Extent

1 folder, approximatly 27 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to Operation GTMO (Guantanamo), a U.S. military humanitarian response to Haitian migrants fleeing the island following the September 1991 military coup. The materials consist of cables coming into the White House Situation Room (to be distributed to various members of the National Security Council) regarding the operational status of the camp at Guantanamo Bay and the logistics of the eventual closure of the migrant camp. Please note that the majority of the records related to this FOIA are closed for national security reasons.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in 2011-1042-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. In September 1991, Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a charismatic Roman Catholic priest, was overthrown by dissatisfied elements of the army and forced to leave the country. The coup created a large-scale exodus from the island country. The U.S. Coast Guard rescued over 40,000 Haitians from 1991 to 1992, more than the number of rescued refugees from the previous 10 years combined. A multiservice response was required when these Haitian immigrants were intercepted by Coast Guard cutters and brought to the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The Marine Corps forces assumed primary responsibility for Haitian refugees at Guantanamo. With interdiction by the Navy and with Coast Guard assistance, Haitians began to flow into Guantanamo Bay and were housed in a tent city. At its peak, the temporary camp at Guantanamo held over 12,500 Haitians. While their legal status was being determined, the military task force continued to provide security, food, medical care, and all aspects of public administration for the camp. Operation GTMO officially ended in June 1993, after a district judge declared the

camp to be unconstitutional. This decision was later vacated, and the last Haitian migrants departed Guantanamo in November 1995. The NSC Cables, Emails, and Records Management System contains all relevant material. This consists of cables coming into the White House Situation Room (to be distributed to various members of the National Security Council) regarding the operational status of the camp at Guantanamo Bay and the logistics of the eventual closure of the migrant camp. Over half of the records related to this FOIA are closed for national security reasons.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found one collection area: Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cables, Emails, and Records Management System.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) and the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 U.S.C. Chapter 1) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official Records of William Jefferson Clinton’s presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) und the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2012. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2015-05-05

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2011-1042-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cables, Emails, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994
[Operation GTMO or Operation Guantanamo]
[01/25/1993-07/11/1993] [OA/ID 505000]