Venona Project Records
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

Contact information: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm96083681

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008119

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
Revised 2023 October
**Collection Summary**

**Title:** Venona Project Records  
**Inclusive Dates:** 1940-1996  
**Bulk Dates:** 1941-1945  
**ID No.:** MSS83681  
**Creator:** United States. Army. Signal Intelligence Service  
**Extent:** 21 items  
**Extent:** 3 containers  
**Extent:** 1.2 linear feet  
**Language:** Collection material in English  
**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
**LC Catalog record:** https://lccn.loc.gov/mm96083681

**Summary:** Records relating to the Venona Project undertaken by the United States Army Signal Intelligence Service to examine encrypted Soviet diplomatic communications during World War II.

**Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

**People**  

**Organizations**  

**Subjects**  
World War, 1939-1945--Cryptography.  
World War, 1939-1945--Military intelligence--United States.  
World War, 1939-1945--Soviet Union.

**Acquisition Information**

The Venona Project records of the United States Army Signal Intelligence Service were transferred to the Library of Congress by the United States National Security Agency in 1996-1997.

**Processing History**

The records of the Venona Project were arranged and described in 1996 by Margit Kerwin. The collection was expanded and revised in 2007 and the finding aid revised in 2009 by Margit Kerwin.

**Other Repositories**

Copyright Status
The contents of these volumes, which were produced by a federal agency, are not covered by copyright legislation and thus are in the public domain.

Access and Restrictions
The records of the Venona Project are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Venona Project Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note
The records of the United States Army Signal Intelligence Service Venona Project span the years 1940-1996, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period between 1941 and 1945. The collection consists of records relating to the Venona Project undertaken by the service to examine encrypted Soviet diplomatic communications during World War II. It includes sixteen volumes of photocopies of translations of the communications and five guides to the releases written by Robert Louis Benson. The material was prepared by the United States National Security Agency.

Arrangement of the Papers
This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically by date of publication therein.
Container List

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<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Benson, Robert Louis</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Introductory History of VENONA and Guide to the Translations</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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<td>VENONA Historical Monograph #3: The KGB and GRU in Europe, South America, and Australia</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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