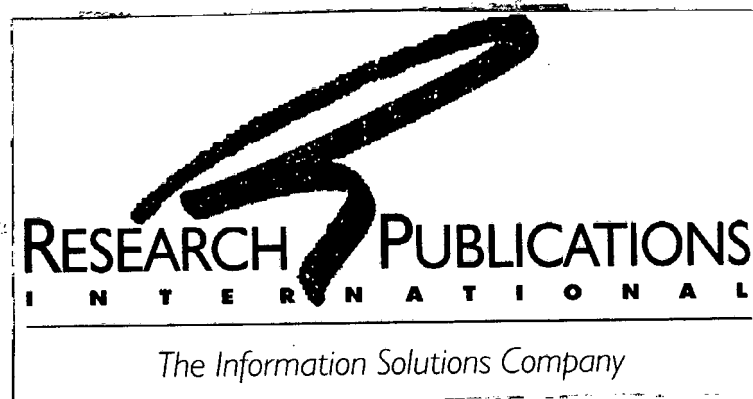


Ambassadorial and Secret Service Reports on Revolutionary and Napoleonic France

(PRO CLASS FO 27)



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**AMBASSADORIAL AND SECRET SERVICE REPORTS ON REVOLUTIONARY AND
NAPOLEONIC FRANCE, 1781-1815**

PRO Class FO 27, France, General Correspondence (Vols 1-127)

Part 1: FO 27, Volumes 1-20, 1781-1786

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The first 127 volumes in Public Record Office Class FO 27 (France, General Correspondence) are the principle source describing Anglo-French diplomatic relations in the period 1781 to 1815. It replaces PRO Class SP 78 (State Papers Foreign, France) which covers the period 1577-1778.

This microform edition includes volumes 1-127 of FO 27 in their entirety, with Part 1 covering the years 1781-1786 (Volumes 1-20), Part 2 the years 1787-1796 (Volumes 21-48), Part 3 1797-1811 (Volumes 49-88) and Part 4 the final dramatic years 1812-1815 (Volumes 89-127). In periods when diplomatic relations broke down, the diplomatic reports are replaced with accounts by paid informers, records of espionage, and military information.

This first part concentrates on the pre-revolutionary situation. Thomas Walpole, Richard Oswald, Alleyne Fitzherbert, Thomas Grenville, the Duke of Manchester, Anthony Storer, the Duke of Dorset, Daniel Hailes, George Crawford and William Eden provide 'advices and intelligence' on both events in France and wider aspects of Anglo-French relations.

Two treaties dominate the period: The Versailles Treaty of 1783 ending the American War of Independence, and the Eden - Vergennes 'Free Trade' Treaty of 1786. However, France was not in a position to expand its economy. Financial support for the Americans in the 1776-1783 war, and successive crop failures, lead to French bankruptcy in 1786 and the growth of tensions that were to explode into riots in 1788.

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