



VKP (b). Smolensk Oblast' Archives 1917-1941

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Table of contents

VKP (b). Smolensk Oblast' Archives.....	3
History.....	3
Content.....	3

VKP (b). Smolensk Oblast' Archives

Period 1917-1941

Total size 69 microfilms

Consultation Not restricted

History

After the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941, authorities in Smolensk were able to evacuate only a small part of the archive of the Smolensk (later Western) Oblast of the VKP(b), later Kommunističeskaja partija Sovetskogo Sojuza (KPSS); in 1943 the remaining part was transported to Vilnius under command of the so-called Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR), for utilization by Nazi ideologists for anti-Communist purposes; the larger portion hereof was recovered in Silesia by Soviet authorities in March 1945; the five hundred files now in Washington were removed by American intelligence officers from the US Army American restitution center near Frankfurt am Main in 1946; five to ten percent of the so-called 'Smolensk archive' consists of scattered files not originally from Smolensk, but probably seized by the ERR in Kiev and other places.

Content

Miscellaneous (and fragmentary) files from the records of the Smolensk and Western VKP(b) Oblast Committees (Obkoms), containing minutes of Obkom meetings, resolutions, decisions, and directives; Obkom correspondence with oblast and raion organizations; documents on party work among women; correspondence on collectivization, and with the political sectors of Machine Tractor Stations; investigative reports of the control commission of party members; private and personnel files; miscellaneous files from the records of the VKP(b) city and raion committees (Rajkoms), and from the records of the Western and Smolensk Komsomol Obkoms. Institute of Jewish Proletarian Culture of the All-Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kiev: some ten files from their records.

Location of originals

Originals in the National Archives USA; Ukrainian language documents from the part of the Smolensk Oblast Committee of the All-Union Communist Party archive handed over to the Ukraine in 2002.

Other finding aids

Inventory (on paper) available in IISH-reading room.