

# A GUIDE TO SELECTED DIPLOMATIC ARCHIVES OF SOUTH AMERICA\*

*Ron L. Seckinger*

*University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*

Although the study of international relations is among the oldest fields of Latin American history, historians have not fully exploited the diplomatic archives of that region. No doubt the main obstacle has been the restrictive policies of the Latin American chancelleries, which have tended to view all diplomatic correspondence as inherently sensitive, particularly since boundary disputes have survived in many cases until the present moment. For this and other reasons, the study of Latin American foreign relations has lagged far behind that of Europe and the United States. Among Latin Americans, ex-ambassadors seem more prolific than professional historians in the field of diplomatic history; their works vary tremendously in quality, from the valuable studies of Cardozo (1961) and Herrera (1908-1927, 1930) to a host of mediocre treatments. European and North American historians have tended to focus on diplomatic contacts with the Great Powers, whose archives are more easily accessible, and to see Latin American foreign relations from the vantage point of the Great Powers. Such products include the classic works of Manchester (1933) and Robertson (1939) and the more recent studies of Burns (1966) and Wood (1966). Some works dealing with inter-American relations—e.g., Tulchin (1971) and Wood (1961, 1966)—define their topics so as to use no Latin American archival materials at all; others, such as Parks (1935) define their topics more broadly but still use United States or British archives exclusively.

Even when documentation is available, both Latin American and foreign scholars tend to focus their attention on a single Latin American nation and to rely on the diplomatic correspondence of that nation rather than consult the archives of all the countries involved. Even the best-

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known book on intra-Latin American relations, Burr's *By Reason or Force* (1965), is based largely on the holdings of the Chilean national archive. Other works—e.g., Hilton (1975), McCann (1973), Meyer (1971), and Tulchin (1969, 1974)—utilize the archives of a single Latin American country but supplement these with both British and United States (and, in Hilton's case, German) materials. Diplomatic studies based on multinational archival research in Latin America include Burr (1962), Fernández (1959), Hann (1967), Ramos (1959), Rout (1970), Whitaker (1941), and Williams (1972), as well as two forthcoming articles: One by Joseph S. Tulchin on the ABC power system during the First World War, and my own on intra-South American relations during the early years of independence.<sup>1</sup>

This article seeks to encourage the use of Latin American materials by providing basic information on the major diplomatic archives of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, and Uruguay. The following list is not complete; through oversight or lack of time, I have not investigated some collections, notably that of Estanislao Zeballos in the Museo Histórico Nacional in Luján, Argentina. But the principal repositories, including the chancellery archives of all seven countries, are described here.

The diplomatic archives of South America vary widely in the quantity of their holdings and in the quality of the documentation. The most extensive and most complete collections of official documents are usually the correspondence of diplomatic and consular agents abroad; internal documentation is less likely to be preserved in readable form. Nevertheless, the archives are, in general, sufficiently rich to support the kind of sophisticated analysis of decision-making and policy formulation that historians have accomplished in the study of European and North American diplomacy. I have attempted to evaluate the different collections in terms of the quality of diplomatic reporting, the completeness of the documentation and other aspects; but since my own research has been limited, for the most part, to the years 1820-1835, evaluative comments should be taken as impressionistic and not necessarily valid for subsequent periods.

The archives described here are valuable not only for the study of foreign relations but also for the study of the internal history of the Latin American nations. Chancelleries have always followed closely the domestic politics of neighboring states, particularly in the case of rebellions, separatist movements, civil wars, and other events that might threaten national interests. As a result, diplomatic archives often contain massive quantities of material on activities that are only potentially dip-

lomatic. Examples include Uruguayan correspondence concerning the War of the *Farrapos* in Rio Grande do Sul; Argentine and Brazilian interest in Uruguayan politics; and Bolivian observations of political and military activity in southern Peru and of the activities of Brazilians along the Mato Grosso frontier. Less obviously, diplomatic and consular officials often filed reports on events even further removed from the foreign-policy concerns of their countries, and such reports are often of inestimable value to the student of non-diplomatic history. While historians have long relied on the dispatches of United States and British agents for information concerning politics and economic matters, they have seldom used the dispatches of Latin American agents to the same end. One may presume that, say, a Chilean minister to Buenos Aires, by virtue of his cultural affinity and command of the language, might pen far more perceptive reports on Argentine politics and society than those of his British counterpart. Such unexploited sources include the observations of Juan María Gómez, the Colombian minister to Rio de Janeiro, on the events leading up to the abdication of Dom Pedro I; those of the Brazilian agent Duarte da Ponte Ribeiro concerning internal politics in Peru and Bolivia in the late 1820s and 1830s; and those of Chilean ambassador Figueroa Larraín covering the 1916 election of Hipólito Yrigoyen in Argentina. Thus, any researcher, no matter what his or her topic, would be well advised to investigate the holdings of diplomatic archives to find out whether relevant materials are available.

The chancellery archives present serious problems of access. Only the Brazilian foreign ministry permits the director of the archive to admit researchers without superior authorization; in the other countries, the investigator must request the authorization of the minister or some other high-ranking official. One should submit a written description of the project, indicating inclusive dates and publication intentions. Since this process can easily consume a great deal of time, the researcher should petition several months in advance of the research trip. One may write directly to the official indicated, or (in most cases) to the director of the archives with the request that he or she pass the petition to the proper individual.

I should caution the reader that the information contained in this article is subject to change at any moment. Personnel turn-over, reorganization plans, the transfer of documents between archives in the same country, and the physical removal of archives to new locations can render obsolete certain portions of these descriptions. But this article should at least serve as a point of departure.

ARGENTINA

*Archivo General del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto*

Although most of the Argentine diplomatic correspondence from 1810 to about 1861 was long ago transferred to the Archivo General de la Nación, the chancellery archive contains some documentation from this period and some from the colonial era as well. The holdings of the archive total approximately 17,000 metal boxes (*cajas*) of documents. The last fifty years are closed without special authorization, as is all confidential correspondence no matter how old. In effect, the authorization of the minister—and all petitions should be addressed directly to him—is required for any research whatsoever. In requesting access, the researcher should explicitly ask permission to examine confidential as well as regular correspondence, in order to avoid the necessity of a second request.

Since June 1970 the archive has been located at Vélez Sarsfield 1901 in Buenos Aires, in an old warehouse now shared with the Federal Police. When the new ministry building is constructed, the archive will join the rest of the ministry offices at the Plaza San Martín; but since the ground has not yet been broken, such a move is not anticipated before 1977 or 1978. Hours for research are restricted to Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 2:30 to 6:30. The archive has few facilities for investigators. Two desks are available in a small room adjoining the office of the Jefe, Sra. Felisa de Zeballos Aguirre. During the winter months the building is bitterly cold. Microfilm and photocopy service will not be available until the move to new quarters, although one may, with special authorization, bring personal microfilm equipment. The researcher may also bring a typewriter for use in the archive.

No guide to the holdings has been published, but five typescript catalogs are available: (1) contents of boxes through 1943; (2) diplomatic missions, 1810-1937; (3) Argentine Confederation, 1829-1860; (4) treaties, congresses, and conferences; and (5) copies of colonial documents from the Archivo General de Indias in Seville. These catalogs were prepared in the early 1940s and were organized according to the rooms in which the documents were kept; because of the transfer to a new location and a subsequent reorganization of the archive by sections (e.g., Misiones, Límites, etc.), the staff cannot always locate the boxes listed in the catalogs. Although a general, published catalog is sorely needed, the lack of personnel and other resources make it unlikely that such a guide will be prepared in the foreseeable future. A documentary publication series appears irregularly (Argentine Republic, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, 1958-1963).

Researchers interested in the pre-1861 period will need to check the chancellery archive, even though only scattered items remain. The diligent may come across a real find, such as the consular dispatches of Estanislao Lynch from Lima in the 1820s and 1830s. Lynch reported at length on diplomatic affairs affecting most of the nations of South America and on the domestic politics of Peru, Bolivia, and Gran Colombia; indeed, his accounts are superior to those of most of the Argentine diplomatic corps.

For those who have worked in the National Archives in Washington, in the British Public Record Office, or in the diplomatic archives of Brazil and Chile, the low quality of the Argentine documents will come as a rude shock. Whether it is due to the lack of a tradition or training or simply reflects the lack of importance ascribed to foreign policy by the Argentine government, reports from the field generally are thin and internal memoranda discussing policy are few. Daniel Drosdoff (1972) had some success reconstructing the policy-formulation process for the Roca-Runciman Pact, but for most issues during the twentieth century, such studies would be impossible.<sup>2</sup>

#### *Archivo General de la Nación*

The Archivo General, located at Leandro N. Alem 250 in Buenos Aires, is open from 8:30 to 7:00, Monday through Friday. The director is Dr. Ernesto Jorge Funes. The researcher need only present his or her passport to obtain access.

The Sala de Investigadores on the fourth floor has long tables with room for about thirty researchers. One may bring a typewriter for use during the morning; after noon, typewriters may be used only in the Sala de Estudiantes Universitarios, which is inadequately heated and very cold in the winter. Xerox copies may be had for about US \$.04 per page, and microfilm for about US \$.02 per frame, with a minimum of ten frames. The typescript catalogs are apparently incomplete but are better than those available in many other institutions.

Sala VII (Documentación Donada y Adquerida) contains a number of collections with valuable information on foreign relations. The 106 bundles (*legajos*) of the Archivo de Ángel Justiniano Carranza contain some scattered material for the nineteenth century, as well as the General William Miller collection (20 *legajos*, 1806-1860), consisting mainly of correspondence received by Miller (1818-1860). This collection is valuable for the international relations of Bolivia, Peru, and Argentina. It also contains a series of letters from Francis Burdette O'Connor on the internal history

of Bolivia during the first years of independence, and a series of letters from Daniel F. O'Leary elaborating a broad vision of Latin American politics in the 1830s. The Archivo del Gral. Tomás Guido has fifty-two bound volumes (*tomos*) and legajos of documents and newspapers ranging from 1780 to 1900 (but mostly 1816-1867). This collection includes private and official correspondence concerning Argentine relations with Brazil and Uruguay during the 1820s, 1830s, and 1840s.

The Colección del Dr. Juan A. Farini comprises twenty-five legajos of documents ranging from 1552 to 1918 (but mainly 1800-1888) and six legajos of newspapers, 1824-1927. Much of the material in the Farini collection deals with international matters. Of the eighty-seven legajos of the Archivo del Dr. Adolfo Saldías, four are devoted specifically to foreign relations, 1816-1862, and other diplomatic materials are contained in the correspondence of Juan Manuel de Rosas and others. There is also a miscellaneous volume (belonging to no collection) of abstracts and some copies of correspondence from the Spanish legation in Brazil, 1816-1831, based on originals in the Archivo Histórico Nacional in Madrid.

The Archivo del Dr. Victorino de la Plaza numbers 249 legajos, including ten dealing specifically with foreign relations (1822-1916) and dozens of legajos of private correspondence (mainly 1876-1916) and newspaper clippings (especially 1900-1909). This collection is rich in private letters on Argentine relations with Brazil and Chile from friends posted to one embassy or another during the early twentieth century. The Archivo de Enrique B. Moreno contains a number of fascinating letters on Argentine foreign policy for the period 1906-1910, when Moreno was ambassador to Uruguay. Perhaps the richest collection for the twentieth century is the Archivo de Roque Sáenz Peña, which consists mainly of letters received by Sáenz Peña. Particularly interesting is the series of long letters from Estanislao Zeballos justifying his nationalistic foreign policy. These three collections contain almost as much information on the diplomatic history of Argentina during the first two decades of the twentieth century as the chancellery archive.<sup>3</sup>

Sala X (División Nacional, Sección Gobierno) has most of the official correspondence of the foreign ministry prior to 1861. This material may be located with the Sala X catalog, which is organized topically. The holdings are most extensive for Great Britain, Brazil, Uruguay, and Chile.

Argentine diplomatic correspondence was apparently of higher quality in the nineteenth than in the twentieth century. The diplomats who held key assignments in Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, and London were generally capable men and filed complete reports; unlike their Brazilian counterparts, however, they seldom digressed to treat non-diplomatic matters in detail. Moreover, internal documentation is rare.

## BOLIVIA

*Archivo del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto*

The archive of the Bolivian chancellery is one of the best organized of all those described here. The archive comprises approximately 1,000,000 documents in 9,000 bound volumes. Although the documents run from 1525 to the present, most are from the twentieth century; only 162 volumes are devoted to the colonial period and 677 to the nineteenth century. Much of the nineteenth-century diplomatic correspondence is housed in the Archivo Nacional in Sucre.

In charge of the archive is a professional historian, Dr. Juan Siles Guevara, Director del Departamento de Documentación. The researcher must secure the authorization of the Secretario General of the ministry but may address the petition to Dr. Siles. The archive maintains an enlightened policy of access to the documents; only the last twenty-five years are closed.

Located on the second floor of the ministry building at Calle Ingavi 1097 in La Paz, the archive has no separate facilities for researchers, but room can always be found at one of the tables or desks. The lighting ranges from poor to adequate. The building is very cold during the winter months of June, July, and August, although the recent acquisition of electric space heaters has improved the researcher's lot. Neither microfilm nor photocopy facilities are available, but one may request special authorization to bring microfilm equipment. The researcher may also bring a typewriter.

A typescript catalog prepared in 1971 provides an excellent guide to the documentation. The catalog is organized chronologically and makes possible the rapid location of desired materials. A brief description of the archive was published by Siles Guevara (1974), and the following information is taken from that article.

The archive encompasses seven sections:

## I. Documentos diplomáticos

With more than 4,000 volumes, this is the largest section of the archive. Peru, Chile, Brazil, Ecuador, Argentina, and Spain claim the longest runs of documents. Subsections:

1. Correspondencia recibida y enviada por las legaciones y embajadas de Bolivia (1830 ff.)
2. Correspondencia de las legaciones y embajadas extranjeras en Bolivia (1826 ff.)
3. Instrucciones (1899 ff.)
4. Cartas autógrafas (1826 ff.)



5. Documentación interna de las misiones bolivianas (incomplete)
6. Tratados y convenios (1847 ff.)
7. Documentación de organismos internacionales (1920 ff.)
8. Documentación de misiones especiales (1864 ff.)

II. Documentos consulares

This section contains 1,122 volumes. Correspondence received begins in 1830; correspondence dispatched, in 1842. Subsections:

1. Consulados de Bolivia en el exterior
2. Consulados extranjeros en Bolivia
3. Documentación interna de los consulados de Bolivia

III. Documentos de relaciones de la Cancillería con otras entidades

The correspondence with public and private entities fills almost 1,800 volumes. Correspondence received begins in 1857; correspondence dispatched, in 1865.

IV. Documentos administrativos internos (ninety-nine volumes, 1890 ff.)

Subsections:

1. Decretos y resoluciones
2. Informes y proyectos
3. Órdenes de pago
4. Solicitudes y órdenes de servicio
5. Circulares informativos
6. Nombramientos
7. Inventarios
8. Pasaportes
9. Documentación de protocolo

V. Documentos históricos y de límites

This section contains 676 volumes of documents dating back to 1525. For the most part, these documents are copies taken from other archives, e.g., Archivo General de Indias (Seville), Archivo de Simancas, Archivo General de la Nación (Buenos Aires), Archivo Nacional del Perú (Lima), Archivo Nacional de Bolivia (Sucre), and the Vatican archives. Included are the *cedulario* of the Audiencia of Charcas (1563-1745), a collection concerning the missions among the Chiriguano, and another on the post-Jesuit administration of Santa Cruz, Mojos, and Chiquitos (1767-1825).

VI. Telegramas y cables (1,146 volumes, 1882 ff.)

VII. Mapoteca

The archive claims approximately 2,000 maps, some of them dat-



ing back to the sixteenth century. For the most part, these concern boundaries.

### *Archivo Nacional*

The archive in Sucre holds most of the official correspondence of the Bolivian government for the nineteenth century, as the capital was not transferred to La Paz until 1898. The splendid organization of the archive shows the hard work and fastidious concern of the director, Dr. Gunnar Mendoza. Researchers may gain access simply by presenting themselves to Dr. Mendoza. The archive is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 12:00 and from 2:00 to 6:00, and is usually open on Saturday morning as well. No microfilm or photocopy service is available, although the researcher may ask permission to bring personal microfilm equipment. Once a commercial Xerox outlet opens in Sucre, it will probably be possible to have archival documents reproduced. The use of a typewriter is permitted.

Cataloging has not yet been completed, although the staff has prepared partial lists of the different sections, giving a descriptive title for each legajo. The Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores section occupies 2.7 linear meters of shelf space. The material covers the period from 1826 to 1898 but is discontinuous. Almost all of the documents are *recibidas*, although some copybooks of correspondence dispatched by the chancery during 1830-1866 are extant. The major classes of documentation are correspondence from foreign governments, from foreign representatives in Bolivia, and from Bolivian agents abroad. Most Latin American and European countries are represented; the holdings are especially strong for Peru and Chile, and less so for Brazil, France, and Argentina.

The Biblioteca Nacional, which may be considered part of the same institution, possesses a private collection with some valuable diplomatic materials. The Colección Ernesto O. Rück contains correspondence concerning Bolivian relations with Peru (1828-1837, 1873), Chile (1829-1836, 1845-1846), and France (1834, 1855-1857). A published catalog is available (Anonymous, 1898).

Since Bolivia maintained relatively few legations during the nineteenth century, the quantity of materials is limited. Moreover, some of the legations were not permanent but rather functioned intermittently. Because of the impermanence of diplomatic posts and of national administrations, the Bolivian diplomatic records are quite spotty. These conditions probably hindered the professionalization of the diplomatic

corps and thus the quality of reporting. Twentieth-century materials presumably achieve a higher standard.

## BRAZIL

### *Arquivo Histórico do Itamarati*

The archive of the Brazilian Ministério das Relações Exteriores is the richest and most-used of all the chancellery archives described here. The documentation is virtually complete, since none of the official correspondence of the ministry has been transferred to other institutions. Access to pre-1900 materials, with the exception of those relating to boundaries, is freely given. Access to the period 1900-1940 may be obtained at the discretion of the director of the archive. Confidential correspondence since 1930 may be consulted only with the authorization of the Chefe da Divisão de Documentação Diplomática, and all post-1940 documents are closed without the authorization of the Secretário Geral of the Ministry. The Comissão de Estudo dos Textos da História do Brasil, which makes recommendations concerning the administration of the archive, is currently considering a proposal to open all documentation except for the last twenty-five years. Under the enlightened direction of Sra. Marta Maria Gonçalves, Chefe do Arquivo Histórico, the archive has generally conceded access to pre-1930 documentation to bona fide scholars.

Fortunately, the archive did not accompany the rest of the ministry in the move to Brasília and remains in the Palácio Itamarati in Rio de Janeiro (Avenida Marechal Floriano, 196). Researchers work in a pleasant, air-conditioned room where *cafezinho* is served twice a day. The hours are normally 11:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday, but if the researcher has a limited amount of time, he or she may ask permission to begin work at 9:00. Microfilm service is available for only the cost of the film, and Xerox copies at US \$.10 per page. Since most documents are in bound volumes, and since only loose documents may be Xeroxed, microfilm is the only feasible means of reproduction in most cases. The researcher may bring a typewriter.

The archive is divided into five sections and forty subsections:

#### I. Correspondência

The official correspondence constitutes the heart of the archive and totals 8,074 tomos. A published catalog lists each volume (Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 1952).

01. Missões Diplomáticas Brasileiras (1,971 tomos, 1822-1930). The most lengthy runs are for Great Britain, Uruguay, Argentina, France, the United States, and Portugal.

02. Repartições Consulares Brasileiras (2,139 tomos, 1822-1930).
03. Missões Diplomáticas e Consulados: Livros de Registro (201 tomos).
04. Adidos Comerciais (sixty-five tomos, 1911-1930).
05. Inspetores Consulares (two bundles [*maços*], 1892-1929).
06. Missões Especiais: (a) do Brasil no Estrangeiro (267 tomos); (b) Estrangeiras no Brasil (thirteen tomos).
07. Congressos e Conferências Internacionais: (a) Conferências Gerais (twenty-five tomos); (b) Conferências Interamericanas (twenty tomos); (c) Conferências promovidas pela Liga das Nações (fourteen tomos); plus seven tomos on other conferences.
08. Organismos Internacionais (172 tomos).
09. Governos Estrangeiros (102 tomos).
10. Representações Diplomáticas e Consulares Estrangeiras (856 tomos).
11. Poder Legislativo (twenty-four tomos).
12. Tribunal de Contas (twelve tomos).
13. Autoridades Judiciárias (twenty-eight tomos).
14. Presidência e Vice-Presidência da República (thirteen tomos).
15. Ministérios e Repartições do Governo Brasileiro (898 tomos).
16. Governos, Repartições e Autoridades Regionais e Locais (354 tomos).
17. Diversos no Interior (245 tomos).
18. Diversos no Exterior (111 tomos).
19. Diversos no Interior e Exterior: Livros de Registro (eighty-three tomos).
20. Correspondência Especial: (a) Circulares (fifty-four tomos); (b) Instruções (seven tomos); (c) Telegramas diversos, Seção de Protocolo (382 tomos).

## II. Documentação Interna

A catalog of this section is in preparation and will be published in the near future. Subsections:

21. Decretos e Portarias
22. Exposições de Motivos
23. Relatórios, Informações e Pareceres
24. Discursos
25. Pessoal
26. Material
27. Contabilidade
28. Documentação
29. Movimento de Expediente

III. Coleções Especiais

30. Documentação anterior a 1822. This subsection, which fills thirty-five boxes (*latas*) and 189 bound volumes, consists primarily of documents that the royal family brought from Lisbon in 1807 and of correspondence generated during the residence of the Portuguese court in Brazil. It also includes copies of documents relating to frontiers that were collected by the Barão do Rio-Branco and Joaquim Nabuco. For a guide to the holdings, see Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores (1957).

31. Atos Internacionais. No catalog exists.

32. Limites. A typewritten catalog lists the contents of the 114 boxes in this subsection, which may be consulted only with the authorization of the Divisão de Fronteras, Comissão Demarcadora de Limites, in Brasília.

33. Comissões e Tribunais Mistos. Ninety-one boxes and forty-one tomos of documents on the slave trade, naval blockades, and other maritime incidents. Catalog: Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores (1964).

34. Arquivos Particulares. The various collections in this subsection were donated to the archive. One of the most important is that of the Barão da Ponte Ribeiro (1794-1878), which occupies thirty-seven boxes. The collection includes many originals from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and is most valuable for limits, navigation, foreign policy, domestic politics, and Ponte Ribeiro's private correspondence. A catalog (Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 1965) describes each document. The collection of the Barão do Rio-Branco (1845-1912) claims 138 maços of private correspondence; 103 maços on foreign relations, boundaries, historical studies, and other matters; plus eighty-one bound volumes of official correspondence concerning boundaries with Argentina, French Guiana, and Bolivia; and 146 volumes of newspaper clippings on Brazilian foreign policy, 1902-1911. Catalog: Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores (1967a). The collection of Rodrigo de Sousa da Silva Pontes (1799-1855) comprises seven boxes of correspondence and other documents relating to Platine diplomacy, 1850-1855, and has a mimeographed catalog (Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 1967b). The materials in the Visconde de Cabo Frio collection (thirty maços) focus on the Plata region and fall mainly in the period 1850-1904; there is a mimeographed catalog (Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, n.d.a). The collection of the Visconde do Rio-Branco (1819-1880) consists of twenty boxes of family papers, most of which relate to the Visconde's public career; the collection is especially important for the years from 1850 to 1875. A catalog is now being prepared and is scheduled

for publication in 1975. There are also the uncataloged archives of Carlos Magalhães de Azeredo (100 boxes) and Hildebrando Accioly (fifty boxes), both valuable for the twentieth century, and a modest archive of documents and newspapers donated by the family of Joaquim Nabuco (eleven boxes, 1896-1910).

35. *Pareceres do Conselho de Estado*. Fifty-six maços of Conselho de Estado opinions on foreign-policy matters, 1843-1889. A catalog of this subsection (along with subsections 36 and 37) has been published: Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores (1960).

36. *Documentos Históricos—Primeira Série (Volumes Encadernados)*. Eight volumes on relations with Uruguay (1852-1862), the creation of a Brazilian cardinalate (1899-1906), and foreign recognition of the Brazilian republic (1889-1891).

37. *Documentos Históricos—Segunda Série (Documentos Avulsos de 1822 a 1930)*. Forty-one boxes of documents concerning the imperial family, ecclesiastical affairs, embarcations, foreigners, the Río de la Plata, Brazilian states and provinces, other ministries, private correspondence, and other matters.

38. *Diversos*. This subsection consists of documents that do not really belong in the chancellery; it is not organized and has no catalog.

#### IV. 39. *Arquivos das Missões Diplomáticas Brasileiras*

The archives maintained by Brazilian missions abroad number in the thousands of volumes. A typescript catalog lists the volumes chronologically under the name of the city in which the mission resided.

#### V. 40. *Arquivos das Repartições Consulares Brasileiras*

This section, which consists of the archives of Brazilian consulates, also claims thousands of volumes and a typescript catalog.

Imperial Brazil maintained one of the largest and most professional diplomatic establishments in all of Latin America, and this tradition of professionalism survived the fall of the monarchy in 1889. Generally speaking, the reports of Brazilian agents are perceptive and quite thorough, not only for matters directly related to foreign relations but also for the internal affairs of other nations. Reports frequently included trade and shipping data, lengthy analyses of administrative policies and political competition, and copies of newspapers and official documents. The dispatches of Brazilian diplomats may usually be relied on as objective information rather than personal opinion, although patronage and bad judgment occasionally produced an anomalous character like Antônio Manoel Corrêa da Câmara, whose paranoid fantasies colored his reports on missions to Buenos Aires and Asunción during the 1820s.

Until the catalog of internal documentation is completed, the possibilities for studies of decision-making within the chancellery cannot be fully appreciated. But other materials—e.g., the Conselho de Estado briefs and the private archives of various prominent diplomats and ministers—are already available, particularly for the post-1850 period. Carl M. Jenks is currently preparing a dissertation on patterns of change in Brazilian diplomatic representation and an article on the Brazilian-Argentine competition to secure the first South American cardinalate.

Students of Brazilian foreign policy are fortunate to have at hand a valuable reference tool (Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 1913). This book provides the names of all Brazilian diplomats and foreign diplomats in Brazil prior to 1913, along with the date of investiture in each post. There also exists a history of the foreign ministry (Roméro, [1951]) and a documentary series, of which the most important collection deals with the independence period (Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 1922-1925).

#### *Biblioteca Nacional*

The Seção de Manuscritos of the Biblioteca Nacional, located on Avenida Rio Branco in Rio de Janeiro, is open from 10:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. Sr. Darcy Damasceno is Chefe da Seção. Anyone is permitted to consult the holdings without special requirements. Photocopies are available for about US \$.10 per page, and negative microfilm at the same rate per frame.

Some scattered materials concerning foreign relations may be found by browsing through the name and subject card catalog. But the most important documentary holding of the Biblioteca Nacional is the Coleção Visconde do Rio-Branco. This collection, which totals 49,313 documents, represents a portion of the archives of the Paraguayan government and was transferred to Rio de Janeiro by the Brazilian army following the War of the Triple Alliance. The documentation ranges from 1542 to 1872, but little of it falls outside the war years of 1864-1870. The collection is valuable for the internal history of Paraguay as well as for foreign relations in the Plata region. The published catalog (Brazil, Ministério das Relações Exteriores, n. d. b) describes each document or set of documents.

The Afrânio de Melo Franco collection is a second important source. It consists of approximately twenty to thirty drawers (*gavetas*) of documents. This collection is most valuable for the years 1930-1933, when Melo Franco was Brazilian foreign minister, and 1938-1940, when he

headed the Brazilian delegation to the Lima conference and represented Brazil on the Inter-American Juridical Committee.<sup>4</sup>

### *Arquivo Nacional*

The national archive in Rio de Janeiro (Praça da República, 26) contains a limited amount of material concerning foreign relations, located in the Seção de Documentação Histórica. The director of the archive, Dr. Raúl Lima, and the vice-director, Sr. José Gabriel da Costa Pinto, are both knowledgeable and very helpful to researchers. The investigator need only present his or her passport to obtain a user's permit. Hours for research are from 9:30 to 5:15, Monday through Friday. Xerox is available at US \$.10 per copy. There is no charge for microfilm service, but the researcher must provide two rolls of film for each one he or she wishes to take; the archive keeps the negative and uses the extra roll to make a positive copy for the researcher. One may bring a typewriter for use in the Seção de Consultas. A typescript catalog lists the holdings of the Seção de Documentação Histórica.

The Coleção Cisplatina, which fills six cases (*caixas*), concerns Brazilian policy in the Plata region from 1817 to 1869. The private archive of Polidoro da Fonseca Quintanilha Jordão (Visconde de Santa Teresa) contains some materials relating to the War of the Triple Alliance (only the years 1866-1867). The Coleção Caxias has one case on the war, and on the same subject there are about thirty-six volumes (*códices*) that do not belong to any particular collection.

### *Instituto Histórico e Geográfico Brasileiro*

Now occupying its new offices on the tenth floor at Avenida Augusto Severo 8, the Instituto Histórico is open to researchers from 12:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. Dr. Pedro Calmon is the director. There is a large, well-lighted reading room. Xerox copies and microfilm are available, but both are relatively expensive. Researchers are not permitted to bring their own typewriters for use in the Instituto.

The Instituto possesses several collections valuable to the student of Brazilian foreign relations. The José Carlos de Macedo Soares collection numbers 147 boxes (*latas*), although not all of these concern foreign policy. It is most valuable for the Chaco dispute between Bolivia and Paraguay, for Macedo Soares, as foreign minister (1934-1936), was involved in the mediation; the bound volumes on this subject contain private letters, copies of official correspondence, and other documents. The



collection also includes private letters, documents on naval affairs and national defense in the 1930s, and scattered materials on relations with Germany.<sup>5</sup> The archive of Paulino José de Soares e Souza (Visconde do Uruguai) has a good deal of material on diplomatic matters during the Second Empire. This collection fills twenty-eight portfolios (*pastas*) and is still being cataloged. The researcher must obtain the permission of Dr. Calmon in order to examine either the Macedo Soares or Uruguai collections.

The extensive archive of José Antônio Saraiva (Barão de Cotegipe) contains numerous documents on international affairs during the Second Empire; a published guide by Barman and Barman (1971) facilitates the location of particular items by author, recipient, and date, but not by topic. The Documentos Navais collection (82 boxes), which will not be open to researchers until cataloging is completed, contains voluminous correspondence on maritime affairs and international relations in general in the Plata region during the nineteenth century. The Francisco Otaviano de Almeida Rosa archive has a limited amount of material on the War of the Triple Alliance and a Brazilian attempt to obtain a loan in London, 1865-1866. Scattered items may be located by using the card catalog.

#### CHILE

##### *Archivo del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores*

The chancellery archive contains all diplomatic documentation relating to Argentina, Bolivia, and Peru; ordinary correspondence relating to other countries (through 1958) is located in the Archivo Nacional. Confidential correspondence for the last sixty years is closed; ordinary correspondence for the three countries bordering on Chile is closed for the last thirty years, and for other countries, for the last twenty years. In addition, information on certain sensitive topics may not be examined by researchers; at the moment, for example, materials relating to the Beagle Canal are closed because of a dispute with Argentina. One must obtain the authorization of the Subsecretario of the chancellery, but may direct the petition to Sr. Jorge Riquelme Vargas, Jefe del Departamento del Archivo.

The archive is in the ministry building, the colonial Palacio de la Moneda on Calle Moneda in Santiago. Hours are from 9:30 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. At present no special facilities exist for the researcher, although the staff will clear a table for use. An extensive expansion is underway, however, and by the end of 1975 the archive will have a reading room and modern reproduction equipment. When this reform is

completed, investigators will be able to purchase microfilm or IBM photocopies. Eventually, Sr. Riquelme plans to microfilm all the holdings of the archive, after which time researchers will have to work from microfilm rather than from the original documents. He also intends to make the archive a center for diplomatic research by obtaining microfilm copies of diplomatic correspondence from the archives of other countries, but this is a long-range plan and will not be realized in the near future.

The archive's holdings fill seven small rooms, including the iron vault (*bóveda*) in which the government stored its gold bullion during the nineteenth century. All documents up to 1965 are in bound volumes; since that date, documents are stored in binders (*carpetas-legajos*). There is no catalog, but the organization of the archive facilitates easy location of desired materials. Separate sections are devoted to Argentina, Bolivia, and Peru, and in each the volumes are ordered chronologically. One should be aware, however, that in many cases extraneous material is included. For example, a copybook of chancellery correspondence found in the Argentine section might contain letters written to agents not only in Argentina but also Great Britain, the United States, Peru and/or other countries. The researcher interested in Chilean relations with, say, Brazil, should not be content with the materials on Brazil in the Archivo Nacional but should also look at contemporaneous correspondence in the three sections of the chancellery archive. The archive has no documentation prior to 1810.

### *Archivo Nacional*

The Chilean national archive, as noted above, holds the foreign ministry documentation for all countries save the three that border on Chile. The transfer of materials from the chancellery to the Archivo Nacional is irregular; at the moment, the holdings of the national archive extend through 1958 for ordinary correspondence and 1914 for confidential correspondence.

The archive, which is located at Alameda 651 in Santiago, requires that any researcher present a letter of introduction from the cultural attaché of his or her embassy. The spacious and well-lighted reading room is open from 9:00 to 1:00 and from 2:00 to 5:30, Monday through Friday. Investigators are not permitted to use typewriters, even though secretaries type in the reading room. Photocopies cost about US \$.20, and microfilm is available at a similar price.

A typescript catalog lists 1,809 volumes in the Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores section. These cover the period 1810-1914, but only

224 volumes are from the years prior to 1880. Documents are bound according to topic and are listed chronologically in the catalog. Types of documentation include diplomatic and consular correspondence, documents relating to colonization (mostly after 1885), decrees, and correspondence with other government entities.

Chile ranks with Brazil and Colombia in the high quality of its diplomatic corps. From a very early time Chile enjoyed the services of talented agents like Mariano Egaña, who in the 1820s wrote fascinating reports from London on European affairs and on his country's geopolitical interests in South America. Moreover, the early consolidation of the Chilean state in the 1830s and the presence of the capable Andrés Bello permitted the professionalization of the foreign service during the first decades of independence. Thus, the reports of Chilean diplomats and consuls typically cover a broad range of subjects and are detailed and objective. The Santiago chancellery took an early interest in the promotion of trade, and therefore the diplomatic archives of Chile are particularly valuable for information on commercial relations. Internal documentation is more scarce, but at least the instructions to agents appear to be complete.

#### COLOMBIA

##### *Archivo Diplomático y Consular*

Although some duplicate and triplicate copies of diplomatic correspondence have found their way to the Archivo Histórico Nacional, almost all of the records of the Colombian Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores are preserved in the chancellery archive. The researcher must obtain the authorization of the Secretario General of the ministry, but may address the request to Sr. Antonio Gaitán, Jefe del Archivo Diplomático y Consular. There is no established policy to determine which parts of the archive are "open" or "closed," so that access will depend on the topic of study.

The archive is located at Carrera 10<sup>a</sup>, Nro. 8-42, in Bogotá, some twelve blocks from the main offices of the ministry. Hours are from 9:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. The long table presumably intended for researchers is in a dark interior room, but the director permits the infrequent investigator to work at a small table in his office, which has adequate lighting. Neither microfilm nor photocopy service is available, but one may bring a typewriter.

The archive is woefully disorganized and is unlikely to undergo any significant improvement in the near future. The employees are caretakers rather than archivists, and the ministry has shown no interest

in putting the archive on a more professional basis. Older materials are stored in ancient cabinets, the glass doors of which are often broken and/or jammed. The more recent materials (say, the past twenty to thirty years) are piled in unopened bundles on the floor or on top of cases. This is the second home of the archive since it was moved from the presidential palace following the *bogotazo* of 1948, and movement no doubt has contributed to the disorganization.

Between 1908 and 1910 the available documents were organized and bound in approximately 646 volumes (tomos). These volumes contain correspondence from Colombian legations and consulates, from foreign legations and consulates in Colombia, and from foreign governments; documents concerning boundaries and international conferences; and executive decrees. The longest runs are for Venezuela, the United States, Great Britain, Ecuador, and Peru. Some of these volumes, mostly from the 1810-1830 period, are listed by title in Zubieta (1924: 603-11). There are additional volumes with discontinuous numeration; it is possible that large numbers of tomos after number 646 are missing, but more likely the missing numbers were assigned to other categories of documents now stored elsewhere in the archive. Out of the original 646 volumes, forty-two were missing at the time of a recent visit (May 1974). These were apparently transferred to other sections of the chancellery for consultation and have not been returned; since the archive has no effective control system, the whereabouts of all the missing volumes cannot be determined.

In addition to the above-described series, the archive possesses two other sets of bound volumes of documents with separate numeration: twelve volumes of documents concerning the Panama Canal (1866-1902) and 188 copybooks of chancellery correspondence (1819-1900). Post-1910 materials are gathered in bundles and organized by country.

Despite its organizational problems, this archive remains an excellent source. Aspiring to continental leadership, Gran Colombia under Simón Bolívar seized the initiative in international relations during the early 1820s. The early professionalization of the Colombian diplomatic corps owed much to this interest in foreign relations and to the work of such talented men as Pedro Gual and José Rafael Revenga. The disintegration of Gran Colombia and subsequent retrenchment in the foreign ministry weakened but did not destroy this tradition of excellence. Colombian diplomats continued to file thorough reports based on various sources and covering a broad range of topics. The archive of the Colombian chancellery contains abundant information on the domestic politics of other American states.

The researcher may profit from two useful publications: The first (Colombia, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, 1942) provides a synopsis of Colombian principles of international relations, a list of all foreign ministers with inclusive dates of service, and brief biographies of 100 of the foreign ministers; the second, Volumes III-V of the series edited by Uribe (1900-1959), contains the portions of presidential messages to congress concerning foreign relations (1823-1915), the annual *memorias* of the foreign ministers for the same years, a list of Colombian laws dealing with international affairs (1821-1914), and other information.

## PERU

### *Archivo del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores*

The archive is located in the chancellery building, the colonial Palacio Torre Tagle in Lima (Jirón Ucayali 363). Request for research authorization should be written on legal paper (*papel sellado*) and addressed to the Secretario General. Documentation for the last thirty years is closed to researchers. Sr. Manuel Antonio Mesones Muro, Director de Documentación, supervises the operation of the archive. Hours are from 8:30 to 1:00 and from 2:00 to 4:45, Monday through Friday. There is no reading room in the archive, but a desk can be cleared for the researcher. Microfilm service is not available, but on occasion one may obtain a limited number of photocopies. The researcher may bring a typewriter.

The archive is divided into two sections, correspondence received (*entradas*) and dispatched (*salidas*); in practice, each section contains some material that should be filed in the other. The *entradas* are stored in thin folders (*carpetas*) and fill 364 four-drawer filing cabinets (*archivadores*). This section is described in a poorly organized, typescript catalog. Most of the documentation listed in the catalog falls between 1800 and 1961. The ten subsections are as follows:

0. Instituciones varias
1. Presidencia
2. Ministerios
3. Jurado Nacional de Elecciones
4. Cortes, Jueces, Fiscales, Junta Control de Energía Atómica
5. Embajadas del Perú en el extranjero
6. Embajadas extranjeras acreditadas en el Perú
7. Organismos internacionales
8. Consulados del Perú en el extranjero
9. Consulados extranjeros en el Perú

The catalog also lists some colonial materials dating back to the sixteenth century, including marriage and burial records for unspecified areas. During a recent visit (May 1974), however, the archival staff was unable to locate these documents. The diplomatic and consular correspondence, on the other hand, is better organized and easy to find; these materials are arranged year by year, with a separate folder for each country.

The salidas are preserved in bound volumes (tomos). The exact number of volumes is unknown but probably surpasses 1,000. Since this section has no catalog, and since the present staff will not permit an outsider to search out volumes of interest, the researcher cannot be certain that he or she is examining all relevant materials.

The Peruvian foreign service in the nineteenth century apparently ranked more closely to that of Bolivia than to those of Brazil, Chile, and Colombia. The quality of diplomatic reporting by Peruvian agents varied widely. Moreover, it is not obvious whether documentation relating to internal decision-making is available, and, if so, in what quantities. Such materials probably exist, for the holdings of the chancellery archive are extensive and, by all appearances, complete. But because of the lack of organization, locating such sources may require a great deal of time and patience. Diplomatic correspondence is most extensive for Bolivia and should be particularly valuable for the internal history of that country during the nineteenth century, since neither Great Britain nor the United States maintained a legation in Bolivia for much of that period.

A convenient reference work written by García Salazar and Linch (1918) lists all Peruvian foreign ministers and diplomats with their terms of service, outlines internal regulations, and summarizes legislation dealing with commerce and with resident aliens. The ministry also publishes a documentary series (*Peru, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, 1930 ff.*), the most recent volumes of which have focused on relations with Bolivia.

#### URUGUAY

##### *Archivo del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores*

Almost all the official diplomatic correspondence of Uruguay has remained in the chancellery archive. The Subsecretario of the ministry concedes authorization to researchers, but one may address the request to Sr. Ramiro Pérez Ballón, Subdirector del Instituto Artigas del Servicio Exterior. The Instituto Artigas, which is charged with the training of diplomatic personnel, the preparation of publications, and the organization of documents, administers the archive. Access policy is currently being

formulated; the last fifty years will probably be closed, although a researcher may be permitted to examine more recent materials if his or her topic is not considered sensitive.

The archive is located in the old chancellery building in Montevideo (Avenida 18 de Julio, esquina Cuareim). During a recent visit (August 1974), the archive was closed temporarily for expansion of the facilities but was scheduled to reopen before January 1975. The reform of the archive includes the relocation of the documents to new storage areas, the construction of a reading room for investigators, and the installation of microfilm and photocopy services. The staff has recently cataloged all holdings and plans to publish a complete catalog in 1975. The chancellery will also resume the publication of selected documents from the archive, a project that was halted in 1943 after three volumes had appeared (Uruguay, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, 1939-1943).

Very little documentation exists for the period prior to 1810, and only a limited quantity for the years between 1810 and 1828. Pre-1920 materials are stored in approximately 350 boxes (cajas); materials from subsequent years are kept in filing cabinets. Documents are organized chronologically, and secondarily by country. The most extensive collections concern relations with Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Great Britain, and the United States.

#### *Archivo General de la Nación*

The Uruguayan national archive is not an important repository for diplomatic documentation but does possess some scattered materials. No special requirements are necessary to obtain access. The Subdirector is Sr. Abelardo García Viera. The Archivo Administrativo, located at Convención 1474 in Montevideo, is open from 12:00 to 4:30, Tuesday through Thursday; on Monday and Friday, the archival staff works at the Archivo Judicial (San Martín 2400). The reading room in the Archivo Administrativo has space for perhaps eight or ten researchers, is adequately lighted, and can be somewhat chilly in the winter. Neither microfilm nor photocopy service is available in the archive, but one may arrange to take materials to a commercial copy center, where Xerox copies may be had for about US \$.20. The researcher may bring a typewriter or, for that matter, personal microfilm or photocopy equipment for use in the archive. A four-volume catalog is available (Uruguay, Archivo General de la Nación, 1965-1973).

The Archivo General Administrativo section contains some material on relations with Brazil to 1852. The Archivo y Museo Histórico Nacional section has several collections of value:



1. The archive of Andrés Lamas, which includes twenty-four boxes (cajas) and thirteen volumes (tomos) on diplomacy, mainly concerning Brazil, 1847-1868, and Argentina, 1863-1866.

2. The archive of the Magariño family, with two boxes of diplomatic materials, mostly on Brazil, 1820-1850.

3. The archive of Lucas J. Obes and José Ellauri, which has one box of documents concerning relations with Great Britain, France, and Spain, 1834-1854.

4. The records of the Montevideo customhouse, 137 boxes, 1778-1854.

5. The archive of Juan Antonio Lavalleja, which has thirteen volumes, 1825-1839, with scattered information on diplomatic matters.

6. Diplomatic correspondence of Santiago Vásquez, two volumes, 1843-1846.

7. One volume on foreign relations, 1829-1847.

8. One volume of diplomatic correspondence, 1849-1851.

The Archivos Particulares section contains several collections with materials on foreign relations, most notably those of Virgilio Sampognaro (twenty-five boxes, 1906-1939) and Alfredo de Castro (eight boxes, 1914-1946).

## NOTES

1. Burns (1966) consulted archives in Argentina, Chile, Mexico, and Panama, but these materials are, for the most part, mere footnotes to his research in Brazil.
2. Joseph S. Tulchin furnished evaluative comments on the twentieth-century documentation in the Argentine chancellery archive.
3. Tulchin also supplied comments on the de la Plaza, Moreno, and Sáenz Peña collections.
4. Stanley E. Hilton organized the Melo Franco archive and furnished the information cited.
5. Hilton also organized the Macedo Soares collection and furnished information on its contents.

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