conflict from established scholars or postgraduates working in a range of disciplines including, for example, social, political and cultural history, military history and war studies, intellectual history, cultural memory, literary studies, art history, photography, media studies, film studies. The Keynote speakers are: Professor Paul Preston (London School of Economics), Professor Helen Graham (Royal Holloway, University of London) and Dr Michael Richards (University of the West of England, Bristol). For further information contact Dr Martin Hurcombe at: M.J.Hurcombe@bristol.ac.uk or Professor Debra Kelly at: kellyd@westminster.ac.uk

Re-assessing Suez Fifty Years On

26 July 2006

This conference is to be hosted by the University of Hull's Maritime Historical Studies Centre, Blaydes House, High Street, Hull. The nationalization of the Suez Canal in 1956 triggered one of the gravest international crises since the Second World War. The fiftieth anniversary of the Suez crisis in 2006 presents an ideal opportunity to re-visit and re-assess this seminal episode in post-war history. Moreover, at a time when the Middle East once again holds the world's attention, a re-examination of Suez, and its contemporary relevance, is particularly appropriate. Papers will be presented on all aspects of the Suez crisis, its causes and consequences, including the international context and repercussions of Suez and domestic perspectives. For details contact: Dr Simon C. Smith, Department of History, University of Hull, Hull, HU6 7RX or email s.c.smith@hull.ac.uk or telephone 01482 465172 (office) 01482 466126 (fax).

BIHG Conference

7-9 September 2006

The Eighteenth Annual Conference of the British International History Group will be held at the University of Greenwich, London, on the campus of the former Royal Naval College. The local organiser is Dr Paul Wingrove. As in previous conferences papers will be presented in panels arranged around a range of subjects for any period in International History, including:

Inter-State Diplomatic Relations; State Foreign Policy; History of International Relations; Military History (Including strategic issues); Intelligence and/or Propaganda; International Organisations or Institutions; Inter-Imperial Relations; and International Economic Relations. In addition there will be two keynote addresses by guest speakers, a plenary session on The Rhineland Crisis: Seventy Years After and the Annual General Meeting of the Group. The conference programme and booking form will be available from June onwards.

BISA Conference

18-20 December 2006

The annual conference of the British International Studies Association will be held at University College Cork, Ireland, between 18-20 December 2006. The International History Panel will be arranged around the theme 'Anglo-American and Anglo-Soviet Relations in the Twentieth Century'. The conference programme and booking form will be available in October.

R e c e n t C o n f e r e n c e s

BIHG Annual Conference

8-10 September 2005

The seventeenth annual conference of the British International History Group was held at Peterhouse, Cambridge, and attended by eighty five delegates which was the highest attendance recorded since the first conference in 1988. The guest keynote speakers were Dr Zara Steiner of the University of Cambridge and Professor Erik Goldstein of Boston University. Dr Steiner spoke on the subject of 'World War II and Memory' while Professor Goldstein spoke on 'From the Adriatic to the Gulf: Britain's Forays in the Footprints of the Ottoman Empire'. The plenary session was devoted to a presentation and discussion on 'Gallipoli: Ninety Years After'. The presentation was made by Professor Keith Jeffrey of The Queen's University, Belfast. Exceptionally, members of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office made a presentation of the Electronic *Documents on British Policy Overseas* which will become available from 2006. In addition, the following papers were presented on a wide range of subjects in International History: 'Cherchez la Femme: Princess Lieven and Anglo-Russian Antagonisms, 1822-1834' (John Charmley, University of East Anglia); 'Parisian Habits of a British Foreign Secretary: Malmesbury and Napoleon III' (Geoff Hicks, University of East Anglia); 'Britain and the Return of the General: revisiting the May 1958 Crisis' (Chris Goldsmith, De Montfort University); 'Anglo-French Relations: Détente and Britain's Second Application to join the EEC' (Helen Parr, University of Keele); 'The Quai' d'Orsay in 1954: Allies and Crises' (Rogelia Pastor-Castro, University of Strathclyde); 'Great

Britain and the Polish –Lithuanian War-Scare Crisis, March 1938' (Lutz Oberdörfer, University of Griefswald); 'Robert Cecil and the Fascist Dictators' (Gaynor Johnson, University of Bolton); 'Commons, Chamberlain and the Alternatives to Appeasement, 1936-1939' (Andrew Stedman, Kingston University); 'Cordell Hull and the Transformation of United States Economic Foreign Policy' (David Woolner, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute); 'Anglo-American Atomic Intelligence Relations, 1945-1958' (Michael Goodman, King's College, London); 'The Nixon Administration and the Cienfuegos Crisis, 1970' (Asaf Siniver, University of Nottingham); 'Sleeping Partners? Lytton, Granville and the Mirage of an Austrian Alliance' (Thomas Otte, University of East Anglia); 'The Recovery of Pre-eminence: British Foreign Policy in the 1870s' (William Mulligan, University of Glasgow); 'Lord Salisbury and Anglo-French Relations, 1878-1880' (Catherine Armstrong, University of East Anglia); 'Tragic Soviet Diplomacy?: Moscow's Bid to end the Cold War in Europe, 1953-1955' (Geoff Roberts, University College Cork); 'Politics of Disengagement: the U.S.S.R., the U.S. and the Soviet-Afghan War, 1979-1991' (Saki Dockrill, King's College, London); 'Delimiting Southern Albania: Ethnography and Power Politics, 1912-1914' (Nicola Guy, University of Durham); 'A Figure of Sinister Influence (J.M. Keynes)? Lord Sumner and Reparations at the Paris Peace Conference, 1919' (Antony Lentin, The Open University); 'Britain and the London Naval Conference, 1930' (Christopher Bell, Dalhousie University); 'A Lost Opportunity: British Intelligence and the German Opposition, 1938-1944' (Paul Winter, University of Cambridge); 'Strategy, Security and Signals Intelligence: Ultra and the Allied Defence of Crete, 1941' (Rob Hall, University of Nottingham); 'Allies under Surveillance: Swedish Counter-Espionage and National Security, 1942-1945' (Pia Molander, University of Exeter); 'Germany, Japan and the Idea of Encirclement' (Nigel Brailley, University of Bristol); 'Russo-Japanese Rivalry over the Korean Buffer at the beginning of the 20th Century' (Seung young-Kim, University of Aberdeen); 'The Anglo-Japanese Alliance and the Russo-Japanese War, 1904-1905' (Antony Best, London School of Economics); 'Ireland, Neutral or Non-Belligerent, 1939-1945' (Mervyn O'Driscoll, University College Cork); 'Integration and Disintegration: Maltese Incorporation into the U.K. and its Failure' (Simon Smith, University of Hull); 'Kulok! Kulok!: German Gun-Running in Ireland, February 1917' (Jerome aan de Wiel, University of Rheims); 'Captain G.F. Gracey and the Legacy of the First World War in Iraq and the Caucasus' (John Fisher, University of the West of England, Bristol); 'The Assassination of Sir Lee Stack in Cairo, 1924: The British Lion's Final Roar?' (Jayne Gifford, University of the West of England, Bristol); 'An International Historian at an International Bank (USB AG)' (Christian Leitz (USB AG, Zurich); 'Mary Derby, Count Shuvalov and the Great Far Eastern Crisis, 1875-1878' (Bendor Grosvenor, University of East Anglia);

'The Life, Death and After-Life of Sir Austin Layard, 1848-1894 (-1915)' (Saho Matsumoto-Best, Nagoya University); 'The Dardanelles and the Bosphorous in Anglo-Russian Relations, 1904-1907' (Keith Wilson, University of Leeds); 'The Fall of France to Potsdam: Britain's Relations with Turkey, 1940-1945' (Nicholas Tamkin, University of Cambridge); 'The Foreign Office Economics Section and the Appeasement of Nazi Germany' (Helen Johnson, University of Oxford); 'From Pacifism to War: Public Opinion and Foreign Policy in France, 1936-1939' (Dan Hucker, University of Wales, Aberystwyth); 'Change or Continuity?; British Foreign Policy, March 1938 to March 1940' (Andrew Crozier, Queen Mary, London); 'Britain and the Sale of Arms to Finland, 1936-1940' (Glyn Stone, University of the West of England, Bristol); 'Keeping Control of the Commonwealth: From Quasi-Consular Relations to Formal Arrangement, 1963-1972?' (Radziah Abdul Rahim, University of Keele); 'Trusteeship: The History of an Idea in International Society' (Will Bain, University of Wales, Aberystwyth).

Association Internationale d'Histoire Contemporaine de l'Europe Conference on 'Aristide Briand: La Société des Nations et l'Europe, 1919-1932'

13-15 October 2005

A conference on 'Aristide Briand: La Société des Nations et l'Europe, 1919-1932' was held at the Sorbonne, Paris, from 13-15 October 2005. This conference was organised by the Association Internationale d'Histoire Contemporaine de l'Europe, a group which may be of interest to the members of BIHG. Several British, American and Canadian scholars spoke at the conference, as well as speakers from France and other continental European countries. The keynote address was by Robert Boyce (London School of Economics) on 'Briand et le monde de l'après-guerre'. He was followed by John Keiger (University of Salford) on 'Briand and Lloyd George 1921-22', and by a round table presenting the recently published *Documents Diplomatiques Française de 1921*, under the general editorship of Professor Jacques Bariéty, who is president of the Association. The next session was on the military dimension – Peter Jackson (University of Wales, Aberystwyth), Admiral Contenson, Lieutenant Colonel Porte, Jérôme de Lespinois and Commandant Petitjean, all associated with the Service Historique de la Défense at Vincennes. It was followed by a session on the Treaty of Locarno, with papers from Maria Zmierczak (University of Poznan) on Poland, Antoine Marès (University of Paris I) on Czechoslovakia, Antoine Balance (University of Liège) on Belgium, Alexandre Reviakine (Moscow University) on Chicherin, and Andrew Barros (University of Montreal) on Germany.

Friday morning had two sessions; one on 'la paix par le Droit' with Peter Krueger (University of Marburg) discussing German aspects, Michel Guieu (University of Paris I) on French jurists, Normal Ingram (Concordia

University – Montreal) on pacifists, Carole Fink (Ohio State University) on the League of Nations and the minorities question; followed by one on intellectual and spiritual forces – intellectual cooperation at the League of Nations by Jean Jacques Renoliet, the Holy See by Philippe Chenaux (Lateran, Rome), Louise Weiss by Christine Manigand (University of Poitiers) and the Institute of education cinema by Christina Giuntella (Perugia University). Friday afternoon also had two sessions. The first was devoted to economic and social topics, with papers on economic diplomacy by Laurence Badel (University of Paris I), on the 1927 economic conference by Eric Bussière (University of Paris IV), on international cooperation by Sylvain Schirmann (University of Strasbourg III), on Albert Thomas and the ILO by Dzovinar Kevonian (University of Paris X), and on the Bank of International Settlements by Olivier Feiertag (University of Rouen). The second had papers by Antoine Fleury (University of Geneva) and Lubor Jilek (University of Geneva) on the Rome Agricultural Institute, Alexander Tchoubarian (Moscow University) on Stalin's reaction to the Briand plan and Stephen Schuker (University of Virginia) on the United States' reaction to it. Saturday morning saw two round-table discussions, the first on Briand's collaborators at the Quai d'Orsay in the 1920s, the second on Briand's heritage today.

As can be seen from the above, conferences organised by the Association Internationale de l'Histoire Contemporaine de l'Europe involve the participation of eminent scholars from many countries of Western Europe, Russia, Britain, Canada and the United States. It is also responsible for editing and publishing works on international aspects of European history since 1870: these include the proceedings of conferences organised by the association and also monographs. It also produces a newsletter (bulletin d'information) with information about conferences and other developments of interest to historians of international affairs. Established in 1968, it has since 1982 been affiliated to the International Committee of Historical Sciences and thus holds a conference at every quinquennial meeting of the World Historical Congress. Other conferences are held from time to time. Individual memberships costs 20 euros per annum, payable to the treasurer, Professor Christian Baechler, Strasbourg, France (Christian.Baechler@umb.u-strasbg.fr). Further information about the Association can be obtained from the secretary, Professor Antoine Fleury, Institute Européen de l'université de Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland (Antoine.Fleury@lettres.unige.ch).

David Watson

Journals

History (ISSN 0018 2648)

Joseph Smith, the Editor of *History* and a member of the BIHG Committee, would welcome manuscripts on all historical topics. BIHG members might note that recent issues have included articles related to diplomatic history, including: Paul Sonnino, 'From D'Avaux to Devot: Politics and Religion in the Thirty Years' War' (April 2002); Roderick McLean, 'Kaiser Wilhelm II and the British Royal Family: Anglo-German Dynastic Relations in Political Context, 1890-1914' (October 2001); Andrew Roadnight, 'Sleeping with the Enemy: Britain, Japanese Troops and the Netherlands East Indies, 1945-1946' (April 2002). Dr Smith can be contacted via the Department of History, University of Exeter, Exeter, Devon EX4 4RJ. Email: Joseph.Smith@exeter.ac.uk

eJournal of International History (ISSN 1471-1443)

The editors of the *eJournal of International History (eJIH)* welcome and encourage articles on any aspect of the history of relations between states and societies. The journal aims to promote an understanding of the breadth, depth and policy relevance of international history by examining how the politics, societies, economies and traditions of countries have shaped and influenced international relations since c. 1500.

Exploiting the technological opportunities presented to the new generation of scholars, eJIH is an innovative publication, available only over the internet and free of charge to its readers. The advantage to scholars is the relative immediacy of the electronic medium. Once an article has been submitted, refereed by three external peer experts, and redrafted as necessary, the accepted article will be available on-line. The eJIH is an RAE approved publication. It can be found on the Institute of Historical Research (IHR) website at: <http://history.ac.uk/publications/ejihmnu.html>

The editors welcome contributions from historians working on a wide range of areas, for example:

- Traditional diplomatic questions
- Bilateral or multilateral relations between states
- Domestic political and cultural dimensions to foreign policy
- Studies of conflict and confrontation and particular crises
- Alliances and international organisations
- Foreign trade, to include economic relations and economic diplomacy
- Cultural relations
- Military and intelligence issues
- Propaganda, information policy and psychological operations
- The development of international law

- Ethical concerns, such as, the impact of technological change
- Historiographical debates

The preferred article length is not more than 10,000 words. Contributions should be sent in the first instance to: Institute of Contemporary British History (eJIH), Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1A 7HU. E-mail: icbh@icbh.ac.uk Contributions should be in the form of e-mail or disk, preferably Microsoft Word 2003 or derivatives

Editors: Antony Best, London School of Economics and Political Science; Larry Butler, University of East Anglia; Kate Morris, King's College London (Joint Services Command and Staff College); Glyn Stone, University of the West of England, Bristol; John Young, University of Nottingham.

Editorial advisory Board: Professor Roy Bridge, University of Leeds; Professor Michael Dockrill, King's College, London; Professor Gill Edwards, American University, Cairo; Professor Wolfgang Krieger, Philipps-Universität, Marburg; Professor William Roger Louis, University of Texas at Austin; Professor Brian McKercher, Royal Military College, Ontario; Professor Gordon Martel, University of North British Columbia; Professor Maurice Vaisse, University of Paris; Professor Donald Cameron Watt, London School of Economics and Political Science.

Review of International Studies (ISSN 0260 2105)

The *Review of International Studies* (Cambridge University Press) is the official journal of the British International Studies Association (BISA) the parent body of BIHG. The journal's scope is wide ranging both in terms of subject matter and method. It is designed to serve the needs of students and scholars interested in every aspect of international studies, including the political, economic, philosophical, legal, ethical, historical, military, cultural and technological dimensions. The current editor is Professor David Armstrong of the University of Exeter and manuscripts (9,000-12,000 words including footnotes) should be submitted by electronic mail (ris@exeter.ac.uk) and two hard copies also sent to The Editor, Review of International Studies, Department of Politics, University of Exeter, Amory Building, Exeter EX4 4RJ.

Diplomacy and Statecraft (ISSN 0959 2296)

The Editor of *Diplomacy and Statecraft* (Taylor Francis), Professor Erik Goldstein, welcomes articles on all aspects of International/Diplomatic History. Manuscripts and editorial correspondence should be sent to Erik Goldstein, Department of International Relations, Boston University, 152 Bay State Road, Boston MA 02215, USA. Email: goldstee@bu.edu or Jan Melissen, Netherlands Institute of International Relations 'Clingendael', PO Box 93080, 2509 AB The Hague, The Netherlands. E-mail: jmelissen@clingendael.nl

8. British Library of Political and Economic Science, London School of Economics (LSE).

For many international historians, the LSE library represents as familiar a research resource as The National Archives (TNA) at Kew. Moreover, when I began my doctoral research at LSE during the late 1960s, FO371 and FO800 files were only a short walk away in Chancery Lane at The National Archives, then known as the Public Record Office.

Today, LSE's library, located in a recently modernised building, gives the international historian open access to a wide range of books, academic journals, official British and foreign publications, and edited volumes of diplomatic documents. The library houses also a vast collection of circa 90,000 pamphlets - the catalogue includes a separate listing of international history pamphlets - available to order from the library counter. Hitherto, the library's Archives and Rare Books section, located on the basement floor, has proved perhaps a somewhat under-used research resource as far as most international historians are concerned. Yet the holdings, dating mainly from the last quarter of the nineteenth century, are surprisingly extensive. They cover modern British political, economic and social history as well as the history of the social sciences, as recorded through the papers of Reginald Bassett, Michael Oakeshott and Sir Charles Webster, among others. Specific exclusions in the Archives' collecting policy are literary and scientific manuscripts as well as military and local history.

From personal experience, several collections offer illuminating, even essential, perspectives upon a range of international history topics, most notably British foreign policy during the twentieth century as well as such events as the Spanish Civil War, the Abadan dispute (1951), the Suez Crisis (1956), and the Rhodesian UDI issue. Hitherto, one of the most used sources has been Hugh Dalton's diary. Quiet apart from its value to those studying diaries as a historical research source, the entries inform studies of the Labour Party in both opposition and power. For example, they outline Dalton's efforts during the late 1930s to transform the party's approach to foreign policy in order to offer a realistic alternative to Chamberlain's policy of appeasement. The diaries prove equally useful during the immediate post-1945 period when Dalton's commentary adds colour and depth to the minutes of Cabinet meetings contained in CAB128 files. Yet again, the impression of ministerial unity underpinning official minutes is shown to be at variance with the reality of Cabinet divisions and serious personality clashes. Indeed, in one diary entry Dalton described Herbert Morrison as

Britain's worst foreign minister in living memory. Although Ben Pimlott's selections from Dalton's diaries remain essential reading (*The Political Diary of Hugh Dalton, 1918-40, 1945-60: 1986*), such edited works tend to omit material relevant to certain research topics. For example, researchers wishing to read Dalton's revealing record of the crucial Cabinet meeting (27 Sept.1951) in the 1951 Anglo-Iranian Abadan dispute - Morrison's hawkish stance elicited minimal support from his Cabinet colleagues - will need to visit the LSE archive (see Hugh Dalton's Diary, Pt.1/42, fols.20-21, 27 Sept.1951), since this diary entry was not selected by Pimlott for inclusion in his book. Nor is Dalton's writing always easy to decipher, thereby suggesting the need to allow extra time for reading the diaries.

Users of the British Diplomatic Oral History Programme (DOHP) collection at the Churchill Archives Centre - the series was outlined in previous issues of this newsletter (Peter Beck, 'The British Diplomatic Oral History Programme: old diplomats "drooling about their youth" or a major new source for international historians?', BIHG Newsletter, no.9, 2002, pp.4-5; Gaynor Johnson, 'British Diplomatic History Programme', BIHG Newsletter, no.11, 2005, p.8) - will be aware of the research value of interviews with former British officials. In this vein, the transcripts available at the LSE Archives in the British Oral Archive of Political and Administrative History (BOAPAH) series (1979-80) should be seen as leading the way, most notably providing fuller coverage than the DOHP transcripts of the decades immediately following the Second World War. Moreover, unlike the DOHP, the BOAPAH includes the testimony of former ministers, like Douglas-Home and "RAB" Butler, as well as officials.

In brief, the BOAPAH was a pilot project conducted by Anthony Seldon during 1979-80 with the support of the Social Science Research Council: 'The aim of the project was to collect a systematic oral archive of interviews with key figures from politics, the civil service and the armed forces'. Interview tapes were transcribed, corrected by the interviewee, and retyped into a fair copy. Although the principal focus was placed upon the post-1945 period, transcripts often touch upon the interwar years. For example, the lengthy interview with Lord Sherfield (formerly Roger Makins) looks back to 1938, when he contemplated emulating Eden's resignation. In the event, he stayed on, and recalls working at the League of Nations in Geneva while the Munich Conference was taking place. Even so, the transcript is most detailed on the post-1945 period, such as regarding the Foreign Office's response to postwar realities; the link between policy and power; British attitudes to continental Europe

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and the USA; and the Suez dispute. The interview transcript establishes also the value of oral testimony in furnishing informed comment upon the attitudes and role of specific ministers and senior officials.

Finally, it seems worth highlighting the typed notes of interviews conducted between 1958 and 1975 by Alistair Hetherington (1919-99) in support of his work for the *Manchester Guardian*, where he was assistant editor and foreign editor (1953-56) and editor (1956-75). Interviews range widely across both domestic and international developments, including Rhodesia, African independence, Vietnam, and Britain's EEC negotiations. Interviewees include Labour Party leaders (Hugh Gaitskell, Harold Wilson and Jim Callaghan) as well as Jo Grimond, their Liberal Party counterpart.

CHIEF HOLDINGS

A selective listing of holdings indicates the archive's research possibilities:

Political parties: Independent Labour Party (1880s-1970s); Liberal Party (1912-88); Liberal Democrats (1930-2000);

Politicians, including party leaders, ministers and MPs: Vyvyan Adams (1900-51); Paddy Ashdown (1941-); Arthur Bottomley (1907-95); Tony Crosland (1918-77); Hugh Dalton (1887-1962); Hugh Jenkins (1908-2004); George Lansbury (1859-1940); Reg Prentice (1923-2001); Emanuel Shinwell (1884-1986); Peter Shore (1924-2001); David Steel (1938-); George Wigg (1900-83);

Trade Unionists: Walter Citrine (1887-1983);

Diplomats: Sir Colville Barclay (1869-1929);

Journalists/cartoonists: Sir Gerald Barry (1898-1968); Sir David Low (1891-1963); Edmund Morel (1873-1924);

Academics/historians: Reginald Bassett (1901-65); Michael Oakeshott (1901-90); Richard Tawney (1880-1962); Richard Titmuss (1907-73); Sir Charles Webster (1886-1961); Martin Wight (1913-72);

Organisations: Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND); League of Nations Union (LNU); United Nations Association (UNA); the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (1915-17);

Oral testimony: British Oral Archive of Political and Administrative History (BOAPAH) (1979-80) - interviewees include Derick Heathcote Amory (1899-1981); R.A. Butler (1902-82); David Ormsby-Gore (1918-85); Alec Douglas-Home (1903-95); Sir Ian Jacob (1899-1993); Lord Inchyra (Frederick Hoyer Millar) (1900-89);

Sir Edward Playfair (1909-99); and Lord Sherfield (Roger Makins) (1904-96).

BRIEF DETAILS:

- **New readers** wishing to use the Archives should bring some form of identification containing their name and address and, if they are postgraduate students, evidence of their status and postgraduate course. First, report to the main Library reception desk and indicate your wish to use the Archives. You will then be issued with a day ticket for the library. First-time users of the Archives Reading Room are asked to complete a registration card.
If you have a LSE Library card already, enter the library as usual, and then register with the Archives.
- Researchers are strongly advised not only to contact the Archivist before an initial visit but also to make an appointment to use the archive.
- Before your visit, check the conditions of access to the collection(s) to be consulted. There are informative online details and finding aids to individual holdings, which may be closed (Ashdown's papers are subject to a 20-year closure), partly closed (e.g. Peter Shore), or require prior permission for consultation (e.g. David Steel; Lord Sherfield's BOAPAH transcript). Some collections have been partly or wholly microfilmed (e.g. George Lansbury).
- **Copying** – photocopying and other reprographic services are available. Not all collections are suitable for all types of copying. Current charges for photocopies are 25 pence (plus VAT) per copy, with a 10% administrative charge on orders over £10. Orders are completed quickly.
- **Pencils** – only pencils and laptops can be used in the Reading Room. No pens are allowed. Digital cameras are allowed (subject to signing a copyright declaration), but scanners are prohibited.
- **Ordering documents** – retrieval times prove fairly quick, except during lunch time when there are hourly fetches.
The deadline for ordering documents for same day delivery is 1630 hours (Monday - Friday). Items ordered by telephone, post, fax or email should be requested at least one day in advance. Orders can only be accepted if the exact reference is given.
- **Cloakroom** – Although the main library has no cloakroom facilities (the lockers, previously located near the library entrance, are no longer available), the Archives Reading Room includes a cloakroom for coats and bags.

- **Opening hours** – Like other details, these must be confirmed prior to your visit. also the amended times in vacations and the closure dates for public holidays. Only a limited service is provided after 16.30 hours and on Saturdays.

Mondays to Thursdays 10.00-20.00 hours;

Fridays 10.00-17.00 hours.

Saturdays 11.00-18.00 hours
(term-time and Easter
Vacation only).

- **The LSE Library** – the Archives section is located on the basement floor in the library, whose longer opening hours mean that relevant books, journals and pamphlets can be consulted during your archival visit.
- **Accommodation** – In the Summer vacation, accommodation for singles, twins and triples is available at halls of residence operated by LSE and other London university colleges. Currently LSE's halls of residence offer accommodation from £28-31 per night. Only limited accommodation is available in the Christmas and Easter vacations. There are numerous hotels, but generally high costs suggest the prudence of a vacation visit.
- **Food** – The Plaza Cafe just outside the library entrance is very convenient for tea and coffee, while LSE's campus offers a range of food and drink outlets. Surrounding streets contain numerous bars, restaurants, takeaways and etc.
- **Transport** – LSE has a central London location near Aldwych, the Strand, Covent Garden, Kingsway, Lincoln's Inn and Fleet Street. Numerous buses pass near LSE (see LSE website). Nearby underground stations (5-15 minutes walk) include Holborn (Piccadilly and Central lines), Temple (District and Circle lines), and Charing Cross (Jubilee, Northern and Bakerloo lines). The nearest British Rail stations (10-20 minutes walk) are Waterloo, Charing Cross and Blackfriars. Traffic is heavy and car parking difficult and costly.
- **Disabled Access** – The LSE library has lifts to the Archives' basement location. Detailed maps outlining access arrangements are available on LSE's website. See the internet addresses in the travel section.
- **Location of LSE** – maps and directions are available on LSE's website (see internet addresses below)

CONTACTS:

Archives and Rare Books, British Library of Political and Economic Science, LSE

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10 Portugal Street
London WC2A 2HD

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Email: Document@lse.ac.uk

INTERNET ADDRESSES

LSE Archives

Home Page:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/Default.htm>

Online catalogues and finding aids:

<http://archives.lse.ac.uk/Dserve.exe?dsqServer=lib-4.lse.ac.uk&dsqApp=Archive&dsqCmd=Index.tcl>

<http://library-2.lse.ac.uk/archives/OnlineIntro.htm>

Information for New Users:

http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/Arranging_your_visit.htm

Travel

'Finding your way around LSE'

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/mapsAndDirections/findingYourWayAroundLSE.htm>

'How to get to LSE' by rail, tube, buses & etc.

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/mapsAndDirections/howToGetToLSE.htm>

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/mapsAndDirections/travellingToLSE.htm>

Disabled access:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/hocaiusthli/supdisuse.htm>

Accommodation

Vacation bookings:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/vacations/>

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Inside the Russian Archives

Geoffrey Roberts, University College Cork

Before the fall of communism the best place to do research on Soviet history was the United States. The Soviet archives were by and large closed and western scholarship was mostly based on public sources: speeches, newspaper articles, published documents and the like. The great Russian research centers at Columbia, Harvard, Princeton and Stanford were amply endowed with these materials, although those in London, Birmingham, Glasgow and Oxford were not far behind. All that changed in the 1990s when the Russian archives were opened to foreign scholars and vast swathes of documentation was declassified and made accessible. For those of us who began working on Soviet history during the communist era this was a dream come true. We had never imagined we would see the inside of a Russian archive, let alone be able to scrutinise the originals of archive documents or hold in our hands the actual files of Soviet decision-makers.

My first archive trip to Moscow was in 1996 (courtesy of a sabbatical from UCC) and I was able to work on a number of interesting files in the foreign ministry archive (known by its Russian acronym as MID) on wartime Soviet diplomacy. But already the talk among scholars was that the golden era of archival access was over. In the years that followed many documents were reclassified as still secret and whole series of files were withdrawn from public scrutiny. In the MID archive restrictions were placed on the types of files that could be seen by foreign scholars. Working conditions in the archives became more difficult. The main party archive in Moscow reduced its working hours to little more than three half-days a week, while the foreign ministry archive banned computers (not that I ever used one myself). Obtaining photocopies continued to be costly and time-consuming and now there was the added fear that the document might be withdrawn by the authorities if you expressed an interest in copying it. There was no choice except to grit your teeth and take detailed notes. The Presidential Archive, the most important archive for materials on high-level politics during the Soviet era, remained firmly closely to foreign scholars.

Speculation on the reasons for these archival restrictions was and is a constant topic of conversation among scholars. Partly, it is a matter of politics, of both the patriotic and Soviet kind. Most of the archivists' careers began in the Soviet era and their natural tendency is to restrict access if they can. For others, more important is resentment of the well-heeled foreign scholars flooding

into Moscow while Russian academics and archivists lived in penury (but things have improved in the booming Putin era). Sometimes commercial considerations play a role, with deals being done (usually by American publishers) to close files until the juiciest documents have been published. Often the problem is that the archivists are unsure of the value of the material they guard and fear to take a decision that might inadvertently present a foreign scholar with documents they shouldn't be allowed to see. A typical tactic, therefore, is to keep you waiting in the hope that you will eventually go away, or to fob you off with files containing previously published material. This latter tactic can misfire, however. I was given files containing the transcripts of the wartime meetings between Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin. These transcripts had been previously published, but, it turned out, with a number of important omissions and distortions – which I was now able to identify and publish myself!

Having said all this, it is still possible to go to Moscow and secure access to good material. On my last research trip in 2004 I saw a number of important files on Soviet foreign policy in the period immediately after Stalin's death in 1953. In this instance it was probably a case of persistence pays. I have been to the MID archive every year since 1996 and am quite well-known there. I also had some prominent supporters in the Russian scholarly community who lobbied the archivists to give me some files to look at. On the other hand, I only got to see files that had been previously scrutinised by Russian scholars, but since no other foreign historians had looked at these files, I didn't mind too much.

Fifteen years after the fall of communism the best place to do research on Soviet history is once again the United States. One reason is that scholars have begun to re-assess and re-appreciate the old public sources that we all used to make do with. Indeed, the more research you do in Russian archives the more aware you become that most of what you want to know about Soviet history can be discovered in the newspapers. As one of my colleagues has put it, the biggest secret of the Soviet archives is that there is no secret. Most of what was decided, done and talked about took place in full public view. There were confidential processes, of course, – secrecy was an obsession of the Soviet system – but the public and private domains of action and discourse were mostly conterminous. For example, most of what I discovered in those files on 1950s foreign policy, interesting though they were – see my next refereed

journal article! - could have been gleaned from Soviet newspapers and periodicals. In fact, much of what was going on in post-Stalin foreign policy cannot be understood by reading the archive files alone. Not all my colleagues agree, but I think the biggest gain from access to the archives is that it has re-opened our eyes to the value and uses of the long-available public sources, which can now be deployed to good effect alongside the new archival sources.

Another reason for heading to the USA rather than Moscow is that the well-endowed American universities have been very active in the purchase of microfilms of Soviet archives. In 2004-5, I was an IRCHSS Government of Ireland Senior Research Fellow. I was also privileged to receive a Fulbright award, which enabled me to spend three months attached to the Cold War Studies Program, Davis Center for Russian Studies, Harvard University. At Harvard I was able to work on several hundred reels of microfilm of Russian archives. Of particular interest, were a number of series of microfilms relevant to my 1950s research project, which is broadly about how the post-Stalin Soviet leadership tried to end the cold war before it really got going. The most important of these microfilms were those in a file series from the Soviet Communist Party's 'Department for Ties with Foreign Communist Parties'. As well containing documents on inter-party relations and the international communist movement this series also houses a number of briefing reports sent to the department by the Soviet foreign ministry – documents which the ministry's own archive would never let you see! Then there was the 'General Department' of the party's central committee, a kind of clearing house for the top leadership, which received documentation from all sorts of sources, including, again, the foreign ministry. In this series I also found evidence of Soviet intelligence penetration of western governments, although, oddly enough, the material provided by the spies does not seem to have impacted greatly on the Kremlin's decision-making. Of great interest, too, were files on the meetings of the communist party's central committee in the 1950s. This was a period of political, economic and cultural transition in the Soviet Union and of intense inner-party struggles among the post-Stalin party leaders, making the leadership's internal discussions at this time particularly revealing.

All these files you could probably get to see in the originating archive in Moscow. However, the microfilm readers would be of very poor quality and you would be charged \$2-3 for each page copied as opposed to the 10-15 cents charged by Harvard. In three months at Harvard I was able to accumulate more material from Russian archives than in 10 years' of trips to Moscow, and I returned to Ireland with 30 kg of photocopies.

At Harvard I was also able to read files on preparations for the party congresses, including the successive drafts of speeches prepared by party leaders such as Malenkov,

Khrushchev and Molotov. One of the most impressive interventions at the 1952 congress – the last when Stalin was still alive – was made by Beria, the secret police chief. I can see more clearly now why his comrades were so keen to bump him off after Stalin died (he was executed in December 1953). As well as controlling the Soviet security apparatus, Beria was potentially a very dynamic political leader, much more astute than his rivals for the succession to Stalin, and, surprisingly, much more open to a radical reform of the Soviet system. Were it not for the blood on his hands, he could be seen as a Gorbachev-like figure way ahead of his time. But, again, I might have detected Beria's secret side that much sooner had I taken the trouble to read the newspaper reports of his speech at the congress.

Harvard, by the way, has tens of thousands of reels of microfilm of archives from all over the world, including many from Britain and Ireland. Most of these microfilms are stored in the Lamont Library in the Government Publications section, which means that by Federal law they are accessible to members of the public at no charge. Even more surprising, the reels themselves are available on open access; you just go to the shelves and help yourself. It wouldn't happen in Moscow.

The Roosevelt Study Center

The Roosevelt Study Center would like to announce its acquisition of the Declassified Documents Reference System.

On 4 July 1967 the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) became law in the United States. In 1974 the Declassified Documents Reference System (DDRS) was created to gather together the thousands of government documents that were being declassified through the FOIA. Now containing more than 78,000 documents, the DDRS is constantly being updated as new material is released by government agencies, the National Archives, and Presidential Libraries. The collection includes papers from all government agencies including the National Security Council, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the CIA, and it provides an excellent additional source for all studies covering US domestic and foreign policy since WW II. An intriguing aspect to the System is that, if a document has been through more than one declassification process, it is possible to see what was considered too sensitive and blacked out in the original. It is an excellent extra resource for all those working on US history and foreign relations during the 20th century.

The RSC is one of the few institutes in Europe to possess this resource. The database can be accessed from the Center's library Monday to Friday throughout the year. Research grants are available. For all enquiries please check our website or contact us using the details below.

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BIHG News

Membership News

Professor Keith Jeffery of the School of Modern History at The Queen's University, Belfast has been commissioned to write the official history of MI6.

Dr Matthew Jones, formerly of Royal Holloway College, London, has been appointed to a Chair in the School of American and Canadian Studies at the University of Nottingham

Dr Greg Kennedy, has been promoted to Professor within the Defence Studies Department, Joint Services Command and Staff College (JSCSC) of King's College London.

Dr Carolyn Kitching, Editor of the BIHG Newsletter, has been promoted to Reader in British International History at the University of Teesside.

Professor Klaus Larres, formerly of Royal Holloway College, London, has been appointed to a Chair in the School of History and International Affairs at the University of Ulster.

Dr Geoff Roberts has been promoted to Professor within the Department of History at University College Cork.

Professor Alan Sharp of the School of History and International Affairs has been appointed Provost of the Coleraine Campus within the University of Ulster.

Professor Glyn Stone, Secretary of BIHG, has been elected to the Council of the Royal Historical Society. He would like to thank all those members of BIHG, who are also Fellows of the Society, who voted for him.

Professor Geoff Swain, formerly of the University of the West of England, Bristol, has been appointed to the Alec Nove Chair in the School of History at the University of Glasgow.

Dr Keith Wilson has been promoted to Professor within the School of History at the University of Leeds.

BIHG Thesis Prize 2005

The winner of the 2005 Thesis Prize is Dr Michael Fullilove, University of Oxford, for his thesis 'Special Faith and Confidence: Franklin D. Roosevelt's Personal Envoys and the War in Europe, 1939-1941'.

Officers and Members of the BIHG Executive 2005-2006

As a result of the Annual General Meeting of the Group at the Peterhouse Conference the following will serve as officers and members of the Executive during 2005-2006.

Chairman	Professor John Young, University of Nottingham
Vice-Chairman	Dr Edward Johnson, University of Central England at Birmingham
Secretary	Professor Glyn Stone, University of the West of England, Bristol
Treasurer	Dr David Dunn, University of Southampton

Newsletter editor	Dr Carolyn Kitching, University of Teesside	Member	University of Bolton
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Member	Dr Rogelia Pastor-Castro, University of Strathclyde	Member	Dr Lorna Lloyd, University of Keele
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Member	Dr Michael Goodman, King's College London		Dr Philip Towle, University of Cambridge
Member	Professor Sean Greenwood, Canterbury Christ Church University	Co-opted members: Professor Michael Dockrill, King's College London; Dr Keith Hamilton, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Dr Joe Smith, Editor of <i>History</i> ;	
Member	Professor Michael Hopkins, Liverpool Hope University College	Dr Stephen Twigge, The National Archives; Dr David Watson, University of Dundee; Professor Donald Cameron Watt, London School of Economics and Political Science;	
Member	Dr Gaynor Johnson,	Dr Paul Wingrove, University of Greenwich.	

Publications by BIHG Members

Oliver Daddow, *Britain and Europe since 1945: Historiographical Perspectives on Integration*, Manchester University Press, 2004.

Lawrence Freedman, *The Official History of the Falklands Campaign*, 2 Vols, Routledge, 2005

Peter Jackson and Jennifer Siegel, *Intelligence and Statecraft: The Use and Limits of Intelligence in International Society*, Praeger, 2005.

Keith Jeffery, *Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson: A Political Soldier*, Oxford University Press, 2006.

Greg Kennedy (ed), *Imperial Defence, 1856-1956: The Old World Order*, Routledge, 2006.

Piers Ludlow, *The European Community and the Crises of the 1960s: Negotiating the Gaullist Challenge*, Routledge, 2005.

Paul Madrell, *Spying on Science: Western Intelligence in Divided Germany, 1945-1961*, Oxford University Press, 2006.

Spencer Mawby, *British Policy in Aden and the Protectorates, 1955-1967*, Routledge, 2005.

Evan Mawdsley, *Thunder in the East: The Nazi-Soviet War, 1941-1945*, Hodder Arnold, 2005

Steven Morewood, *The British Defence of Egypt, 1935-1940: Conflict and Crisis in the Eastern Mediterranean*, Routledge, 2004.

Keith Neilson and Thomas Otte (eds), *Railways and International Politics, 1856-1939: Paths of Empire*, Routledge, 2006.

Peter Neville, *Britain's Involvement in Vietnam, 1945-1946*, Routledge, 2006.

Helen Parr, *Britain's Policy towards the European Community, 1964-1967: Harold Wilson and Britain's World Role*, Routledge, 2005.

Keith Robbins, *Britain and Europe, 1789-2005*, Hodder Arnold, 2005

David Reynolds, *From World War to Cold War: Churchill, Roosevelt and the International History of the 1940s*, Oxford University Press, 2006.

Susanna Schrafstetter and Stephen Twigge, *Avoiding Armageddon: Europe, The United States and the Struggle for Nuclear Non-Proliferation, 1945-1970*, Praeger, 2004.

Matthew Seligmann, *Spies in Uniform: British Military and Naval Intelligence on the Eve of the First World War*, Oxford University Press, 2006.

Brian Shelmerdine, *British Representations of the Spanish Civil War*, Manchester University Press. (BIHG Thesis Prize winner 2004).

Edward Spiers, *The Victorian Soldier in Africa*, Manchester University Press, 2004.

Glyn Stone, *Spain, Portugal and the Great Powers, 1931-1941*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.

Andrew Williams, *Liberalism and War: The Victors and the Vanquished*, Routledge, 2005.

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