



Reading Right to Left—FIRST ROW: Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, SECOND ROW: Southern Rhodesia, Newfoundland, South Africa, THIRD ROW: India, FOURTH ROW: The Colonial Empire

Reading Left to Right—FIRST ROW: U.S.A., China, U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, SECOND ROW: Holland, France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, THIRD ROW: Greece, Norway, Belgium

FREEDOM SHALL PREVAIL!

British Government Information and Propaganda, 1939-2009

Collection Summary

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BRITISH GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA, 1939-2009

The **Central Office of Information (COI)** was a British government department established in 1946 as the successor to the wartime **Ministry of Information (MOI)**. The COI and MOI were responsible for informing and influencing the British public on a wide range of issues. To this end, both worked with and on behalf of other departments and public bodies to design and produce appropriate **publicity and propaganda materials**.

Scanned from source at the **British Library**, and encompassing over **20,000 unique images**, ***British Government Information and Propaganda, 1939-2009*** contains a carefully curated selection of these materials with a particular focus on post-1939 communications.

The items are diverse in nature, ranging from **posters and stickers to pamphlets and guidance booklets**. The subject matter is just as varied, covering public health, education, social security, civil defence, international politics, race relations, sex discrimination, public sector career opportunities, policing, the environment, and Britain's membership of the European Economic Community. Most of the items were published during the post-war period, but a significant number date from the first and second world wars.

The collection therefore provides students and researchers with a unique insight into **what successive British governments wanted their citizens to know, think, and do**, as well as how their **methods and media** of achieving their aims changed over time. In addition, it reveals the image of Britain that different governments chose to project to the rest of the world.

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