Extent

164 folders, approximately 5,998 pages, 64 electronic files

Summary

This collection consists of records related to meetings between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin and records related to trade issues in 1999. It contains subject files, correspondence, legislative materials, talking points, memorandums, briefing materials, and emails concerning Chinese-American relations, Presidential and Cabinet member travel to China, and meetings with Jiang Zemin.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2014-1039-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. Researchers interested in this topic may also be interested in FOIA 2010-1024-F (China, WTO, Barshefsky, Cantor Negotiations) and 2010-1026-F (White House website on China PNTR). Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request 2014-1039-F was for records related to meetings between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Records related to Trade Issues in 1999. Subject files contain correspondence from business groups, Congress, corporate leaders, members of state government, and veterans groups. This correspondence primarily contains recommendations for President Clinton’s meetings with Chinese President Zemin in 1993, 1997, and 1998. Topics in this correspondence include broadcast rights, the global economy and its products, human rights, Taiwan, tariffs, travel, unaccounted for military personnel, and World Trade Organization (WTO) membership. These Subject files also contain President Clinton’s annotated press statements and talking points following his meeting with Zemin in October of 1997. Additional correspondence in the Subject file concerns trade negotiations with China in 1999. Legislative Affairs files primarily contain draft legislative language on topics

such as trade and human rights. Correspondence, statements, and talking points concern China, Taiwan, tariffs, trade status, and World Trade Organization membership. These Legislative Affairs files also contain reports on Normal Trade Relations Renewal in China. The National Economic Council (NEC) files of Gene Sperling consist of two responsive binders. One binder contains background materials, correspondence, and talking points that concern potential passage of various legislative proposals regarding China and membership into the WTO. This background material includes fact sheets, press, press guidance, remarks, reports, and testimonies. The second binder contains correspondence from business groups, members of Congress, state government, and unions regarding Most Favored Nation (MFN) status. In addition, this binder contains background materials including press and talking points. Additional open materials from the NEC include talking points, briefing papers, memos, and e-mails related to the President's trip to China in 1998 and to a trip by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Secretary of the Treasury Lawrence Summers to China in 1997. This collection also includes materials from the staff and office files of the National Security Council (NSC) and responsive records from the Cable, Email and Records Management System of the NSC. Staff and Office files are largely question and answer, talking points, and background materials preparing for President Clinton's visits with Jiang Zemin in 1997 and Zhu Rongji in 1999. Jiang Zemin became President of the People's Republic of China in March 1993. Jiang and President Clinton met formally five times during the Clinton administration. The first was November 18-23, 1993 at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Seattle, Washington. President Jiang came to the United States for an extended visit and formal State visit October 28-30, 1997. President Clinton was returned the favor of a state visit, being welcomed in China; June 24-July 3, 1998. Not requested in this FOIA, and therefore not responsive, were records related to meetings between President Jiang and President Clinton in New York, New York at the United Nations General Assembly October 24, 1995 and the United Nations Millennium summit in September 2000. Throughout 1999, the primary trade concern within the White House as it related to China was finalizing China's accession to the WTO. Under the General Agreement on Trades and Tariffs (GATT), Chinese accession to the WTO was predicated on receiving Most Favored Nation status. Most Favored Nation status negotiations slowed the progress on WTO accession through 1998. In the United States, MFN was changed by law (P.L. 105-206) in 1998 to Normal Trade Relations (NTR)—often also called Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR). Though bilateral negotiations with China on accession to the

WTO had begun in earnest in 1996 the progress continued in fits-and-starts through the administration. The Clinton administration was a consistent supporter of Chinese accession. Bilateral agreements were finalized in November 1999. However concern among members of Congress regarding China's Human Rights and environmental records prevented quick action on NTR. In April 1999, Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji made an official visit to the United States visiting Chinese communities in a number of American cities and also meeting with both the President and Vice President in Washington. Trade issues featured prominately in these meetings as the negotiations toward WTO accession were nearing an end.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Files; Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains a variety of series created to organize and track documents and correspondence. The WHORM Subject file was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management and is a series of categories designated by a letter/number combination. Staff and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. WHORM files are processed at the document level; whereas, Staff and Office files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area. FOIA 2014-1039-F includes WHORM records from these subject codes: CO038 China CO038-02 China, People's Republic of (Red China) CO015 Bangladesh, Peoples Republic of FG001-06 Appointments – Interviews, Meeting with, Presidential TA Trade TR294 People's Republic of China / Hong Kong, 6/24 – 7/3/98 UT001-01 Radio - Television

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

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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).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2015. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2016-03-28

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to 2014-1039-F:

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Category Case Number

CO038 047106
CO038 240815
CO038 240973
CO038 258175
CO038 267041
CO038 268843
CO038 298946
CO038 299065
CO038 301207
CO038 302124
CO038 302150
CO038 316440
CO038-02 228600
CO038-02 228701
CO038-02 242693SS
CO105 284795SS

Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject Files (continued)

Category Case Number

FG001-06 267983
FG001-06 267986
TA 241494
TR294 267676SS
UT001-01 240386

Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files

Counsel’s Office

Stern, Todd

CEQ [Council on Environmental Quality] Presidential and Vice Presidential Hold: 63 [Jiang Zemin Email] [OA/ID 17630]

Legislative Affairs

Brain, Charles

[Booklet – China – Normal Trade Relations – Renewal – Resource Book – July 1999]

[OA/ID 23490]
China / WTO [World Trade Organization] ’99 [1] [OA/ID 23491]
China / WTO [World Trade Organization] ’99 [2] [OA/ID 23491]
National Economic Council
Lee, Malcolm
China Normal Trade Renewal Resource Book (July 1999) [OA/ID CF 1182]
President’s Trip to China; June 24-July 3, 1998 [binder] [1] [OA/ID CF 1182]
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Sperling, Gene
China and China WTO [World Trade Organization] 6/99 – 2/00 [binder] [1] [OA/ID 20270]
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China MFN [Most Favored Nation] and China WTO [World Trade Organization] 5/98 – 5/99 [binder] [1] [OA/ID 20247]
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China MFN [Most Favored Nation] and China WTO [World Trade Organization] 5/98 – 5/99 [binder] [6] [OA/ID 20247]
President’s Trip to China; June 24 to July 3, 1998 [binder] [1] [OA/ID CF 1717]
President’s Trip to China; June 24 to July 3, 1998 [binder] [2] [OA/ID CF 1717]
President’s Trip to China; June 24 to July 3, 1998 [binder] [3] [OA/ID CF 1717]
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Lieberthal, Kenneth
Summers/Albright Trip, February 19 – March 2, 1999 [1] [OA/ID 2425]
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Summers/Albright Trip, February 19 – March 2, 1999 [3] [OA/ID 2425]
Summers/Albright Trip, February 19 – March 2, 1999 [4] [OA/ID 2425]
Summers/Albright Trip, February 19 – March 2, 1999 [5] [OA/ID 2425]
Box 4
Zhu Rongji Visit, April 1999 [1] [OA/ID 2424]
Zhu Rongji Visit, April 1999 [2] [OA/ID 2424]
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Zhu Rongji Visit, April 1999 [4] [OA/ID 2424]
Zhu Rongji Visit, April 1999 [5] [OA/ID 2424]
Zhu Rongji Visit, April 1999 [6] [OA/ID 2424]
Zhu Rongji Visit, April 1999 [7] [OA/ID 2424]
Zhu Rongji Visit, April 1999 [8] [OA/ID 2424]
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1997 Jiang Zemin Visit [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – Baskets [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – POTUS Papers [1] [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – POTUS Papers [2] [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – POTUS Papers [3] [OA/ID 2622]
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1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – POTUS Papers [4] [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – Press and Congress Guidance [1] [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – Press and Congress Guidance [2] [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – Meeting Notes: [Notes from 10/29/1997] [1] [OA/ID 2622]
1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – Meeting Notes: [Notes from 10/29/1997] [2] [OA/ID 2622]

1997 Jiang Zemin Visit – Schedule [OA/ID 2622]
1998 POTUS Trip – Briefing Memos [OA/ID 2622]
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1998 POTUS Trip – Meetings [OA/ID 2622]
1998 POTUS Trip – Presidential Letters [OA/ID 2622]
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1998 POTUS Trip – Schedule [OA/ID 2622]
1998 POTUS Trip – Rule of Law [OA/ID 2622]
1998 POTUS Trip – Talking Points [OA/ID 2622]
International Economic Affairs
Duncan, John
Checklist of Issues [OA/ID 2862]
China – Jiang Zemin Bilateral Meeting [OA/ID 2862]
China – Normal Trade Relations Renewal [1] [OA/ID 2862]
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Box 6
China – Policy [OA/ID 2862]
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China – Premier Zhu Rongji Visit April 1999 [2] [OA/ID 2862]
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9805114 [OA/ID 2050]
9807412 [OA/ID 2067]
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[OA/ID CF 1182]
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9707091 [1] [disks]: EAP-Jiang Visit-Background Memos [2] [OA/ID 1646]
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