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# Einleitung

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Signatur	Titel	Zeit
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 370/368/6944 (card index of the collection FO 1088/5)	<p data-bbox="587 271 1062 300">THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, LONDON.</p> <p data-bbox="587 360 1177 432"><b>MATERIAL ON LIECHTENSTEIN HELD AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, KEW.</b></p> <p data-bbox="587 450 1177 945">The Foreign Office acquired a collection of about 500 maps and plans from the second half of the eighteenth century and first years of the nineteenth (strongest in Central Europe), the property of Prince Moritz Joseph von und zu Liechtenstein, Feldmarschall- Leutnant of the Austrian Army. (Family Tree, Table 8, XVIII -16: b. 1775, d. 18 19). The collection was dispersed to the British Museum and the Royal Geographical Society in 1931 (FO 370/368/6944, card index of the collection FO 1088/5).</p>	<p data-bbox="1209 360 1294 432"><b>1822 - 1959</b></p> <p data-bbox="1209 450 1334 477">Um 1822</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, PRO 30/22/44

Manuscript letter of 28 May 1860 from  
Count Apponyi, Austrian Minister at the  
Court of St James, to Lord John Russell  
(Foreign Secretary) formally asking him to  
request an audience of Queen Victoria for  
the Prince of Liechtenstein. A second  
(unofficial) manuscript letter of the same  
date explains the Prince's status:

28.05.1860

Chandos House 28 Mai 1860

Cher Lord John Je crois devoir ajouter  
quelques mots à ma lettre officielle ci-jointe,  
pour vous expliquer la position du Prince de  
Liechtenstein.

Etant Prince Souverain et membre de la  
Confédération Germanique, il n'est pas dans  
la catégorie des étrangers que je puis  
présenter à la Reine à un Lever ou à un  
Drawing room, et voilà pourquoi je  
m'adresse à vous et pas à Sir Edwd. Cust.  
Je pense que la Reine recevra le Prince,  
comme Elle l'a fait dernièrement avec le Pce.  
de Waldeck, ces deux personnages étant  
dans une position entièrement identique.  
Comme de raison le Pce. ne songe pas à aller  
faire sa Cour à Osborne, où il sait que la  
Reine ne reçoit pas, il attendra le Retour de  
S.M. de l'Ile de Wight. Soyez assez bon pour  
m'informer des ordres de S.M. J'ajoute pour  
votre information particulière que le Pce. L.,  
est un jeune homme de 20 ans, "very good  
looking", qui n'a succédé à son père que  
l'année dernière.

Mille hommages,

Apponyi

[COMMENT: Lt. Gen. the Hon. Sir Edward  
Cust KCH was Master of the Ceremonies in  
the Royal Household.]

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 918/76	A couple of manuscript letters from Princess Marie Liechtenstein to Lord Odo Russell, purely social in content. She was Marie Fox, the adopted daughter of Lord and Lady Holland (some say, his illegitimate daughter), b. 1850, d. 1878, m. Prince Alois of Liechtenstein in London 1872, four daughters. See Family Tree, Table 9, XX -14. She wrote a history and description of Holland House, London (1873; 3rd. ed. Macmillan, London, 1875; contains no personal information). The Rt. Hon. Lord Odo Russell GCB, later Lord Ampthill, was the first British Ambassador to the German Emperor, from 1871. This folder also contains manuscript letters from Cardinal Manning.	1874
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew	"..it may be added that in 1881 Ld. Granville submitted to Her (late) Majesty a letter from Count Kirolyi announcing that H.E. had been instructed to represent the Prince of Liechtenstein at H.M. Court. Ld. Granville submitted two memoranda on the subject the gist of which was that the Prince was an independent Sovereign and as such had concluded Treaties with Foreign Powers, though in Customs, Postal and Judicial matters closely involved with Austria. Her Majesty's minute, in reply to Ld. Granville's query whether there was any objection to Ct. Károlyi's representing Liechtenstein, is: "None whatever"." (Minute dated 31 August 1914 and initialled by E.C.B., included with papers at FO 372/491/44479, 1914.	1881
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/145	The Austrian Ambassador, Count Mensdorff, returned to the Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey, the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order which had belonged to Oberhofmeister Prince Rudolf von und zu Liechtenstein (d. 15 December 1908). On 3 March 1909 Sir Edward sent them back to Count Mensdorff, since they did not need to be returned to the Chancery on the death of the recipient.	1909

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/197</p>	<p>Note from the Austrian Ambassador, Count Mensdorff, informing the Foreign Office that Prince Frederick of Liechtenstein, Military Attaché at the Embassy, has been promoted to Major.</p>	<p>13.05.1910</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/491/44479</p>	<p>Inquiry from the Home Office: Are Liechtenstein subjects alien enemies within the meaning of the Aliens Act? Sir Arthur Nicolson minuted that he should be of the opinion to treat them as enemy aliens. The Foreign Secretary agreed. On 9 September the FO asked the US Ambassador (the USA being the protecting power of Austria-Hungary) whether he was in charge of Liechtenstein's interests too and what was the position of Liechtenstein in the present war? On 30 September 1914 the US Ambassador (Walter Hines Page) replied on instructions, "The Austro-Hungarian Government states that the subjects and interests of the Sovereign Principality of Liechtenstein enjoy the diplomatic and consular protection of Austria- Hungary and that they are therefore included in the functions transferred to diplomatic and consular officers of the United States. I am further instructed to add that the Principality of Liechtenstein considers itself neutral in the present hostilities." 5 November 1914. The FO tells the Home Office, "In view of the United States Ambassador's statement that the Principality considers itself neutral in the present hostilities HMG are in his [sc. the Foreign Secretary's] opinion bound to treat its subjects as neutral unless and until they commit some hostile act. Sir E. Grey would be glad to learn whether there are many Liechtensteiners in the country, and, if so, whether it is believed that any suspicion attaches to them."</p>	<p>28.10.1914</p>

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 368/932/73351	Parliamentary Debates 17 November 1914. Sir Jolm Jardine asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Sovereign of the Principality of Liechtenstein is, by reasons of alliance with Austria or any other cause, in a state of war with this country; and whether any prohibition of commercial or other dealing with the subjects of the Prince has been published? Sir E. Grey (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs). I am informed by the United States Ambassador that the Sovereign Principality of Liechtenstein considers itself neutral in the present hostilities. No prohibition of commercial or other dealings with the subjects of the Prince has been published. Sir John Jardine. Can publicity be given to this statement, seeing that one of the evening papers has published statements distinctly saying that this peaceable and friendly Prince is at war? Mr Speaker. We do not pay any attention to evening papers here.	17.11.1914
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, Folios 87785 und 84318	Folios 83785 and 84318 record permission to export spinning mill parts and cotton, respectively, to Liechtenstein, subject to undertakings not to re-export to Austria.	1914
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/2241/158159	A political paper or papers on Liechtenstein's neutrality seems not to have been retained.	1915
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/640/2006	Home Office reply to FO's letter of 5 November 1914: No Liechtenstein subjects have registered themselves in the Metropolitan Police District.	05.01.1915
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/640/73983	"The Times" prints a Reuters report that the Austrian Government has notified the Swiss Postal Service that the Principality of Liechtenstein has been placed under Austrian censorship. No telegrams will be accepted by Austria for Liechtenstein, Vorarlberg and Tirol. "Austria has committed a positive breach of Liechtenstein's neutrality, which was declared when the war began."	08.06.1915

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
372/640/80639

Parliamentary Question. Sir John Jardine asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the State of Liechtenstein has remained neutral since the War began; and whether he has any information that pressure has been applied by the Austro-Hungarian Government to induce it to join the enemy Powers in the War? The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Lord Robert Cecil): His Majesty's Government was informed officially last September that the Principality of Liechtenstein considered itself neutral in the present hostilities. We have no other information on the subject.  
[COMMENT: John Jardine, b. 27.9.1844, d. 26.4.1919, KCIE 1897, Baronet 1916. Joined the Bombay Civil Service 1864; Law Officer to the Government of India 1877; Judicial Commissioner of Burma 1878-1885; Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government 1885; Judge of the Bombay High Court 1885-1897; Vice-Chancellor, Bombay University. MP for Roxburghshire (Liberal) 1906-1918. His Parliamentary interests included India and colonial questions, temperance reform, army questions and small holdings. No sign of any connection with Liechtenstein.]

15.06.1915

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
372/640/84332

Count Benckendorff (Russian Ambassador) left a manuscript note with Sir A. Nicolson asking about press reports on Austro-Hungarian censorship. M. Sazonoff (Russian Foreign Minister) would like to know if HMG recognises the Principality's neutrality? On 7 July 1915 the FO replied to Count Benckendorff "His Majesty's Government were informed by the United States Ambassador in September last that the Principality considered itself neutral in the present conflict. The question of recognising this neutrality has not arisen in a concrete form so far as this country is concerned, and His Majesty's Government have not defined their attitude in the matter. They are however disposed at present tacitly to recognise the neutrality of Liechtenstein."

25.06.1915

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
372/640/85795

M. Sablin (Russian Embassy) left a typed note of inquiry almost identical to his Ambassador's. This led to the following minuting (authors' initials unknown). "The WO [sc. War Office] tell me that they have captured a Liechtensteiner (whether in this country or travelling to Germany I do not know); they purpose to keep him in custody. If we acquiesce in this we cannot well answer the Russian inquiry in the terms proposed on 84332.".."We look upon Liechtensteiners with suspicion." Another minute said, "I see no reason why Liechtenstein should be treated differently to any other power great or small which has declared its neutrality. In accordance with that view I think the Liechtensteiner who has been detained should be released."

28.06.1915

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 566/1839  
(1203A/43669/15)

Somewhere in this large register of communications concerning aliens (in the section listing correspondence with or about those protected by the US Embassy) is a reference to a Liechtenstein national. Not found.

1915

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/15/7043

FO Political Intelligence Department  
memorandum on "Recent events in Tyrol,  
Vorarlberg and Liechtenstein, and their  
international implications".

30.12.1918

The independence movements in the area may become of considerable international significance. If carried to their logical conclusion they might even have an important place in the maintenance of the balance of power.

The end of the war has brought great distress. There are tendencies away from Vienna. There is a move in Vorarlberg to unite with Switzerland. Tyrol is influenced by dislike of the anticlerical government in power in Vienna and by its local Monarchist feelings. In Liechtenstein a provisional government has excluded non-Liechtensteiners. The Landtag is likely to decide in favour of continued independence under a member of the House of Liechtenstein, with greater opportunities for Liechtensteiners to fill the offices of the Principality. There is no desire to join with Switzerland. (NB: there is a customs union with Vienna.)

The possibility that German Austria may wish to unite with Germany in a Grossdeutschland. If Italy annexes South Tyrol there will be a danger of a Germania irredenta. It would be a violation of President Wilson's Ninth Point and could be an obstacle to the setting up of a League of Nations. "From this vital consideration arises the question as to whether the setting up of a perpetually neutral State consisting of North and Central Tyrol and perhaps Liechtenstein, and the Western German-speaking districts of Styria and Carinthia might not provide a way out."

If Italy annexes South Tyrol as far as the Brenner, this might push Switzerland into the arms of France, which would be undesirable. It might therefore be profitable to encourage Tyrolese aspirations.

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/5042	Despatch from Sir Horace Rumbold (Berne) to Lord Curzon. There are fears in Switzerland that the acquisition of Vorarlberg might strengthen the Swiss German population still further, and upset the Swiss German confessional balance. Italy might demand territorial compensation (parts of the Ticino?). The press unanimous that in no circumstances will Switzerland give up an inch of her present territory.	14.03.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/11/5873	Berne despatch reports proposals from Count Palffy for a neutral Tyrol, which would be occupied by Switzerland in case of war. These emanate from the German-Austrian Government, concerned to keep Tyrol free of Italian rule. They were superseded by proposals from Professor Lammasch (also from that Government) for an independent and neutral Alpine Republic (Vorarlberg, Tyrol, Salzburg, the Austrian Duchies, parts of Styria and Carinthia, the western districts of Hungary, the southern parts of Bohemia and Moravia and part of southern Bavaria) to counter the influence of industrialised and socialist Vienna in the wake of the Hungarian Communist revolution. But this idea foundered after the Bavarian revolution.	28.03.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 373/1/2	Maps of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, published by the Geographical Section of the British General Staff as part of a series of handbooks for the guidance of British delegates to the Peace Conference, clearly show Liechtenstein as an independent state.	04.1919

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/7082	Berne telegram No. 626 from Lord Acton to Mr Balfour. The Swiss Foreign Minister has told the French Minister that the Swiss Government have desisted from their opposition to Vorarlberg joining the Confederation. The Swiss are apprehensive of a prolongation of their frontier with Germany, which would be the alternative. This outweighs the objection to an increase in the Roman Catholic population. The Vorarlberg Government have suggested the alternative of incorporation into Württemberg. The Federal Council will probably decide to accept a Vorarlberg plebiscite in favour of a Swiss solution and will then submit the matter to ratification by the Peace Conference. This decision is a surprise, since the Federal Council declined to receive a Vorarlberg delegation only a few days ago.	11.04.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/7337	Berne tel. No. 87. The Swiss Foreign Minister has told Lord Acton that the Swiss Government will consult the Peace Conference before deliberating on the admission of Vorarlberg. Personally he would prefer an independent German Austria, but Swiss union with Vorarlberg would be better than German union with Vorarlberg. He favours the neutralisation of Tyrol, as a buffer state to prevent the creation of a German-Italian frontier.	14.04.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/8752	Minute by PID summarising the Vorarlberg problem.	23.04.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/8583	Manuscript minute by W. Akers-Douglas, summarising the Vorarlberg problem. (130,000 German Catholics.).	25.04.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/8959	Berne tel. No 728 reports that the Vorarlberg National Assembly has decided to hold a referendum on union with Switzerland.	28.04.1919

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/9043</p>	<p>Memorandum by Dr Rappard. The Swiss would rather have four neighbours than three; and that the main railway line should be in neutral hands. The Swiss people would not oppose Vorarlberg's wish for union, but would prefer the question not to be put.</p>	<p>03.05.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/9841</p>	<p>Berne tel. No. 785 from Lord Acton. Swiss Foreign Minister has told the French Minister that the Federal Council would view with dismay the union of North Tyrol with Germany but would welcome its annexation to German Austria. Most Swiss are really opposed to annexation of Vorarlberg on racial and confessional grounds but would await the outcome of a plebiscite. Switzerland not prepared to cede certain portions of Italian-speaking territory to Italy as compensation for Vorarlberg.</p>	<p>08.05.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/9956</p>	<p>Berne tel. No. 816 reports 45,566 votes for union with Switzerland and 11,000 against in Vorarlberg. A. W. A. Leeper (FO) Minutes on 15 May, "The Supreme Council has however decided not to recognise any such separatist movements till Austria as at present defined has made peace."</p>	<p>13.05.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/10499</p>	<p>Berne tel. No. 818 reports that the Head of the Federal Political Department has told Lord Acton that the Federal Council will not wish to precipitate a decision. Switzerland favours union as a counterpoise to Bolshevist elements in Switzerland. It would make the main railway independent of Germany and Italy. It would be better than union with Germany. He is sure the Peace Conference will not intervene, since it is for the parties to settle among themselves.</p>	<p>14.05.1919</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/18/10031

The Reigning Prince of Liechtenstein formally asks the Secretary-General of the Peace Conference, through the Austrian MFA and the French Minister in Vienna, to be represented at the Peace Conference. He wishes to ensure that the sovereign character of the Principality is not contested. Liechtenstein was neutral in the war, and Austria had notified this to the US Embassy. The British Government had also made its neutrality known in Parliament. The Prince wants to send Prince Franz and Dr Beck (representative in Switzerland and professor at Zurich University). Their mission will be to defend the interests of the Principality, to gain admission to the League of Nations and "à provoquer la reconnaissance internationale des droits du Prince et comme conséquence à assurer le régime de l'exterritorialité au château princier d'Eisgrub situé sur le territoire tchéco-slovaque; or le Gouvernement tchéco-slovaque subordonne l'octroi de ce régime de faveur à la décision de la Conférence de Paris."

14.05.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/16/14871

10-page memorandum by the Liechtenstein Government (the work of Prince Eduard) on Liechtenstein's neutrality during the War. (Copy taken.) On the same day Prince Charles of Liechtenstein, Head of Government, sends a copy to President Georges Clemenceau, Chairman of the Peace Conference. (See under 17 June 1919.)

20.05.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/16/11052

Despatch from Lord Acton (Chargé, Berne) to Lord Curzon. Vorarlberg's request to join Switzerland has raised the question of Liechtenstein and generated articles in the Swiss press. The Journal de Genève for 15 May says that the Prince of Liechtenstein has asked the Swiss Government to take over his country's diplomatic representation and for permission to establish a Legation at Berne. This is correct. Switzerland is therefore looking after Liechtenstein's interests at the Peace Conference, but no diplomatic representation is to be established at Berne. "It is clear, however, that in order to avoid being involved in the ruin of Austria and in order to safeguard the independence of his country, the prince is aiming at a close economic and customs union with Switzerland, similar to that which up till now has been in existence between the Principality and Austria." There are reports that Prince Franz and Dr Beck (of Berne University) are to go to Paris for the Peace Conference.

23.05.1919

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/18/13932	Prince Eduard (Liechtenstein Legation, Vienna) forwards to the British High Commissioner, Vienna copies of Prince Charles' Note of 20 May to President Clemenceau and the memorandum of 20 May. On 1 July 1919 A. W. A. Leeper (FO) minutes, "The separate existence of Liechtenstein is recognised by its mention in the frontiers section of the Treaty of Peace with Austria". The Note and the question of the future status of the Principality should be examined by the Supreme Council at a convenient moment; it cannot of course be entirely divorced from the question of Vorarlberg. On 1 July 1919 Harold Nicolson minutes, "The Liechtenstein presents a knotty problem - especially if the Vorarlberg joins Switzerland. We cannot get away from the fact (1) that the Principality was neutral during the war (2) that, as such, it has every right to join the League of Nations." On 7 July J. Headlam-Morley minuted, "It is clearly impossible to consider the question of Liechtenstein till after the futures both of Vorarlberg and Tyrol have been decided.".	27.05.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/11828	Berne tel. No. 875 reports that the Federal Council will proceed with all reserve and ascertain the state of public opinion. The assumption by Switzerland of Vorarlberg's part of Austria-Hungary's war debt would be a difficulty. Any opposition in the press or in the Suisse romande would lead the Federal Council to drop the idea. The Foreign Minister is for union, the President believed to be against.	28.05.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/12622	Report in "Le Temps" that by its definition of Austria's western frontier the Treaty indicates that the plebiscite has no validity and that the province (Vorarlberg) will remain Austrian.	01.06.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/18/11803

The Peace Conference Secretary-General circulates to the British Delegation copies of two undated notes from the Liechtenstein Government. The first announces that the Reigning Prince, pursuing his démarches to obtain recognition of his sovereignty, has accredited a representative at Vienna. The Austrian MFA has officially welcomed this in view of the numerous historic, political and economic links which exist "between Austria and the Sovereign Principality of Liechtenstein". The Prince asserts that, contrary to inexact press reports in Geneva, Liechtenstein was neutral during the war, as was recognised by Sir Edward Grey in the British Parliament and by others. Liechtenstein wants to be represented at the Conference like other neutral states and to become a member of the League of Nations. For the second note, see under 14 May 1919.

04.06.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/27/12245

Berne tel. No 901. Lord Acton reports that the Federal Council is critical of the peace treaty, especially because of South Tyrol: they do not want the Swiss-Italian frontier to be extended. Also, it has settled the future of Vorarlberg over the head of the Swiss Government (though the Romand Ministers are pleased). The Treaty gives encouragement to the claims of new nationalities and consequently, in the Federal Council's opinion, contains the germs of future wars. It has caused the Federal Council to hesitate in its campaign to persuade the Swiss people to vote for membership of the League of Nations.

05.06.1919

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/16/13072	Lord Acton reports from Berne that the Prince of Liechtenstein has now taken up residence in the principality, "no doubt with the object of demonstrating his position as sovereign prince of what is an independent state." In his reign of 64 years this is only the fourth time that he has visited the Principality. [Comment: does this refer to the Reigning Prince Johannes II or to Prince Charles? In any case, Prince Johannes II never took up residence in Vaduz, though he did visit the Principality in 1919.].	11.06.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/12245	Minute by the Hon. W. Akers-Douglas. The Peace Conference has taken no decision as to Vorarlberg. "I can only assume that as the frontier of Austria and Switzerland is by the Austrian Conditions of Peace left untouched, the Swiss presume that Vorarlberg is to stay in Austria."	12.06.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/18/12876	The Peace Conference Secretary General circulates to the British Delegation copies of Prince Charles' Note of 20 May 1919 to President Clemenceau and of the memorandum of 20 May on Liechtenstein's neutrality.	17.06.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/12954	Berne tel. No 936 reports the Swiss Foreign Minister as saying that as a result of the revelations about the Treaty 95% of the Vorarlberg population now favours union with Switzerland. The population is incensed with Dr Renner for not informing the Peace Conference of the result of the plebiscite.	18.06.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/12662	Letter from the British Delegation at Paris (Balfour to Curzon, signed by Louis Mallet) confirms that the Treaty of Peace confirms the Austrian frontier as that hitherto existing with Switzerland and Liechtenstein.	21.06.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/27/14596

Berne despatch No. 383 from Lord Acton to Lord Curzon. On 28 June M. Calonder made a reasoned statement on Vorarlberg after a meeting Dr Ender, the Vorarlberg President. If there is a strong majority in favour of union with Switzerland, Calonder will put the matter to the Federal Council. But the Federal Council will only discuss the question if the Paris Conference and the Government of German Austria recognise the right of self-determination of the Vorarlberg, which ought to be granted as a matter of course. The Swiss Government do not want to be dragged into the international complications of dealing with the question before its international aspects have been definitively settled. Switzerland will not agree to the union of Vorarlberg being made the object of compensation or exchange. It is essentially a political question. Switzerland has to decide whether it is capable of assimilating Vorarlberg, and whether Vorarlberg wishes to be absorbed out of fellow-feeling between the two peoples and not merely for material reasons and in order to escape from an impossible economic situation. Switzerland will therefore approach the matter with great caution.

03.07.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/27/14523

Berne tel. No. 204. The Swiss Foreign Minister has told the French Minister that if German Austria declines to recognise Vorarlberg's right of self-determination, Switzerland will take no further interest in the question. 8 July 1919. Minute by J. W. Headlam-Morley. Has any decision been made on the Vorarlberg question? The draft treaty might be taken as a decision by the Allies that Vorarlberg was not to be allowed to join Switzerland.  
W. Akers-Douglas: "So far as I know the Council have never debated the question at all." 10 July 1919. Harold Nicolson: "No, they have not."

07.07.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/16/15858

Memorandum on Liechtenstein by J. W.  
Headlam-Morley. (James Wycliffe Headlam-  
Morley CBE, born 1863, Historical Adviser to  
the Foreign Secretary 1920, later Sir James.)  
There is also a copy with other papers in FO  
371/5781/3465 of 1921.

21.07.1919

"It is of no importance in any way except for  
the fact that the main line of railway from  
Zurich to Vienna passes through its territory.  
There seems no doubt that Liechtenstein is  
at this moment a sovereign and independent  
State." Brief history since 1815. The 1876  
Treaty with Austria-Hungary in practice  
assimilates the administration of  
Liechtenstein to that of Vorarlberg in regard  
to such matters as international customs  
excise, but scrupulously maintains in all  
matters of form the Principality's sovereign  
rights. Liechtenstein is specifically  
mentioned in the Treaties of Brest Litovsk so  
far as they deal with matters of customs.  
Liechtenstein has observed neutrality;  
correspondence with the Entente powers  
has been not about neutrality but about  
enforcement of the blockade and the actions  
of individual citizens. It remains an  
independent and friendly state. The Reigning  
Prince has sent two undated Notes (received  
on 5 June 1919) asking to be represented as  
a neutral at the Peace Conference and to be  
admitted to the League of Nations. If he is  
recognised as he desires, he wishes to  
establish the principle of international  
recognition to certain privileges attached to  
his property in Czechoslovakia. "I assume  
that in this he is misinformed." A decision on  
the international status of Liechtenstein is  
needed. If Vorarlberg remains part of  
Austria, there is no reason why Liechtenstein  
should not continue in its existing position,  
joined for customs purposes either to  
Austria or Switzerland. If Vorarlberg joins  
Switzerland, Liechtenstein would become an  
enclave within Swiss territory. It could either  
join the Confederation (losing its  
independence and, probably, its monarchical  
form of government) or become like Monaco  
and San Marino, preserving merely the  
fiction of sovereignty. There seems no  
reason why Liechtenstein should not be  
admitted to the League of Nations. [Copy  
taken.]

Attached to the memorandum is a minute (it

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/16020</p>	<p>Minute by Headlam-Morley. At French initiative (and it was the most they were able to get) Article 80 of the German Treaty binds Germany to recognise and respect the independence of Austria, which -except with the consent of the League of Nations - is inalienable. But there is nothing in the Austrian Treaty, which defines the frontiers of that state, obliging the different territories in Austria to remain in that State if they wish to leave it. A final and definite decision is needed. There is no reason for the Allies to oppose union of Vorarlberg with Switzerland; indeed, they should favour it. If Austria joins Germany, it would be of the highest importance that Vorarlberg should be united to Switzerland. Otherwise, there would be a risk of a single German- speaking state which could lead to a threat to Switzerland. The new Tyrol frontier gives Austria "an extremely inconvenient configuration". The frontiers will not be permanent. Fear that North Tyrol will join Bavaria owing to "the unfortunate decision" to give Italy South Tyrol up to the Brenner. 25 July 1919. Minute by C. J. B. Hurst. Germany's self-denying ordinance imposes no obligation on Austria not to cede territory and does not prevent the union of Vorarlberg with Switzerland. Headlam-Morley is asked to draft a resolution for the Supreme Council. (See 19 August.).</p>	<p>23.07.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/18148</p>	<p>Despatch from Sir Horace Rumbold at Berne. A round-up report. "M. Calonder added that he understood that German Austria was most reluctant to let the Vorarlberg secede from her territory."</p>	<p>08.08.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/117458</p>	<p>Despatch No. 498 from Sir H. Rumbold, Berne. Meetings were held all over Vorarlberg on 10 August. Appeals for union with Switzerland and denunciations of the Austrian Government for refusing self-determination and failing to lay the question before the Conference at St Germain.</p>	<p>14.08.1919</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 608/27/16020

The Supreme Council passes a resolution proposed by the British Delegation: "That the Central Committee on territorial questions in Europe be instructed to consider the questions of Liechtenstein and of Vorarlberg and the desirability of acceding to the requests which have been made that Vorarlberg should be permitted to join the Swiss Federation, and that the Committee be also instructed to consider the question whether it is desirable to insert in the Treaty with Austria a clause to the effect that the international status of Austria and the frontiers as defined in the Treaty shall not be altered without the consent, whether of the Five Principal Allied and Associated Powers or of the League of Nations." (The Supreme Council's decision to this effect is also recorded in FO 608/158/18127 and in FO 374/1/1098.).

19.08.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
608/27/117458

Central Territorial Committee resolution:  
Should Switzerland declare herself in favour of the annexation of Vorarlberg, the Austrian Republic shall engage herself to abide by the decision of the League of Nations.

23.08.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 374/10

23.08.1919

Meeting of the Central Committee on Territorial Questions M. A. Leeper (British Empire) reads out the Vorarlberg telegram declaring independence and (on 11 May) its wish, by a crushing majority, to join Switzerland. Can the Conference impose this change of frontiers on Austria? It should declare that it will not oppose the realisation of the popular wish. To hinder it could cause Vorarlberg to turn to Germany. Italy said that Switzerland was not unanimous on the point. France said it would not wish to impose this sacrifice on Austria. The Swiss Federal Council was being 'prudent'; it would prefer its hand to be forced. The meeting decided:

- 1 The Conference should not appear to exercise pressure in favour of Vorarlberg joining Switzerland;
- 2 The Conference should in the last analysis refer the solution of the question to the League of Nations;
- 3 The Conference should take no decision in the matter which would affect the territory it had recognised as Austrian. "Les Délégués estiment qu'il n'y a pas lieu de faire un recommandation spécial en ce qui concerne Liechtenstein". It was pointed out that if Vorarlberg joined Switzerland, Liechtenstein would be doubly protected as a neutral enclave within a neutral state. If its inhabitants wanted to become Swiss, that would be for the League of Nations to decide. Draft resolution: If Switzerland formally declares itself willing to accept a decision by Vorarlberg to join its territory, Austria will promise in advance to recognise the decision of the Council of the league of Nations.

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/18641	Two Vorarlberg representatives (repudiated by Austria) send a telegram to Clemenceau asking the Peace Conference to recognise the independence of V. and its right to self- determination vis-à-vis Austria. 5 September 1919. Minute by A. W. A. Leeper: "A formula of this kind was suggested by the Central Territorial Committee but the Council decided against any allusion to the matter in the Austrian Peace Treaty".	26.08.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 374/1/1171	The Supreme Council decided to take no action concerning the union of Vorarlberg with Switzerland.	29.08.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/117458	Minute, by J. W. Headlain-Morley. "After some discussion in the Council this morning, it was decided not to take cognisance of the desire unofficially expressed by the population of the Vorarlberg to be joined to Switzerland.	29.08.1919

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
608/27/117458

03.09.1919

Despatch from Sir H. Rumbold (Berne) to Lord Curzon, reposting that the fourth Katholikentag of Aargau has passed a number of resolutions, one against the League of Nations, another favouring union with Vorarlberg (as an addition to the rural Roman Catholic population and a counterpoise to the urban Socialists). Swiss concern about Bolshevism in Zurich and Basel.

21 October 1919: The Liechtenstein Legation at Berne (Dr Beck), on instructions, requests the Swiss Federal Council to represent Liechtenstein's interests in countries in which the Principality has no representative, but in which Switzerland is diplomatically represented. Liechtenstein has Legations in Switzerland, Austria and Czechoslovakia. 24 October 1919: The Swiss Federal Council agrees. 14 November 1919: FO Note informs Swiss Legation in London that HMG has no objection to the interests of Liechtenstein being entrusted to diplomatic and consular agents of the Swiss Confederation (see 1948). 21 November 1919: The Swiss authorities request more information about what is required. 10 March 1920: The Liechtenstein Legation replies in detail [NB: a mission in Czechoslovakia is now said to be only "under consideration"]. It is understood that Swiss representation will be without prejudice to the sovereign rights of the Principality.. and that the Reigning Prince retains the right to establish his own representatives wherever he may see fit to do so. The main concern is the protection of economic interests. Details of passport regulations are set out. Documentation requests to be referred to Vaduz. Distressed Liechtenstein subjects to be assisted by Swiss missions, against refunds from the Liechtenstein Government. "In conclusion, the Prince's Government ventures to recall the instructions on this point formerly issued by the Imperial and Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian representatives abroad, and trusts that His Serene Highness the ruling Prince and the Members of his Family may be accorded the consideration due to their position, and such other protection and assurance as they may require." (See copy of the League of Nations Secretary-General's

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/117458</p>	<p>Despatch from the Hon. Theo Russell, Berne. The Swiss are supplying food to Vorarlberg, as invited by the Allies.</p>	<p>25.10.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/117458</p>	<p>Despatch from the Hon. Theo Russell, Berne. The Swiss press reports that Germany is supplying flour and potatoes to Vorarlberg. Should the Federal Council be more active?.</p>	<p>12.11.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/117458</p>	<p>Despatch from, the Hon. Theo Russell, Berne. The Federal Council is seriously concerned. The Supreme Council favours Vorarlberg's remaining with Austria, but this is no longer feasible. The Powers will eventually have to choose between its going to Switzerland or Germany. 20 November 1919. Minute by A. W. A. Leeper, FO. "All these arguments were considered last July by the Central Territorial Committee and then by the Supreme Council. It was the shyness of the Swiss that killed the subject."</p>	<p>17.11.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/20668</p>	<p>Minute by Leeper. "It is primarily the purely negative attitude of the Swiss Government which is responsible for the present state of the Vorarlberg question. So long as they continue to maintain this attitude it is hard to see how the question can arise."</p>	<p>24.11.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/117458</p>	<p>Despatch from the Hon. Theo Russell, reporting a speech by M. Calonder to the National Council. He said that Germany is working for union with Vorarlberg. If Vorarlberg is to be separated, Vienna would favour this. The majority of the population favour Switzerland. Union with Germany would be a political danger to Eastern Switzerland. There can be no question of territorial compensation. Switzerland will not interfere in any internal question between Vorarlberg and Austria. If Vorarlberg desires to be separated, the Federal Council will support the right of self-determination in any appeal they may make to the League of Nations or the Paris Conference. Switzerland will give economic support (credits and food supplies).</p>	<p>25.11.1919</p>

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/21008</p>	<p>The Hon. F. Lindley, Vienna, tel. No 78, says that if Vorarlberg gets its independence, other provinces will decide for union with Germany. 4 December 1919. Lindley, Vienna, tel. No. 35, says that Vorarlberg is of great economic importance to Austria (agriculture, textile industry, access to the Rhine and the Bodensee).</p>	<p>02.12.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/117458</p>	<p>Despatch from the Hon. Theo Russell, Berne: the Federal Council denies that it has encouraged separation, but it is ready to help a little neighbouring country in its efforts to overcome temporary difficulties.</p>	<p>08.12.1919</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/27/21175</p>	<p>The Peace Conference Secretary-General circulates a report by the French Delegation that the Austrian Government has stated that it will not close any legal route to Vorarlberg. If the Vorarlberg Government requests authority to negotiate union with Switzerland, the proposal will be sent to Paris. But the Austrian Government will reserve the right to defend Austrian interests. The French Delegation comment that there is a danger that Salzburg might secede to Bavaria, perhaps North Tyrol, too; and Hungarian agents are active in Eastern Austria. It proposes that the Supreme Council should take advantage of Chancellor Renner's presence in Paris to give him a declaration that the Allied and Associated Powers support, and will support, the territory of the Austrian Republic as fixed in the Treaty of St Germain. That would also help to settle the Swiss.</p>	<p>12.12.1919</p>

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 374/1/1565	Text agreed by the Supreme Council, to be handed to Chancellor Renner: "Les Puissances alliées et associées, désireuses d'assurer l'existence de l'Autriche dans les frontières qui lui ont été assignées et décidées A faire respecter les dispositions du Traité de St Germain-en-Laye, déclarent qu'elles s'opposeront à toutes initiatives de nature à porter atteinte à l'intégrité du territoire autrichien ou qui, contrairement aux stipulations de l'article 88 dudit Traité, auraient pour effet de compromettre d'une manière quelconque, soit directement, soit indirectement, l'indépendance politique ou économique de l'Autriche".	16.12.1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 608/121	This 1919 file is of interest because it deals with the fate of Luxembourg which, because of its customs union with Imperial Germany and the pro-German attitude of its young Grand Duchess Adelaide, was threatened with annexation by France or Belgium. The question was settled by a popular referendum vote in favour of the Monarchy and independence, and monetary union with Belgium.	1919
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/4644/416	The Hon. F. O. Lindley (Vienna) forwards a memorandum from Chancellor Renner about the inclination of Vorarlberg, Tyrol and Salzburg to secede. (Tyrol to Germany and Salzburg to Bavaria). According to Renner, the critical food shortage is at the root of the provinces' desire to be annexed by more prosperous countries. The Allied powers alone are in a position to effect an improvement in Austria's material position, which would be the best means to prevent its disruption.	27.06.1920
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew	Liechtenstein requests admission to the League of Nations. (Application signed by Prince Charles of Liechtenstein, Governor of the Principality, and addressed to Sir Eric Drummond, Secretary-General of the League.) 15 July 1920. The Swiss Minister in London submits an advance copy to Sir E. Drummond. On 7 October 1921 he forwards the original.	14.07.1920

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/4644/3633</p>	<p>Berne despatch No 347 (from T. M. Snow) referring to a Berne despatch of 9 December 1919. Encloses a memorandum about German propaganda and cultural activities in the Vorarlberg. These activities are a source of considerable disquiet to Swiss public opinion. 14 August 1920. Minute by G. Saunders, FO. Germany and Austria would prefer to see Vorarlberg in Germany, as a first instalment of a wider union.</p>	<p>31.07.1920</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/4644/10626</p>	<p>Minute by Sir Eyre Crowe. The Swiss Minister has asked whether it is true that a Vorarlberg delegation has been received in various British Government departments including the FO. The Swiss Government viewed with great anxiety the possibility of the district being joined to Germany.</p>	<p>05.11.1920</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/7048/(page 161)</p>	<p>M. Motta told the League of Nations that if a referendum were held, the Swiss people would probably vote against the admission of Vorarlberg to the Confederation. If however the territorial position of Austria were to suffer any fundamental change the question might require further consideration. Switzerland desired the maintenance of the State of Austria as at present constituted.</p>	<p>30.11.1920</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 371/7048/785  
(page 169)

Debate in the Fifth Committee. The  
Committee (including M. Motta) agreed with  
the view of its sub-committee that  
Liechtenstein could not be admitted as it  
was too small to carry out all the obligations  
of membership. M. Motta (Switzerland)  
proposed that the Committee appointed by  
the Council to examine amendments to the  
Covenant should be asked to report whether  
and in what manner it might be possible to  
attach to the League of Nations sovereign  
States which by reason of their small size  
could not be admitted to the League as  
ordinary Members. This proposal was  
adopted unanimously by the Committee.  
(Copy taken.) The criteria for membership  
were:

01.12.1920

- (1) Is the application for admission to the  
League of Nations in order?
- (2) Is the Government applying for admission  
recognised de jure or de facto and by which  
states?
- (3) Does the country possess a stable  
government and settled frontiers? What are  
its size and population?
- (4) Is the country fully self-governing?  
(4) What has been the conduct of the  
Government including both acts and  
assurances with regard to: (1) Its  
international obligations? (2) The  
prescriptions of the League as to  
armaments? (The answers to these  
questions are to be found in FO  
371/4652/C14097, 6 December.)

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/4652/5785

03.12.1920

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/4652/12804

Undated Memorandum by League of  
Nations Secretary-General on Liechtenstein's  
membership application. (Assembly  
Document 105) (Copy taken.).

1920

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/4652/C14097	Report by the Fifth Committee recommending against Liechtenstein's membership but giving a generally positive assessment. (Assembly Document 178.) (Copy taken.).	06.12.1920
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/7048/786 Page 192	Report to the Assembly (22nd Plenary Meeting) of the Fifth Committee's debate on Liechtenstein. (Copy taken.).	1920
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/7041/176 Page 192	Draft Resolution of the Assembly of the League of Nations, presented by the Fifth Committee. (Assembly Document No. 127 - possibly No. 227, according to one manuscript amendment.) Sent to British Delegation under comps. slip dated 21 December 1920. "Whereas the Principality of Liechtenstein, owing to the small size of its territory and the limited number of its population, does not appear to be in a position to assume the obligations incumbent upon Members of the League, Declares that it is not desirable that Liechtenstein should be admitted to the League of Nations, and requests the Commission on proposed amendments to the Covenant to consider whether it would be possible to entrust a State Member of the League with the task of representing the interests of Liechtenstein within the League of Nations."	21.12.1920
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/7048/756 page 200	League of Nations Assembly's 28th Plenary Meeting. Lord Robert Cecil reports on behalf of the Fifth Committee (see above). The Committee wishes that the Special Committee appointed to consider proposals to amend the Covenant "should also consider whether and in what manner it would be possible to attach to the League of Nations Sovereign States which, by reason of their small size, could not be admitted as ordinary Members." (Copy taken.).	17.12.1920

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 371/7048/756  
page 201

League of Nations Assembly's 28th Plenary Meeting.  
A ballot was taken on the admission of Liechtenstein to the League. Twenty-seven States voted against the admission of Liechtenstein, and one State voted in favour of admission. [Switzerland] Liechtenstein was therefore not admitted to the League. The President then proposed that a vote should be taken on the recommendation which he had previously read to the Assembly arising out of the proposal of M. Motta that Switzerland should be authorised to represent the interests of Liechtenstein (see above).  
The recommendation was adopted unanimously. (Copy taken.)

17.12.1920

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 371/7048/756  
page 203

Details of the vote. (Only Switzerland voted for; 27 against, 14 abstentions.) Copy taken.

17.12.1920

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/4653/7940

02.10.1920

The Swiss Legation reminds the FO of a previous inquiry on behalf of Prince Edward of Liechtenstein. 15 November 1920. The Hon. F. Lindley (HM Minister, Vienna) forwards to the Foreign Secretary (Lord Curzon) a copy of a letter from Prince Edward of Liechtenstein (Liechtenstein Minister in Vienna) enclosing two petitions to the Public Trustee from Princess Marizza and Prince Frederick of Liechtenstein concerning the sequestration of their funds. Prince Edward (letter of 10 November 1920) points out that they are subjects of a State which remained neutral during the War. While Liechtenstein legislation permits dual citizenship, the laws of the Austrian Monarchy decreed that an Austrian subject, in becoming the subject of another country, should lose his rights as an Austrian. On 30 October 1887 the Austrian Foreign Minister, Count Kalnoky, expressly stated that members of the House of Liechtenstein descended from the first bearer of the sovereign title were not subjects of the Austrian state "but only entitled to the rights of an Austrian subject, when they themselves or their descendants in direct line have obtained these rights independently". Prince Johannes (husband of Princess Marizza) and Prince Frederick both served in the Austrian Army, but this did not make them Austrian subjects. The petitions list various share-holdings. Prince Frederick refers to previous releases of funds belonging to Prince Edward and Prince Alois. 1 December 1920. The Public Trustee Office tells the FO that Prince Frederick's shares are under the control of the Administrator of Austrian property. Princess Marizza's were sold in 1916 by the Supervisor of the London Agencies. 29 December 1920. A. Cadogan (FO) minutes on another inquiry from the Public Trustee about the cases of Liechtenstein subjects (Louis Seeger and H. G. Ebert), "We have recognised the independence and neutrality of Liechtenstein. The property of Liechtensteiners should not have been detained or sequestered any more than, say, the property of Swiss citizens, and I think we must accept any certificate given by the Govt. of Liechtenstein." 5 January 1921. The FO informs the Public Trustee "that prior

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 371/7140/994

In his Annual Report for 1920, HM Minister, 1920  
Berne says that at the end of 1919  
Liechtenstein had entrusted Switzerland  
with its diplomatic and consular  
representation. In January 1920 Customs  
negotiations had begun. In October 1920 a  
Postal convention was signed. (Switzerland  
to administer the Liechtenstein postal  
service, although theoretical postal  
autonomy and its own postage stamps were  
to be retained.).

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Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/5781/3465

16.02.1921

The French Ambassador asks the Foreign Secretary (Lord Curzon) about the British position on the independence of Liechtenstein. 21 February 1921. Memorandum by John W. Field, summarising the available material about Liechtenstein, viz:

The Parliamentary Question of 1914 about neutrality December 1914: Firms to be allowed to send goods to Liechtenstein, provided HM Commissioners of Customs and Excise are satisfied as to the ultimate destination of the articles (73351/14). The 1915 correspondence with the Russian Ambassador (84332 (F2006/15)). In January 1919 the Home Office was told by Prisoners of War Department that up to that time the claim of the Government of Liechtenstein to be regarded as neutral had not been questioned (F 119492/18). In November 1919 the securities of Mrs Anna Probst, a Liechtenstein subject, were released from the London City and Midland Bank, which had previously received them from the London branch of the Deutsche Bank on giving the usual undertaking (required in the case of applications on the part of all neutral citizens) not to part with them during the course of the war. (189069 (F. 186,153/19)) 2 March 1921. The Foreign Office replies, "I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that Liechtenstein was recognised by His Majesty's Government as an independent state before the war. As the status of the Principality does not appear to have been altered by the events of recent years, His Majesty's Government have not considered it necessary to make any further declaration." Minuting on file says that FO despatches to Prague of 7 April 1920 (188053) and 9 March 1920 (182337) recognised that Liechtenstein was neutral during the war and that the Principality of Liechtenstein has been acknowledged as a Sovereign State. [These despatches seem not to have been retained.] A printed memorandum on the recognition by HMG of new States and territorial changes since 1913 (W2340/2340/1920) says of Liechtenstein, "Recognised as an independent state before the war. Its status has not been altered by recent events." The Treaty of St Germain referred to "the old

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/5781/8278

The Swiss Legation in London informs the Foreign Office that the Liechtenstein Legation in Berne has said that in the absence of a British diplomatic or consular representation, Liechtensteiners and foreigners living in Liechtenstein do not know to which legation or consulate they should address themselves for passports, official documents or anything else. HMG is therefore requested to make either Berne or Vienna responsible. Subsequent FO minuting points out that in 1919 Liechtenstein entrusted Switzerland with diplomatic and consular representation in the UK. Mr Stephen Gaselee (FO Librarian) writes that change was rather desirable. Liechtenstein was neutral in the war and a change of arrangements would reinforce the new connection with Switzerland. It was therefore decided that the Legation at Berne and the Consulate-General at Zurich were to be responsible. The papers were put to Lord Curzon, who minuted on 29 April, "The only surprising thing is that the advice of no less than seven persons should have been required to lead us to this result." On 28 June 1921 the Hon. Charles Tuftoll informed the Swiss Minister (Paravicini) that the Principality was to come within the sphere of HM Representative at Berne, and for consular purposes was to be in the district of HMCG Zurich.

06.04.1921

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/5781/12085

10.06.1921

Prague tel. No. 84 reports that the Czechoslovak Government has confiscated one third of the property of the Reigning Prince of Liechtenstein and contested his claim to be treated as a neutral. Does recognition of the Principality imply recognition of the Prince as an independent Sovereign? 22 June 1921. FO despatch of 22 June 1921 to HM Minister, Prague (Sir George Clerk KCMG CB) replying to his telegram No. 84 of 10 June. The fact that HMG recognise Liechtenstein as a sovereign and independent state implies the recognition of the Reigning Prince as an independent sovereign. HMG "have never regarded themselves as at war with Liechtenstein and have certainly not made peace with her, and the same applies with at least equal force to Czecho-Slovakia Therefore, in HMG's view the Prince's property in Czecho-Slovakia could not be confiscated as enemy property, or under Articles 208 and 249 of the Treaty of St Germain as property of the former Austrian Empire or of the former Royal Family of Austria, or as property of an Austrian national. But, "it seems to be a generally accepted principle that real property belonging to the head of a foreign state personally is subject to the laws and jurisdiction of the state in which it is situated. If so, there would seem to be no reason why the provision of any Czecho-Slovak law of general application dealing with the expropriation of large estates should not be applied to the Prince's property. The action taken would not be directed at him in particular, and he would merely not be able to claim more favourable treatment than other foreign land-owners in Czecho-Slovakia. This aspect of the question is, of course, not one in which His Majesty's Government are in any way concerned, and must clearly be dealt with either in the Czecho-Slovak Courts or by diplomatic correspondence between the Prince and the Czecho-Slovak Government." (Copy taken.).

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/5782/14169

HM Minister, Prague (Sir George Clerk), referring to the FO despatch of 22 June 1921, reports that he has been approached by Dr Kaplan, the Prince's agent. He told Dr Kaplan that any questions concerning the Prince of Liechtenstein's estates in Czechoslovakia must be dealt with directly between HSH and the Czechoslovak Government. Lt Col Rigby, Baron de Forest's agent, has asked Sir George to intervene about certain parcels of land expropriated at minimum price by the Government. A Memorandum from Mrs Whitehead, part owner of an estate in Slovakia, is enclosed. Sir George regrets that Baron de Forest did not accept the offer of the Moravian Bank to buy the estate; his lack of tact and general behaviour have alienated the sympathies of all the Czechs who have had anything to do with him. Encloses copy of his letter of 5 July to Dr Kaplan, saying "...the recognition by His Majesty's Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein as a Sovereign Independent State implies the recognition of the Reigning Prince by His Majesty's Government as an independent Sovereign." Mrs Whitehead's memorandum complains about the Czech Government's methods of calculating the value of property. Because of the Austrian crown's depreciation since 1913/1915, there has been a loss of twelve thirteenths. If a property is greater than 1,000 hectares it attracts only one twenty-sixth of its pre-war value -and not in ready money, at that.

15.07.1921

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/5782/14593

HM Consul-General, Zurich, referring to FO despatch No 200 of 22 June 1921, suggests that he be furnished with a commission as British Consul-General for Liechtenstein.

11.07.1921

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/5782/14508

The French Ambassador asks the FO for HMG's views on Liechtenstein's neutrality during the war. On 10 August 1921 the FO (Mr Charles Tufton) replies. He confirms that HM Minister, Prague, was recently approached by the Prince's agent about the confiscation of one third of the Prince's property in Czechoslovakia. He then continues very much on the lines of the despatch of 22 June 1921. As the FO informed the Ambassador on 2 March 1921, HMG regards Liechtenstein as an independent state. HM Minister, Prague has made a communication to the Prince's agent. He did not, so far as is known, make any communication on the subject to the Czecho-Slovak Government, nor has HM Minister, Warsaw, reported that he has made any representations to the Polish Government. (Copy of Mr Tufton's letter taken.).

15.07.1921

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Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 371/7041/W  
11079

Second Assembly of the League of Nations:  
Resolution No. 26, on the Situation of Small  
States, adopted on the Report of the First  
Committee: 04.10.1921

"Having considered the report of its First  
Committee which had been requested to  
consider whether, and in what manner, it  
would be possible to attach to the League of  
Nations sovereign States which, by reason of  
their small size, could not be admitted as  
ordinary Members:

Decides that

In view of the difficulty of laying down in  
advance the conditions for the admission of  
these States, the different situations of  
which might necessitate different  
regulations:

And in view of the possibility of associating  
immediately, to a great extent, the  
interested States in the work of the  
Assembly, without giving them Membership:

It is preferable to await the results of  
experience in their collaboration, before  
expressing an opinion upon the methods by  
which they might be admitted to the  
League." A manuscript minute by a FO  
official reads, "They are to be, as it were, "on  
appro" for a while."

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/7144/10789

Despatch by the Hon. Theo Russell (HM  
Minister, Berne) on the autumn Swiss  
Federal Assembly. M. Motta said that he  
desired Austria to consolidate its  
independent existence. But if (which would  
be undesirable) it were to break up,  
Vorarlberg should be allowed to settle her  
own destiny. "Passing on to the Principality  
of Liechtenstein, M. Motta announced that a  
postal and telegraphic convention had been  
concluded and that the question of a  
customs union was actually under discussion  
which would contribute largely towards  
assuring the economic existence of this  
neighbouring people, too weak in  
themselves to create a customs régime." 07.10.1921

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/9407/950	Sir Milne Cheetham (HM Minister, Berne) confirms, in response to an inquiry by the Department of Administration of Austrian Property, that on 16 July 1920 Prince Alois von und zu Liechtenstein and his children were nationals of Liechtenstein.	23.02.1923
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/9655/8801	Despatch from Mr A. Akers-Douglas (Vienna) to the Foreign Secretary (Ramsay MacDonald) reporting that the Bundesgesetzblatt of 27 May has announced the entry into force of the Swiss/Liechtenstein Customs Union Treaty and the denunciation of the corresponding treaties with Austria. Therefore the Austro-Hungarian/Swiss Commercial Treaty of 1906 is now valid for Liechtenstein/Austria.	28.05.1924

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Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/13446/6018

Article in "The Observer" headed, "The relief of Liechtenstein -an experiment in Communism". The report says that after the Rhine flood disaster pacifist, socialist and anti-militarist organisations including the Quakers took the matter up and organised a volunteer service. "The Berlin Communists and Paris anarchists are active in these discussions. At one of the first gatherings they protested against compulsory washing and going to bed, and against discipline in general, on the ground that those were odious reminders of military service." The work is going on under the supervision of the Swiss Military Department, which furnishes tools and old uniforms, and prevents any extravagance and loosening of order and discipline. Without that, the whole experiment would certainly soon go to pieces. On 1 July 1928 "The Observer" published a letter from Mr Hugh Speaight, an undergraduate of Lincoln College, Oxford. He said that the scheme for relief work in Liechtenstein was widely advertised in English universities, and some dozen Oxford undergraduates volunteered. No mention was made of the Socialist character of the enterprise. The party consisted for the most part of violent Communists drawn from every stratum of society and of Swiss political agitators. The enterprise was characterised by violence, robbery, vermin infestation and inedible food. A coarse meat stew was served every Friday, in defiance of local Catholic custom. Participants were treated by their officials with disrespect and insolence, "a striking contrast with the attitudes of the [natives of the] Principality, who were most cordial and large-hearted, and took every opportunity of showing their gratitude". Since his return, he had been pestered by pacifist and increasingly anti-British propaganda from Germany. [The archives of Lincoln College have no background information about Hugh Speaight.] 26 June 1928. Despatch from HM Minister, Berne (Mr Claud Russell) to the Foreign Secretary (Sir Austen Chamberlain).

24.06.1928

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Reports the political crisis caused by the Rhine floods and extensive frauds in the national savings bank. The Diet has been dissolved and the administration is provisionally in the hands of Prince Alfred of

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/13446/7146</p>	<p>Despatch from Berne responding to a FO request for comments on the reports in "The Observer" Three letters in that paper for 8 July contradicted Mr Speaight's account. The organisation of the relief operation is neither pacifist not military, but charitable. It has Swiss patronage (M. Motta and one other Federal Councillor) and is directed by a retired colonel of the Swiss Army. There are no complaints. Some useful work has been done. It is co-operative philanthropy. No special attention is needed.</p> <p>17 August 1928. Despatch from Mr Claud Russell, Berne. M. Motta (Head of the Swiss Federal Political Department) hopes, after the Liechtenstein elections, that there will be no change, though Liechtenstein is free to join Austria if it wishes. "A neighbour like Liechtenstein has virtue as a buffer, and if this minor 'Anschluss' were ever followed by the greater one, an extension would result of the Swiss-German frontier. This the Swiss Government would prefer to avoid."</p>	<p>25.07.1928</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 370/285</p>	<p>FO Library paper on particulars of Liechtenstein in the FO list. NOT RETAINED.</p>	<p>1928</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/2597/5240</p>	<p>The Swiss Charge in London forwards a letter from Prince Franz to King George V announcing the death of Prince Johannes II and his own accession. The King replies on 5 June 1929 via the FO, HM Legation in Berne and the Protocol Department of the Swiss Federal Political Department. The last case having been in 1858 there was no precedent in living memory for the handling of the matter. The Spanish Ambassador was later told, in reply to an inquiry, that "It was answered by His Majesty in a form and in terms similar to those employed in the case of HSH the Prince of Monaco".</p>	<p>03.05.1929</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/14173</p>	<p>The Sovereignty of Liechtenstein. NOT RETAINED.</p>	<p>1929</p>

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/2597/14302	The Swiss Charge conveys a letter from Prince Franz informing King George V of his marriage on 22 July 1929. The King replies on 18 January 1930.	11.12.1929
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/17438/7409	Note from the Swiss Legation, London to Sir J. Simons announcing that Liechtenstein has adhered to the Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and other agreements on false indications of origin, international regulation of trademarks and international deposit of industrial models.	14.06.1933
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/17438/12272	FO despatch instructs HM Minister Berne to convey an invitation to Liechtenstein to attend the Conference of the Union for the Protection of Industrial Property in London on 1 May 1934.	05.12.1933
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/20595/18928	Sir George Warner's (HM Minister, Berne) despatch covering a memorandum by Mr Allan. This describes the pre-1919 relationship with Austria: Liechtenstein was politically independent but part of the customs territory of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Its foreign affairs, diplomatic and consular representation were also undertaken by Austria and Austrian civil and criminal law applied. After 1919 diplomatic and consular representation were entrusted to Switzerland, but Liechtenstein has its own system of passports. 1921 :the Swiss Franc. January 1924: the Swiss Customs Union. PTT administered by Switzerland since 1921. Switzerland has no financial responsibility in regard to Liechtenstein affairs. Liechtenstein is responsible for its public order, but Swiss customs officials for maintaining order on the frontier. There has been no substitution of Swiss for Austrian civil and criminal law.	22.12.1936
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/19942	Report on Nazi activities in Liechtenstein. NOT RETAINED.	1936
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 372/3234	Coronation of King George VI: Status of Liechtenstein FO 372/3234. It looks as if Prince Emmanuel and Princess Marizza may have attended the Coronation of King George VI. NOT RETAINED.	1937

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/21118/1138</p>	<p>Despatch No 30 of 15 February 1937 from HM Minister Vienna reporting a conversation between Mr Mack (First Secretary) and Prince Johannes Liechtenstein, one of the leading Legitimists and Head of the Anti-Communist League. The Prince argues that the restoration of the Habsburgs is the only way to stabilise the independence of Austria. The peasants are in favour and the workers increasingly so since they would be able to participate in political life much more than under the current régime and they would have no such possibility at all under the Nazis. [It is unclear which Prince Johannes this is: perhaps 1873- 1959 (Table 9, XXI -6) or his son, 1910- 1975 (Table 12, XXII-1I).].</p>	<p>15.02.1937</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/21118/1394</p>	<p>A Berne Chancery letter of 27 February 1937 reports stories in the Swiss press that Archduke Otto has passed through Liechtenstein via Schaan and Sargans, without entering Austrian territory. (There was some comment and speculation about this from several posts.).</p>	<p>27.02.1937</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22472/2591</p>	<p>Berne tel. No. 6. (Sir G. Warner, KCVO, CMG, HM Minister.) Swiss frontier guards have been moved to posts on the Austrian frontier. The Federal Political Dept. do not anticipate a German attempt to cross the Swiss frontier. "At one moment the Federal authorities feared that Liechtenstein might be occupied but this is now unlikely."</p>	<p>14.03.1938</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22472/2675</p>	<p>Berne tel. No 7 reports German assurances to Switzerland about the Reich's intentions towards that country.</p>	<p>15.03.1938</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/22472/3376

18.03.1938

A memo from HMCG Zurich giving the arguments for and against Liechtenstein's continuing independence. For: A negligible population. Its wealth stands and falls with independence. Many holding companies are domiciled in Liechtenstein, but their assets are outside the country. The fee for Liechtenstein citizenship is SFr. 40,000 plus SFr. 30,000 in bonds to be deposited with the National Bank as a guarantee of obligations to the State, eg the annual tax of SFr. 800 if one lives outside the country. Liechtenstein has always been treated as negligible in the past. Switzerland refused to accept Vorarlberg after 1918 without the explicit consent of Austria, but Austria explicitly said that it had no objection to Liechtenstein becoming Swiss. The Swiss helped with the Rhine floods. The Landtag's declaration. Occupation would mean violation of the Customs Agreement. The country is not rich (reference to the bank crash). It would therefore not be worth being blamed by the whole world and raising questions over these agreements even with Switzerland. "The whole spirit of the citizens of Liechtenstein is one [of?] patriotic unity, as it is also in Switzerland, and this is the great difference between Switzerland and Liechtenstein on the one hand and Austria on the other. Internal political disagreement is a kind of invitation or provocation which should be carefully be avoided by those who wish to remain independent." Against: The historic link with Austria. The Prince of Liechtenstein [Franz?] lived in Austria and has large estates there. "He used to joke that whenever he visited Vaduz the visit always cost him something -a church, a school house or something similar." [The implication being that he might have no financial interest in retaining sovereignty.] Citizenship attracted German emigrants, mostly Jews. The Rotter affair; might the Germans wish to get at these new Liechtenstein inhabitants? But the immigrants have now left.

In a covering despatch No. 107 of 26 March 1938 Sir G. Warner commented that according to M. Bonna (Swiss Federal Political Department) Baron Fogelsohn [sic: he means Vogelsang] and Dr Schädler had been convicted of kidnapping a Jew two

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/22472/3060

19.03.1938

Despatch No. 97 from Berne. At one point there was some anxiety in the Federal Political Dept. about the whereabouts of a battalion from Konstanz, which had eventually been located in Feldkirch. According to reports in the Swiss press on 17 March about an official communiqué from Vaduz, the Liechtenstein Landtag had decided unanimously in favour of the independence of the Principality of Liechtenstein and the observance of existing treaties to which Liechtenstein was a party. There were reports in the Basle National Zeitung that there was strong opposition to the Government in Liechtenstein; that the question of Anschluss with Greater Germany might arise; and that considerable quantities of money were being sent abroad, particularly by Jews resident in Liechtenstein. "This less satisfactory report is not confirmed by a detailed account by a correspondent of the same newspaper who has visited the Principality. He writes that the Customs Agreement with Switzerland has become more popular in the last few days and that both parties are in agreement that the independence of the country should be maintained. There are some supporters of Hitler, especially among the younger men, but they are a small and diminishing minority. A number of the Jews who have settled in Liechtenstein in recent years have left.".. The Opposition represent the democratic element and are therefore unlikely to favour the Nazis. The Government Party are of Catholic Conservative views and are loyal to the Princely House. In an attached memo, the Military Attaché reports Lt. Col. Masson (Swiss General Staff -[Head of Military Intelligence]) as saying that the Federal Military Department and the Swiss Government are very worried about the situation in Liechtenstein. "Switzerland could not disinterest herself in the fate of Liechtenstein and yet would clearly be unwilling to resort to force against German aggression." The Swiss General Staff would find the occupation of Liechtenstein "most undesirable". Occupation of Liechtenstein would enable the Germans to observe an important part of the Swiss line of defence and would put it within normal field artillery

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22472/3208</p>	<p>Reports in "Der Bund" about a pro-Anschluss movement, reported by Berne. Minute by A. N. Noble, Southern Dept., FO: "I imagine that ultimately Liechtenstein will fall into the German orbit, but not for some time yet."</p>	<p>21.03.1938</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22472/3251</p>	<p>Letter from Courtaulds (Mr. J. F. Hayward), asking Sir Colville Barclay Bt. (FO) whether any third power is under a treaty obligation to protect the integrity of Liechtenstein against unprovoked aggression and, if not, whether it is likely that any third power would interfere in its own interests should Liechtenstein be attacked. The FO replies on 12 April 1938, .. "No state is under Treaty obligation to protect Liechtenstein against unprovoked attack by Germany or any other power. The question whether any state would intervene in its own interest to protect Liechtenstein from attack is of course purely hypothetical and Lord Halifax would prefer not to express any opinion on it." 11 April 1938: Letter from Sir Orme Sargent (FO) to Mr Nigel Law (1 Cornhill, EC1), asking about British interests in Liechtenstein, particularly holding companies' assets and saying that the FO has no details about them.</p>	<p>22.03.1938</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22472/3670</p>	<p>Berne despatch No. 120 reports that Prince Franz I has entrusted Prince Franz Josef with the exercise of his constitutional rights. The Bourgeois Party (52% of the votes) has formed a coalition with the Vaterländische Union (48%). Each party has 3 representatives in the Government. After the reconstruction of the Government the Landtag passed a unanimous resolution expressing firm determination to maintain the independence of the Principality and loyalty to the Reigning House and to the treaties to which Liechtenstein is a party.</p>	<p>01.04.1938</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/22472/3922

Berne despatch No. 134 reports that Prince Franz is very old and lives in Vienna. Prince Franz Josef formerly stayed in Liechtenstein and is therefore more in touch. Prince Franz is married to a non-Aryan lady and for this reason has been taking, in the interests of Liechtenstein, no very active part in the affairs of government. "The Head of the Liechtenstein Government has been in Berlin and was solemnly assured there that Germany had no interest in Liechtenstein. It is pointed out in this connexion that Liechtenstein is a poor country and that its chief sources of revenue (holding companies and naturalisations) would not profit Germany. Furthermore it is learned that Liechtenstein has now stopped the naturalisation of non-Aryans in order not to furnish material for controversy with the German Reich." [See Swiss Diplomatic , Documents Vol. 12, No. 241, dated 23 March 1938 about the frontier, local Nazis, Princess Elsa, etc.].

08.04.1938

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/22472/4221

Mr Nigel Law's reply of 16 April 1938 to Sir Orme Sargent. He has consulted Mr Vickers at Slaughter and May (solicitors). . . "I understand that British holding companies registered in Liechtenstein are of almost every form, ranging from dubious 'one-man companies' constituted to evade; none too honestly, British taxation, to large and quite legitimate companies formed to gather up assets held in more than one country." He estimates total British assets in Liechtenstein at between £10 and £20 million. There is no way by which a list of such companies can be obtained in the City. If the Germans took over and the directors were Liechtenstein citizens, German laws could impose any obligations the Germans thought fit. The Germans could take possession of assets domiciled in Liechtenstein and abroad. New company officers could be appointed and foreign banks would be forced to act in accordance with their instructions.

16.04.1938

"Conclusion. Liquidate and get out as soon as possible." Law says that a Liechtenstein lawyer living in Folkestone, Dr Blank, is the person who has helped most of the British-Liechtenstein companies to form themselves.'

Minute of 17 May 1938 by A. N. Noble, FO:  
"The companies registered in Liechtenstein are mostly pretty shy birds and more than usually capable of looking after themselves."

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22472/6315</p>	<p>Berne despatch No. 271 reports that at the time of the Anschluss M. Hoop, the Head of Government, happened to be in Berlin in connection with a Philatelist Conference, which necessarily gave rise to rumours.. M. Bonna (Head of the Division for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Political Department) told Sir G. Warner on 12 July that "he is personally satisfied that the démenti issued by the Deutsche Nachrichtenbüro on 6 July is genuine and that the Reich has no. plan to absorb Liechtenstein. The danger is unemployment and steps are being taken to prevent any considerable unrest from arising on that account." [See also Swiss Diplomatic Documents Vol. 12, No. 446, for a second-hand report of Hitler's dislike of Switzerland and Liechtenstein, dated 12 November 1938.]</p>	<p>12.07.1938</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, T5858/T7851/5858/379</p>	<p>Formal Announcement of Accession of Prince Franz Josef II T58581/T7851/5858/379 NOT RETAINED.</p>	<p>1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/23859/881</p>	<p>Despatch from Sir George Warner KCVO, CMG (HM Minister, Berne) on measures to protect public order in Liechtenstein. Texts of non- periodical pamphlets to be submitted in advance to the authorities for approval; public disparagement of other states forbidden; carrying of steel rods and rubber truncheons forbidden. Rumours of Nazi organisations in Liechtenstein. But there is no official anxiety in Berne about the situation in Liechtenstein. Dissatisfaction in Vorarlberg is no inducement to the Liechtenstein people to accept a National-Socialist regime. [See also Swiss Diplomatic Documents Vol. 13, No. 16, dated 26 January 1939, about the Swiss desire to acquire the Ellhorn from Liechtenstein and Swiss concerns about Nazi activities in the Principality].</p>	<p>04.02.1939</p>

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/23859/1186</p>	<p>Despatch from Sir G. Warner on the future of Liechtenstein. Speculation that the Nazis have a hold over the Prince. M. Feldscher (Federal Political Dept.) explains that after the Great War the Liechtenstein family owned 160,000 ha. of land in Czechoslovakia, of which 50,000 (agricultural land) were confiscated. But the remainder (including forests and one or two large country houses) stayed in the hands of the Prince. A large part of this property was in the area transferred to Germany as a result of the Munich agreement. Therefore the Prince had to enter negotiations with the German authorities, "who certainly have some hold over him". There was also the palace in Vienna. There was a large Jewish and emigrant element in Liechtenstein. Swiss citizens had made considerable loans to Liechtenstein. 50% of the holding companies had ceased to be domiciled in Liechtenstein. Only a small percentage of the population was pro-Nazi. It was not at all likely that Liechtenstein would go over to Germany. The Federal Political Department wanted to know who was spreading pessimistic rumours in London about the fate of Liechtenstein. Perhaps it was Communists or the Reich authorities, trying to create a feeling of unrest.</p>	<p>14.02.1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/23859/1685</p>	<p>Sir G. Warner reports dissatisfaction in the Swiss press because the Reich authorities had refused to invite the Swiss Minister in Berlin to Hitler's dinner in honour of Prince Franz Josef II.</p>	<p>11.03.1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/23859/2036</p>	<p>Sir G. Warner reports that the Germans did not invite the Swiss Minister because they wished to emphasise that they regarded Liechtenstein as independent [i.e. the refusal was not the result of wishes expressed by the Liechtenstein Government].</p>	<p>21.03.1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22967/4211</p>	<p>Letter from Sir Basil Newton, HMM Prague, to William Strang. Not on file. Closed until 2015. Request to see it refused by FCO.</p>	<p>21.03.1939</p>

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22967/3894</p>	<p>Berne tel. No 16 reports fears of a possible German attack on Switzerland, perhaps involving the seizure of Schaffhausen.</p>	<p>22.03.1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22967/4212</p>	<p>Berlin tel. No. 188, from Sir G. Ogilvie Forbes (Chargé d'Affaires). Refers to Newton's letter. The Swiss Minister in Berlin says that Liechtenstein is having difficulties with small bands of young inhabitants with Nazi sympathies. The Liechtenstein authorities have received assurances from the Germans. The Vorarlberg authorities say they have no cause for anxiety but the Swiss Minister is making representations to the German MFA. The Swiss Minister does not regard the situation in Liechtenstein as at all serious but the small pro-German minority there is in constant touch with Vorarlberg.</p>	<p>27.03.1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22967/4212</p>	<p>Berne tel. No 28. The Secretary-General of the Federal Political Dept. says that over the weekend there was great nervousness in Basel, Zurich and St Gallen, owing to rumours that German troops had entered Liechtenstein and were concentrated in the Black Forest opposite Switzerland. Both rumours were without the least foundation. A demonstration in Liechtenstein had been arranged for 24 March with German participation but the authorities at Feldkirch had stopped [? words omitted] German and the small Liechtenstein Nazi element had had a bad reception. Further trouble was not anticipated at present. The Swiss authorities had discovered emigrant organisations to be spreading false or exaggerated news largely for the purpose of manipulation [?] and steps were being taken to deal with this. [See also Akten zur deutschen auswärtigen Politik, Band VI, No. 141,3 1 March 1939.].</p>	<p>28.03.1939</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/22967/4929

05.04.1939

Despatch from Sir G. Warner, Berne. An account of the historical relationships between Liechtenstein and Austria and then Liechtenstein and Switzerland. "In the autumn of 1919, by an exchange of notes, Switzerland became responsible for the foreign relations of the Principality.. In 1923 a customs union was concluded between Liechtenstein and Switzerland and it was laid down inter alia that all Treaties of Commerce to which Switzerland was a party should apply also to Liechtenstein..There is therefore a very close administrative connection between the two countries". .Occupation would give the Germans observation over an important part of the Swiss line of defence and would bring them within normal field artillery range of the Swiss line of defence and perhaps prevent use of the rail junction at Sargans. Refers to the scare over the weekend. "As regards the sympathies of the population, a small percentage only appear to be in favour of incorporation in the Reich, indeed a loyal address has recently been signed by 95% of the electors." . .But the inhabitants are of German race and many are by tradition more closely connected with Austria than Switzerland. "Herr Hitler would therefore on racial and historical grounds have a pretext for interference if he had some reason for bringing pressure to bear on Switzerland." Minute by W. Strang: "Nothing we can do, I fear. But would the French do anything?" (21 April) Minute initialled by A.C. [Sir Alexander Cadogan, Permanent Under-Secretary]: "I should think probably not -nor President Roosevelt. Liechtenstein is a historical curiosity, and only exists by mistake. It shouldn't, of course, exist at all as an independent state. I am sorry if its annexation should cause inconvenience and alarm in Switzerland, but I really don't see what we could do about it." (22 April 1939) These papers were seen and initialled by Lord Halifax (Foreign Secretary) on 22 April 1939.

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22970/5592</p>	<p>President Roosevelt's message to Hitler and Mussolini, calling for a frank statement: "Are you willing to give assurance that your armed forces will not attack or invade the territory or possessions of the following independent nations: Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, The Netherlands, Belgium, Great Britain and Ireland, France, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Poland, Hungary, Roumania, Yugoslavia, Russia, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Iraq, the Arabias, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and Iran" for the present, or at least ten years in the future, or a quarter of a century if we dare look that far ahead. He will seek reciprocal assurances from the nations named.</p>	<p>14.04.1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22970/5863</p>	<p>Letter from Sir G. Warner (Berne) to (F. K.?) Roberts refers to letter from Sir B. Newton (Prague). "According to Newton's informant the Prince told Hitler that he thought he would prefer that a request to be embodied in the Reich should come voluntarily from Liechtenstein, itself. In this connection it is of some interest that at the opening of the new Landtag the Prince emphasised the desire of the people and authorities of Liechtenstein to maintain the independence of the country and its economic conventions with Switzerland."</p>	<p>19.04.1939</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/22970/5836</p>	<p>Berne tel. No. 5 Saving reports Swiss Chief of the General Staff as telling HM Minister that the military importance of Liechtenstein has been overestimated. The Germans could bombard Sargans now with heavy artillery and could in any case attack Swiss communications in the Rhine valley from the air. The Swiss line of defence has been moved back. (In his comment, Sir G. Warner wondered whether that was the view of the General Staff as a whole. The moral effect of a German occupation of Liechtenstein would at all events be serious in Eastern Switzerland.).</p>	<p>20.04.1939</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/23859/4641

30.05.1939

Mr J. E. Bell, HM Consul-General Zurich, reports to Sir G. Warner at Berne on his visit to Vaduz for the Act of Homage to the Prince on his Accession, on 29 May. "There were of course no Customs formalities but I had a distinct impression of traversing a frontier on crossing the bridge over the Rhine at Buchs." Vaduz was not a "big peasant village" as it had been described to him. There are many prosperous looking villas belonging to Jews, of whom there were considerable numbers resident in Vaduz until very recently. (They left after the Anschluss.) There is a British broadcasting station on the lines of Radio Luxembourg (i.e. for advertising). The International Broadcasting Company has the contract; there is said to be some connection with Harrods. Some time previously about 50 rowdy youths in Schaan had made a row in the street and sung the Horst Wessel Lied. The infuriated villagers turned on them. Fr. Anton Frommelt got the majority of them across the Austrian border, but 12 were still in detention in Vaduz awaiting trial. The Prince of Liechtenstein and his relatives are strongly anti-Nazi. The people turned anti-Nazi after the Anschluss. (The Nazis were too close and there were food shortages across the border). Princess Louisanna paraded in a Girl Guide uniform (she is promoting the movement) and Prince Emmanuel has organised a Boy Scout movement, to pre-empt Nazi youth movements. Fascist salutes by the German and Italian representatives at the procession did not go down well with Princess/Archduchess Elizabeth. There was not enough loot in Liechtenstein to make it worth seizing. The atmosphere of Liechtenstein is more Austrian than Swiss. [Princess Luisanne, daughter of Prince Eduard and sister of Prince Ferdinand, b. 1907: XXII -31, Table 1l. Prince Emmanuel, ?son of Prince Johannes, b. 1908, XXII - 10,Table 12.]

In his covering despatch of 31 May Mr P. Legh-Smith [Chargé?] quotes reports in the Agence Télégraphique Suisse that Fr

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Frommelt had said in his speech that the Liechtenstein people had survived the era of the Romans, the era of the national migrations, the era of the Thirty Years War and the era of the Great War, and it could

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/23859/5961

HM Consul-General, Zurich reports Prince  
Franz Josef II's visit to the Landesausstellung  
at Zurich on 16 July. Federal President Briner  
welcomed the historic and actual ties  
between Switzerland and Liechtenstein  
rather emphatically. Regierungschef Dr Hoop  
replied that we "intend to stick by this close  
connection".

17.07.1939

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/23859/5658

In reply to a letter from Denton, Hall and  
Burgin, solicitors, on behalf of a client who is  
a Liechtenstein national, the FO says,  
"..Liechtenstein was in fact consistently  
regarded by HMG during this time [1914-  
1918] as a neutral State."

04.08.1939

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Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/23859/7039

Further report by Mr Bell on a visit to assess the situation in Liechtenstein. Dr Hoop told Mr Bell that he hoped that the little Principality of Liechtenstein would be too insignificant to attract the attention of Nazi forces during the present strained situation. Dr Hoop said that there were 700 Austrians, 300 Germans and 400 Swiss in Liechtenstein. The interests of Liechtenstein were identical to those of Switzerland. Prince Emmanuel (whom Mr Bell met at the Castle) had just returned from a visit to Perthshire with 13 Liechtenstein Boy Scouts. But his Swiss-born hotel proprietress told him that Schaan was 90% pro-Nazi. The Swiss Verein had only 50 members and the German Verein 400. A Swiss frontier guard was very pessimistic about the future: shopkeepers and property owners were no longer prosperous owing to the flight of capital and people were asking whether they would not be better off if the country were politically affiliated to Austria. In his covering despatch of 28 August 1939 Sir G. Warner speculates that perhaps there are more Nazi sympathisers in Liechtenstein than the Swiss like to admit. The Jewish capitalists and the holding companies have taken fright and gone elsewhere. The moral effect of the absorption of Liechtenstein into the Reich would be very bad in Eastern Switzerland, but the military implications may have been exaggerated. He depends mostly on the Federal Political Dept. and the Swiss press for information about Liechtenstein. False impressions can easily be formed in so short a visit; he will ask Mr Bell to pay another visit.  
[Declarations of Swiss and Liechtenstein Neutrality: see Akten zur deutschen auswärtigen Politik 1918-1945, Serie D, Band VII, No. 528, 1 September 1939.]

26.08.1939

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/24532/5373 - 175</p>	<p>Negotiations on the draft Anglo-Swiss Trade Agreement. Letter of 14 April 1940 from F. K. Roberts (FO) to Miss M. D. Kennedy (Board of Trade). "The principal one [i.e. emendation] is the deletion of all references to the Government of Liechtenstein. It is a very long time since we have concluded treaties with the Principality, and as its foreign affairs are now entirely in the hands of the Swiss Federal Council, we do not think the Government of Liechtenstein should appear as a contracting party."</p>	<p>14.04.1940</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/27021/4645</p>	<p>The FO corrects a report in Whitaker's Almanac that Liechtenstein has been occupied by German troops.</p>	<p>1941</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, T9203/8852/379</p>	<p>Prince Franz Josef II's condolences on death of Duke of Kent. T 9203/8852/379 NOT RETAINED.</p>	<p>1942</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/31312/7138

25.06.1942

Extract from letter of 25 June 1942 from Mr Eric Cable, HM Consul General Zurich, to Mr Clifford Norton CMG CVO, HM Minister Berne. "In 1938 His Highness apparently paid visits to neighbouring countries, in the course of which he visited Hitler and certain other prominent Nazis. The Fuhrer had apparently impressed him as being a jovial Austrian, and had held forth, while not looking at him but staring at the opposite wall, for a considerable time on how misunderstood he was by certain people who believed that he was preparing for war, whereas all he was interested in was to build hospitals, schools and roads, and to turn Berlin into a beautiful city. Goering had been even more jocular but had lost no opportunity of expressing his veneration for, and his blind faith in, the greatness of his Fuhrer. Ribbentrop had taken a seat in the corner of his office, closed his eyes, and in the coldest of voices soliloquised on his views of international politics, salient points among which were that America would never enter the war and would have nothing of importance to contribute to a war as concerned Europe."

Mr Cable further commented that the Liechtenstein Nazis were an insignificant little party ("social failures and disgruntled individuals"). The population was well aware of the freedom it enjoyed. There was no fear of being invaded by Germany, partly because of a presumed German/Italian understanding about the Gotthard which was predicated on Swiss neutrality and therefore had implications for Liechtenstein's integrity.

[Comment: This report includes a very basic description of the Principality, almost as if Mr Cable was discovering it for the first time.] The report attracted varying comments in the FO, some readers finding it badly written and not very analytical. But there is the following final minute: "Rather an interesting report. I last visited the Principality about ten years ago, and it was intimated to me that some good-looking

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young women were not averse from serving as artists' models, so long as you did not "get too fresh" with them. Not being an artist, I took no further steps in the matter: but on my way home in Zurich I went to see an

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/34430/5145

Letter from W. H. Montagu-Pollock,  
Stockholm, (later Sir William Montagu-  
Pollock, HM Ambassador, Berne, 1958-1960)  
to Central Dept., FO, drawing attention to an  
anonymous article by Prince Ferdinand of  
Liechtenstein in the "Vecko-Journal" (very  
wide circulation). The article is based on  
material supplied by HM Legation. The  
author had previously been viewed with  
suspicion by the UK and French security  
organisations. The article paints a picture of  
declining morale in Germany; war losses;  
disturbances among Munich students; no  
hope of victory; but the Germans know that,  
unlike in 1918, the nation as a whole is  
jointly responsible with its Government.

04.05.1943

e-archiving

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/34467/13811

09.11.1943

Despatch from HM Minister, Stockholm (Mallet), to the Foreign Secretary (Eden) on the Moscow Communiqué of 2 November 1943 about the future restoration of independence to Austria. Prince Ferdinand of Liechtenstein published an article in "Dagens Nyheter" of 5 November 1943 describing the declaration as "a ray of light in a time of darkness and sorrow". After 1918 the Allies had failed to arrive at a sensible solution of Austria's economic problems and therefore Austria had had to depend on Fascist Italy. By the Anschluss, 30% of the population were Nazis. A large part of the population had hoped for the restoration of the Monarchy, but this would have roused objections, especially from Czechoslovakia. "The latter country, owing to her economic potential and the political confidence she enjoyed with the Western powers and with Russia, should take first place in the reconstruction of central Europe, and the most intimate economic and political co-operation between Austria and Czechoslovakia was absolutely essential. The economic co-operation of these two countries would guarantee them a satisfactory standard of living, and politically they -could form a permanent barrier against future Pan-German expansionist tendencies towards the South-East. My reason for reporting this article is that Prince Ferdinand has informed a member of the staff of this Legation that he is writing with the full approval of his cousin, the Reigning Prince who, as you are doubtless aware, is the owner of large properties in both Austria and Czechoslovakia." The Soviet Legation gave a reception on 6 November. "Prince Ferdinand of Liechtenstein was also there, in spite of having fought for the Finns in 1939."

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<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/34416/13835</p>	<p>Chancery letter, Stockholm, to Central Dept., FO about an appeal for unity in a manifesto by leading German refugees in Sweden. Prince Ferdinand of Liechtenstein recently told the Counsellor that "he had a number of Austrian socialist friends who would have nothing to do with the movement on the grounds that it was pan-German though anti-Nazi. His Austrian friends intended to refuse to co-operate with any German movement whatever its political complexion.</p>	<p>11.11.1943</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/38837/2146</p>	<p>Letter from W. H. Montagu-Pollock, Stockholm, to G. W. Harrison, FO, asking whether he forwarded to Sir George Franckenstein a letter which he (Montagu-Pollock) left at the FO in December 1943 on behalf of Prince Ferdinand.</p>	<p>07.02.1944</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/39262/5513</p>	<p>Report from the Press Reading Bureau, HM Legation, Stockholm, of a pro-Allied speech by Prince Ferdinand of Liechtenstein at a lunch at the Hungarian Legation. (Copy taken.).</p>	<p>21.04.1944</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/39889/16221</p>	<p>20 November 1944. Letter from Lord Vansittart to Sir A. Cadogan, warning him against Prince Ferdinand of Liechtenstein. The Prince used to belong to the St James's Club. He married a Mond or a Brunner, and later a Swede. "Liechtenstein was such an extremist that he used to wear SS uniform. He may be changing his tune now, but both Mallet and his American colleague should certainly avoid him if he tries to play up his former British connections in this country." 6 December 1944. Letter from Frank Roberts, FO, to W. H. Montagu-Pollock, Stockholm, copying Vansittart's letter and referring to Montagu-Pollock's letter of 4 May 1943 about an article by Prince Ferdinand on the situation in Germany.</p>	<p>20.11.1944</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, HS6/911, /910,  
/909

"Operation Dishforth" (Special Operations Executive files). /911: 14 November 1944. Orders to Captain William Kenmore to proceed legally to Liechtenstein under cover as a consultant accountant to find out what possibilities there might be of setting up a line to convey messages, parcels and bodies from there into Germany, and vice versa; and what possibilities there might be of transferring or transporting money to circuits within Germany. (There were a number of organisations in Germany carrying on subversive work. They needed to communicate overland with the UK, to be reinforced by agents from the UK, to have agents exfiltrated and to be financed.) Captain Kenmore was to find out if there were any smuggling organisations for getting goods or persons into Germany. If so, he was to contact them and make arrangements with them. Were there routes over the mountains? Safe houses? What forms of identification were needed in Liechtenstein? He should bring back samples of the packaging of smuggled goods. Would it be possible to make illegal monetary transfers between Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Germany? The route would run from Paris or Lyon to a safe house at Amphion (the Villa Bessaraba), then across the Lake of Geneva to a safe house in Switzerland, then to Samedan (the photographer Sommer, who had a safe house and would act as guide); then across the German frontier opposite Davos to a safe house in Germany (still to be obtained; south-east of Lake Constance). Kenmore left London on 5 December 1944, under civilian cover as an economic adviser to the Ministry of Economic Warfare. /910: This new cover was agreed with HM Legation at Berne because of fears about controls on freedom of movement in Switzerland. Kenmore's report (dated in manuscript 2 January 1945) was optimistic. Basle would not suit for infiltration, but would be good for exfiltration. Schaffhausen and Kreuzlingen would be suitable for movement in either direction. In Vaduz he called on Regierungschef Dr Hoop (copy of this part of the report taken). Hoop was worried about the future attitude of the victorious Allies to Liechtenstein. They would therefore open their books to Mr Sullivan

14.11.1944

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, HS6/911, /910, /909	Note from Prince Henry of Liechtenstein (younger brother of the Reigning Prince) informing Mr Norton that he has been accredited as Chargé d'Affaires at Berne (i.e. re-establishment of the Liechtenstein Mission at Berne).	11.01.1945
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/49709/1664	Despatch from Mr Clifford Norton to the Foreign Secretary (Eden). "On one or two occasions during the past two years the Prince of Liechtenstein mentioned to me his feeling that the affairs of his small principality did not receive from the Swiss Political Department the prompt attention they merited. He said that he would have liked to be able to deal direct with foreign legations, for instance on commercial or business matters. I advised him to consult Monsieur Pilet-Golaz, which he did, and Monsieur Pilet also mentioned it to me. Monsieur Pilet said he had no objection to the Liechtenstein Government, if that is not too pompous a name, dealing direct with foreign missions on minor matters, but he did not however wish the foreign ministers in Berne to feel that they were accredited to Liechtenstein." [See also Swiss Diplomatic Documents Vol. 14, No. 4 10, dated 19 August 1943.].	26.01.1945
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 1020/288	The fourth draft of Operation Freeborn (for the liberation of Austria, issued over the name of Field Marshal Alexander) says in para 13(f): "Liechtenstein is an independent state whose neutrality has been respected by all belligerents throughout the war. Her foreign affairs are conducted by Switzerland and any violations of Liechtenstein territory would consequently bring us into conflict with Switzerland. Allied travel-frontier control will, therefore, be established on the Liechtenstein-Austrian frontier in the same manner as this control will be established on the Swiss-Austrian frontier." (NOTE: At the time of this draft it was expected that British forces would occupy the West of Austria. In the event, the occupation of Vorarlberg and the Tyrol fell to the French.).	22.02.1945

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/49709/2599

Berne tel. No. 331 from Mr Norton:  
"1. I asked Dr Stucki today whether it was true that the Government of Liechtenstein was apprehensive of a German attack and had asked for the protection of Swiss armed forces. He said it was true and that the Federal Council had replied that they could not accept this additional responsibility.  
2. I do not know to what the fears of Liechtenstein are due, except that the country has no defences of any kind: and that in recent Swiss decrees blocking German assets, Liechtenstein is specifically mentioned as participating."  
In minuting within the FO, someone (initials illegible) wrote, " I would almost prefer not to communicate this to the ACA as we don't wish to revive their notions about gratuitously "liberating" Liechtenstein, unless and until that country is actually invaded by the Germans." [No other reference to these "notions" appears on this file. Not clear what had been suggested, or by whom. The ACA was presumably the Allied organisation for the future control of liberated Austria. See also Swiss Diplomatic Documents, Vol. 15, No. 375.]

23.02.1945

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 372/4359 (T  
7182/6853/379)

Prince Franz Josef II's message to King George VI on VE Day.  
An exchange of telegrams. Friendly on the Prince's part. The first draft of the reply by officials similarly warm, but then slightly toned down at senior official level. No indication on file whether draft was seen by HM before despatch.

1945

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/49709/5787

Berne tel. No. 968 reports a request from the Reigning Prince to Mr Norton for help in the repatriation of Count Peter Eltz, his sister's husband. He is an Austrian, a Liechtenstein subject since 1943 but not allowed by the Germans to give up his German nationality and obliged to serve in the German Army. Last heard of as a Lieutenant at Mosjoen in Norway. FO tel. 305 Saving states strong objection to making a special case. Berne tel. No. 1064 reports that he is in a POW camp at Rana, Norway.

10.05.1945

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/49709/6164</p>	<p>Note from Swiss Legation in London about protection of Liechtenstein subjects in Palestine.</p>	<p>1945</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/49709/8451</p>	<p>"Daily Telegraph" report headlined "Trouble in Nazis' Paradise. Clean-up Demand in Liechtenstein. Hunted Men's Life of Luxury." The report says that during the war Liechtenstein was a centre of Axis espionage, a useful auxiliary to the German military effort and is still a haven for profiteers, a refuge for Nazis and a hiding place for German funds. Accounts were blocked on 16 March, but most of the people concerned were warned two days beforehand. Herr Rudolf Ruscheweyh [sic] needed a fleet of lorries to remove cases of gold, silver and securities from his bank. German agents representing arms magnates and industrialists earned £40,000 -60,000 on 2 1/2% commission. There may have been connivance by some members of the Liechtenstein Government. Hermann Sieger, a German, prominent Nazi, Curator of the Liechtenstein Postal Museum and philatelic adviser to the Government, returned to Liechtenstein from Germany. Prince Heinrich used his personal influence to have him expelled. Question marks over Dr Hoop. Dr Alois Vogt is even more imbued with Germanic ideals. Dr Ludwig Marxer is on the allied black list: a lawyer for Liechtenstein Nazis, but he also obtained naturalisation for racial aliens. Dr Paul Friedrich Bock, owner of the Ramco tooth manufacturing company in Schaan, is the most prominent German Nazi living in Liechtenstein.</p>	<p>03.07.1945</p>

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO 371/49709/?

Berne tel. No. 508 ARFAR to the Ministry of  
Economic Warfare reports sending a full list  
of all holding companies in Liechtenstein.  
[Copy of list not in this file, and not found  
elsewhere.]

10.07.1945

At about this time one Peter Casson, who  
said that he had formerly been employed in  
Liechtenstein and knew the country well,  
offered HMG his services to investigate the  
accusations about the holding companies.  
London was doubtful about him. No  
information about the outcome.

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/49709/10964

Despatch No. 3081 from Mr Norton in Berne  
to the Foreign Secretary (Bevin), reporting a  
call by Prince Franz Josef II on 13  
September. "He told me that he had some  
time ago decided that a change in the  
administration of the Principality was  
necessary owing to the fact that the Prime  
Minister and his entourage, who had been in  
power for many years, had come in for much  
criticism on the grounds that they had  
protected Nazi sympathisers and their  
assets.

17.09.1945

The two principal parties had a sort of  
gentlemen's agreement and there was really  
no opposition, Socialist or other, on which  
he could count. The process of edging the  
Government out had therefore taken him  
several months to achieve, as he was a  
constitutional prince. However, he had  
achieved it, and hoped for a clean-up."  
The Prince added that he had taken steps  
through his agents in Prague and through  
the Swiss Government to protest against the  
sequestration or confiscation of his large  
properties in Czechoslovakia. The position  
was not at all clear, nor was the real  
intention of the Czech Government, but he  
hoped that the Swiss Government as the  
"protecting power" for Liechtenstein  
interests would take the matter up officially  
with the Czechoslovak Foreign Office.

Material on  
Liechtenstein held at  
the National Archives  
Kew, FO  
371/49709/49746

Berne Legation Leading Personality Report on Prince Franz Josef II, 1945: "During the war cultivated close relations with His Majesty's Legation. A very pleasant but shy young man who speaks no English. Recently showed unexpected energy in getting rid of his pro-Nazi government."  
1945

A search through a number of files listed in the "Guide to Sources" in FCO History Note No. 22 ("Nazi Gold: Information from the British Archives: Part I1 -May 1997) yielded little information about German assets in Liechtenstein. On 16 February 1945 the Swiss Government said that it had made German assets in Switzerland "inalienable". They were now being counted. "Within the framework of Swiss legislation as it today stands or as it will be completed in the future, all facilities will be given to dispossessed owners to claim in Switzerland and Liechtenstein assets found in those countries". The Federal Council had "no intention of giving protection to assets belonging to German nationals who committed crimes or acted contrary to International Law or laws of war during the period of hostilities". (FO 1046/74). Article V of the Washington Agreement of 25 May 1946 stated that the Swiss representative (Stucki) was acting also on behalf of the Principality of Liechtenstein (FO 371/60479). FO 192/210 of 1948 contains a long list of assets and liabilities in Liechtenstein of persons resident in the British Zone of Germany. (Nothing very startling, to a lay eye.) FO 192/205 of 1948, containing papers from the Swiss Compensation Office, has only two references to Liechtenstein: one concerns Countess von Tiele-Winckler, a Liechtenstein subject who died in Meggen in 1942, 75% of whose estate was left to certain German citizens, the other a loan by the Bank in Liechtenstein to a German company.

Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/57546/4655	British War Crimes Executive (Nuremberg) tel. reports that the US Chief of Counsel has approved the arrival in Nuremberg on 15 May of Prince Emmanuel of Liechtenstein to attend The International Military Tribunal. FO 371/57547/5235 contains a tel. to the same effect from the US Chief of Counsel to Mr Scott Fox, FO, "for a period of three days for the purpose of attending the trials of the leading war criminals".	29.04.1946
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, C/14604/573/18	Prince Ferdinand: visit by car to Sweden. NOT RETAINED.	1946
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, Z 6731/6731/43	Royal Family: Attitude during the war. NOT RETAINED.	1947
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, Z 6731/6731/43	Prince Ferdinand's travel permit for Germany. NOT RETAINED.	1947
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO/371/73407/7522	Swiss Legation Note to Foreign Secretary (Bevin) refers to FO Note of 14 November 1919, which said that HMG had no objection to the interests of Liechtenstein being entrusted to diplomatic and consular agents of the Swiss Confederation. The Liechtenstein Government has now requested that this arrangement be extended to Australia, New Zealand and other territories of the Empire and Commonwealth. Similar requests are being made to the Governments of South Africa, Canada and India. 28 October 1948: FO conveys HMG's agreement.	15.09.1948
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, UN 667/UN 692/UN 1015/256/78	HMG's views on Liechtenstein's application to become a party to the ICJ Statute. NOT RETAINED.	1949
Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, UN 693/256/78	Liechtenstein's status as a sovereign state. NOT RETAINED.	1949

<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, Z 3008/1081/43</p>	<p>Revision of frontier with Switzerland. NOT RETAINED.</p>	<p>1949</p>
<p>Material on Liechtenstein held at the National Archives Kew, FO 371/145558/?</p>	<p>Letter from Miss J. J. d'A Collings (Western Dept., FO) to Mr R. S. Scrivener (Berne) asking about Liechtenstein's relationship with Switzerland and how far it runs its own affairs (foreign affairs apart), and how far does it throw in its lot with the Swiss? What is the correct channel of communication? 18 September 1959. Mr Scrivener replies that Article 27 of the Treaty of St Germain (10 October 1919) recognised the independence of Liechtenstein by its definition of the Austrian frontier. On 27 October 1919 Switzerland agreed to represent the interests of Liechtenstein and its nationals in all countries where Liechtenstein itself did not have a diplomatic or consular representation. The Federal Political Department only acts on instructions it receives from Liechtenstein and it can refuse to intervene. In international organisations Liechtenstein can set up its own delegation or ask Switzerland to act in its name. Encloses leaflet by Henri Thévenaz, Professor at Neuchatel University, which i.a. says, "En outre, l'état auprès duquel il devrait intervenir peut refuser son agrément, comme l'a fait la Tchécoslovaquie au lendemain de la seconde guerre mondiale." (Refs. to RG 1946, p 110 and FF 1950 I 464.).</p>	<p>28.08.1959</p>