

## World War II internee, alien and POW records held in Canberra

Internees are those prisoners of war or enemy aliens who are obliged to reside within prescribed 'camps', generally unable to leave until the termination of the related conflict or war.

During World War II internment in Australia was subject to the National Security Regulations. There were many camps Australia-wide where not only aliens were interned but also overseas internees and prisoners of war who were transferred to Australia.

The National Archives holds many records relating specifically to internment and internees, aliens and prisoners of war. These include individual case files and more general titles which may refer to individuals. It was not uncommon for internees to be moved from one camp to another, even to another state. Thus records that relate to individual internees may be difficult to identify, and may exist in the collections of more than one office of the National Archives.

This fact sheet identifies records held in Canberra of World War II internees, aliens and prisoners of war. Records in other offices can be identified from the National Archives' publication *Finding Families: The Guide to the National Archives of Australia for Genealogists* or the [RecordSearch](#) database.

### Records held in Canberra relating to World War II internees, aliens and prisoners of war

#### Investigation Branch (CA 747)

| Title or description of record                 | Date range | Series number |
|--|------------|---------------|
| <a href="#">Correspondence files, D series</a> | 1926–45    | A369          |
| <a href="#">Copies of war proclamations</a>    | 1939–40    | A393          |
| <a href="#">General correspondence files</a>   | 1939–42    | A11797        |

#### Commonwealth Investigation Service (CA 650)

| Title or description of record                  | Date range | Series number |
|---|------------|---------------|
| <a href="#">Correspondence files</a>            | 1916–53    | A367          |
| <a href="#">Correspondence files of the CIS</a> | 1916–60    | A8911         |

|                              |         |       |
|------------------------------|---------|-------|
| <u>Prisoner of war files</u> | 1939–47 | A7919 |
| <u>Correspondence files</u>  | 1941–48 | A373  |

### **Attorney-General's Department (CA 5)**

| Title or description of record                       | Date range | Series number |
|--|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files</u>                          | 1939–49    | A472          |
| <u>Military Courts – Prisoner of War trial files</u> | 1943–46    | A11626        |

### **Prime Minister's Department (CA 12)**

| Title or description of record                              | Date range | Series number |
|---|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files, secret and confidential series</u> | 1926–39    | A1606         |
| <u>Correspondence files</u>                                 | 1939–47    | A1608         |

### **Department of Immigration (CA 51)**

| Title or description of record                              | Date range | Series number |
|---|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files (restricted immigration)</u>        | 1939–50    | A433          |
| <u>Correspondence files (non-British European migrants)</u> | 1939–50    | A434          |
| <u>Correspondence files (alien registration)</u>            | 1946–50    | A437          |

### **Department of External Affairs [II] (CA 18)**

| Title or description of record | Date range | Series number |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files</u>    | 1927–42    | A981          |
| <u>Correspondence files</u>    | 1942–45    | A989          |
| <u>Correspondence files</u>    | 1945       | A1066         |
| <u>Correspondence files</u>    | 1945–46    | A1067         |

### **Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)**

| Title or description of record   | Date range | Series number |
|--|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files</u>  | 1935–58    | A816          |
| <u>Report on the Directorate of Prisoners of War and Internees of Army Headquarters, Melbourne</u> | 1939–51    | A7711         |
| <u>Correspondence files</u>  | 1940–57    | A663          |

### **Department of Defence Co-ordination (CA 37)**

| Title or description of record | Date range | Series number |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files</u>    | 1924–40    | A664          |

### **Division, Department of Treasury [I] (CA 68)**

| Title or description of record | Date range | Series number |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files</u>    | 1942–62    | A649          |

## Co-ordination (CA 37) Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

| Title or description of record         | Date range | Series number |
|--|------------|---------------|
| <u>Classified correspondence files</u> | 1941–63    | A1308         |

## Security Service, Tasmania (CA 748)

| Title or description of record        | Date range | Series number |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence files, T series</u> | 1943–45    | A376          |

## The Rt Hon John Joseph Ambrose Curtin PC

| Title or description of record                         | Date range | Series number |
|--|------------|---------------|
| <u>Correspondence of John Curtin as prime minister</u> | 1941–44    | M1415         |

## Defence Division, Department of Treasury [I] (CA 68)

| Title or description of record                       | Date range | Series number |
|--|------------|---------------|
| <u>Folders of correspondence on special subjects</u> | 1941–44    | M1416         |

## For more information

For further information about the National Archives' holdings relating to internee, alien and prisoner of war records consult the following fact sheets:

- *Fact sheet 58 - World War I internee, alien and prisoner of war records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet 106 - World War I internee, alien and prisoner of war records held in Adelaide*
- *Fact sheet 171 - World War I internee, alien and prisoner of war records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet 101 - World War II internee, alien and prisoner of war records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet 107 - World War II internee, alien and prisoner of war records held in Adelaide*
- *Fact sheet 180 - Wartime internee, alien and prisoner of war records held in Perth*