

QUICK FACTS

Source: The National Archives, United Kingdom; Rutgers University; New York City Bar Association Library

Size: Approximately 360,000 pages

Content Types: Correspondence, agency reports, personal papers, organisational records, pamphlets and ephemera, and legal briefs

Date Range: 1947–1979

Available: March 2024

Newly Digitised Materials: 90%

Disciplines Supported: Global and diplomatic history, public health, sociology, economics, political science, religion, decolonisation, Cold War, and area studies (Asian, African, and European studies)

Complementary Gale Archives:

- *Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II*
- *Decolonization: Politics and Independence in Former Colonial and Commonwealth Territories*

Usage Highlights:

- Mine this content within *Gale Digital Scholar Lab*
- Enhance student instruction with the forthcoming Learning Center
- Cross-search content from other *Gale Primary Sources* archives
- Find related resources in the *Gale eBooks* collection using the Related Resources feature
- As a complement to searching, browse content in the file order in which it was arranged by the source library

REFUGEES, RELIEF, AND RESETTLEMENT: THE EARLY COLD WAR AND DECOLONIZATION



Vietnamese refugees aboard HMS *Warrior* after an evacuation by the Royal Navy, 1954; Crown Copyright images reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.

DELIVER GREATER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: The Early Cold War and Decolonization opens a window onto the history of refugees and forced migration, expanding the possibilities of research for scholars and students who are studying the history of—and who may possibly come to work with—refugee populations. Topical coverage includes the causes of refugee crises following World War II, from the onset of the Cold War to the decolonisation of, and rise of independence movements within, the nations of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.



Image inset from a pamphlet containing a plea for help for Arab refugees, 1950; Crown Copyright images reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.

ABOUT THE COLLECTION

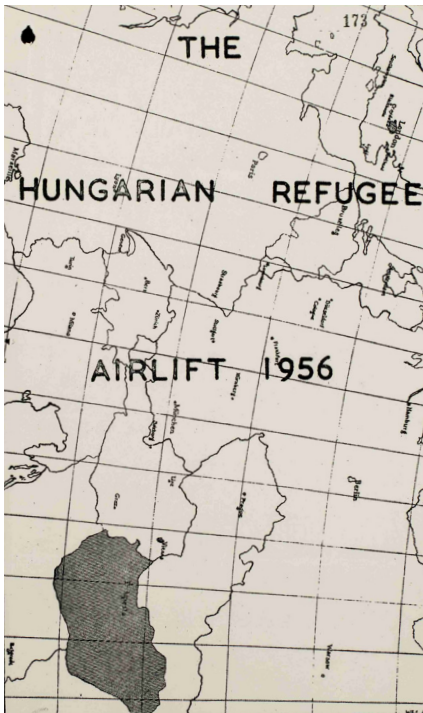
With over 89 million individuals presently dislocated by war, famine, economic decline, and environmental disaster, refugee crises have become an ever-more visible part of our daily global reality. *Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: The Early Cold War and Decolonization* chronicles part of how we have arrived at this reality by drawing on government files, refugee agency reports, and other documentation to explain the challenges faced by those forced to flee their homes and homelands after World War II, and the government and agency operations that sought to provide some form of relief through resettlement or repatriation during this period.

This collection addresses head on the impact of the Cold War, as the United States and its European allies battled the Communist regimes of the Soviet Union, China, and their satellites across the globe for control and influence over the nations of Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The refugee crises that ensued would reflect the shifting nature of these forced displacements, from mass emigrations that followed in the wake of crackdowns on dissident movements to flights of refugees from proxy battles and their subsequent placement in refugee camps.

Within the context of the Cold War, the end of World War II also rapidly accelerated the decolonisation of nearly all European territories, resulting in a tide of national independence movements. As colonial territories transformed into fully independent countries, competing tribes, clans, ethnicities, and religious groups jostled for power. Internecine hostilities that broke out among these groups forcibly displaced thousands both within and sometimes across the often artificially drawn borders that now constituted these newborn nations.

VALUE OF THE ARCHIVE

- **International and Interdisciplinary Coverage:** Refugee studies are cross-disciplinary by nature, drawing in scholars of history, economics, psychology, public health, sociology, anthropology, religion, immigration, language and literature, and nearly all regions within area studies or global studies, with a particularly strong focus on Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.
- **Valuable Insights:** Materials include multiple perspectives from governments and government agencies, individuals, and relief organisations.
- **Topical Content:** This collection provides valuable historical context to one of the most pressing issues of our time. From the horrific conditions of refugees from the war in Yemen to the mass exodus of Ukrainians forcibly displaced by the 2022 Ukrainian-Russian war, to the long-standing crises in Sudan, Myanmar, Eritrea, and Syria, refugee influxes today have transformed government, immigration policy, national security strategies, and economic conditions across the globe.
- **Expansive Coverage:** This archive follows on the heels of the first part in the *Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement* series, looking beyond the Second World War, to focus on how Cold War politics and the decolonisation of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East would dramatically reshape the nature and causes of refugeeism and what we even mean by “refugee.”



An account by the British Red Cross Society of the Airlift of Hungarian Refugees from Austria to the UK, 1956; Crown Copyright images reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.

TOPICAL COVERAGE

- Angolan Civil War
- British evacuation of India
- French-Algerian War
- Hungarian Revolution of 1956
- India-Pakistan partition
- Indochina Wars
- Israeli-Arab Wars
- Korean War
- Prague Spring of 1968

COLLECTIONS INCLUDED

Refugee Records

Source: Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Foreign Office, Colonial Office, and other offices of The National Archives in the United Kingdom

Date Range: 1947–1970

Size: Approximately 200,000 pages

Details aspects of displaced populations fleeing Eastern European Communism or displaced by internecine or cross-border conflicts in the decolonised territories of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Selected Records of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service

Source: Rutgers University

Date Range: 1943–1979

Size: Approximately 120,000 pages

Includes the records of a clearinghouse organisation that represented dozens of smaller relief agencies to the U.S. government and other key funding sources.

Selected Records of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service

Source: New York City Bar Association Library

Date Range: 1950–1980

Size: Approximately 40,000 pages

Includes selected briefs to the U.S. Courts of Appeals during the early Cold War period related to America's asylum policy, with cases on defections, deportations, and other topics.

GALE DIGITAL SCHOLAR LAB

With the help of feedback from librarians, faculty, and students, Gale continuously refreshes its award-winning, data-mining research environment. Open even more valuable research pathways with *Gale Digital Scholar Lab*, the intuitive, cloud-based analysis platform that helps tell impactful visual stories with historical data—and helps students build valuable new skills for the workforce.

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Harness the Power of Data-Led Scholarship: With the *Lab*, sourcing, cleaning, and analysing content from *Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement* alongside millions of pages of other *Gale Primary Sources* has evolved using enhanced visualisation techniques and natural language processing.

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Gale now offers instructional support on nearly 40 *Gale Primary Sources* archives, and counting, to make them as accessible as possible—at no additional cost to the library. Built with the student researcher in mind, Learning Centers pursue an urgent goal: to help connect the library's interdisciplinary content to student success.

Learning Centers promote usage and amplify data literacy by:

- Orienting new users with the content available in a digital archive
- Providing guidance and best practices for searching, browsing, citing, and reusing primary sources
- Kindling inspiration for new research topics



Learn more at gale.com/refugees