

Colonial administration records (migrated archives): Cyprus

Formerly part of the Ottoman Empire, Cyprus was handed over to Britain by Turkey for administrative purposes in 1878, though not formally ceded. Responsibility for Cypriot affairs was transferred from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office on 6 December 1880. Following the outbreak of the First World War, and the decision of the Ottoman Empire to join the war on the side of the Central Powers, Cyprus was annexed to the British crown. The annexation was recognised by both Turkey and Greece under the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne and in 1925 Cyprus became a British Crown Colony. Cyprus became an independent republic on 16 August 1960 and a member of the Commonwealth on 13 March 1961.

This tranche of records relating to the administration of Cyprus covers the years 1944 – 1960. Below is a selection of files grouped according to some major themes to assist research. Please note that this guide is not a full list of the files included in this release and should therefore be used in conjunction with the full list as it appears in **Discovery**, our online catalogue. The files here cover events during the Second World War, but concentrate on the 1950s, including politics of *Enosis*, the emergency from 1955, relations with Turkey and the Turkish community, and the independence constitution.

They complement files held in the catalogue series **CO 67** Colonial Office: Cyprus, Original Correspondence 1878-1951 and **CO 926** Colonial Office: Mediterranean Department: Registered Files, Mediterranean Colonies 1938-1966.

Government and constitutional

FCO 141/3067-3078: Committee on Turkish Affairs: interim report: family law, administration of Turkish infants' estates, elections, Sharia courts, Evkaf, education 1949-56

FCO 141/3089-3090: report by the Commissioners for Reorganisation; Commissioners' offices 1949-50

FCO 141/3565-3584, 3586-3587: Municipal Corporations Law 1954 and amendments, separation of Greek and Turkish municipalities, Nicosia, Larnaca, Kyrenia, Limassol, Famagusta, Paphos, report of Municipal Commission, municipal reorganisation, 1954-60

FCO 141/3822-3833: development of local government, municipal boundaries, ward limits in Nicosia, Paphos, Famagusta, Larnaca, Limassol districts, Report on Local Government by Tom C Hayward 1956-58

FCO 141/3854-3872, 3937-3938: Lord Radcliffe's Constitution (Cmnd 42, 1956); reactions and representations, reports, comments, policies, Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation, reorganisation of Secretariat 1956-58

FCO 141/4047-4049: Joint Constitutional Committee in London; Joint Constitutional Commission in Cyprus 1959-60

FCO 141/4052-4060: Independent Republic of Cyprus: appointment of ministers, organisations and functions of ministries (including Ministry of Justice and courts, Foreign Affairs); interpretation of constitution and procedure for adoption 1959-60

FCO 141/4152-4153: draft constitutional proposals 1955-58

Defence, security and policing

FCO 141/2867: sale of arms and ammunition 1944-50

FCO 141/2869: internal security, liaison with the military authorities 1944-50

FCO 141/2872: Cyprus garrison, 1944-51

FCO 141/2885: murder charges against Iraq Levies stationed in Cyprus 1945

FCO 141/2888-2889: Famagusta, military transit camp, shooting incident after Cypriot troops 1945

FCO 141/2893: mutineers from the Cyprus regiment, court martial in Beirut 26-30 November 1945

FCO 141/2894: police search of Anorthotikon AKEL (Progressive Party of Working People) premises 1945-46

FCO 141/2898: agitators in the armed forces and question of dealing with Cypriot soldiers found guilty of mutiny 1945-46

FCO 141/2906: suspension or amendment to wartime defence regulations 1945-46

FCO 141/2979: summary of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and Special Branch work 1946-49

FCO 141/3025: establishment of a military administration area and acquisition of land 1947-49

FCO 141/3047: report by the Defence Security Officer on internal security 1948-49

FCO 141/3129: internal security; Emergency Regulation number 60; trespassing and squatting 1958-59

FCO 141/3115-3119, 3592: internal security; exercises, Paphos situation and provision of troops, minutes 1954-60

FCO 141/3606: development of the police force 1955-56

FCO 141/3144-3149: military camp at Dhekelia 1950-53

FCO 141/3788: measures of control of prisons and detention camps 1955-60

FCO 141/3884-3886: Carter Report and permanent establishment of the Cyprus Police Force; proposals for an increase in the strength of the Cyprus Police Force 1956-57

FCO 141/4141-4142: establishment of the Middle East Land Forces in Episkopi, Cyprus 1952-53

FCO 141/4144: redeployment of Middle East Land Forces 1952-58

FCO 141/4145: proposals for the establishment of a separate special branch police force 1952-59

FCO 141/4156: setting up a tripartite headquarters, Greece, Turkey and Cyprus and the establishment of a Cypriot army 1959-60

FCO 141/4163: establishment of the Internal Security Committee, minutes of Meetings 1955

FCO 141/4164: Joint Planning Staff, minutes of meetings 1955

FCO 141/4013-4020, 4023-4024, 4041-4046, 4050-4051:
Cyprus Government Working Party on Enclaves and Retained Areas; Sovereign Base Areas – Working Party minutes, agenda; aspects of administration, petitions against, records of meetings 1959-60

Political organisations and Intelligence, Enosis politics

FCO 141/2711-2712: internal political reports; internment of Fifth Columnists in the event of enemy invasion 1940-43

FCO 141/2756-2757, 2942-2943, 3079, 3134, 3209, 3396, 3460-3464:
AON (Progressive Youth Organisation), proscription, reactions to measures against AKEL, AKEL in mining areas, AKEL congress, Reform Party of the Working People, AON and AKEL relations with EOKA 1948-1959

FCO 141/2874, 2955, 2978, 3137-3139, 3225, 3488:
Opposition to Enosis, Enosis campaign in Greece, petitions; visit of the Cypriot National Delegation; Enosis politics from 1939; secret agreement between Archbishops of Cyprus and Athens; Cyprus Enosis Front 1944-59

FCO 141/2948: communist infiltration at Morphou Teacher Training College 1945-1950

FCO 141/3035, 3102: arrest of Cypriots in Greece for communist activities; reports on communism 1947-54

FCO 141/3155, 3889, 4189: activities of Bishop Makarios of Kitium (Archbishop of Cyprus); release from detention; deportation of Archbishop Markarios, Bishop Kyprianos of Kyrenia, and others to the Seychelles 1950-58

FCO 141/3188-3191, 3314-3318: monthly reports from Commissioner at Paphos, Limassol, Famagusta, Larnaca 1951-54

FCO 141/3218-3220: reports to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the internal political situation 1952-56

FCO 141/3227-3230: political situation reports from the Commissioner of Police 1952-55

FCO 141/3350-3366: passive resistance, resignations of villages authorities and officials 1958-59

FCO 141/3368, 3374: proscription of EOKA, Political Committee of the Cyprus Struggle (PEKA) 1955-59

FCO 141/3395: Pancyprian Organisation of Democratic Women (PODY) 1954-59

FCO 141/3420-3421: activities of the Archbishop Makarios since 2 August 1954 1954-56

FCO 141/3422: activities of nationalist leaders since 2 August 1954 1954-55

FCO 141/3434-3443, 3447: political activities of Greek schools 1954-58

FCO 141/3604: Trotskyist party activities 1955

FCO 141/3899: reports on activities of Greek Cypriots in the UK 1956-58

FCO 141/3901-3902: Kyrenia incident 1956-60

FCO 141/4147: activities of Anorthotiki AON (Reform Youth Organisation) 1953-58

FCO 141/4148-4150: Communism and meetings of the political committee on communism 1954-59

FCO 141/4151: activities of Pankypria Ergatikí Omospondia (PEO), Pan-Cyprian Federation of Labour 1956-59

FCO 141/4157-4162: Intelligence Committee, papers on Archbishop Makarios, Colonel Grivas, EOKA activities, the power of the church and the activities of Bodossakis Athanassiades and his representative, Kostas Mangolis 1955-59

Political action and emergency

FCO 141/2895-2896: Commission of Inquiry into disorders at Lefkoniko 1945-46

FCO 141/3324-3333, 3337, 3339: bomb incidents at Nicosia, Limassol and Larnaca, 1 April 1955; subsequent bomb incidents; attack at Famagusta 25 November 1955 1955-59

FCO 141/3424: acts of sabotage since 2 August 1954 1954-59

FCO 141/3839-3860: policing of disturbed areas, Volkan, racial hostility between Greeks and Turks, intercommunal disturbances, alleged atrocities, Turkish Resistance Organisation, intercommunal disturbances, 8 June 1958 onwards, Geunyeli incident, compensation for damaged property 1956-59

FCO 141/3909: protests against measures taken under the emergency powers 1956-58

FCO 141/4155: plans for ending the emergency regulations and restrictions 1959

FCO 141/4171-4175: emergency measures, June 1955 and November 1958; military courts 1955-58

Death sentences

FCO 141/3834-3838, 3925-3933, 3986-3989: death sentences, Andreas Demetriou; Andreas Charilaou Zakos and Charilaos Michael; Stelios Mavrommatis; Lacovos Andrea Patatsos; Nicos Xenophontos; Hussein Kutchuck; Stavros Demetriou; Evagoras Pallikarides; Frixos Lamborou; Christos Kyriakou; Nicos Ioannou, Andreas Afxentiou and Christos Apostolou; Nicos Sophocleous aka Sofokleous; Costas Michail and Demetrakis Christou; Nicos Sampson Georghiades; Costas Constantinides and Yiannakis Athanassiou (and reactions); Georghios Constantinou; I G Markos 1956-58

Relations with Turkey and Turkish community

FCO 141/2982: protests from Turkish members of Municipal Councils against the political activities of Greek members 1946-50

FCO 141/2989: Turkish community affairs and representation 1946-52

FCO 141/3004: non-participation of Turkish Muslim candidates in the 1946 municipal elections in Nicosia 1946-54

FCO 141/3026: protests by the Turkish Consul regarding anti-Turkish incidents 1947-49

FCO 141/3124, 3126: Mason-Dixon line, separating the Greek and Turkish districts; migration of Greek and Turkish families and the security of isolated Turkish villages 1958-59

FCO 141/3168: political activities of the Turkish Mufti of Cyprus 1951

FCO 141/3234: Turkish affairs; general 1952-53

FCO 141/3309: activities of the Federation of Turkish Associations 1953-59

FCO 141/3385: petitions and telegrams of protest from the Turkish community regarding the security situation 1958-59

FCO 141/3951, 3953-3956: Rauf Denktash, leader of the Turkish community, meetings between Governor, Turkish community leaders, Turkish Consul-General, progress report on matters raised 1957-59

FCO 141/4154: Turkish Government representation 1958-59

FCO 141/3398-3402: Turkish affairs; activities of Dr Fazil Kutchuk and other Turkish leaders 1954-60

FCO 141/3426-3432: Turkish affairs; Evcaf (Islamic religious property holding organisation) 1954-60

FCO 141/3470, 3529: Committee on Turkish Affairs; interim report part VI; lycee and college; Muftiship 1954-56

FCO 141/3906: Turkish language newspaper; Halkin Sesi, publication of Dr Kutchuk 1956-58

FCO 141/3971-3972: Division of the Agricultural Department into Greek and Turkish sections; agricultural stations in Turkish areas 1956-59

FCO 141/4007: Turkish Consul-General 1958-60

FCO 141/4065: requests for return to the Turkish community of lands acquired by Cyprus Government 1960

Labour organisation and industrial disputes

FCO 141/2710: activities of trade unionists; includes police reports on meetings held in trade union premises 1940-43

FCO 141/2937-2939: Cyprus Mines Corporation; enquiry into a trade dispute, petitions, strike at Skouriotissa 1945-49

FCO 141/2957-2958: trade unions; Cyprus Workers Federation (SEK) 1945-1953

FCO 141/2964: Trade Union Central Committee 1946

FCO 141/3319-3322: incidents arising from the General Strike of 18 December, disturbances at Limassol, Nicosia 1954-55

FCO 141/3336: proposed General Strike of 25 November 1955-56

FCO 141/3550: new trade union; Confederation of Cypriot Workers (SEK) 1954-59

FCO 141/3590: Pancyprrian Federation of Labour (PEO) 1954-60

FCO 141/3768: Trade Unions delegation meeting with the Governor 1955-58

FCO 141/3981-3982: protest strikes by the Civil Service 1958-59

Communications, Media and Information

FCO 141/2868: broadcasts from Athens 1944-50

FCO 141/3243: installation of a printing press at the Archbishopric 1952-55

FCO 141/3292-3299: broadcasting stations, proposed television service and financial estimates 1953-59

FCO 141/3493-3506, 3508-3510, 3512-3515: proposals for the expansion of the Information Department; public information policy; publicity on emergency regulations, development, collective punishment, terrorism, constitution, Turkish sovereignty; propaganda aimed at Cypriots, relations between Information Office and press 1954-57

FCO 141/3778-3779: reorganisation of and proposals for the Information Services 1955-59

Infrastructure

FCO 141/2875: Kouris River irrigation scheme 1944-53

FCO 141/2907-2918: electrification schemes including the Dhekelia power station 1945-59

FCO 141/2924-2925, 2927-2936, 2986-2987, 3555-3556: civil aviation, negotiations with foreign countries and reciprocal rights, Cyprus Airways and Royal Air Force joint use of Nicosia, reciprocal rights with Turkey and Greece 1945-59

FCO 141/2966: formation of Cyprus Airways Limited

FCO 141/3405-3411: Cyprus Airways Ltd 1955-1960

FCO 141/2980: nationalisation of telegraph and telephone services 1946-48

FCO 141/2981: minutes of meetings of the Cyprus Telecommunication Co-ordinating Committee 1948

FCO 141/2991-2994: development of Tymbou airfield 1946-1959

FCO 141/3040-3042: European Recovery Programme 1948-52

FCO 141/3237: establishment of the Central Electricity Authority 1952-53

FCO 141/3239: future of the Government railway 1952-53

FCO 141/3477-3478: Akrotiri airfield; water supply, port facilities 1954-56

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