

**RECORDS RELATING TO CHINA AMONG THE
CENTRAL FILE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE (RG 59) 1910-73:
A SELECTED LIST**

The following is an overview of the most important files pertaining to Chinese international political relations and Chinese political, military, and economic matters. It is not comprehensive and intended merely as a starting point for research. Researchers undertaking a major study of this topic should be certain to examine appropriate finding aids within RG 59 and other record groups for additional information.

THE CENTRAL DECIMAL FILE, 1910-63 [ARC ID: 302021]

Between August 1910 and January 1963, the Department of State's Central File was arranged according to a decimal classification scheme.

1910-49

In its original form, the Decimal File is divided into four segments for these years: 1910-29, 1930-39, 1940-44, and 1945-49. You should begin your research with file numbers:

711.93 -- Chinese-United States Relations
893.00 -- Chinese Political Affairs
893.20 & 893.30 -- Chinese Military Affairs
893.50 -- Chinese Economic Affairs

All of these records are available on microfilm. Researchers can examine the film in our microfilm research room during regular business hours.

THE CENTRAL DECIMAL FILE, (1950-63 SEGMENTS) [ARC ID: 302021]

In 1950 the Department revised the Central File and the numerical designations for China change. The File is divided into three segments for these years: 1950-54, 1955-59, and 1960-63. The Communist takeover of the mainland complicates the filing scheme; beginning with this file there are two pertinent file designations, one for the People's Republic of China and one for the Republic of China, also known as Taiwan for the years 1950-59. **Beginning in 1960 records pertaining to both Chinas are filed primarily in the A93" file designations.** You should begin your research with file numbers:

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

611.93 -- Chinese-United States Relations
793.00 -- Chinese Political Affairs
793.5 -- Chinese Military Affairs
893.00 -- Chinese Economic Affairs

REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

611.94A -- Taiwanese-American Relations
794A.00 -- Taiwanese Political Affairs
794A.5 -- Taiwanese Military Affairs
894A.00 -- Taiwanese Economic Affairs

Records for the years 1950-59 are available on microfilm. Researchers can examine the

film in our microfilm research room during regular business hours.

THE SUBJECT-NUMERIC FILE, 1963-73 [ARC ID: 580618]

In February 1963, the Department adopted a new filing scheme that is radically different from the preceding file. This filing scheme extended through July 1973. There are eight primary subject classes and each primary class has between 3 and 19 secondary subject classes. Within each secondary class the records are arranged by country. The entire File is divided into four segments: 1963, 1964-66, 1967-69, and 1970-73. In this file there are also designations for both China's "**Chicom**" refers to the People's Republic, and "**Chinat**" to Taiwan. You may wish to begin your research with these subject classes: Economic (E); Finance (FN); Foreign Trade (FT); Labor & Manpower (LAB); Strategic Trade Control (STR); Defense (DEF); and Politics (POL). The subject class U.S. Aid (AID (US)) is a significant category for Taiwan. The following list provides the box numbers for these subject classes for both Chinas in each time segment.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ("CHICOM")

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964-66</u>	<u>1967-69</u>	<u>1970-73</u>
E	3371-3373	700-701	597-599	730-732
FN	3428	842	736	865
FT	3474-3475	992-993	893-894	1055-1058
LAB	3578	1288	1226	1394
STR	3635	1422-1424	1397-1400	1537-1538
DEF	3717	1614-1616	1528-1529	1696
POL	3858-3865	2005-2020	1958-1976	2177-2192

THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA -- TAIWAN ("CHINAT")

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964-66</u>	<u>1967-69</u>	<u>1970-73</u>
AID (US)	3315	542-544	466-468	730-732
E	3373	702-703	600-601	735
FN	3428	844	737-738	867-869
FT	3475	994	895	1058-1059
LAB	3579	1288	1227	1395
STR	3634	1424	1400	1538
DEF	3717-3718	1616-1618	1531-1532	1697-1698
POL	3867-3869	2032-2041	1982-1987	2202-2207

<http://www.archives.gov/research/foreign-policy/state-dept/finding-aids/rg-59-china.pdf>