Extent

5 folders, approximately 309 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to Assistant Secretary of State James Dobbins' involvement in matters relating to NATO and European Security. The records include National Security Council cables.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2014-0090-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topice of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. The material responsive to this FOIA request concerns Assistant Secretary of State James Dobbins' involvement with matters relating to NATO and European security. In 1996, at the NATO ministerial meeting in Berlin, the participants determined that the Western European Union (WEU) would oversee the creation of a European section within NATO called the European Security and Defense Identity (ESDI). The Berlin agreement gave WEU nations the ability to use NATO assets for military actions, particularly in areas where NATO as a whole did not wish to commit. The European Council eventually incorporated the WEU into the European Union (EU) in 1999. The April 1999 NATO summit in Washington, D.C., further supported ESDI, while the December 1999 European Counsel meeting in Helsinki set a military capability target for EU member nations, called the Headline Goal. This led to the formation of the European Security and Defense Policy, which outlined the ensuing partnership of the EU and NATO. Negotiations over this policy continued throughout the last year of the Clinton Administration. James Dobbins, who was Assistant Secretary of State for Europe from May 2000 to June 2001, represented the U.S. The "Berlin Plus" agreement of 2002 and the December 2003 European Security Strategy formalized ESDP. In 2007, the Treaty of Lisbon renamed ESDP as the Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP). The records released in response to

this FOIA consist of cables. One cable contains notes sent to Assistant Secretary Dobbins regarding a 10-day July 2000 seminar on policymaking in the EU. Transatlantic issues and ESDI were topics covered at this seminar. Another cable describes a September 2000 program for European foreign policy officials entitled “U.S. Foreign Policy Objectives.” During this program, the guests met with U.S. business and government officials, including Assistant Secretary Dobbins. A third cable consists of notes from a September 2000 Marshall Center program in Germany on crisis management and European security. The majority of these records related to this FOIA case are closed for national security reasons.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in this collection area—Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) 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) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Person Names

Dobbins, James, 1942-

Organization Names

United States. Department of State
North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2013. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2015-09-15

Container List

View all digitized files in the National Archives Catalog (NAC)

Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1999 – Dec 2000 [OA/ID 530000]
[Dobbins and NATO and European Security]
[06/21/2000 – 10/27/2000]
[11/17/2000 – 12/27/2000]

Jan 2001 [OA/ID 540000]
[Dobbins and NATO and European Security]
[01/16/2001 – 01/18/2001]
NSC Email
Exchange – Record (Sept 97 – Jan 01) [OA/ID 620000]
[Dobbins and NATO and European Security]
[05/01/2000 – 10/11/2000]

Exchange – Non-Record (Mar 97 – Jan 01) [OA/ID 630000]
[Dobbins and NATO and European Security]
[07/18/2000]

Content Available Online