Archives of Russia Seven Years After: “Purveyors of Sensation” or “Shadows cast to the Past”? 

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THE COLD WAR INTERNATIONAL HISTORY PROJECT
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Special Working Papers Series

The following study is based on the experience involved in preparation and the data gathered for the collaborative reference volume,

**ARCHIVES OF RUSSIA: A Directory and Bibliographic Guide of Repositories in MOSCOW and St. PETERSBURG.**


Compiled by Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, Lada Vladimirovna Repulo, and Irina Vladimirovna Tunkina. Edited by Mikhail Dmitri’vich Afanas'ev, Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, Vladimir Petrovich Kozlov, and Vladimir Semenovich Sobolev.

Sponsored by the Federal Archival Service of Russia (Rosarkhiv), the State Public Historical Library, the Historical–Archival Institute of the Russian State University for the Humanities (IAI RGGU), and the St. Petersburg Branch of the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences (PFA RAN).

A parallel Russian-language edition was published in Moscow, April 1997:

**ARKHIIVY ROSSII: MOSKVA–SANKT-PETERBURG:**

*Spravochnik-obozrenie i bibliograficheskii ukazatel’.*


– Tel.: (7-095) 245-83-55; Fax: (7-095) 245-30-98; E-mail: ada@glasnet.ru. Available abroad through “Mezhdunarodnaia kniga.”

– Distributed in the USA by Kamkin.

– Distributed in Europe by Kuban & Sagnor.

Those publications represent output from the Russian archival directory database known as ArcheoBiblioBase, currently maintained under the jurisdiction of Rosarkhiv in collaboration with the American editor, Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, and the Russian programmer, Yuri A. Liamin.

**ArcheoBiblioBase On Line:**

An expanded version of Appendix 2 of the CWIHP version, listing vital date about major federal archives is available electronically on the IISH World Wide website (http://www.iisg.nl/~abb), maintained by the International Institue of Social History (IISH) in Amsterdam.

A variant Russian version is available from the OpenWeb server in Moscow, at the State Public Historical Library (GPIB):

http://www.openweb.ru/koi8/rusarch – or –


The Russian version requires a Cyrillic font for Windows or the KOI8 font (also available in a Macintosh version), which are downloadable from several Internet sites.

Updates of basic data about the repositories, including changes in working hours and newly published guides, will be added regularly when available. Plans call for expansion
of coverage to include other archives and libraries, information about recently declassified fonds, and other data, as staff and funding permit. (See more details below in the Bibliographic Note and Ch. 12.)
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Appendix 1


The following list has been compiled during the past few years in connection with the ongoing ArcheoBiblioBase bibliography and study of archival development in Russia. It makes no pretense to be comprehensive, but rather, emphasis is especially on laws and decrees relating to archival developments discussed in the foregoing essay.

According to post-August 1991 legislative and executive usage, normative acts have been issued predominantly in the following categories, all of which have the effect of law:

A federal law (zakon) is passed by both houses of parliament and takes effect when signed by the President.

A directive (postanovlenie) is issued by a federal executive organ, such as an executive organ of the Government (Pravitel' stvo) or legislative body, or before 1993 by the Council of Ministers or the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and also has the effect of law.

A presidential decree (ukase) also has the effect of law and takes effect when signed by the President.

A presidential directive (rasporiazhenie)—sometimes translated as regulation—usually is employed for lower-level acts, but neither of these need approval by the legislative body.

A regulation or order (polozheniie) may be issued by any government executive agency, but has the authority of law only when confirmed (utverzhdeno) by a presidential decree (ukaz) or by other legislative or executive action.

Citations are, to the extent possible, to the official versions of laws and other acts as published in the successive federal registers. A few laws, however, for one reason or another, such as the law “On State Secrets” (A-13), which should have gone to press just before the October Days in 1993, were officially published only in Rossiiskaia gazeta. Several 1991 normative acts relating to archives listed here were also never included in the official collections of federal laws. Because of inadequate periodical indexes, including for Rossiiskaia gazeta, references to all published versions are not systematically provided.

At the time this list was being completed, the compiler acquired a copy of the series of in-house typescript list of normative acts relating to archival affairs compiled by the Rosarkhiv Central Scientific Library (see below). The Rosarkhiv list, which has not been published or widely circulated, is based only on official openly published federal registers. Comparison with that list has yielded references to a few additional acts. However, the present list does not include many of the other references listed by the Rosarkhiv Library, such as those relating to matters of budget, federal employees, the appointment of individual archival directors, or other arrangements for individual archives, and the like, which were in fact confirmed by an official federal directive or presidential decree.
For obvious reasons it is not possible to include decrees or other directives that have been issued with a “classified” status. Such is the case, for example, with the presidential decree of late August or early September 1995 calling for the declassification of the records of the Soviet Military Administration in Germany (SVAG), and likewise the corresponding earlier August 1992 presidential decree declaring SVAG records closed to research.

The compiler is grateful to a number of friends and colleagues for suggestions and additions to the list, and further suggestions will be gratefully appreciated. The rubrics assigned below remain preliminary, and inevitably, in some cases, there may be overlap among categories. Since almost all of the acts listed have the effect of law, a distinction within rubrics is not made among the different types of legal acts involved. The recent article by A. N. Artizov on the subject (fn. 27), which appeared after this list had been completed, suggests a somewhat different organization and includes important references to legal acts adopted by local regions (sub"ekty) of the Russian Federation.

The most recent reorganization and renaming of federal executive agencies resulted from the presidential decree of 14 August 1996, but an implementing regulation for Rosarkhiv has still not yet been issued (see “O strukture federal'nikh organov ispolnitel'noi vlasti”: Ukaz Prezidenta Rossiiskoi Federatsii [14 August 1996], no. 1177, Sobranie zakonodatel'stva RF, 1996, no. 34 [no. 4082]). In a few cases, and specifically the federal security services, names reverted to their older form as a result of a follow-up decree, “Voprosy federal'nykh organov ispolnitel'noi vlasti”: Ukaz Prezidenta Rossiiskoi Federatsii (6 September 1996), no. 1326, Sobranie zakonodatel'stva RF, 1996, no. 37 (9 September): no. 4264. Since no correlated list of new acronyms has appeared since that date, we continue to use those that were officially listed earlier, unless specific agencies have advised us otherwise.

* * * * *

Bibliography of Legal Acts Relating to Archives

“Opublikovannye dokumenty, obespechivaiushchie pravovuiu osnovu deiatel'nosti arkhivnykh uchrezhdenii Rossii: Bibliograficheskii ukazatel’.” Moscow, 1994–.

Typescript. [Rosarkhiv; Nauchnaia biblioteka federal'nykh arkhivov].

A chronological listing of federal laws, decrees, and regulations relating to archives prepared by the staff of the Rosarkhiv Scientific Library with reference to listings in official federal registers.

1. Basic Laws and Decrees Regulating Archival Affairs


Published in Otechestvennye arkhivy, 1992, no. 1, p. 3.

Published in Otechestvennye arkhivy, 1992, no. 1, p. 3.


Provides for the abolition of Glavarkhiv SSSR and names Roskomarkhiv as its successor agency. Otherwise not published in the official collection of laws.


Otherwise not published in the official collection of laws. The supplemental lists of nationalized CPSU documentation were not included in that published version.


SUPPLEMENT 1: “Polozhenie o Komitete po delam arkhivov pri Pravitel’stve RF.”
SUPPLEMENT 2: “Set’ federal’nykh gosudarstvennykh arkhivov i tsentrov khraneniia dokumentatsii.”


Also published in Informatsionnyi biulleten’[Roskomarkhiva], 1992, no. 1, pp. 5–17. The 1995 modification provides for the consolidation of two of the archives listed.


Published in Vestnik arkhivista, 1992, no. 4(10), pp. 3-5.
Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 248 (17 November 1992), p. 5.
Regulates cultural materials that constitute the Russian cultural heritage, including archival materials, providing for open access, use, and state preservation.

Published in Otechestvennye arkhivy, 1993, no. 2, pp. 3–7.
The new regulation for Rosarkhiv, served to implement the 30 September 1992 reorganization of executive organs that provided for the reorganization of Roskomarkhiv as Rosarkhiv—Ukaz Prezidenta RF, no. 1148 ot 30 sentiabria 1992—Vedomosti S’ezda narodnykh deputatov RF i Verkhovnogo Soveta RF, 1992, no. 41 (16 July), st. 2278.

Published in Otechestvennye arkhivy, 1993, no. 3, pp. 3–4.

Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 156 (14 August 1993), p. 5. Reprinted in brochure form by Rosarkhiv. A copy of the new law is printed in Novaia i noveishaia istoriia, 1993, no. 6, pp. 3–11. An analysis follows by V. P. Kozlov (pp. 12–15).


Published in Otechestvennye arkhivy, 1994, no. 3, pp. 3–12, and in Rossiiskaia gazeta (1 April 1994), p. 4. See the 1994 ammendments in A-15.

Published in Informatsionnyi biulleten’ [Rosarkhiva], no. 14 (1996), p. 2.
Amends the 1994 regulation (¤8) providing for the long-term retention of archives by two additional KGB successor agencies—the Federal Border Service (Federal'naia pogranichnaia sluizha RF) and the Federal Agency for Government Communications and Information—FAPSI (Federal'noe agentstvo pravitel'stvennoi sviazi i informatsii) under the President of the Russian Federation.

Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 104 (4 June 1996), p. 4, together with a commentary by Anna Kolupaeva, an expert from the Administration of Museums in the Ministry of Culture, in the form of an interview with journalist Tat’iana Kharlamova.
2. Basic Laws and Decrees Regulating Access and Use of Archive: State Secrets, Commercial Secrets, and Declassification

a. Laws and Decrees Regarding State Secrets


Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 182 (21 September 1993), pp. 5–6.
A printed version from the legislature was furnished to Rosarkhiv, but a published version did not appear in other official registers of government laws.

Provides for the temporary authority of the State Technical Commission until the Interagency Commission for Determining State Secrets is established. (See A-21)


Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 179 (14 September 1995), p. 3.

Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 224 (18 November 1995), p. 6. Establishes the Interagency Commission for Determining State Secrets, which had been called for by the July 1993 law, but not previously established. See the later decree providing for the members of the Commission and its functions (A-23).

Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 246 (27 December 1995), p. 5. A more detailed secret supplemental version was also issued in accordance with the earlier 1993 law itself (A-18).

“Polozhenie o Mezhvedomstvennoi komissii po zashchite gosudarstvennoi tainь”;
“Struktura Mezhvedomstvennoi komissii po zashchite gosudarstvennoi tainь”;
Provides for the composition and function of the “Interagency Commission for Determining State Secrets,” established in November 1995 (see A-21), and also annuls the temporary

b. Regulations Governing Commercial Secrets


c. Declassification of Soviet-Period Archives


d. Laws and Decrees Relating to Human Rights Rehabilitation, and the Politically Repressed (and Related Archives)


Note the 1992 and 1995 amendments (A-31).


A further confirming directive (postanovlenie) was issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Council, 30 March 1992 g., no. 2610–I, Vedomosti S"ezda, 1992, no. 17, st. 901.

An additional confirming directive (postanovlenie) and the appointment of a chairman of the Commission was issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Council, 26 October 1992 g., no. 3753–I–I, Vedomosti S"ezda, 1992, no. 45, st. 2582.


———: Zakon RF ot 4 noiabria 1995 g., no. 166–FZ. Sobranie zakonodatel'stva RF, 1995, no. 45 (6 November), st. 4242.


f. Laws and Directives Relating to Information Resources


Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 39 (22 February 1995), pp. 15–16. Article 13, paragraphs 1 and 2, give organs of state authority the right to restrict access “to information resources pertaining to the activities of their organs,” which could be interpreted to give federal agencies full discretion over their own archives. See the comments to this effect by Mark Kramer in CWIHP Bulletin 5 (Fall 1995): 77.

A-34. “Ob uchastii v mezhdunarodnom informatsionnom obmene”: Zakon RF ot 4 iiulia 1996 g., no. 85–FZ. Sobranie zakonodatel'stva RF, 1996, no. 28 (8 July), st. 3347.

Following a letter of inquiry from Rosarkhiv about the difficulties of applicability of this law to archival affairs, legislative authorities have assured Rosarkhiv that an amended version of the law will be prepared in the fall of 1996.
g. Documentation Relating to Atomic Weapons


See also the directive, “Sbornik arkhivnykh dokumentov,” on the implementation of the February 1995 decree and appointing a commission for declassification (24 May 1995), No. 728–R, signed by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, 7 June 1995, p. 5; an English translation by Mark Kramer is scheduled for publication in CWIHP 6 (Winter 1996).

3. Laws and Directives Regulating Archives/Records of Specific Federal Agencies

a. Archive of the President RF


Published in “Vestnik AP RF,” no. 1, in Istochnik, 1995, no. 1, p. 116, together with three other secret documents issued earlier by Soviet President Gorbachev, about the organization of AP RF. The archive, including the records from the archive of the Politburo, was officially transferred from the control of the President of the USSR to the President of the RSFSR by the secret directive, “O peredache arkhiva Prezidenta SSSR v arkhiv Prezidenta RSFSR”: Rasporiazhenie Prezidenta SSSR, 23 December 1991, no. RP-3152 (ibid., p. 115).


Provides for the permanent holdings of the AP RF, including the historical part, to a much more restrictive extent than in previous decrees.

b. Security and Intelligence Service Records (Former KGB)

See also A-2 and A-5


Amendments to the law are recorded in Vedomosti S’ezda, 1992, no. 33, st. 1912.

A paragraph in the law places all information about agents and their informants of the KGB and its predecessors (without time limitation) in the category of “state secrets,” thus limiting the categories of KGB documentation that can be declassified. A copy of the law with accompanying analysis was issued as a separate brochure: Zakon ob operativno-rozysknoi deiatel'nosti (M.: Iuridicheskaia literatura, 1994).
See the later regulation passed in December 1995 and signed into law January 1996 (A-44).

Regulates the Government Communications Service and related organs, which have taken over functions of counterespionage and ciphered communications, previously handled by the KGB. Establishes the regulation (art. 18, para. 3) that records of the organs are to be kept by the agency itself, but that those of “scientific-historical value” are eventually to be transferred to federal archives.

Establishes a 50-year ruling from the date of creation during which period documents relating to foreign intelligence activities are to be closed.

Article 7 deals specifically with the FSB archives, essentially giving the agency the right to retain and protect its own records, and establishes the inviolability of documents revealing methods and agents with no time limit, although there is a provision for documentation “of historical and scientific value” to be transferred to federal archives.

Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 9 (17 January 1996), pp. 4–5. Passed by the Duma on 8 December 1995 as a general law covering foreign intelligence agencies. In addition to the SVR, the law also covers the Chief Intelligence Directorate (GRU), the Federal Communications and Information Service, and the foreign-intelligence section of the FSB. Article 7 deals specifically with the right of each of these agencies to retain and protect their own agency archives (similar to L–43), although provides for documentation “of historical and scientific value” to be transferred to federal archives.

Published in Rossiiskaia gazeta, no. 106 (6 June 1996), pp. 4–5. A general law pertaining to all security and intelligence agencies, including the armed forces. Article 17 provides for the retention of their own archives by the agencies involved, but also specifies that materials of “historical and scientific value are to be declassified and transferred to archives under Rosarkhiv.”

c. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Article 5 gives MID the right to retain its archives permanently.

d. State Radio-Television and Motion Picture Archives
See also A-57 regarding deposit copies


See also the earlier provisions for Gosteleradiofond in the presidential decree, “O sovershenstvovanii gosudarstvennogo upravleniia v sfere massovoi informatsii”: Ukaz Prezidenta RF ot 20 dekabria 1993 g., no. 2255. Sobranie aktov Prezidenta i Pravitel'stva RF, 1993, no. 52 (27 December), st. 5067.

4. Provisions for Accession and Preservation of Specific Agency Records

a. Atomic Energy


b. Newspapers


c. Supreme Soviet and Other Agencies


Calls for the preservation of documentation of the Supreme Soviet that had been retained in the Russian White House, following the October 1993 suppression of the Supreme Soviet and the armed clashes in Moscow that followed.

d. Personnel Records


5. Laws and Decrees Regarding Copyright and Licensing

Use of Archival Documents and Archival Deposit Copies
6. Regulations Relating to Restitution and Transfer Abroad of Archives and Other Cultural Treasures


Regulates the transfer of cultural treasures to and from abroad and prohibits the export of designated cultural treasures.


Establishes a moratorium on restitution of foreign cultural treasures brought to Russia after World War II until the adoption of appropriate Russian legislation regulating the matter.

7. Laws and Decrees Relating to the Russian Cultural Heritage (including Archival Repositories)


**A-63.** “O vkluchenii otdel’nykh ob’ektov v Gosudarstvennyi svod osobo tsennykh ob’ektov kul’turnogo naslediia narodov Rossiiskoi Federatsii”: Ukaz Presidenta RF ot 6 noiaabria 1993 g., no. 1847. **Sobranie aktov Prezidenta i Pravitel’stva RF**, 1993, no. 45 (8 November), st. 4334. Published in **Otechestvennye arkhivy**, 1993, no. 6, p. 16.

**A-64.** “Polozhenie o Gosudarstvennom svode osobo tsennykh ob’ektov kul’turnogo naslediia narodov Rossiiskoi Federatsii”: Postanovlenie Pravitel’stva RF ot 6 oktiabria 1994 g., no. 1143. **Sobranie zakonodatels’stva RF**, 1994, no. 25 (11 June), st. 2710.

Appendix 2: **Federal Archives under Rosarkhiv and Major Federal Agency Archives**

The list below, drawn from the ArcheoBiblioBase directory and bibliographic database for Russian archives, provides an abbreviated listing of:

1. The current sixteen federal archives (several are officially called “Preservation Centers”) under the administration of the Federal Archival Service of Russia (Rosarkhiv), which form the network of what in most countries would be considered the national archives (these bear the preface “B” as designated in the ABB database).
2. Other major archives of federal agencies that have the right by law to the long-term retention of their own records (these bear the preface “C” from the ABB database), including those of a more technical and specialized profile.

Institutional entries preceeded by a zero and listed with an asterisk (*) are administrative agencies rather than actual archives.


Included under various archives in terms of bibliography are only the major repository-level guides that have appeared starting in 1991. Listings of earlier guides, including those that were previously classified, and other basic reference publications and finding aids for each archive appear in the 1997/1998 printed directories. Publications listed with an asterisk (*) had not appeared by the time this list went to press.

The data included below were last revised in June 1998, although only minimal updating was possible at that point. The operating hours for different archives reflect the 1998 summer schedule. However, the continuing budgetary crisis may force further curtailment of services, temporary closings, and/or reduced hours. A major reform which will involve the combining of three pairs of federal archives, is to be anticipated later in the summer of 1998 (the projected changes are explained in the “Author’s Foreward to the CWIHP Edition,” under Chapter 4). These will be accompanied by some changes of personnel and telephone numbers in the affected archives, and the changes may temporarily affect operations. Researchers should verify the data by telephone or fax, or e-mail where available, although telephone, fax, and e-mail services have also been affected by the crisis.

**B. Federal Archives Under Rosarkhiv**

**B–0. *Federal'naia arkhivnaia sluzhba Rossii (Rosarkhiv)*
[Federal Archival Service of Russia]**

*Address:* 103132, Moscow, ul. Il'inka (formerly ul. Kuibysheva), 12  
*Telephone:* 206-27-85; 206-23-25;  
*Fax:* (7-095) 206-55-87; 200-42-05  
*E-mail:* kinarch@glasnet.ru  
*Hours:* M–F 9:00–18:00
Chairman of the Federal Archival Service: Vladimir Petrovich Kozlov (tel. 206-37-70; 206-35-31)
Head, Division of International Relations: Lada Vladimirovna Repulo (tel. 206-23-28)

Previous names:
Gosudarstvennaia arkhivnaia sluzhba Rossii (Rosarkhiv) [State Archival Service of Russia] (IX/XII.1992–VIII.1996)

Rosarkhiv, the administrative agency in charge of state archives throughout the Russian Federation was founded as the State Committee for Archival Affairs of Russia (Roskomarkhiv) in 1990 on the basis of the Main Archival Administration of the RSFSR (Glavarkhiv RSFSR). In the fall of 1991, Roskomarkhiv took over the former all-union central state archives previously administered by Glavarkhiv SSSR, all the administrative functions of that organ, as well as institutes and agencies under its jurisdiction. Roskomarkhiv’s administrative and jurisdictional functions with respect to federal-level archives were defined by a directive of 24 June 1992. A presidential decree in September 1992 (implemented by a December 1992 regulation) reorganized Roskomarkhiv as the State Archival Service of Russia (Rosarkhiv). As of 14 August 1996, it was renamed the Federal Archival Service of Russia. The current status of governmental and non-governmental archives in Russia are based on the “General Law of the Russian Federation on the Archival Fond of the Russian Federation and Archives” (July 1993), and the “Regulation on the Archival Fond of the Russian Federation” (March 1994). These, together with the “Regulation on the State Archival Service of Russia,” designate Rosarkhiv as the executive agency of state policies with respect to archival affairs.

Access: For access to federal archives under Rosarkhiv, researchers should apply directly by official letter of application to the director of the individual archive requested. The Rosarkhiv office is prepared to advise researchers (in writing or by phone) trying to locate specific materials or regarding access questions.
B–1. Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Rossiiskoi Federatsii (GA RF)
[State Archive of the Russian Federation]

Address: 119817, Moscow, ul. Bol'shaia Pirogovskaia, 17
Telephone: 245-81-41; Fax: (095) 245-12-87
E-mail: garf@glasnet.ru
Director: Sergei Vladimirovich Mironenko (tel. 245-12-87)

Chital'nyi zal No. 1
[Reading Room No. 1 (Holdings from Former TsGAOR SSSR)]
Address: 119817, Moscow, ul. Bol'shaia Pirogovskaia, 17
RdngRm: 245-81-61
Hours: MWF 12:00–20:00; TuTh 10:00–18:00; June–July: M–F 12:00–18:00
(August—closed)
Head of Reading Room No. 1: Nina Ivanovna Abdulaeva (tel. 245-81-61)

Chital'nyi zal No. 2
[Reading Room No. 2 (Holdings from Former TsGA RSFSR)]
Address: 121883, Moscow, Berezhkovskaia nab., 26
Telephone: 240-32-54 (also fax); RdngRm: 240-33-13
Hours: M–F 9:00–17:00; June–July: 10:00–16:00 (August—closed)
Head of Reading Room No. 2: Ol'ga Anatol'evna Neginskaia (tel. 240-33-13)

Previous names:
Tsentr'al'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv RSFSR (TsGA RSFSR) [Central State Archive of the
Tsentr'al'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Oktiabr'skoi revoliutsii, vysshikh organov
gosudarstvennoi vlasti i organov gosudarstvennogo upravleniia SSSR (TsGAOR
SSSR) [Central State Archive of the October Revolution, High Organs of State

GA RF was established in 1992 on the basis of the combined holdings of the former
Central State Archive of the October Revolution, High Organs of State Power, and Organs of
State Administration of the USSR—TsGAOR SSSR (1941–1961) and the Central State
Archive of the RSFSR—TsGA RSFSR (1957–1992). It now has over 3,000 fonds (with over
5 million file units), dating from 1800 through 1993.

The most substantial part of GA RF holdings are those from the Soviet period, consisting
of records of the highest organs of Soviet power and state administration on both All-Union
and Russian Federation levels from the October Revolution through 1991 (with the exception
of records held in other specialized federal-level state and agencies), which came to it from
TsGAOR SSSR.

The pre-revolutionary division of GA RF comprises records of the central highest-level
judicial, penal, and political and criminal investigatory agencies in the Russian Empire,
which came from the former Historico-Revolutionary Archive in Petrograd (transferred to
Moscow in 1924). It also has many personal papers and collections of the Imperial family
and court which came from the former New Romanov (Novoromanovskii) Archive. Most of
the pre-revolutionary division had earlier comprised the Central State Historical Archive in Moscow—TsGIAM (Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi istoricheskii arkhiv v g. Moskve) (absorbed by TsGAOR SSSR in 1961). There are also records of the Kingdom of Poland and records of agencies of the Provisional Government of 1917.

Personal papers represent a galaxy of well-known politicians, state functionaries, and trade-union leaders from both the pre-revolutionary and Soviet periods, as well as those of the imperial family. There are also many collections from the former Russian Foreign Historical Archive in Prague (RZIA) and other émigré collection that were transferred to Moscow after World War II.

With the absorption of TsGA RSFSR (founded as a separate institution in 1958), GA RF now also holds many of the records of central agencies of the Russian Federation from the Soviet period.

Access: GA RF has been making considerable progress in declassification. All of the pre-revolutionary division of the archive is open to researchers without any restrictions.

Most of Soviet-era holdings predating the outbreak of World War II in Russia (1941) have been declassified, with only a few exceptions. Part of the fond of the Council of People’s Commissars (Sovnarkom) for the wartime period is still closed. Subsequent records in the fond of Sovnarkom (to 1946) and the Council of Ministers of the USSR and RSFSR (SovMin SSSR and RSFSR, after 1946) through the 1950s have been partially declassified. The records of the Soviet Military Government in Germany (SVAG) were closed for most research purposes by presidential decree in August 1992, but as of September 1995, a new presidential decree calls for their declassification (with the exception of files relating to property matters); as of this writing, they are not yet open for extensive use.

Most of the so-called special files (Osobyе papki) from the NKVD/MVD Secretariat (1944–1953) covered by newly published catalogues are now open to researchers, except for those addressed to L. V. Beria; earlier records in this series have not been transferred from the Federal Security Service (see C–6).

A list of some 5,000 files relating to subjects covered by special presidential declassification regulations, such as those relating to human rights, prisoners of war, and repressed individuals, and which have recently been declassified, is available to interested researchers.

According to an agreement between Rosarkhiv and the FSB (30.XI.1994), planned transfers from the FSB archive to GA RF include report files on former officers of the White Armies, report and verification files on Germans that were held in special camps in the Soviet zone of occupation in Germany, and captured files relating to individuals of German origin, the so-called Volksdeutsch (Rus. fol'ksdoiche).

Recent General Guides:


The first volume of the new, comprehensive guide to GA RF describes fonds in the pre-revolutionary division with detailed descriptions of 608 fonds, of which 143 were previously classified. A brief agency history is provided for all agencies represented, and the contents of individual *opisi* are described for larger fonds. Includes detailed coverage of the police records and Polish-area records earlier described briefly in the secret TsGAOR 1952 guide.

The second volume covers 745 fonds of former TsGA RSFSR, 1917–1992, most of which are fully declassified. These are arranged in five sections—(1) chief executive and administrative organs of the RSFSR (68 fonds), including the All-Russian Central Executive Committee (VTsIK) and various commissions devoted to specific problems; (2) republic-level agencies of all-union ministries, sub-ministries, and departments (566 fonds); (3) judicial organs of the RSFSR, including the Ministry (earlier Commissariat) of Justice, courts and procurators (18 fonds); (4) social/public organizations including trade unions, cooperatives, and scientific, scholarly, cultural, and educational organizations and associations (138 fonds); (5) special fonds and collections, including one with materials on the 1991 elections, and miscellaneous files too few to form separate fonds. The 40 fonds of personal papers in former TsGA RSFSR will be included in a separate volume covering all personal fonds in GA RF. Appendices include complete numerical lists of fonds, a list of fonds transferred to other repositories, and abbreviations and acronyms. There are indexes for surnames and geographic place names.

A third volume covers 402 postrevolutionary fonds, 1923 through 1991. These include records of the highest organs of state government (the Central Executive Committee [TsIK SSSR], the Supreme Soviet, and the Council of Ministers), commissariats and ministries (Internal Affairs, Justice, Labor, Health, Education, Press, etc.), highest agencies of justice (courts, procurators, special courts and penal authorities), and central agencies of trade unions, social-political organizations, and sports, among others, as well as documentary collections of White Guard and Russian émigré organizations and individuals from former TsGAOR SSSR.

**Finding Aids — Specialized:**

ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENT: (from the USA): http://www.chadwyck.com; (outside the USA): http://www.chadwyck.co.uk.

Microfilm of opisi of most post-revolutionary fonds in the GA RF (i.e. those from both the former TsGAOR SSSR and TsGA RSFSR) has been prepared under the auspices of a joint project between Rosarkhiv and the Hoover Institution. Copies are available to researchers in the Hoover Institution and the Library of Congress, as well as a number of other libraries, and can be purchased from Chadwyck-Healey.
B–2. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv drevnikh aktov (RGADA)
[Russian State Archive of Early Acts]

Address: 119817, Moscow, ul. Bol'shaia Pirogovskaia, 17
Telephone: 245-83-23; Fax: (7-095)245-30-98; RdngRm: 245-83-25
E-mail: ada@glasnet.ru
Hours: MWF 12:00–20:00; TuTh 9:30–17:00;
       June–July: M–F 9:30–17:30 (August —closed)
Director: Mikhail Petrovich Lukichev (tel. 246-50-91)

Previous names:
Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv feodal'no-krepostnicheskoi epokhi (GAFKE)  [State Archive of the Feudal-Serfdom Epoch]  (1931–1941)
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv drevnikh aktov SSSR (TsGADA)  [Central State Archive of Early Acts of the USSR]  (1941–VI.1992)

In 1992, the Central State Archive of Early Acts (TsGADA SSSR) was renamed Russian State Archive of Early Acts (RGADA). RGADA retains documents dating from the eleventh through the beginning of the twentieth century, consisting of the records of central and regional agencies of the Russian Empire and its predecessor states up to the time of the administrative reforms of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries (with the exception of the records of the Admiralty, Foreign, and Military Collegia). RGADA also holds the fonds of central land-survey agencies of Russia from the eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries; records of monasteries and other religious institutions; personal papers of state and public figures, men of science and art; archives of major landowners and gentry families; collections of historical documents and manuscript books; and collections of Russian and foreign incunabula, early printed, and rare books dating from the fifteenth through the nineteenth centuries.

Access: All of the archival holdings are open to researchers.

Recent General Guides:

The long-promised comprehensive four-volume guide. Although the detailed annotations for individual fonds do not list opisi, each volume has an appended list of opisi with dates and compilers, as well as extensive indexes. The first volume includes a helpful chart portraying the history of the archive and its pre-revolutionary predecessors. The second volume contains an extensive bibliography of documentary publications and reference literature (although regrettably lacking rubrics). The third volume describes records of local institutions of the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries and monasteries. The fourth volume will cover collections of manuscripts and early printed books, family and personal papers, and estate fonds.
B–3. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi istoricheskii arkhiv (RGIA)
[Russian State Historical Archive]

Address: 190000, St. Petersburg, Angliiskaia nab. (formerly Krasnogo Flota), 4
Telephone: 311-09-26; Fax: (812) 311-22-52; Teletype: 122-672 “Arkhiv”
E-mail: rgia@glasnet.ru
Hours: MWF 10:00–20:30, TuTh 10:00–17:30;
June–August: M–Th 10:00–17:30, F 10:00–16:00
Director: Aleksandr Rostislavovich Sokolov (tel. 311-09-26)

Previous names:
Tsentr'nyi gosudarstvennyi istoricheskii arkhiv v Leningrade (TsGIAL) [Central State
Historical Archive in Leningrad] (1941–1961)
Tsentr'nyi gosudarstvennyi istoricheskii arkhiv SSSR (TsGIA SSSR) [Central State
Historical Archive of the USSR] (1961–1992)

RGIA holds the major records of high-level and central state and administrative
institutions and agencies of the Russian Empire from the nineteenth century to 1917 (except
the records of the Army, Navy, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs), as well as fonds of
social organizations, institutions, and individuals of pre-revolutionary Russia. The archive
received its present name in June 1992, and before 1961 was known as TsGIAL.

Access: All fonds in the archive are now open for research, including those previously
classified. In July 1995 the archive was officially closed by the Fire Marshal, due to serious
structural problems with the building (coming one month after the theft of over 12,000
documents, most of which were later recovered). Earlier physical problems of the building
have caused temporary closure of some fonds—for example, a collapsed ceiling in 1992 has
prevented access to some sections of the fond of the Ministry of the Interior (for instance, the
Department of General Affairs and the Economic Department).

Despite these difficult circumstances, the archive has been attempting to serve researchers on a limited
basis. Scholars are advised to inquire in advance regarding research arrangements at any given time.

Recent General Guides:
Fondy Rossiiskogo gosudarstvennogo istoricheskogo arkhiva: Kratkii spravochnik.
Compiled by D. I. Raskin and O. P. Sukhanova. Edited by D. I. Raskin and V. V. Lapin.
St. Petersburg: RGIA, 1994. 120 p. [RGIA] (Lib: IU)

Provides a complete list of fonds, including recently declassified materials (as of 1993), with the
name, dates, and number of files in each fond. For institutional fonds, it also lists major previous
names of the creating agency. Appendices include a short survey of archival reference materials, a
bibliography of published reference literature, including article-length surveys of fonds, schema for the
RGIA card catalogues, and an index of fond numbers.


A preliminary printout produced from the relatively primitive computerized
version of the typescript register of opisi (b-89), together with other fonds
declassified as of January 1993. In fond-number order, it characterizes each opis',
including dates and number of files, with a short annotation in Russian. Printed
without a preface or explanation about its source and content, it contains more in-
depth information than the 1956 guide. In practice, however, it can be used only in
conjunction with that guide and the new 1994 short directory, because it lacks
adequate data about the fonds themselves, the history of their creating agency, and
bibliography of other reference aids. There are no indexes, but a key-word searchable
floppy disk is furnished at an extra cost.
B–4. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi voenno-istoricheskii arkhiv (RGVIA)
[Russian State Military History Archive]

*Address:* 107005, Moscow, ul. 2-ia Baumanskaia, 3
*Telephone:* 261-20-70; *Fax:* (095) 267-18-66; *RdngRm:* 267-44-62
*Hours:* MW 10:00–20:00; TuTh 10:00–17:00; F 10:00–16:00 (August—September)
*Director:* Irina Olegovna Garkusha (*tel.* 261-86-96, 261-20-70)

*Previous names:*
Leningradskii voenno-istoricheskii arkhiv (LVIA) [Leningrad Military History Archive] (1934–1941)
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi voenno-istoricheskii arkhiv SSSR (TsGVIA SSSR) [Central State Military History Archive of the USSR] (1941–VI.1992)

RGVIA, as most recently renamed in 1992 (earlier TsGVIA), serves as the centralized archive for military records of the Russian Empire, consolidating the holdings from various pre-revolutionary Russian military archives and other repositories throughout the former Soviet Union. RGVIA retains documentation produced from the activities of highest, central, and local military administration and military agencies of the Russian Empire from the end of the seventeenth century until March of 1918.

*Access:* All of the fonds in the archive are now open to researchers.

*Recent General Guides:*
There is no recent guide to the RGVIA. The former classified three-volume list of fonds (1979), the detailed 1949, and the 1949 guide to the former Leningrad branch of the archive have now been declassified and are available to researchers at the archive, providing much more complete coverage than the earlier 1941 guide which previously was the only guide publicly available.
B–5. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Voenno-Morskogo Flota  
(RGAVMF)  
[Russian State Archive of the Navy]

Address:  
191065, St. Petersburg, ul. Millionnaia (formerly Khalturina), 36

Telephone:  
315-90-54;  RdngRm:  315-91-87

Hours:  
MWF 11:00–20:00, TuTh 9:30–17:30 (year-round)

Director:  
Valentin Grigor'evich Mishanov  (tel. 312-11-37)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi voenno-morskoi arkhiv  [Central State Naval Archive]  (1937–1941)
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Voenno-Morskogo Flota SSSR  (TsGAVMF SSSR)  
[Central State Archive of the Navy of the USSR]  (1941–VI.1992)

The archive was established in 1724 attached to the State Admiralty Collegium for the collection and preservation of the records of the collegium, its expeditions and offices. RAVMF houses the complete records of the Russian and the Soviet Navies from the eighteenth century through 1940. These include fonds of central administrative institutions, commands of fleets and flotillas, naval educational establishments and scientific and research institutions, naval ports, shipbuilding and other navy yards, hydrographic and scientific expeditions, as well as personal papers of eminent navigators and naval commanders.

Access:  All pre-revolutionary fonds are now open to researchers. Although most of the documentation of the Soviet period has been declassified (through 1942), some restrictions remain.

Recent General Guides:
Mazur, Tamara Petrovna.  [Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Voenno-Morskogo Flota]:  
Provides brief annotations of 1,816 opisi for 1,260 pre-revolutionary from the establishment of the Russian Navy until 1917. Also available on a key-word searchable diskette (by separate purchase).

Malevinskaia, Marina Evgen'evna.  Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv VMF (1917–1940):  

An annotated, expanded, and redited version of the 1991 guide (b-144). The first volume annotates records of the Provisional Government, central naval agencies, and the Baltic, Black Sea, Northern, and Pacific Fleets during the pre World War II period as well as fonds of White Guards and personal papers. Includes a summary list of fonds by number, references to ships, and name and geographic indexes. The second volume covers records of individual ships.

Indexes include list by fond numbers, personal names (pp. 471–74), ships (pp. 475–85), place names (pp. 450–70), and subjects (key word) (pp. 404–49).
B–6. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv ekonomiki (RGAE)  
[Russian State Archive of the Economy]

Address: 119817, Moscow, ul. Bol'shaia Pirogovskaia, 17  
Telephone: 245-26-64; RdngRm: 245-81-17  
Hours: MW 10:00–19:00; TuTh 10:00–18:00; F 10:00–16:00;  
June–July M–F 12:00–18:00 (August—closed)  
Director: Elena Aleksandrovna Tiurina (tel. 246-48-56)

Previous names:  
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv narodnogo khoziaistva SSSR (TsGANKh SSSR)  
[Central State Archive of the National Economy of the USSR] (1961–VI.1992)

Formerly known as TsGANKh SSSR, the centralized archive for post-revolutionary records relating to the economy, was renamed RGAE in 1992. The archive is the principal repository for all-union records relating to economic and fiscal matters, including those of central agencies of economic administration of the USSR from 1917 to 1991 on different levels of the economy—from local offices and trusts to the people’s commissariats (narkomats) and ministries and state committees throughout the USSR. The first major complex of fonds comprises records and statistical materials of state commissariats and later ministries, state committees such as the State Statistical Committee (Goskomstat), planning agencies such as Gosplan, and other central governmental agencies and organizations. The second large complex of records in RGAE combines fonds of manufacturing organizations, which were under the authority of the central administrative agencies for the national economy. A third complex of records is represented by fonds of scientific and research institutions (NII). Still another complex comprises fonds of central administrative organs for producers’ cooperatives and consumers’ cooperative societies. The archive has also accumulated a large complex of personnel files and personal papers, including those of leading functionaries in all branches of the national economy.

Access: Many of the formerly restricted fonds and parts of fonds have been declassified in recent years, including most of the records of Gosplan, the Central Statistical Committee (Goskomstat), and military industrial institutions. Secret sections remain in many fonds of more recent origin, which cannot yet be declassified according to the law “On State Secrets.” By the end of 1995, approximately five percent of the holdings—or about 50 fonds and their opisi, or parts thereof—were still classified. Information about still restricted fonds will appear in the fourth volume of the new guide.

Recent General Guides:  
The first volume of the new guide to RGAE includes annotations for 1,574 fonds of the first three categories in the archive (except for personal and secret fonds). There are helpful introduction in both English and Russian (although there are minor discrepancies between them). Indexes include: (1) fond numbers, (2) alphabetical list of fonds, (3) agencies or organizations included in the listed fonds, and (4) acronyms of agencies and organizations included. The reference facilities from which the indexes were produced are available in a computerized database in the archive. The second volume provides detailed coverage of fonds of the first and second categories (i.e. those considered the most important), including an annotation of each opis'. Organized in terms of functional and production categories, this volume replaces and significantly expands and updates the earlier 1990 typescript. The volume also lists fonds (or part thereof) that were declassified during the years 1992–1995. The third volume (nearing completion) will update the earlier guide to personal fonds. A fourth volume will cover more recently declassified materials.
B–7. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhyv literatury i iskusstva (RGALI)
[Russian State Archive of Literature and Art]

Address: 125212, Moscow, ul. Vyborgskaia, 3, korpus 2
Telephone: 159-73-92; Fax: (095) 159-73-81; RdngRm: 159-73-92
E-mail: rgali@glasnet.ru
Hours: MW 9:00–17:00; TuTh 9:00–20:30; F 9:00–15:30 (July–August—closed)
Director: Nataliia Borisovna Volkova (tel. 159-73-81)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi literaturnyi arkhyv (TsGLA SSSR) [Central State Literary Archive ] (1941–1954)
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhyv literatury i iskusstva SSSR (TsGALI SSSR) [Central State Archive of Literature and Art of the USSR] (1954–VI.1992)

As a centralized archive for documentation in the cultural sphere, RGALI was founded in 1941 under the name of TsGLA, on the basis of the collected manuscript holdings of the State Literary Museum (Goslitmuzei—GLM) and designated fonds from other museums and archives.

Currently RGALI is the largest repository of institutional records and personal papers relating to the history of Russian and Soviet literature, social thought, music, theater, cinema, and the fine arts. The chronological scope of its collected documentation covers three centuries—from the eighteenth century to the present, but the main bulk of materials is from the Soviet epoch. Holdings are divided in two general sections—the division of literature and the division of fine arts. Records of state institutions and social organizations occupy the largest and most important part of these divisions, including those of state administrative organs such as the Ministry (earlier Commissariat) of Culture and the censorship organ Glavlit among other central agencies, professional associations and unions, other non-governmental cultural organizations, scholarly and educational institutions in the realm of art, records film studios, theaters, orchestras, museums, publishing houses, newspapers, and magazines.

Approximately half of the personal papers in RGALI represent materials of literary orientation. The rest deal with other branches of art—theater, ballet, music, cinema, sculpture, architecture, and fine arts. Approximately seventy special subject- or type oriented collections of documents have been assembled from the RGALI’s many miscellaneous accessions—albums, engravings, manuscripts, poetry, letters, memoirs and diaries, photographs, and folklore materials.

During the years 1988–1993 more than 100 fonds or parts of fonds in RGALI were declassified, most representing documents of institutions, organizations, and individuals in emigration or repressed during the Soviet period.

Access: All previously classified institutional fonds (such as Glavlit) and fonds of or relating to repressed or émigré writers, have now been opened for research. Access to some materials in individual personal fonds may be limited according to agreement with their creators, donors, or heirs.

Recent General Guides:
A CD-ROM version of the first six volumes of the TsGALI guide series (1959–1988), together with the unpublished seventh volume and the Paris-published coverage of newly declassified materials. Provides full-text searching capacities for the annotations of individual fonds, with added portraits for personal fonds. Does not include bibliography of published guides and other finding aids. The initial version is marred by serious search limitations and inadequate instructions; for more on details see reviews by N. V. Kotrelev in: Novoe literaturnoe obozrenie, 1997, no. 27, and by Mark Steinberg and Helen Sullivan in the Slavic Review, summer 1997.

The basic series of guides to RGALI. The seventh volume has been delayed in press. It is now of particular importance because of its coverage of a number of émigré holdings and papers of previously repressed writers. A CD-ROM version of the entire series (including vol. 7) is available above.

Provides brief annotations for many of the recently declassified fonds, particularly those for émigré and earlier repressed writers.
**B–8. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi voennyi arkhiv (RGVA)**

[Russian State Military Archive]

*Address:* 125884, Moscow, ul. Admirala Makarova, 29

*Telephone:* 159-80-91; *RdngRm:* 159-85-23; *Fax:* (095) 159-79-02

*Hours:* MTh 11:30–20:00; TuWF 10:00–17:30;

June: M–F 10:00–17:00 (July–August—closed)

*Director:* Liudmila Vasil'evna Dvoinykh (tel. 159-79-02)

*Previous names:*


Tsental'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Sovetskoj Armii (TsGASA) [Central State Archive of the Soviet Army] (1958–VI.1992)

First established in 1920 under the name of the Archive of the Red Army (*Arkhiv Krasnoi Armii*), and later the Central State Archive of the Red Army (TsGAKA), the archive was renamed in 1956 the Central State Archive of the Soviet Army (TsGASA). It received its current name in 1992. RGVA retains records of the Soviet armed forces and internal special troops from the years of the Civil War through the interwar period (1918–1940), together with related fonds of personal papers. Along with the records of the highest, central organs of military administration of the RKKA and the General Staff are those of the political command of the Red Army, military and political sections and administrations of different military districts, fronts, armies, and divisions in the course of various military engagements, local organs for military administration, as well as records of the military intelligence service (GRU), and military educational institutions.

*Access:* During the last few years, almost all of the earlier closed fonds have been declassified, with the agreement of military authorities, although some documentation containing information of state and military secrets remain closed to researchers, such as intelligence records (GRU).

*Recent General Guides:*


A detailed guide with very extensive agency histories for individual fonds. The first volume covers central military records, while the second volume covers those of lower army units, and regional army commands throughout the former USSR. Because it was published abroad and sold only for hard currency ($110), few copies are available in Russian libraries. Does not cover some more recently declassified fonds.

*Recent Specialized FINDING AIDS:*
Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi voennyi arkhiv: Spravochnik po fondam Beloi Armii.  
Describes fonds relating to the White Army during the Civil War, including those from the Russian Foreign Historical Archive (RZIA) in Prague and other émigré collections acquired after World War II.
B–9. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv nauchno-tekhnicheskoi dokumentatsii (RGANTD)
[Russian State Archive of Scientific-Technical Documentation]

Address: 117393, Moscow, ul. Profsoiuznaya, 82
Telephone: 335-00-95; Fax: (095) 333-10-88; RdngRm: 334-28-00
Hours: M–F 10:00–17:00; June–August: M–Th 11:30–16:00, F 11:30–15:00
Director: Aleksandr Sergeevich Shaposhnikov (tel. 335-00-95)

Filial v g. Samare [Branch in Samara]
Address: 443700, Samara, ul. Michurina, 58
Telephone: (8-462) 36-17-85; Teletype: 344180 “Zamok”
Fax: (8-462) 36-17-85
Hours: M–F 10:00–17:00; June–August: M–Th 11:30–16:00, F 11:30–15:00
Director: Iurii Aleksandrovich Shasharin (tel. [8–462] 36-17-81)

Previous names:
Rossiiskii nauchno-issledovatel'skii tsentr kosmicheskoi dokumentatsii (RNITsKD)
Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi nauchno-tekhnicheskii arkhiv (RGNTA) [Russian State
Tsentral’nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv nauchno-tekhnicheskoi dokumentatsii SSSR
(TSGANTD SSSR) [Central State Archive of Scientific-Technical Documentation of
the USSR] (1967-1992)

The archive was initially established as TsgANTD SSSR (Tsentral’nyi gosudarstvennyi
arkhiv nauchno-tekhnicheskoi dokumentatsii SSSR) in 1967 in Moscow. Transferred to
Kuibyshev (formerly and now again Samara) in 1976, a branch archive remained in Moscow.
Reorganized as RGNTA in June 1992, in June 1995 it was consolidated with the Russian
Scientific-Research Center for Space Documentation (RNITsKD), which had before 1992
been a secret research facility under Glavarkhiv. Its headquarters are now located in
Moscow, where it combines the holdings of the former RNITsKD and the Moscow branch of
RGNTA, while the former RGANTA facility in Samara remains a branch.

In terms of the former RGNTA holdings, the archive retains scientific-technical and construction
documentation, along with some related managerial records from the Soviet period, which were created from
the activity of all-union level institutions located on the territory of the RSFSR. In addition, the archive holds
some scientific-research and construction documentation from the pre-revolutionary period, although, as a rule,
such documentation is stored in state historical archives.

The former RGNTA holdings in the archive can be divided into six basic groups of fonds,
according to their origin: (1) scientific and research institutions in the realm of industry,
construction, transportation, and communication; (2) construction and technological institutes
and bureaus, regardless of their controlling agency; (3) industrial design and prospecting
institutes; (4) the Russian State Patent Library as an all-Russian central branch agency for
scientific and research information; (5) documentation from branches of above-mentioned
institutions and their predecessor agencies; and finally, personal papers of well-known
scientists, scholars, inventors, and engineers.
A seventh complex of materials in RGANTD now comprises all of the holdings of the former archive for space documentation, TsGANTD, which had brought together a wide variety of documentation relating to the history of Russin space-rocket technology and space exploration—administrative records, scientific-technical documents, film, photographs, sound recordings, and videotapes, along with telemetric and machine-readable data. Materials have come from state scientific-research institutes, design and construction bureaus, scientific-research divisions, business enterprises, military units, television and radio-broadcasting companies, film studios, press information agencies, higher educational establishments, and social organizations.

**Access:** Most documents from the former RGNTA and its Moscow branch are open for research. Many fonds from the former RNITsKD are still classified, as designated by their creating agencies.

For access to documents from the Samara branch, it is advisable to make advance arrangements with the director of the branch archive. Access to documents from the former Moscow Branch of RGNTA requires the permission of the director and his deputy.

**Recent General Guides:**


An illustrated publicity brochure describing the holdings and services available in what is now the Samara branch of the RGANTD. Supplements the extensive 1990 guide.


An updated guide to what is now the Samara branch of RGANTD.
B–10. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv fonodokumentov (RGAFD)
[Russian State Archive of Sound Recordings]

Agency: Federal'naia arkhivnaia sluzhba Rossii (Rosarkhiv)
[Federal Archival Service of Russia]

Address: 107005, Moscow, 2-ia Baumanskaia ul., 3
Telephone: 261-13-00; RdcRm: 267-80-56
Hours: M–F 10:00–17:00 (year round)
Director: Vladimir Aleksandrovich Koliada (tel. 261-13-00)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv kinofotonodokumentov SSSR—Fonootdel [Central State Archive of Documentary Films, Photographs, and Sound Recordings of the USSR—Sound Division] (1941–1967)
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv zvukozapisei SSSR (TsGAZ SSSR) [Central State Archive of Sound Recordings of the USSR] (1967–VI.1992)

RGAFD, as it was renamed in 1992, was earlier established as a separate archive in 1967 as TsGAZ SSSR, on the basis of the sound division of the Central State Archive of Documentary Films, Photographs, and Sound Recordings (TsGAKFFD SSSR). RGAFD serves as a centralized repository for documentary and artistic sound recordings from the end of the nineteenth century to the present. Its holdings include wax cylinders, recordings from talking-picture films made with mechanical and photographic methods, metal gramophone mouldings and records, magnetic and paper tapes, and CD-ROM.

In recent years, RGAFD has been systematically promoting “oral history” with the creation its own recorded productions about past and current events in the social, political, and cultural life of the country.

N.B. Many sound recordings used for broadcast on state radio are held by the State Fond of Television and Radio Programs (Gosteleradiofond—C–17).

Access: All of the materials in the archive are open to researchers. Almost all of the holdings have already been released in published form.

Recent General Guides:
B–11. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv kinofotodokumentov (RGAKFD)
[Russian State Archive of Documentary Films and Photographs]

Address: 143400, Moskovskaia oblast', Krasnogorsk, ul. Rechnaia, 1
Telephone: 562-14-64; 491-05-46; Fax: (095) 563-08-45; 563-42-05;
Hours: M–F 9:00–16:30 (year round)
Website: http://www.abamedia.com
Director: Liudmila Petrovna Zapriagaeva (tel. 563-08-45)

Filial v g. Vladimir  [Branch in Vladimir]
Address: 600000, Vladimir, ul. Letneperevozinskaia, 9
RdngRm: (8-09-222) 2-48-48
Hours: M–Th 9:00–15:00 (year round)
Director Tat'iana Nikolaevna Semenova (tel. [8-09-222] 2-47-63; [8-09-222] 2-55-38)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv kinofotodokumentov SSSR  (TsGAKFD SSSR)
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv kinofotofonodokumentov RSFSR  (TsGAKFFD RSFSR)

The present organization of the archive dates from 1992 as a result of the amalgamation of the former TsGAKFD SSSR in Krasnogorsk and TsGAKFFD RSFSR in Vladimir (founded in 1978). As the centralized state repository for documentary films, newsreels, and photographs, RGAKFD acquires and preserves copies of complete films and episodes in film footage or documentary outtakes produced by state film studios. It also holds photographs and negatives from information agencies, large newspapers, and magazines, predominantly from the Soviet period, although chronologically materials in the archive date back to the second part of the nineteenth century.

The archival holdings are important not only as historical sources but as valuable examples of film and photographic art. The archive retains the artistic productions of such prominent Soviet cinematographers as E. I. Shub, D. Vertov (D. A. Kaufman), I. P. Kopal'm, R. L. Karmen, A. P. Dovzhenko, M. I. Romm, and S. A. Gerasimov, along with photographs by A. Savel'ev, M. Sherling, and M. Nappel'baum.

The branch of RGAKFD in Vladimir The RGAKFD branch in Vladimir has been accessioning documentary films and photographs of particular significance for the RSFSR, and now the Russian Federation, from republic- (and now federative-) level sources, such as studios for newsreels and sound recordings, from oblast television and radio broadcasting companies and from private citizens. These reflect social, political, economic, and cultural events from the late nineteenth century to the present.

N.B. Collecting feature, animated, and some popular science films in the Soviet period was the function of the parallel central repository, Gosfilmofond (C–16), and hence such productions are not found in RGAKFDD. Documentary films and photographs also are held in several other federal and agency archives such as former
RNITsKD (now RGANTD, B–9), RTsKhIDNI (B–12), and Gosteleradiofond (C–17)—the latter especially 16mm and videocassettes used for television. See also the local audio-visual state archives in Moscow (D-4) and St. Petersburg (D-16), as well as those under the Academy of Sciences, major libraries, and museums.

**Access:** All materials in the archive are open to researchers.

**Copying:** Film-, video-, and photocopying are available. Rights and charges for copying films vary with limitations on the number of clips from a given reel. Recent academic researchers report exceptionally high prices for foreigners, and particularly in comparison to Russian rates. Terms of use are determined by special agreement between the archive and user. Copying films and photographs for commercial purposes requires a license agreement. Licensing and sale of film footage outside Russia and the CIS is now handled on an exclusive basis through Abamedia-Archive Media Project with headquarters in Ft. Worth, TX (Tel: [1-817] 336-0777; Fax: 817-338-0588; E-mail: abamedia@abamedia.com).

**Recent General Survey:**

The Abamedia website now presents an introductory survey and sample catalogue extracts about RGAKFD holdings of documentary films and photographs, with brief explanation of their electronic cataloguing and preservation activities for motion pictures underway at the archive. Plans call for increasingly larger completed portions of the catalogues to be available on the Internet, for the purposes of both sales of film footage and opening information about the holdings internationally. Currently the decriptive data is available only in English.


A short survey of the history and holdings of the archive.
B-12. Rossiiskii tsentr khraneniia i izucheniiia dokumentov noveishei istorii (RTsKhIDNI)
[Russian Center for Preservation and Study of Records of Modern History]

Address: 103821, Moscow, ul. Bol'shaya Dmitrovka (formerly Pushkinskaia), 15
Telephone: 229-97-26; Fax: (095) 292-90-17; RdngRm: 229-91-22; 229-95-66
E-mail: rchidni1@glasnet.ru
Hours: MW 12:00–20:00, TuThF 9:30–17:30;
Director Kirill Mikhailovich Anderson (tel. 229-97-26)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi partiinyi arkhiv Instituta marksizma-leninizma pri TsK KPSS (Ts PA IML pri TsK KPSS) [Central Party Archive of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism of the CC CPSU] (1956-III.1991)
Tsentral'nyi partiinyi arkhiv Instituta teorii i istorii sotsializma TsK KPSS (TsPA ITIS) [Central Party Archive of the Institute of the Theory and History of Socialism of the CC CPSU] (IV–X.1991)

RTsKhIDNI was established in October 1991 on the basis of the former the Central Party Archive—TsPA IML, under the Institute of Marxism-Leninism, which was nationalized by the presidential decree in August 1991.

RTsKhIDNI holdings comprise three major thematic structural divisions: (1) documents on the social and political history of Western Europe (17th–20th cc.), with fonds and collections of copies and originals documents from Western European archives, including collected documents of Marx and Engels and personal papers of founders of other socialist and labour movements in various European countries; (2) records on the political history of Russia in the modern and contemporary periods (late 19th–20th cc.), including records of the Russian Social-Democratic Party (Bol'sheviks and Mensheviks), the archive of V. I. Lenin, and records of governing agencies of the CPSU from 1917 until 1991, and personal papers are rich with documentation of Bol'shevik leaders.; and (3) records on the history of the international communist, socialist, and labor movements (1860s through the 1950s), including records of the First, the Second, the Third Communist Internationals (Comintern), the Socialist Labor International, the Information Bureau of Communist and Workers Parties (Cominform, 1947–1956). In March 1993 RTsKhIDNI acquired the valuable collections (200,000 units) from the former Museum of Marx and Engels, which is now arranged as a new Division of Museum Fonds.

N.B. Researchers should note that most CPSU records postdating 1953 are now held in the Center for the Preservation of Contemporary Documentation (TsKhSD—B–13). Komsomol records are maintained in the Center for Preservation of Records of Youth Organizations (TsKhDMO—B–14). Many important files from various CP agencies are still retained in the Presidential Archive (C–1).

Access: Although most fonds in the archive are open for research, access is now restricted to some previously open fonds, including some fonds and files from the Comintern archive, especially all ciphered telegrams, and other top-secret files, pending declassification. Most post-1941 records of the VKP(b)/CPSU CC International Department remain closed (although declassification has started on these, and some initial files of the CC International Information Department for 1944–1945 have already been declassified). As of the end of
1997, many of the Politburo records and personal papers of high CPSU officials recently received from the Presidential Archive have not yet been declassified. Some of the records of the State Committee on Defense (GKO) during World War II have recently been opened, but other parts of this fond remain closed. Many personnel and other files relating to individuals are closed in connection with the law on personal privacy—see the published RTsKhIDNI regulation on this matter. Researchers have the right to request priority declassification of files in connection with publication projects.
Recent General Guides:
Rossiiskii tsentr khraneniia i izucheniiia dokumentov noveishei istorii: Kratkii putevoditel'.
Fondy i kollektsii, sobrannye Tsentral'nym partiiynym arkhivom. Compiled by
informatsionnye materialy k dokumental'nym fondam RTsKhIDNI,” vol. 1.

Rossiiskii tsentr khraneniia i izucheniiia dokumentov noveishei istorii: Kratkii putevoditel':
Fondy i kollektsii, sobrannye Tsentral'nym partiiynym arkhivom/ Research Guide to the
Russian Center for the Preservation and Study of Documents (Records) of Modern
(Contemporary) History (former Central Party Archive). Compiled by O. V. Naumov,
Iu. N. Amiantov, et al. Edited by J. Arch Getty, V. P. Kozlov, et al. Moscow:
Distributed abroad by REES, University of Pittsburgh.

This first guide to the former TsPA provides a comprehensive list of all fonds and
opisi within fonds (including those still classified), and notes about other available
reference materials. The English edition is the same as the Russian, but includes an
English preface by J. Arch Getty with a helpful survey history of the archive and its
holdings, and appended English-language annotations for fonds and collections of
Western provenance.

Putevoditel' po fondam i kollektsiim lichnogo proiskhzhdeniia. Compiled by
Iu. N. Amiantov and Z. N. Tikhonova. Edited by Iu. N. Amiantov, O. V. Naumov,
informatsionnye materialy k dokumental'nym fondam RTsKhIDNI.” [Rosarkhiv;
RTsKhIDNI] (Lib: IU)
A detailed guide describing 240 fonds and collections of personal papers,
supplementing data in the first volume of the RTsKhIDNI guide. In many cases the
source and date of acquisition are indicated, as are other parts of the same
individual’s papers in other repositories within Russia and abroad, but these data are
incomplete. The guide was started on the basis of an earlier guide to personal papers
in CPSU archives, originally edited by Iu. N. Amiantov and V. V. Anikeev, intended
as a third volume of the 1980 directory of personal papers. An appendix lists
additional fonds and supplements to earlier fonds of personal papers received during
1995 from AP RF.

Finding Aids – Specialized:
Archives of the Soviet Communist Party and Soviet State: Catalogue of Finding Aids and
Documents. [Cambridge, UK]: Chadwyck-Healey, 1995. Xix, 88 p. [Rosarkhiv; Hoover
Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace] (Lib: CSt-H; DLC; MH) Introduction by Jana
Howlett.

ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENT: (from the USA): http://www.chadwyck.com; (outside the
USA): http://www.chadwyck.co.uk.

Microfilmed opisi of almost all of the post-revolutionary fonds in RTsKhIND
have been prepared in connection with the Rosarkhiv-Hoover Institution project, and
are now distributed abroad by Chadwyk-Healey. In addition, some files of actual
documents in selected series (opisi) have been microfilmed in connection with this
project, such as those from CPSU congresses and conferences, Central Committee plenums, and the Politburo, among others. See the full catalogue available electronically at the Chadwyck-Healey website.
B–13. Tsentr khraneniiia sovremennoi dokumentatsii (TsKhSD)
[Center for Preservation of Contemporary Documentation]

Address: 103132, Moscow, ul. Il’inka (formerly ul. Kuibysheva), 12, entrance 8
Telephone: 206-23-21; Fax: (7 095) 206-23-21; 200-42-05; RdngRm: 206-29-53
Hours: TuTh 9:30–17:00, W 13:00–19:30; June–1st week of July, last 3 weeks of August: TuTh 9:30–17:30, W 13:00–19:30 (2d week of July–1st week of August—closed)
Director: Natal’ia Georgievna Tomilina (tel. 206-50-06)

Previous names:
Tekushchii arkhiv TsK KPSS [Current Archive of the CPSU Central Committee] (1952–VIII.1991)

TsKhSD was established in 1991 on the basis of current records from the ongoing agency archives (Tekushchii arkhiv) of structural divisions of the CPSU Central Committee, which were nationalized after the attempted August coup in 1991. TsKhSD accordingly retains records created by the activities of the highest central organs of the CPSU and the CP of the RSFSR, including their permanent and provisional commissions, bureaus, and the apparatus of the CPSU CC and the CC CP RSFSR. A few personal fonds have been established for individual CPSU officials and leaders. There are also some sound recordings. Documentation principally covers the period from 1952 to August 1991, although there are some holdings from the years 1922–1951. Over two-thirds of the holdings of TsKhSD have not been processed and definitively arranged and described.

The center combines several agency archives of CC structural subdivisions, such as the CPSS CC General Department (Obshchii otdel TsK KPSS), the Committee for Party Control (Komitet partiinogo kontrolia—KPK), the CC CPSU Organizational Department (Orgotdel TsK KPSS), which included CPSU membership records; the CC Administration of Affairs (Arkhivnyi fond Upravleniia delami TsK KPSS); and the International Department (Mezhdunarodnyi otdel), among others.

The Center was opened to researchers 25 February 1992 in the building of the CPSU Central Committee (TsK KPSS) near the Kremlin in Old Square (Staraia ploshchad’). Especially since the end of 1994, TsKhSD has been receiving transfers of additional Central Committee and Politburo files from the Archive of the President of the Russian Federation (AP RF—C–1).

Access: A very large percentage of the files in TsKhSD are still classified, although the declassification procedure has been progressing. Many others have not been processed and hence are not available to researchers. A number of records that were earlier available for research, including the records of the CC Secretariat (fond 4) and files from the International Department in fond 5 are closed as of mid-1998, pending further declassification review. Researchers may make requests for priority declassification consideration, but the process usually involves a fee for a thematic search. Ciphertext cables and other documents from all fonds are normally retained in a separate collection and have not been declassified.

Access to most of the archival internal reference system is closed, although opisi or other finding aids for some fonds can be ordered in the reading room.
Most of Fond 89, a special collection of copies of declassified high-level documents, many of them from Special Files in the Presidential Archive (C–I), including those assembled for the 1992 trial against the CPSU, is now available commercially from Chadwyck-Healey – “The Communist Party on Trial” (25 reels), together with the internal finding aids. Approximately 150 files or documents in fond 89 were withheld from the microfilms, because they had not been declassified.

Recent Survey:
Bondareva, Tat’iana Ivanovna. “Тsentru khraneniia sovremennoi dokumentatsii—5 let.”

An interview with the director and several archivists honoring the fifth anniversary of TsKhSD. Provides considerable background concerning problems and progress in arrangement, description, and declassification.

Finding Aids – Specialized


An item-level inventory of the miscellaneous collection of copies of 3,615 declassified documents that were released to the Constitutional Court from files of the Presidential Archive (AP RF), the KGB, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other repositories, including TSKhSD itself, which are now deposited in fond 89. The present catalogue covers approximately two-thirds of the documents in the collection, but does not provide archival references to the original documents, even those in TsKhSD itself. The 1995 edition includes cumulative name and subject indexes from the earlier serial editions. An additional catalogue of the remaining documents in the collection (opisi 53–72) is promised. Most of the documents themselves and the typescript opisi (perecheni) are now available in a microfilm edition from Chadwyck-Healey, although documents in some opisi and individual files were withheld from the microfilms. A more detailed English-language catalogue is available at the Hoover Institution, pending the CD-ROM version in preparation there.
B–14. Tsentr khraneniia dokumentov molodezhnykh organizatsii
(TsKhDMO)
[Center for Preservation of Records of Youth Organizations]

Address: 101000, Moscow, Bol'shoi Cherkasskii per., 5
Telephone: 921-42-45; RdngRm: 928-00-69
Hours: MTuTh 10:00–17:00 (year round)
Director Galina Semenovna Alaeva (tel. 921-49-15)

Previous names:
Tsentr'nyi arkhiv Vsesoiuznogo kommunisticheskogo soiuza molodezhi (TsA VLKSM) [Central Archive of the All-Union Communist Youth League] (1965–VI.1992)

Established in 1965 as the Central Archive of the Komsomol, on the basis of the archive of the General Division of the VLKSM Central Committee. In accordance with nationalization in 1991, the Komsomol Archive was transformed into a new center and officially renamed in July 1992.

The basic holdings in the archive are the records of the highest organs of the Komsomol, including most of its congresses and conferences. Starting from 1919 protocols (resolutions) have been preserved of plenums of the Bureau and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Russian Young Communist League (Rossiiskii kommunisticheskii soiuz molodezhi—RKSM, 1918–1924), the Russian Leninist Young Communist League (RLKSM, 1924–1926), and the Leninist Young Communist League of the USSR (VLKSM), along with their supplementary materials. There are also some records of Komsomol organs in the former Soviet union republics, and Komsomol committees of krais (kraikomy), and oblasts (obkomy). There are also records of Communist and other youth organizations, associations, and movements that functioned to the end of 1991, including the Committee for Affairs of Youth Organizations of the USSR, the Central Council of All-Union Pioneer Organization (1922–1991), and the Central Bureau of the Sputnik Youth Tourist Agency (1958–). In 1992 TsKhDMO began to collect personal papers.

The archive also holds a voluminous collection of photographs, sound recordings, microforms, and motion pictures (including videotapes), museum exhibits, and other materials.

Access: A large percentage of files in the archive have still not been declassified, although some categories of files are open to researchers. Declassification of all fonds is in process.

Recent General Guides:

An initial guide to the center is being finalized for publication, a typescript copy of which is available in the reading room.
B–15. Tsentr khraneniiia istoriko-dokumental'nykh kollektsii (TsKhIDK)
[Center for Preservation of Historico-Documentary Collections]

Address: 125212, Moscow, ul. Vyborgskaia, 3
Telephone: 159-73-83; Fax: (095) 159-90-05
Hours: M–Th 10:00–17:00; F 10:00–16:30; (August—closed)
Website: http://medialingua.ru; http://www.archives.ru
Director: Vladimir Nikolaevich Kuzelenkov (tel. 159-90-05)

Previous names:
Archiv Glavnogo upravleniia po delam voennoplennykh i internirovannykh MVD SSSR
(Arkhiv GUPVI) [Archive of the Main Administration for Affairs of Prisoners of War and Internees] (1939–1945)
Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvenny arkhiv SSSR (TsGOA SSSR) [Central State (Special) Archive of the USSR] (1946–VI.1992)

In July 1992, the formerly top-secret Central State Special Archive (TsGOA SSSR) was reorganized and renamed the TsKhIDK. The so-called Special Archive (Osobyi arkhiv) was officially established in March 1946 to house the archival materials of foreign origin from many European countries that were captured by the Soviet Army at the end of World War II in Germany, Poland, and Czechoslovakia and brought back to Moscow. The 870 fonds of captured records comprise official records of the Third Reich and personal papers of many Nazi leaders and prominent public figures of the Nazi movement; records of the high state agencies of other European countries, which had earlier been captured by Nazi authorities; records of many non-govermental organizations, agencies, and individuals throughout Europe, including those of Jewish and Masonic groups, socialist parties and labor associations, newspapers and publishing houses, student organizations, and business firms; and collections of unique documentary materials of private and family origin.

Later the archive also acquired records of Soviet agencies dealing with prisoners of war and displaced persons, namely voluminous complex of records of agencies subordinated to the Main Administration for Affairs of Prisoners of War and Internees (GUPVI, 1939–1960), including records of individual POW camps, which contain personal files on individual foreign prisoners and documentation on the burial of prisoners who died in the USSR.

Access: There may be some limitations in access to documents in the archive in connection with agreements for their return to their legal owners.

Recent General Guides:
Note: A CD-ROM guide to the archive is in preparation, and a preliminary English-language list of fonds is available on the Internet (see below). Regarding the history, holdings, and restitution problems associated with the archive, see Ch. 8.


In preparation for the promised CD-ROM, preliminary lists of fonds appear under a series of rubrics (not always well distinguished) with rough English translations,
names is the original language, inclusive dates of documentation, and country of origin, but fond numbers in TsKhIDK are not provided. Provides a few annotations for some of the larger, more important fonds, and a brief introduction. The first, relatively comprehensive listing of French and Polish holdings in the archive, although most of those already returned to France are not included.

A brief list of predominantly German-language fonds (only starting with no. 500) in TsKhIDK under eight major headings. Provides fond numbers, number of *opisi*, number of units in each, and the name of the creator of the fond. Includes some that were earlier returned to East Germany. Provides a few annotations for some of the larger, more important fonds, and a brief introduction. This guide, published without approval of the archive, accordingly contains many errors and shortcomings. The guide does not cover the French holdings.
B–16. Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi istoricheskii arkhiv Dal'nego Vostoka (RGIADV)
[Russian State Historical Archive of the Far East]
Address: 690600, Vladivostok, ul. Aleutskaya, 10a (new)
[previous address: 634050, g. Tomsk, ul. Karla Marks, 16]
Telephone: (8–4232) 26–92–20; Fax: (8–4232) 26–92–20

Previous names: Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv RSFSR Dal'nego Vostoka (TsGA RSFSR DV) [Central State Archive of the RSFSR for the Far East] (1943–VI.1992)

RGIADV was founded as a separate central state archive in 1943 in Tomsk to retain records for the Kharbovsk and Primor'e krai and the Amur, Kamchatka, Sakhalin, and Chitin oblasts, predominantly covering the period from the mid-nineteenth century through 1940.

Access: Most of the records held by the archive have been declassified. However, in connection with the post-1991 transfer to the archive from Tomsk to Vladivostok, many of the holdings are still in a transitory state and cannot readily be made available to researchers. Researchers should make advance inquiries to determine available holdings.
C. Major Federal Agency Archives

C–1. Arkhiv Prezidenta Rossiiskoi Federatsii (AP RF)
[Archive of the President of the Russian Federation]

Agency: Administratsiia Prezidenta Rossiiskoi Federatsii [Administration of the President of the Russian Federation]

Address: 103073, Moscow, Staraia pl., 4
Telephone: 224-06-82; 224-07-76
Director: Aleksandr Vasil'evich Korotkov (tel. 206-13-33)

Previous names:
VI Sektor Obshchego otdela TsK KPSS [Sector VI of the General Department of the Central Committee of the CPSU] (1955–1990)
Arkshiv Obshchego otdela apparata Prezidenta SSSR [Archive of the General Division of the Executive Offices of the President of the USSR] (VII.1990–XII.1991)

In December 1991 a single Archive of the President of the RF was formed for the purpose of organizing the preservation and use of the documents of the President of the RF and his Administration. Before July 1990, the archive was part of the archive of the General Department of the CPSU Central Committee (Sektor VI) and contained the records of the highest CP organs—the Politburo and Presidium of the Central Committee, congresses, plenums, and conferences of the CC CPSU, dating from 1919 to 1990.

AP RF includes four categories of records. The first consists of documents created in the process of B. N. Yeltsin’s functions as President of the RSFSR and of the RF, and in the operation of structural subdivisions of the Presidential Administration. The second historical complex of the archive consists of records created in the process of official functions of M. S. Gorbachev as President of the USSR and of structural subdivisions of his administration.

The third complex of archival materials consists of the records of the highest organs of the All-Russian Communist Party and the CPSU (VKP[b]–KPSS) from 1919 to 1991 (including Party congresses from 1952–1986 and Central Committee plenums from 1944 to 1990), and of the Politburo CC from 1919 to 1990, the Secretariat, the CC Presidium, and of subordinated CP organs. The fourth category consists of the personal papers of approximately forty of the highest state and party leaders.

Following the resignation of Gorbachev in December 1991, the so-called “historical part” of the archive, which constituted approximately ninety percent of its total volume at that time and included documentation from 1919 to 1991, was to have been transferred to the state repositories that had been established on the basis of the archives of the former CPSU Central Committee. Documentation predating 1953 is being transferred to RTsKhIDNI (B–12), while post–1953 records are destined for TsKhSD (B–13). In 1993 the archive was moved from Stalin’s former apartments in the Kremlin to near-by Staraya ploshchad’ (Old Square). A presidential regulation in March 1994 provided for permanent retention of the holdings in AP RF, including the historical part. A presidential decree of 22 September 1994 called for the declassification and transfer to public archives be accelerated.

By the beginning of 1995 approximately 10,000 files had been transferred to these centers—among them all the minutes (protocols) of Politburo meetings from 1919 to 1991.
(but without their appended documentation), materials of the Nineteenth Party Conference, documentation of international meetings, negotiations, and talks with Communist and labor parties, a complex of copies of some top-secret special files (osoby papki), and the brief working notes of the Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee from 1964 to 1990, along with some other documents.

Since 1995, transfers to state archival custody have been continuing in several stages—namely the records of the Nineteenth through Twenty-Third CPSU Conferences, records of the plenums of the Central Committee of the VKP(b)–CPSU (1941–1966), protocols of Politburo meetings (1919–1952), records of the CC CPSU Presidium (1952–1966), the permanent commissions of the CC RKP(b)–CPSU (1921–1953), decrees of the State Committee of Defense (Gosudarstvennaia komissiia oborony—GKO), personal papers of CPSU leaders, and other documents (totaling ca.12,340 file units). Some files of personal papers of CP leaders, including many papers of Marshal G. K. Zhukov and A. A. Grechko to RGVA (B–8).

**Access:** The largest percent of the archive is still classified as top secret. Declassification is being handled by a special commission appointed by the President of the Russian Federation. The archive has been practicing confidential access to original materials in the historical part of the archive for a highly limited number of selected researchers. Access is dependent on permission of the Director of the Administration of the President of the RF (Rukovoditel' Administratsii Prezidenta RF), who should be addressed in writing with specific requests.
C–02. *Istoriko-dokumental'nyi departament Ministerstva inostrannykh del RF (IDD MID)*
[Historico-Documentary Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs]

**Agency:** Ministerstvo inostrannykh del RF (MID Rossii) [Ministry of Foreign Affairs]

**Address:** 121200, Moscow, Smolenskaia-Sennaia ploshchad', 32/34

**Telephone:** 244-32-19; **Fax:** (095) 244-44-11; 244-27-80

**Director:** Igor' Vladimirovich Lebedev (tel. 244-29-38)

**Previous names:**
Istoriko-diplomaticheskoe upravlenie MID SSSR (IDU MID SSSR) [Historico-Diplomatic Administration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR] (1958–1992)

Istoriko-dokumental'noe upravlenie MID RF (IDU MID RF) [Historico-Documentary Administration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs] (1992–1993)

Under the authority of IDD MID RF are two separate archives subordinated to the Ministry — the Archive of Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation (AVP RF—C–2), holding post-1917 records of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Archive of Foreign Policy of the Russian Empire (AVPRI—C–3), consisting of pre-revolutionary materials.

**Access:** Requests for access to either archive under MID by researchers should be presented in an official letter either to the director of the archive or to the IDD MID, preferably at least one month in advance.
C–2. Arkhiv vneshnei politiki Rossiiskoi Federatsii (AVP RF)
[Archive of Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation]

Agency: Ministerstvo inostrannykh del RF (MID Rossii) [Ministry of Foreign Affairs]
Istoriko-dokumental'nyi departament (IDD) [Historico-Documentary Department]

Address: 121200, Moscow, Plotnikov per., 11
Telephone: 241-04-80; Fax: (095) 244-44-11; 244-27-80; RdngRm: 241-51-12; 241-02-96
Hours: M–Th 10:00–17:00; F 10:00–15:00 (closed August–mid-September)
Head: Elena Vladimirovna Belevich (tel. 244-29-70)

Previous names:
Politicheskii arkhiv NKID SSSR [Political Archive of the People’s Commissariat of Foreign Affairs] (1928–1946)
Arkhiv vneshnei politiki SSSR (AVP SSSR) [Archive of Foreign Policy of the USSR] (1946–1991)

In 1991, the Archive of Foreign Policy of the USSR (AVP SSSR) was renamed AVP RF. The archive retains the records of the Ministry (pre-1946–People’s Commissariat of Foreign Affairs) from the period since 1917. A group of 30 fonds from the 1920’s and 1930’s comprise the records of the secretariats of successive Commissars and their deputies, including their official diplomatic correspondence with foreign countries. The archive stores the separate records of all Soviet embassies abroad. Special collections of records relate to various international conferences, including the peace conferences at Brest-Litovsk (1918) and Genoa (1922); conferences under the aegis of the League of Nations; Conferences of Tehran (1943), Yalta (1945), and Potsdam (1945); the founding conference of the UN in San Francisco (1945), and others. Other fonds include personal papers of Soviet diplomatic officials. There is a special collection of treaties, agreements, and other documents concluded with foreign countries, as well as a separate collection of photographs.

Access: Researchers normally do not have access to classified documents less than thirty years old. Since August 1990, in accordance with the decree of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, AVP RF was to become an “open” archive within three years. Declassification of records over thirty years old has been proceeding, but since almost two-thirds of the archive was restricted, staff shortages have made it a slow process. By early 1997, records from the periods 1917–1962 have been reviewed, but not all fonds have been declassified. Certain categories of documentation, such as ciphered telegrams and annual reports (godichnye otchety) from embassies have not been declassified. Memoranda of meetings (zapisi besed) through 1947 have been declassified, but those starting with 1947 are not open for research. Special exeptions for access to normally closed (or not yet declassified) documentation is sometimes made for special collaborative projects or the preparation of international documentary publications.

It is recommended that prospective researchers write well in advance indicating the subject and expected period of research, so that the archive will have time to prepare materials in advance and to consider possible declassification of requested materials.

Recent General Guides:
A comprehensive guide to the archive has been prepared and is currently being edited for publication. A copy is available for researchers in the archival reading room.
C–3. Arkhiv vneshnei politiki Rossiiskoi Imperii (AVPRI)
[Archive of Foreign Policy of the Russian Empire]

_Agency:_ Ministerstvo inostrannykh del RF (MID Rossii) [Ministry of Foreign Affairs]  
Istoriko-dokumental'nyi departament (IDD) [Historico-Documentary Department]

_Address:_ 113093, Moscow, ul. Bol'shaia Serpukhovskaia, 15  
_Telephone:_ 236-52-01; _Fax:_ (095) 241-51-06; (095) 244-44-11; 244-27-80  
_RdngRm:_ 236-04-47

_Hours:_ MTuTh 10:00–17:00; WF 10:00–15:00 (August—closed)

_Chief:_ Igor' Vladimirovich Budnik (tel. 236-83-97; 236-74-93)

_Previouse names:_  
Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv vneshnei politiki (GAVP) [State Archive of Foreign Policy] (1934–1946)  
Arkhiv vneshnei politiki Rossii (AVPR) [Archive of Foreign Policy of Russia] (1946–X.1991)

The archive was established in 1946 on the basis of records from the pre-revolutionary Moscow Main Archive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MGAMID), the Main Archive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (GAMID) in St. Petersburg, and also the Chancellery of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Empire. In October 1991 the archive was renamed AVPRI.

The eighteenth-century division contains records from the pre-revolutionary Moscow Main Archive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MGAMID), which had remained the main depository for official diplomatic records until the early 1830s. Nineteenth- and early twentieth-century complexes include: holdings of the former St. Petersburg Main Archive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (GAMID); records which had been retained in the chancellery archive of the Foreign Ministry itself in St. Petersburg; and records of various Russian embassies, missions, and consulates abroad.

There are also personal fonds of diplomats, a special collection of original treaties, and several other special collections.

_Access:_ Almost all fonds in the archive are open to the public, for foreign as well as Russian researchers.

_Recent General Guides:_

A comprehensive guide to the archive, including annotations for all of the _opisi_ within individual fonds. Considerably expanded from the initial 1988–1992 version (c-16), but continues the five-part division. Includes a helpful introductory agency history of the Ministry (and earlies Collegium) of Foreign Affairs.
C–04. *Istoriko-arkhivnyi i voenno-memorial'nyi tsentr General'nogo Shtaba Vooruzhennykh Sil RF

[Historico-Archival and Military-Memorial Center of the General Staff of the Armed Forces]

Agency: General'nyi Shtab Ministerstva oborony RF (Genshtab Minoborony Rossii)
[General Staff of the Ministry of Defense]

Address: 103160, Moscow, ul. Znamenka, 19
Telephone: 296-53-48, 293-52-84; Fax: (095) 293-62-39
Hours: M–F 9:00–18:00
Chief of the Center: Iurii Nikolaevich Semin (tel. 296-53-48)

Access: Inquiries and requests for access by researchers to the military archives under the General Staff listed below, as well as to records of the General Staff itself should be addressed to the Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces (General'nyi shtab VS) of the Russian Federation. Formal letters should state the subject and aim of research, precise materials needed, dates of research, and status and/or qualifications of the researcher. Letters should be sent through the researcher’s sponsoring institution, the military attaché of the foreigner’s embassy, or directly by the individual researcher himself. In the case of requested documents that have not been declassified, researchers should apply at least two or three months in advance, or more if possible.

Regulations for access and research work are specified in procedural documents issued under existing decrees of the Ministry of Defense and the chief of the archives. Currently such regulations are being reformulated to conform with new laws, which now require the approval of the creating agency or its successor before materials can be declassified and made available for research purposes.

Recent General Survey:

A brief presentation about the new center established under the General Staff with a survey of the archives under its auspices and their research and publication activities.
C–4. Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Ministerstva oborony RF (TsAMO RF)
[Central Archive of the Ministry of Defense]

Agency: General'nyi shtab Vooruzhennykh Sil RF (Genshtab Minoborony RF)
[General Staff of the Armed Forces]

Address: 142100, Moskovskaia oblast', Podol'sk, ul. Kirova, 74
Telephone: 137-95-59; 137-91-71; Fax: (095) 293-62-39
Hours: M–F 9:00–20:00; Sa 9:00–14:00
Chief: Nikolai Petrovich Brilev (tel. 137-90-05; 546-56-04)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Ministerstva oborony SSSR (TsAMO SSSR) [Central Archive of the Ministry of Defense of the USSR] (1975–1992)

Established in 1936 as the Division of Archives within People’s Commissariat of Defense (NKO), in July 1941, all of the most important records of NKO dating through 1939 were transferred to the archive, which in 1944 was moved to the military compound in Podol'sk (Moscow Oblast). After World War II, most records predating 1939 were transferred to TsGASA (now RGVA—B–8). Following several subsequent changes in name, in 1975, the archive acquired an official status as the central archive for military agencies and its present name.

This centralized repository retains all records of the Soviet Army (before 1958, Red Army) and the Ministry of Defense of the USSR–RF that are destined for permanent preservation, dating from 1939 through the postwar period. These include records of central organs of military command, including the Ministry (before 1947 Commissariat) of the Armed Forces (after 1953, of Defense), the General Staff, the chiefs of staff of all branches of the Armed Forces (except for the Navy) and special troops, and also the Chief Intelligence Directorate (Glavnoe razvedyvatel'noeu pravlenie—GRU). There are personnel records and CPSU/Komsomol records from political organs within the Armed Forces.

The organization and arrangement of fonds follows the organization of the army itself. Hence there are separate fonds for central administrative organs of the Ministry of Defense, administrations of military districts (okruga), fronts, armies, divisions, and separate military agencies from educational establishments to military enterprises and supply facilities. The archive also retains personal papers of a number of prominent military figures.

N.B. Earlier records of the Red Army from 1918 to 1940 are held in RGVA (B–8). Current records of the General Staff from at least the last thirty years are maintained in the special agency archive.

Records of the State Committee on Defense (Gosudarstvennyi komitetoborny—GKO), and directives of the Supreme Commander in Chief (Verkhovnoe Glavnokomandovanie—VGK) during World War II are held in AP RF (C–1) and RTsKhIDNI (B–12). Civil records of the Soviet Military Administration in Germany during the postwar period (SVAG) are held in GA RF (B–1).
Access: Access requires approval from the Chief of the Historico-Archival Division of the General Staff. Inquiries should be addressed in writing to the Deputy Chief of the General Staff in care of the Historico-Archival and Military-Memorial Center (see C–04) well in advance of the intended research visit from the interested institution or on personal application of the individual researcher.

Starting in 1990, most records of troop units, divisions, formations, and armies to the level of military “fronts” were declassified for the period of the Second World War. Access remains highly restricted for documentation above that level and requires the permission of the General Staff. Thus from a practical standpoint, all records of the highest military establishments, starting with 1941, remain closed to most researchers, and especially foreigners, since they are considered to contain political and military secrets.
C–5. Tsentral'nyi voenno-morskoi arkhiv (TsVMA)
[Central Naval Archive]

Agency: Glavnyi shtab Voenno-Morskogo Flota Ministerstva oborony RF
[General Staff of the Navy of the Ministry of Defense]

Address: 188350, Leningradskaya oblast', Gatchina, Ekaterinverderskii (formerly Krasnoarmeiskii) prosp., 2

Telephone: (271) 139-93

Hours: M–F 8:20–16:40

Chief: Sergei Petrovich Tarasov (tel. [271] 148-81)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Narkomata Voenno-Morskogo Flota [Central Archive of the People’s Commissariat of the Navy] (1945–1946)
Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Narkomata (Ministerstva) Vooruzhennykh Sil SSSR [Central Archive of the People’s Commissariat (Ministry) of the Armed Forces] (1946–1950)

Based in Gatchina since 1961 and subordinate to the Chief of the Navy General Staff, the Archive serves as the central repository for all post-1941 naval records. The Archive holds the records of central administrative agencies—fonds of the Navy General Staff, the Main Administration of the People’s Commissariat of the Navy, and the Ministry of the Navy—as well as those of staffs and commanders of fleets and flotillas, as well as various formations, military units, ships, and other institutions subordinate to them, all fleets and flotillas, naval units, research and educational institutions, naval ports, shipbuilding and other enterprises, and naval hydrographic and scientific expeditions, dating from 1941 to the present. The Archive is one of the largest repositories in the country for records of World War II.

Access: Access requires approval from the Chief of the Navy General Staff. Access to declassified documents remains limited. Foreigners should address requests for access in writing to the Chief of the Navy General Staff in care of the Historico-Archival and Military-Memorial Center of the Ministry of Defense (see C–04).

Declassification work is currently proceeding for records through 1964, in accordance with regulations providing for increased access to files after thirty years since their creation.

The archive maintains a large inquiry service (by letter or in person) for veterans needing official verification of records of their naval service.

Recent Survey:
Tishchenko, M. N. “Proshloe i nastoiashchee Tsentral'nogo voenno-morskogo arkhiva.”
Otechestvennye arkhivy, 1993, no. 1, pp. 60–62. (Lib: IU)

A brief account of the development of the archive and characterization of its holdings.
C–6. Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Federal'noi sluzhby bezopasnosti RF
(TsA FSB Rossii)
[Central Archive of the Federal Security Service]

Agency: Federal'naia sluzhba bezopasnosti RF (FSB Rossii) [Federal Security Service]
Upravlenie registratsii i arkhivnykh fondov [Directorate of Registration and Archival Fonds]

Address: 101000, Moscow, ul. Kuznetskii most, 24 (reception)
Telephone: 224-46-37 (reception); Fax: (095)-975-24-70; RdngRm: Kuznetskii most, 22
Chief of the Directorate: Iakov Fedorovich Pogonii

Previous names:

The present archive is a direct heir to the central archives of the successive state security agencies, namely the All-Russian Cheka, the State Political Administration (GPU), the Consolidated State Political Administration (OGPU), the People's Commissariat (and subsequent Ministry) of State Security (NVKD/MVD), the Committee on State Security of the USSR (KGB), and related or subservient predecessor organs. In addition to the Central Archive, numerous branch archives are located outside of Moscow, holding records of regional KGB organs.

According to the August 1991 presidential decree, agency archives of the KGB were to be transferred to the jurisdiction of the state archival system (to the authority of Rosarkhiv). Such transfers are beginning at the present time, but are still only minimal. Reliable information is not available about the extent to which NKVD and KGB archives have been preserved intact.

The archive retains the records produced from all sectors, forms and methods of activities of the KGB central organs, and their predecessor agencies with various categories of records. Among these are the fond of secret operations; the so-called operational fond, the archival-investigatory files; the so-called infiltration fonds; and, finally, the personnel records of agents and other employees associated with the central organs of the KGB and its predecessor agencies.

Access: Access to related files is guaranteed by low for repressed individuals or their families. As of mid-1997, research access remains extremely limited. Some types of files of the Cheka (1917–1923) have been declassified, as have files relating to collectivization and deportation of the population (to 1940), and also some special normative documents relating to repression (decrees, minutes of sessions of extra-judicial organs, such as the Special Sessions of the MGB). Requests for access should be submitted in writing with precise reference to the subject and aim of research. Request from foreigners should normally be made through a sponsoring Russian institution.

Recent Surveys and Reference Guides:
Compiled by A. I. Kokurin, N. V. Petrov. Edited by R. G. Pikhoia. Moscow:

An important reference work on the administrative history of the KGB and its predecessors since 1917. Includes a number of documentary publication of regulations and decrees regarding the organization and structure of the agency, along with capsul biographic notes about successive chiefs.

A short, concise, but nonetheless detailed report on the organization and specific categories of holdings of the former KGB archives as of the fall of 1992, with reference to the Central Archive in Moscow and its branches, as well as the archive of the KGB Administration for Moscow oblast. Notes earlier regulations for the retention and “cleansing” of KGB records, including the instructions issued by V. A. Kriuchkov in the 1980s for the destruction of records of agents. Appended is the 1992 report of the presidential commission on the transfer of KGB and CPSU records to state repositories, signed by General D. A. Volkogonov (pp. 6–7), and a summary of types of records and locations of KGB branch archives.

Kudriashov, Sergei; and Maksimova, Tat'iana. “Akhivy spetssluzhb—‘Liudi vprave znat' vse . . . ’ (interview with the Chief of the MB RF Archival Administration, Anatolii Afanas'evich Kraiushkin).” Rodina, 1993, no. 11, pp. 44–47.

The Chief of the MB RF Archival Administration describes the holdings and discusses access procedures, especially for repressed individuals. See also two other interviews with Kraiushkin in Rossiisskaia gazeta, no. 45 (6 March 1993): 9, and no. 74 (17 April 1993): 13.


The Chief of the FSB archival administration answers questions about access, retention-destruction, and declassification policies and procedures, and other current issues regarding the FSB archive and rehabilitation proceedings.


A collection of normative documents (decrees and regulations) regarding the structure and operation of the Cheka (1918-1921) and the State Political Directorate (GPU) (mid 1920s), published from original documents in the Boris Nikolaevskii Collection at the Hoover Institution.
C–7. Operativnyi arkhiv Sluzhby vneshnei razvedki RF
(Arkhiv SVR Rossii)
[Operational Archive of the Foreign Intelligence Service]

Agency: Sluzhba vneshnei razvedki RF (SVR Rossii) [Foreign Intelligence Service]

Address: (Press and Public Affairs Bureau): 119034, Moscow, ul. Ostozhenka, 51/10
Telephone: 247-19-38; Fax: (095) 247-05-29
SVR Chief: Viacheslav Ivanovich Trubnikov
Chief, Press and Public Affairs Bureau: Iurii Georgievich Kobaladze
Chief of the Archival Directorate: Aleksandr Petrovich Belozerov

Previous names:

The Foreign Intelligence Service was formed as a separate agency in the November 1991 reorganization of the KGB, and that new agency took over the records of the foreign intelligence operations of the former KGB, namely the First Chief Directorate of the KGB of the USSR, and its predecessors. According to the 1996 Law of RF “On the Foreign Intelligence Service,” the SVR and other agencies dealing with foreign intelligence are given increased authority over their own records, although theoretically, documentation from this archive that is considered to have a scientific-historical significance, is to be transferred to Rosarkhiv. A few limited categories of documents are now being transferred to RGVA (see B–8).

Access: The archive is not open for normal public research, since its holdings are considered by law as state secrets. Answers to specific questions, and occasionally copies of selected declassified documents on specified subjects, are communicated on the basis of written inquiry. A December 1995 interview with the Chief of the Archival Division (below) makes it clear that researchers should not expect many transfers or revelations from SVR archives. Some limited documents on special topics have been declassified and made available under special publication agreements.

Recent Survey:

The first revealing press interview with the SVR archival chief regarding the functions and holdings of the archive, justifying the lack of research access and warning the public not to expect many revelations.
C–8. Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Ministerstva vnutchennikh del RF
(TsA MVD Rossii)
[Central Archive of the Ministry of Internal Affairs]

Agency: Ministerstvo vnutchennikh del RF (MVD Rossii) [Ministry of Internal Affairs]
Glavnyi informatsionnyi tsentr (GITs) [Main Information Center]

Address: 101000, Moscow, ul. Miasnitskaia, 3
Telephone: 222-62-71; Fax: (095) 222-69-14
Hours: M–F 10:00–13:30; 14:15–17:00
Head of the Main Information Center: Fedor Fedorovich Moiseev

Tsentr obshchestvennykh sviazei MVD Rossii
[Public Relations Center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs]
Address: 117049, Moscow, ul. Zhitnaia, 16
Telephone: 239-74-26
Head of the Center: Vladimir Petrovich Vorozhtsov (tel. 239-51-82)

Previous names:
Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Ministerstva okhrany obshchestvennogo poriadka RSFSR [Central Archive of the Ministry for Protection of Public Order of the RSFSR] (1962–1966)
Tsentral'nyi arkhiv Ministerstva vnutchennikh del SSSR (TsA MVD SSSR) [Central Archive of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR] (1966–1991)

In 1955 the Central Archive was formed within the structure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RSFSR (MVD RSFSR), after its separation from the Archive of the KGB SSSR.

At the present time the Central Archive is subordinated to the Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Political Repression and Archival Information of the MVD RF (Tsentr po reabilitatsii zhertv politicheskikh repressii i arkhivnoi informatsii—TsRZhPRiAI). This center was established in 1992 on the basis of the Division of Archival Information of the GITs MVD SSSR for the organization of rehabilitation of repressed individuals, in order to furnish information about repressed persons to institutions, organizations, and individuals.

The archive retains the records of the MVD RSFSR (1955–1966) and the MVD–MOOP SSSR (1966–1991), in addition to a number of records from earlier NKVD-MVD agency operations going back to the 1920s. All these records, fonds, and collections have been accessioned to the archive from central organs of successive the NKVD, MVD SSSR and RSFSR and MOOP (Ministerstv okhrany obshchestvennogo poriadka—MOOP) RSFSR and SSSR and their subordinate agencies. These include general institutional records, statistical materials, dossiers on former officials who served in central and subordinate divisions of the Ministry, criminal files, and records of operational activities of the MVD RF and its predecessors. It also includes the central NKVD-MVD reference card file that is estimated to contain 25 million cards on arrested and/or incarcerated individuals, dating from 1918 to the present.
Access: The Center for Archival Information services inquiries regarding rehabilitation from repressed individuals and their relatives. Citizens and representatives of organizations and institutions should apply to the archive with an official letter indicating the name and purpose of inquiry. Research inquiries should indicate the purpose and concrete subject of research and the documents in which they are interested.

Limited access to records is granted according to MVD regulations.
Recent Institutional History:

A narrative history of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, prepared by the Ministry itself. The first part of the book is devoted to the pre-revolutionary, since the formation of the Ministry in 1801, and the second—and largest part—to the post-revolutionary period. The book lacks citations to sources, but includes an appended list of major laws and decrees affecting the Ministry and illustrated capsul biographic notes about successive ministers.
C–9. Tsentral'nyi arkhiv vnutrennikh voisk MVD RF (TsAVV)
[Central Archive of Internal Troops]

Agency: Ministerstvo vnutrennikh del RF (MVD Rossii) [Ministry of Internal Affairs]

Address: 107150, Moscow, ul. Ivanteevskaia (formerly Podbel'skogo), 5
Telephone: 160-38-78
Hours: M–F 9:00–18:00
Chief: Genadii Sergeevich Beloborodov (tel. 166-78-05)

Previous names:
Arkhiv vnutrennikh voisk MVD SSSR [Archive of Internal Troops of the MVD USSR] (1968–1975)
Tsentral'nyi arkhiv vnutrennikh voisk MVD SSSR [Central Archive of Internal Troops of the MVD USSR] (1975–1991)

The Military Archive was established in 1923 by order of the State Political Administration (GPU) of the Staff of Internal Troops for the collection and preservation of, and research in the records of internal troop units, and their utilization for scientific and practical aims.

TsAVV stores records of the operations of the Main Administration of Internal Troops of the MVD SSSR and the Main Administration of the Command of Internal Troops of the Russian MVD, their administrations, troop formations, military-training establishments (1932–1988), troop units and institutions of the internal troops (since 1951), and the special escort units for security of important state objects (1946–1988). Moreover, this repository preserves the records of the Political Administration of the Internal Troops of the MVD SSSR and other political organs (1951–1991), as well as Party and Komsomol organizations in the separate units and regional (okruzhnye) administrations, and military depots.

Access: Access for military personnel and workers of the internal troops to archival documents is obtained by an official letter of the military unit or institution of the internal troops. Researchers and individual citizens can obtain access to work with documents through the submission of an official letter of request and the receipt of permission from the director of the Staff of Internal Troops.
C–10. Otraslevoi otdel fondov Ministerstva RF po atomnoi energii (Arkhiv Minatoma)
[Branch Division of Fonds of the Ministry of Atomic Energy]

Agency: Ministerstvo RF po atomnoi energii (Minatom Rossii)
[Ministry of Atomic Energy] TsNIIatominform

Address: 109017, Moscow, ul. Bol'shaia Ordynka, 24/26
Telephone: 239-47-53 (inquiries); 239-22-20; Fax: (095) 233-46-79
Chief: Aleksandr Vladimirovich Shchegel'skii (tel. 239-28-59)

Previous names:

The Archive of the Ministry of Atomic Energy has brought together records from a number of predecessor agencies associated with Soviet atomic development, which it maintains along with records of the ministry itself.

Access: The archive is considered an internal agency archive which is not normally open to researchers, due to the secret classification of its holdings. Some of its files are being declassified in connection with the official publication project regarding the Soviet nuclear development provided by the 1995 presidential decree (A-33).
The Administration for Registration of Records of Vital Statistics was established in 1917 and early 1918 and developed its own centralized and standardized archival system throughout the USSR under the Ministry of Justice on all-union and republic levels. Prerevolutionary records of vital statistics previously kept by religious agencies were collected on regional principles by local ZAGS archives, and kept together with current on-going records. All ZAGS records are retained by the agency for 75 years before being deposited in designated local state archives.

Access: ZAGS offices are not open for research purposes, but citizens can submit reference inquiries through the appropriate local office to obtain certificates of birth, marriage, and death, as required for official legal purposes.

Reference Instructions:
Registratsiia aktov grazhdanskogo sostoianiiia: Sbornik ofitsial'nykh materialov.
[Ministerstvo iustitsii RSFSR] (Lib: IU)
The latest published regulations for ZAGS operations, with copies of the registration forms used for different types for records.

Official regulations for the registration and archival retention of records of vital statistics.
C–12. Gosudarstvennoe geologicheskoe predpriiatie “Rossiiskii federal'nyi geologicheskii fond” (Rosgeolfond)  
[Russian Federal Geological Fond State Geological Enterprise]

Agency: Ministerstvo prirodnykh resursov RF [Ministry of Natural Resources]

Address: 123806, Moscow, ul. 3-ia Magistral'naia, 38
Telephone: 259-47-67; RdngRm: 259-57-61
Hours: M–Th 9:30–17:00; F 9:30–16:00
General Director: Viktor Nikolaevich Poluektov (tel. 259-40-60)

Previous names:
Vsesoiuznyi geologicheskii fond (VGF) [All-Union Geological Fond] (1953–1973)
Ob”edinenie “Vsesoiuznyi geologicheskii fond” (Soiuzgeolfond) [Consolidated All-Union Geological Fond] (1973–1991)

In 1991, the former All-Union Geological Fond (Soiuzgeolfond) association was transferred to the State Committee of Geology of the Russian Federation (Goskomgeologiia), and reorganized as the Rosgeolfond, with a network of territorial geological fonds (for republics, krai, and oblasts). Initially it was under the authority of the State Committee of Geology of the Russian Federation (Goskomgeologiia), which later was reorganized as the Committee on Geology and Utilization of Subterranean Resources (Komitet RF po geologii i ispol'zovaniu nedr—Roskomnedra). With the governmental reorganization of August 1996 the Ministry of Natural Resources was founded on the basis of Roskomnedra. Its function is the subject-oriented collection of records of geological research on mineral deposits located in the territory of the former USSR, dating from the early eighteenth century to the present. The Rosgeolfond archival repository retains specialized geological data on the development of geology and geological surveys in Russia and the former Soviet Union, including reports on geological expeditions, maps, reports of commissions, and special scientific works.

All of the documentation is divided between two repositories (see below).

Tsentr'noe geologicheskoe fondokhranilishche (TsGF)  
[Central Geological Fond Depository]
Telephone: 259-47-67
Hours: M–Th 9:30–17:00; F 9:30–16:00
Head: Nikolai Andreevich Kotov-Potatuev (tel. 259-29-17)

Khranilishche Gosudarstvennogo Kadastra mestorozhdenii (GKM)  
[Depository of the State Geological Survey-of-Deposit Cadasters]
RdngRm: 259-57-61
Hours: M–Th 9:30–17:00; F 9:30–16:00
Head: Natal’ia Grigor’evna Zakharova (tel. 259-73-85)

Access: Materials deposited in Rosgeolfond can be consulted only in the reading room with the permission of the directors. A formal written request should indicate the subject and goals of research, and the specific data and nature of access required. Access to geological
data from the territory of the former non-Russian union republics require verification of a contractual agreement between the prospective utilizing organization and the creator of the given materials.

Materials involving gravimetric research are communicated only by special permission of higher authorities in the Ministry.
Recent General Guides:

Provides a history of the establishment and development of Rosgeolfond and its pre-revolutionary and Soviet predecessors, along with a survey of the nature and contents of its holdings.
C–13. Gosudarstvennyi fond dannykh o sostoiannii prirodnoi sredy (Gosfond)
[State Fond of Data on Environmental Conditions]

**Agency:** Federal'naia sluzhba Rossii po gidrometeorologii i monitoringu okruzhaushchei sredy (Rosgidromet) [Federal Service of Russia for Hydrometeorology and Monitoring the Environmental]

Tsentr gidrometdannykh (TsGMD) Vserossiiskogo nauchno-issledovatel'skogo instituta gidrometeorologicheskoi informatsii—Mirovogo tsentra dannyykh (VNIIGMI–MTsD) [Center for Hydrometeorological Data of the All-Russian Scientific-Research Institute on Hydrometeorological Information—World Data Center]

**Address:** 249020, Kaluzhskaia oblast', Obninsk, ul. Koroleva, 6
**Telephone:** (08-439) 2-59-30; **Fax:** (095) 255-22-25
**Hours:** M–F 9:00–17:00
**Director VNIIGMI–MTsD:** Marsel' Zaripovich Shaimardanov

**Previous names:**
Gosudarstvennyi fond gidrometeorologicheskikh materialov (Gidrometfond) [State Fond of Hydrometeorological Materials] (1957–1980)
Gosudarstvennyi fond dannykh o sostoiannii prirodnoi sredy (Gosfond) [State Fond of Data on Environmental Conditions] (1980–1991)

Gosfond collects documentary complexes from observational findings, expeditions, and research in the field of hydrometeorology, aerology, agrometeorology, and monitoring environmental conditions. The documentation acquired (with some data dating back to 1793) was created from the central state agencies and those in Soviet union-republic and territorial administrations for hydrometeorology and monitoring environmental conditions (UGKS). There are also data from cosmic observations from space satellites and other sources.

Storage of documentation is decentralized among 26 fond divisions, administered by 24 regional administrations for hydrometeorology and monitoring of the environment (UGMS) and two scientific research institutions, and also encompasses 14 subordinate scientific-technical archives within the Roskomgidromet system.

**Access:** Access to records requires a letter from the researcher’s sponsoring organization addressed to the director of VNIIGMI–MTsD.

**Recent General Survey:**

An initial textbook in the MGIAI series covering special types of documentation within the Archival Fond of the Russian Federation. Discusses the general problems of the formation of hydrometerological records in the former USSR.
C–14. Tsentral'nyi kartografo-geodezicheskii fond (TsKGF)
[Central Cartographic-Geodesic Fond]

Agency: Federal'naia sluzhba geodezii i kartografii Rossii (Roskartografiia)
[Federal Geodesic and Cartographic Service of Russia]

Address: 109125, Moscow, Volgogradskii prosp., 45
Telephone: 177-83-48; RdngRm: 177-81-65
Hours: MWF 9:00–15:00
Director: Anatolii Antipovich Levin (tel. 177-59-11)

Otdel geodezicheskikh fondov [Division of Geodesic Fonds]
Head: Tamara Ivanovna Loskutova (tel. 177-81-65)

Previous names:
Tsentral'noe biuro kartografio-geodezicheskoi isuchennosti Glavnogo upravleniia
gosudarstvennoi s"emki i kartografii NKVD SSSR (TsBKGI GUSSK) [Central
Bureau for Cartographic and Geodesic Investigations of the Main Administration for
State Survey and Cartography of the NKVD] (1935–1938)
Tsentral'nyi kartografo-geodezicheskii fond Upravleniia gosudarstvennogo geodezicheskogo
nadzora Glavnogo upravleniia geodezii i kartografii pri SNK-SM SSSR (TsKGF
UGGN GUGK SSSR) [Central Cartographic-Geodesic Fond of the Main Geodesic
and Cartographic Administration] (1938–1991)

TsKGF was established as a separate agency within the Main Geodesic and Cartographic Administration of
the Council of People’s Commissars of the USSR (UGGN GUGK SSSR) in 1939. The name of the fond has
remained constant, although it has been subordinated to a number of different government agencies. From 1960
through 1967 it was under the Ministry of Geology and the Protection of the Underground, from 1967 through
1991 under the Main Administration of geodesy and Cartography of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and
subsequently of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Russian Federation.

Access: Permission for access must be obtained from Roskartografiia by presentation of an
official request on a designated form. TsKGF has some secret fonds that are not open to
researchers.
C-15. Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi fond standartov i tekhnicheskikh uslovii (TsGFSTU)
[Central State Fond for Standards and Technical Specifications]

Agency: Gosudarstvennyi komitet RF po standartizatsii, metrologii i sertifikatsii
(Gosstandart Rossii) [State Committee of the RF on Standardization, Metrology, and Certification]
Vserossiiskii nauchno-issledovatel'skii institut klassifikatsii, terminologii i informatsii po standartam i kachestvu (VNIKI) [All-Russian Scientific-Research Institute of Classification, Terminology, and Information on Standardization and Quality Control]

Address: 103001, Moscow, ul. Shchuseva, 4
Telephone: 290-39-56; 290-20-39; RdngRm: 202-83-73
Hours: MtuThF 9:00-16:00; W 9:00-1200
Director: Aleksandr Konstatinovich Dzincharadze (tel. 290-68-28)

The Central State Fond for Standards and Technical Specifications was formed in January 1965 under the Administration of Gosstandart (TsGFSTU). It now constitutes a subdivision of the All-Russian Scientific-Research Institute on Classification, Terminology, and Information on Standardization and Quality Control (Vserossiiskii nauchno-issledovatel'skii institut klassifikatsii, terminologii i informatsii po standartam i kachestvu—VNIKI). After 1991, its functions were taken over by the successor State Committee of the Russian Federation on Standardization, Metrology, and Certification (Gosstandart Rossii).

Otdel vedeniia fonda NTD i informatsionnogo obsluzhivaniia
[Division of Fonds of Scientific-Technical Documentation (NTD) and Information Services]

Head: Raisa Evdokimovna Shumilina (tel. 290-39-56)

The Division of Fonds serves as a depository for documentation on intragovernmental state standards of the former USSR (GOST) and Russian state standards (GOST R). It also retains documentation relating to standards of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electronics Commission (IEC).

Access: All materials of the fond are open for consultation.
C–16. Gosudarstvennyi fond kinofil'mov RF
(State Fond of Motion Pictures)

Agency: Gosudarstvennyi komitet RF po kinematografii (Roskomkino)
[State Committee for Cinematography]

Address: 142050, Moskovskaia oblast', Domodedovskii raion, Belye Stolby,
Telephone: 546-05-05; Fax: (095) 546-05-25; 546-05-42;
              telex 411700 (LASTI 007913) RdngRm: 546-05-13
Hours: M–F 8:30–16:30
General Director: Vladimir Sergeevich Malyshev (tel. 546-05-05)

Previous names:
Vsesoiuznyi gosudarstvennyi fond kinofil'mov (Gosfil'mofond) [All-Union State Fond of
Motion Pictures] (1948–1992)

Established in 1948, Gosfil'mofond serves as a centralized repository for the collection
and storage of depository copies and negatives of all artistic, popular, science, and other
feature films and shorts, as well as some documentary films and animated films—by 1993
totalling some 50,000 titles, together with related film footage and editing outtakes, produced
in the former Soviet Union. It now collects films from Soviet successor states and other
foreign countries.

In addition to the films themselves, Gosfil'mofond also has an extensive collection of scenarios, film
posters, photographs, press clippings, scrapbooks, set designs, production files covering 4,572 films, and other
documentation on the history of film. It holds the personal papers of the filmmakers and directors, as well
as film critics and scholars. There are individual personal record cards on the major figures of Soviet
cinematography.

Gosfil'mofond provides an important center for film research, with an extensive
cataloguing and publication program.

N.B. Documentary films and newsreels are normally retained by RGAKFD (B–11), while films produced
specifically for television are preserved by Gosteleradiofond (C–17).

Access: Access to Gosfil'mofond collections is unrestricted for bona fide researchers and
their agents. There are occasional limitations due to preservation requirements. Fees are
charged for screening films and the use of research facilities. Inquiries can be made by letter,
telephone, or personal visit.

Recent Film Catalogues:
[Gosfil'mofond]
308 p.
Continues the annotated catalogue of Soviet feature film productions, copies of which are held in Gosfilmofond. The new, much more popularized format provides less extensive annotations and lacks bibliography and the extensive indexes of the earlier series, although there are alphabetical lists of films and lists of production studios, including those of the former union republics. Additional volumes are in preparation covering films produced during subsequent years, and plans call for ten-year cumulative bibliographies and indexes.


A filmographic catalogue of 286 silent films which have been restored and reprinted on 35mm safety film by Gosfilmofond, including pre-revolutionary feature and animated films (1908–1917) and privately produced films (1917–1919). Page-long annotations include cross-references to shooting diaries, title lists, and reviews, with comments from reminiscences and other documentation in Gosfilmofond, the Museum of Cinema, and other archival sources. Includes appended biograms of 17 filmmakers, bibliographic references, and indexes. The original Russian text is being prepared for publication by “Dubl’-D.”
C–17. Gosudarstvennyi fond televizionnykh i radioprogramm  
(Gosteleradiofon)  
[State Fund of Television and Radio Programs]

Agency: Federal’naia sluzhba Rossii po televideniu i radioveshchaniiu (FSTR Rossii)  
[Federal Television and Radio Broadcasting Service of Russia]

Address: 121069, Moscow, ul. Malaia Nikitskaia (formerly Kachalova), 12 (3d floor)
Telephone: 290-27-30; Fax: (095) 290-27-30; 290-53-52; Telex: 207954 (RAT SU)
Hours: M–F 9:00–18:00 (consultations by appointment)

General Director: Anatolii Ivanovich Vystorobets (tel. 290-27-24)

Previous names:
Vsesoiuznyi fond televizionnykh i radioprogramm (Teleradiofon/Gosteleradiofon) [All-Union Fond of Television and Radio Programs] (1974–1991)

Gosteleradiofon was established in 1974 as the All-Union Fond of Television and Radio Programs under the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of the USSR (Gosteleradiofon Gosteleradio SSSR) to preserve materials used in radio and television broadcasting, which had been collected earlier in the radio and film fonds divisions. These include preservation copies of films and television films (on film or videocassette), sound recordings, and photographs and graphic materials. Many of its acquisitions actually date back to the 1950s and were significantly increased during the 1960s and early 1970s.

The archive now has two principal collections: the Television Fond (Telefon), and the (Radiofon), which are operated by separate divisions.

Telefon  [Television Fond]

Head: Irina Valer’evna Igonina (tel. 290-23-60)

The Television Fond (administratively part of the Division of Acquisitions for the Telefon [Otdel komplektovaniia Telefon]) retains feature and documentary films that have been produced or used for television broadcasting. These include newsreels, television concerts, animated films, and other productions, including original materials produced by central and local television studios, and copies of films and film footage collected from other sources for television use.

Radiofon  [Radio Fond]

Head: Ol’ga Alekseevna Rostova (tel. 222-07-47)

The Radio Fond has collected completed productions of sound recordings, including artistic and political broadcasts, transmitted by radio, including original recordings from local and republic-level radio studios, recordings from foreign radio, and other sound recording agencies.

Separate fonds have been organized for different types of productions, including the Literary-Dramatic Fond, the Children’s Fond, the Music Fond, and the Documentary Fond.
Access: The Division of Commercial Services (Otdel kommercheskogo obmena) is open for consultations and the preparation of materials for viewing and copying. Fees are charged for use of the facilities, use of copies for production purposes, and for searches or research by the archival staff.
C–18. Rossiiskaia Knizhnaia Palata (RKP)
[Russian Book Chamber]

Agency: Gosudarstvennyi komitet Rossiiskoi Federatsii po pechatii (Roskompechat') [State Committee on Publishing]

Address: 121019, Moscow, Kremlevskaya nab., 1/9
Telephone: 203-56-08; 203-87-78; Fax: 298-25-90
E-mail: vvc@rkp.msk.su
General Director: Iurii Vladimirovich Torsuev (tel. 203-56-08)

The Russian Book Chamber was originally established in St. Petersburg in May 1917 as a specialized agency in the realm of bibliography. During the Soviet period, its functions were ultimately transferred to the All-Union Book Chamber (VPK). In 1992, it reverted back to its original name.

Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv pechatii (GAP)
[State Archive of Printing]

Address: 127018, Moscow, ul. Oktiabr'skaya, 4; (Mozhaisk Branch): 143200, Mozhaisk, ul. 20-go ianvaria, 20
Telephone: Fax: 288-96-75; RdngRm: (Mozhaisk Branch): (8-238) 21-892
Hours: (Moscow): by arrangement; (Mozhaisk Branch): M–F 9:00–16:00
Head: Tat'iana Vasil'evna Novikova (tel. 288-90-83)

The State Archive of Printing retains an obligatory depository control copy of every book published in the USSR (and now in the Russian Federation) from 1 January 1917 to the present, as well as joint publications with foreign publishers.

Nauchno-bibliografitcheskii arkhiv (NBA)
[Scientific Bibliographic Archive]

Address: Moscow, ul. Ostozhenka, 4
Hours: by arrangement
Head: Rimma Pavlovna Vlasova (tel. 203-03-96)

Previous names:
Gosudarstvennaia tsentral'naia knizhnaia palata RSFSR (GKP) [State Central Book Chamber] (1925–1935)
Vsesoiuznaia knizhnaia palata (VKP) [All-Union Book Chamber] (1935–1992)

The Scientific Bibliographic Archive (NBA) administratively constitutes a subdivision of the Division of Bibliography of VKP. It serves as a repository for a significant volume of documentation, based most particularly on the administrative records of VKP itself, including papers of a number of important bibliographers.
Access: Access to GAP or use of archival materials in NBA requires an official application, preferably from the researcher’s sponsoring organization to the General Director or the Deputy Director for Bibliography, indicating the aim and purpose of research.

General Reference Aids:

There is no published guide to the RKP holdings.
Russian Archive of Printing (RAP)

The published Russian National Bibliography serves as an approximate register of holdings in RAP in terms of the archive of depository copies, although, as mentioned above, there are some gaps in the actual holdings. RKP/VKP regularly and systematically publishes official national bibliography for imprints in the USSR since 1918, and for the Russian Federation since 1991.


BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERIES (titles, frequency, and publication datavary). Separately numbered supplements (Dopolnitel’nyi vypusk) during some periods cover subsidiary series. Some separate index series.:

Zhurnal’naia letopis’/Letopis’ zhurnal’nykh statei. [IDC-RC-10,419 (1926–1972)]
Letopis’ gazetnykh statei [IDC-10,415 (1936–1955)]
Letopis’ retsenzii; Letopis’ avtoreferatov dissertatsii; Letopis’ izoizdanii; Notnaia letopis; Letopis’periodicheskikh i prodolzhaiushchihchiksia izdani; Kartograficheskaia letopis’.


The first CD-ROM edition covers all books published since 1990. The third edition covers 907,000 titles, predominantly post-1990, but also 35,000 hitherto unlisted titles ranging from 1980 to 1996. It also lists ca. 60,000 dissertations from 1991 to 1997. The CD provides 25 browsable index lists and many search features in English and Russian.

Scientific Bibliographic Archive (NBA)--Survey


The first segment describes the main administrative records of VKP that have already been processed (1916–1950), and the personal papers of six librarians and bibliographers held within the complex of VKP records. The second segment continues the coverage of personal papers of an additional ten individuals.