

JISC Group Purchasing Scheme 2024



# **About Us**

British Online Archives (BOA) is one of the UK's leading academic publishers and online repositories. Hosting over 5 million records, carefully sourced from private and public archives, such as The National Archives (UK) and British Library, BOA's specially curated primary source collections cover over 500 years of world history. They boast extensive documentation from Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe. BOA's collections are organised thematically so as to enhance user experience and boost discoverability. They provide invaluable source material for students and researchers working within a wide range of scholarly disciplines, including history, politics, sociology, and international relations. Our unique digital holdings offer insights into global historical events and trends, typically through a British lens. They serve to broaden our understanding of history, and help us to make sense of contemporary social, cultural, economic, and political landscapes.

### **Partners**

We work closely with various archives, including:



The National Archives



**British Library** 



Imperial War Museum



People's History Museum



Find My Past



**Illustrated London News** 



Foreign & Commonwealth Office



Bethlem Museum of the Mind

# About the Jisc Group Purchasing Scheme

The digital archival collections group purchasing scheme makes primary source materials and archives more affordable to Higher Education (HE) institutions. Participating publishers may also exercise the option to offer products to alternative HE providers. Digital archival collections are defined as static databases of texts, images, audio-visual material, and data that libraries typically acquire as one-off purchases. Current subscriptions to journals and book collections are therefore out of scope.

Group purchasing is a community-centred scheme that is based on a simple market principle: the more products that are purchased, the lower the price. The 2024 scheme runs from **January to July**. Jisc members can expect to enjoy a minimum of a 20% discount on all featured products. There is also the potential for a discount of up to 30% throughout the academic year, depending on uptake by institutions.

### Benefits of the Scheme

- Substantial savings. To date, participating members have collectively saved over £1 million on the cost of purchasing digital archival collections.
- A more efficient and transparent approach to the acquisition of digital archival collections.
- Automatic 20% discount on all products offered through the scheme.
- Members of the scheme collectively help each other drive down the cost—the more they buy individually, the greater the discount for all who participate.
- All titles are a one-off perpetual purchase with no recurrent platform/ hosting fee.
- No need to negotiate prices—the fees have been Jisc banded to allow all UK HE, and optional alternative HE providers, to participate.
- The Jisc model licence provides a consistent and standard approach to procuring and licensing collections from multiple publishers.

# British Government Information and Propaganda, 1939–2009



Scanned from source at the **British Library**, this collection contains a carefully curated selection of materials produced by the **British Ministry of Information (MOI) and Central Office of Information (COI) during the period 1939–2009**.

The items are diverse in nature, ranging from posters and stickers to pamphlets and guidance booklets. The subject matter is just as varied, covering public health, education, social security, civil defence, international politics, race relations, sex discrimination, public sector career opportunities, policing, the environment, and Britain's membership of the European Economic Community. Most of the items were published during the post-war period, but some date from the First and Second World Wars.

The collection therefore provides students and researchers with a unique insight into what successive British governments wanted their citizens to know, think, and do, as well as how their methods of achieving their aims changed over time. In addition, it reveals the image of Britain that different governments chose to project to the rest of the world.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

**British Library** 

Contents:

7 Volumes, 1566 Documents (27,856 Pages)









# British Labour Party Papers, 1906–1969



The **Labour Party** was founded in 1900 to represent the interests of trade unions and working-class voters. In political terms, it has often been characterised as a "broad church", encompassing a range of left and centre-left viewpoints.

This collection contains minutes and related records compiled by the Parliamentary Labour Party (PLP) during the period 1906–1969. These records cover the party's formative years, from its creation and early successes through the governments of Ramsay MacDonald and the wartime coalition, to the Attlee administration and Harold Wilson's first premiership.

The records provide an insight into the PLP's often divided outlook on several important domestic and international political issues, including the campaign for women's suffrage; the Great Depression; the First and Second World Wars; the Beveridge Report and the emergence of the post-war welfare state; Britain's nuclear weapons programme; imperialism and decolonisation; and Britain's potential membership of the European Economic Community (EEC).

# **Key Data**

Contributor:

Labour History Archive and Study Centre

Contents:

7 Volumes, 57 Documents (6,671 Pages)







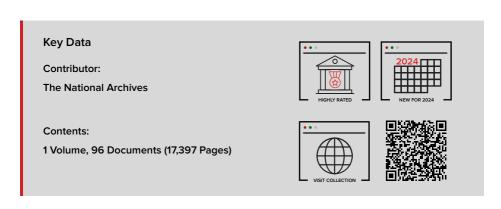
# Censorship: Policy and Practice During the Second World War



Censorship: Practice and Policy during the Second World War explores British postal and telegraph censorship throughout a pivotal era of modern history. The collection contains over 17,000 images drawn from Ministry of Defence files at The National Archives (UK). The work undertaken by censorship units soon became one of the most important, if somewhat underappreciated, fronts in the so-called "secret war".

Censorship became a wide-ranging, international endeavour. It involved not just Britain, but also the Dominions, colonies, allies (including the USA), and neutral states such as Ireland. Censorship teams sprung up across the globe, typically employing local people, especially women. Policies, instructions, and official guidance poured out from London with a view to keeping the censorship system efficient and watertight. Censors from a wide variety of backgrounds became adept at breaking codes and recognising suspect material, even if it was cleverly concealed.

Towards the end of the war and following the Allied victory, censorship units took on a new responsibility: monitoring communications amongst the populations in occupied territories, including Austria, Germany, and Italy. As this fascinating collection illustrates, censorship was not only a tool that helped win the war, it was also a vital part of securing the peace which followed.

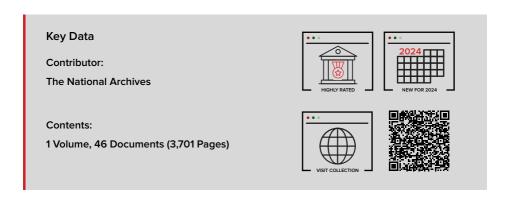


# Building a New Germany: Denazification and Political Re-education, 1944–1948



As the Second World War entered its final year, and the Allied victory looked secure, a growing number of British officials began to consider the future. In particular, they explored ways to ensure that Germany, the administration of which they would share with their allies, emerged as a **stable**, **peaceful**, **and democratic nation**. Political re-education of the German people, both Prisoners of War (POWs) and willing civilians, became central to this endeavour. **At special facilities throughout Britain and its empire**, large numbers of Germans were subject to a carefully curated course of **lectures**, film screenings, readings, cultural activities, field trips, and more. The aim was to instil a set of values and ideas which the British believed would be conducive to the emergence of a safe and prosperous Germany.

Building a New Germany: Denazification and Political Re-education, 1944–1948 comprises over 3,700 images, drawn from 46 files in the FO 939 series at The National Archives (UK). The collection explores the process of denazification from a number of angles. The collection offers fascinating insights into British perspectives on extreme ideologies, as well as into concepts of brainwashing and indoctrination, including strategies on how to reverse them. Building a New Germany explores a key transitional period when the British tried to reshape Germany from foe to friend.



### Colonial Africa in Official Statistics, 1821–1953



The so-called "Scramble for Africa" that occurred during the late nineteenth century involved European powers carving up the continent. The United Kingdom controlled the largest portion of territory. British colonial regulations required each colony to submit a "Blue Book" to the Colonial Office on an annual basis. The aim was to standardise statistical reports, primarily those relating to economic development, as well as demographic, ecclesiastical, and public records.

This collection contains Blue Books and other archival material from thirteen British colonies and protectorates in Africa compiled during the period 1821–1953. The standardised nature of the Blue Books allows for comparisons to be drawn geographically (i.e. between colonies) and over time on issues and trends such as the slave trade, economic policy, education, and public health.

The materials are accompanied by **two contextual essays**. One of these is by **Professor Erik Green**. His essay surveys European settler agriculture and the exploitation of local labour in colonial Africa. The accompanying essay was written by **Dr. Felix Meier zu Selhausen**. This piece explores the origins and consequences of Christian missionary activities throughout Africa.

# **Key Data**

Contributor:

British Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Contents:

13 Volumes, 777 Documents (144,428 Pages)







## Colonial Law in Africa, 1920-1945



During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the **British government published gazettes on an annual basis**. These outlined the colonial laws prevailing in its African territories. This collection, **drawn from the records of the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office**, brings together numerous gazettes. Thus, the volumes within this collection are organised by country. These include: Kenya, Lagos (Nigeria), Northern Rhodesia (Zambia), Nyasaland (Malawi), Sierra Leone, Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), The Gambia, Gold Coast (Ghana), Uganda, Zanzibar (Tanzania), and Tanganyika (Tanzania).

These documents cover the transfer of Southern Rhodesia from the British South Africa Company to the British government, the influence of the Treaty of Versailles upon Tanzania, and the outbreak of the Second World War. The gazettes also supply **shipping records, legislation, probate records, and information on land sales**. The collection likewise sheds light upon government finances and trading as **imports, exports, and colonial finances** are detailed in some of the gazettes.

This collection provides an extensive survey of British rule throughout Africa. It is a rich resource for students and researchers interested in Africa and the themes of colonialism and race in modern history.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

British Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Contents:

11 Volumes, 357 Documents (199,176 Pages)







# Colonial Law in Africa, 1946-1966



During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the **British government published gazettes on an annual basis**. These outlined the colonial laws prevailing in its African territories. This collection, **drawn from the records of the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office**, brings together numerous gazettes. Thus, the volumes within this collection are divided by country. These include: Basutoland (Lesotho), Kenya, Lagos (Nigeria), Northern Rhodesia (Zambia), Nyasaland (Malawi), Sierra Leone, Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), The Gambia, Gold Coast (Ghana), Uganda, Zanzibar (Tanzania), and Tanganyika (Tanzania).

Some documents address major historical events, such as the rebuilding efforts that followed the Second World War, the Mau Mau uprising in Kenya, and several countries gaining their independence. The gazettes also supply key information such as **shipping records**, **legislation**, **probate records**, **and information on land sales**. The collection also sheds light upon government finances and trading as **imports**, **exports**, **and colonial finances** are detailed in some gazettes.

This collection provides an extensive survey of British rule throughout Africa. It is a rich resource for students and researchers interested in Africa and the themes of colonialism and race in modern history.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

British Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Contents:

12 Volumes, 321 Documents (197,084 Pages)







# Communisms and the Cold War, 1944-1986



This collection contains reports and other records compiled by the Communist Party of Great Britain's (CPGB) International Department between 1944 and 1986. This periodisation begins immediately after the dissolution of the Communist International (Comintern) and ends shortly before the collapse of the Soviet Union. As was the case with other Western communist parties, the CPGB's International Department played an important—near overbearing role—in both the internal and external life of the organisation.

The majority of the documents cover the Sino-Soviet split and the Chinese-Indian disputes of the 1960s and 1970s. There are also materials relating to Soviet satellite states in Eastern Europe, the left in Western Europe, and anti-colonial movements in the developing world. Meetings with various communist leaders are covered in detail, as are the proceedings of international conferences involving communist parties. The documents provide a fascinating insight into the competing power blocs which arose throughout the communist world during the Cold War and how British communists reacted to the resulting, internecine disputes.

The collection is accompanied by three contextual essays written by Professor Kevin Morgan, a senior academic at the University of Manchester.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

Archive Trust of the Communist Party of Great Britain

Contents:

10 Volumes, 178 Documents (14,393 Pages)







# Establishing the Post-War International Order, 1944–1961



This collection, curated in association with **The National Archives (UK)**, provides an unparalleled insight into the political, economic, and military foundations of the post-war international order. The materials, which are diverse in nature, cover a wide range of subject matter, shedding light on the perspectives of various state and non-state actors during periods of both cooperation and conflict. The United Nations (UN), Marshall Plan, World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), and European Economic Community (EEC), to name but a few examples, are all accounted for.

In addition to diplomatic files relating to key organisations, agreements, and events, records of global commodity prices, including gold, oil, and food, feature heavily. Most of the documents are derived from the annals of the British Board of Trade (i.e. BT 64), Cabinet Office (i.e. CAB 128), Foreign Office (i.e. FO 371), and Treasury (i.e. T 274). Brought together here for the first time, these files are intended for use by academics working across the humanities and social sciences, from History and International Relations, to Economics and International Law.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

The National Archives

Contents:

14 Volumes, 1281 Documents (231,364 Pages)







# Gender, Feminism, and the British Left, 1944-1991



This collection contains records compiled by the Communist Party of Great Britain's (CPGB) Women's Department during the period 1944–1991. The CPGB of the inter-war years was arguably more enlightened on women's issues than wider British society. It was not until 1944, however, that the party established its National Women's Advisory Committee. The committee's purpose was to coordinate women's activities and attract more female members.

Although seemingly natural allies, the women's liberation movement did not always sit comfortably with the men who dominated the CPGB bureaucracy. In the 1970s, this attitude was challenged by a group of young, radical feminists inspired by the counter-culture of the previous decade—a development which caused a great deal of tension and division within the party.

These records include minutes, agendas, and promotional materials from various women's campaigns, events, and conferences. They also include copies of *Link*, the party's women's magazine, and *Red Rag*, a controversial journal published by the party's more militant feminist members. Together, these items provide a unique insight into the relationship between Western communism and the women's liberation movement during the post-war era.

# Key Data Contributor: Archive Trust of the Communist Party of Great Britain Contents: 9 Volumes, 38 Documents (6,247 Pages)



The Graphic, founded by artist and social reformer William Luson Thomas, appeared on 4 December 1869. Initially, it was a competitor of The Illustrated London News (ILN), but it ultimately became one of the ILN's sister publications. The Graphic drew attention to poverty, homelessness, and public health—Thomas encouraged his illustrators to wander London in search of authentic scenes and subjects. This collection collates nearly 117,000 images from almost 3,500 issues of The Graphic, published between December 1869 and April 1932.

The Graphic featured articles on politics, international relations, religion, and science. It played an important role in the development of the arts, printing innovative literature, theatre reviews, and some of the most beautiful illustrations in contemporary print media. Vincent Van Gogh was much influenced by the strain of socially-conscious art that appeared in the paper.

The Graphic published the work of celebrated writers and artists. Given the quality and quantity of its artistic content, its wide-ranging commentary, and its vivid and determinedly-realistic depictions of everyday life (at home and abroad), this extensive collection captures the dramatic transformations that occurred within British society throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

# Key Data Contributor: Illustrated London News Contents: 60 Volumes, 2684 Documents (90,218 Pages)

# Life on the Front Line: Diaries, News, and Letters from the First World War, 1914–1919



Life on the Front Line is composed predominantly of diaries and letters written by British military personnel who served during the First World War (1914–1918). Consisting of nearly 15,000 images, it provides a fascinating, albeit poignant, survey of what everyday life was like for soldiers, supplying compelling insights into the realities of warfare. The personal accounts in this collection offer sustained—and often profound—reflections on the morality of war, and on the harsh military discipline demanded of combatants. They likewise illustrate the disturbing effects that warfare had upon mental health.

Additionally, Life on the Front Line contains a complete run of the Westminster Training College Monthly War Bulletin from November 1914 to June 1919. A Methodist institution, Westminster College was established in 1851. Its War Bulletin printed numerous letters written by former pupils and staff—"Old Ws" as they were known—who served. This valuable source also supplies vivid accounts of military life while stationed in British territories, including India, South Africa, and Malta.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

Imperial War Museum, Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History

Contents:

6 Volumes, 62 Documents (14,886 Pages)







# Military Intelligence Files Land, Sea & Air, 1938-1974



The resources contained within this collection shed light on the activities and attitudes of British military intelligence agencies during the Second World War and the Cold War.

The majority of the documents are weekly, monthly, and quarterly intelligence summaries produced by the Army, Royal Navy, and Royal Air Force. In addition, two volumes include records from the British Commanders'-in-Chief Mission to the Soviet Forces in Germany (BRIXMIS), providing a fascinating insight into the internal politics and strategic calculations of Warsaw Pact countries.

The images are sourced from The National Archives (UK), with Admiralty (ADM 223), Air Ministry (AIR 22 / AIR 40), Foreign Office (FO 371), and War Office (WO 208) files all featuring heavily. The collection is also accompanied by a contextual essay written by Dr. Stephen Twigge, Head of Modern Collections at The National Archives (UK).



Contributor:

The National Archives

Contents:

12 Volumes, 105 Documents (72,890 Pages)







# Paris Peace Conference and Beyond, 1919–1939



The Paris Peace Conference was a meeting of Allied diplomats that took place in the aftermath of the First World War. Its purpose was to impose peace terms on the vanquished Central Powers and establish a new international order.

This collection contains archival material relating to this tumultuous period in European and world history. The documents cover the treaties of Versailles, Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Neuilly-sur-Seine, Trianon, Sèvres, Lausanne, and Locarno, as well as the foundation of the League of Nations. Together, these treaties severely curtailed German power and influence, redrew national boundaries in Europe and the Middle East, and led to the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.

Most of the files, including FO 608 (Foreign Office: Peace Conference; British Delegation, Correspondence and Papers), are drawn from The National Archives (UK), while the British Library provided the personal papers of Lord Robert Cecil and Sir Arthur Balfour.

# **Key Data**

Contributor:

The National Archives (UK); The British Library

Contents:

9 Volumes, 113 Documents (52,343 Pages)







# Prosecuting the Holocaust British Investigations into Nazi Crimes, 1944–1949



During the Second World War, the Nazi state was responsible for the systematic enslavement and extermination of millions of Jews. Other groups, such as Russian prisoners of war, Slavs, Sinti and Romani, homosexuals, the disabled, and political opponents of the regime were also targeted. After Germany's surrender, Allied forces established a series of military tribunals, known as the Nuremberg Trials, to bring the architects and perpetrators of these crimes to justice.

Drawn from The National Archives (UK) and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, this collection contains a wealth of information regarding the British government's efforts to investigate and prosecute Nazi crimes during the period 1944–1949. The evidence gathered sheds light on almost every aspect of the Holocaust, from the concentration camp system to the mass murder of the "incurably sick" in psychiatric hospitals. More importantly, it gives a voice to the victims of these atrocities, many of whom testified about their experiences immediately after the war.

The files include materials from the **WO 309** (War Office: Judge Advocate General's Office; British Army of the Rhine War Crimes Group), **WO 311** (War Office: Judge Advocate General's Office; Military Deputy's Department), and **WO 235** (War Office: Judge Advocate General's Office; War Crimes Case Files) series.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

The National Archives

Contents:

8 Volumes, 144 Documents (180,875 Pages)







# Records from Bethlem Royal Hospital, 1559-1932



Bethlem Royal Hospital is a psychiatric facility in London. It was established as a priory of the Order of St Mary of Bethlehem in 1247, before beginning to care for mentally ill patients sometime in the fourteenth century. Often referred to colloquially as 'Bedlam'—and generally accepted to be the origin of the very same noun—past incarnations of the institution were infamous for their questionable diagnosis of mental illness and poor treatment of patients.

This collection, which has been **curated in association with Findmypast and the Museum of the Mind, contains four centuries' and 130,000 images' worth of records from Bethlem.** The records are diverse in both form and subject matter. They include: voluntary and criminal admission registers; discharge and death registers; male and female patient casebooks; minutes of the Court of Governors; and staff salary books. All handwritten items have been fully transcribed.

Scholars and students alike will find that, together, the records provide a unique insight into the evolution of so-called **lunacy laws**—from an early reliance on control of the mentally ill through coercion and restraint to the later emergence of doctrines of self-discipline and moral management.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

Bethlem Museum of the Mind; Findmypast Ltd

Contents:

7 Volumes, 329 Documents (131,209 Pages)









# Secrecy, Sabotage, and Aiding the Resistance: How Anglo-American Cooperation Shaped World War II



In the summer of 1940, Britain and its empire appeared to stand alone against the onslaught of Nazi Germany. The opportunity to fight back using conventional forces had, for the time being, disappeared. Instead, a new front in the war opened up—one of secrecy, sabotage, and resistance. This new front encompassed a huge variety of different clandestine activities and a number of different agencies.

One of these was the Special Operations Executive (SOE), authorised by the War Cabinet in July 1940, and exhorted by Winston Churchill to "set Europe ablaze". In late 1941, this became a joint Anglo-American effort. SOE and its American counterpart, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), worked closely together, sharing information and jointly training recruits. Documents in this collection cover activities in Africa, East and South Asia, Central and South America, the Middle East, and even inside the USA itself.

This collection, drawn from **The National Archives (UK)**, covers intelligence-gathering on "hostile" elements at home and abroad; guidance and training for agents in the field; the diplomacy of Anglo-American cooperation; support for prisoners-of-war; and reports on Axis industrial output and weapons production. Taken together, these documents offer an invaluable insight into how the British and Americans worked together to fight the "secret war" between 1939 and 1945.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

The National Archives

Contents:

11 Volumes, 222 Documents (59,215 Pages)







### The Sketch. 1893-1958



First published in 1893, *The Sketch* belonged to a series of periodicals under the ownership of *The Illustrated London News* (ILN). Clement Shorter and William Ingram (former editor and managing director, respectively, of the *ILN*) established the magazine, which centred primarily on British High Society and attracted a wealthy audience. Replete with photographs and illustrations, and featuring contributions on fashion, literature, and gossip, *The Sketch* provided extensive coverage of aristocratic and celebrity culture for nearly seven decades. This collection contains almost 170,000 images from approximately 3,500 issues of *The Sketch*, published between January 1893 and December 1958.

The Sketch generally adopted a light-hearted tone. Over the course of its existence, it printed the work of many eminent artists. Nevertheless, as with several other publications owned by the ILN during this period, The Sketch remained a staunch defender of Britain's imperial project, and often reflected the racist and xenophobic attitudes widely prevalent in Britain during these years. Therefore, whilst this collection provides useful material for those studying and researching the history of art, literature, and print culture, it also sheds light on the history of imperialism, colonialism, and slavery, and their representation within Britain's most affluent circles.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

Illustrated London News

Contents:

64 Volumes, 2670 Documents (146,106 Pages)











Established in 1900 and in circulation until 1964, *The Sphere* remained under the ownership of *The Illustrated London News* (ILN) for most of its existence. Clement Shorter – a former editor of the *ILN* – founded the publication. From its first issue, it adopted a consciously international outlook, aiming to "hold pictures and thoughts from all lands". Upon its release it was praised as "a striking advance in illustrated journalism" due to the beauty and artistry of its presentation. It soon became popular. This collection includes nearly 160,000 images and almost 4,000 issues from *The Sphere*, published between January 1900 and June 1964.

The Sphere reflected a patriotic and staunchly pro-establishment position, expressing support for the British monarchy and for the British empire. The publication reported extensively on world events, such as the rise of communism, the First and Second World Wars, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. It printed articles discussing a wide range of prominent personalities from the arts, sciences, and politics – from John Ruskin to Albert Einstein; from Franklin Delano Roosevelt to Golda Meir. It also featured contributions from well-known literary figures such as acclaimed children's author A. A. Milne and prolific journalist Charles Graves. This collection contains vital material for researchers and students of British society, military history, and the legacies of colonialism.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

**Illustrated London News** 

Contents:

65 Volumes, 3340 Documents (138,649 Pages)









# World News in Indian Newspapers, 1782-1908



World News in Indian Newspapers brings together numerous editions of three Anglophone newspapers that were published in India during the period 1782–1908: *The India Gazette* (1782–1834); *The Bengal Hurkaru and Chronicle* (1822–1866); and *The Bengal Times* (1876–1908).

These newspapers appealed to colonial administrators, businessmen, and merchants, all of whom had a keen interest, naturally, in regional and international trade. Editors and reporters therefore sought to provide readers with an overview of notable political, military, economic, scientific, and social trends, as well as their potential impact upon commodities, stocks, and other investments.

Subjects covered range from the American Revolution and the Crimean War, to British parliamentary debates on the India Act of 1858. Much coverage was devoted to the industrial and pharmaceutical developments of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Suffice to say that Britain, France, India, Ireland, the United States, and China received the most editorial attention, although items regarding other nations also feature.

### **Key Data**

Contributor:

India Office Library

Contents:

3 Volumes, 106 Documents (111,913 Pages)







