Extent

42 folders, approximately 2,459 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to Martin Indyk, Senior Director for Near East and South Asian Affairs, and the formulation and implementation of the Dual Containment strategy for Iran and Iraq. It contains policy papers on containment strategies for Iran and Iraq, memoranda between Martin Indyk and National Security Advisor Anthony Lake, as well as reports, cables and emails about the political and security situation on the ground in Iran and Iraq. The collection also includes emails and memoranda concerning the status of the economic embargo of the two countries and the UN inspections regime in Iraq at the close of Operation Desert Storm.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2011-0652-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. Martin Indyk, the Special Assistant to the President for Near East and South Asian Affairs, delivered a speech to the Washington Institute for Near East Policy on May 18, 1993. In this speech he outlined the Clinton administration's policy for the dual containment of Iran and Iraq. He stated that the United States would no longer depend on the competing interests and animosities of the two "backlash states", in order to deter their regional aggressions. Mr. Indyk went on to say that the demise of the Soviet Union and the strength of our alliances with the Gulf Cooperation Council states – Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the U.A.E. and Oman – would now allow Washington to "counter both the Iraqi and Iranian regimes, while not depending on one to counter the other."1 1 The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, "Special Report: Clinton Administration Policy toward the Middle East," Policy Watch, May 21, 1993. This strategy was further clarified by the National Security

Advisor Anthony Lake, who wrote that dual containment did not mean “duplicate containment”. Although the policies directed toward Iran and Iraq were clearly linked by the use of the term, the practicalities of the policy’s implementation necessitated that “because each regime presents different challenges to our interests, we have to develop policies to deal with [each] specific case.” So rather than one focus for two countries, the strategy implied differing tactics for each situation with the over-arching goal of containment and the restraint of the two countries threats to “the security interests of our friends and the free flow of oil at stable prices.” This foreign policy strategy which came to be known as the dual containment of Iran and Iraq, was clearly informed by the more than fifty years of the Cold War struggle for global dominance with the Soviet Union. The relevant lesson taken from that struggle was that if political pressure, economic sanctions and the threat of military annihilation could work against a monolithic communist empire it should succeed when applied to much less powerful regimes in a world where the U.S. was the sole remaining superpower. This collection contains policy papers, briefing papers, and memoranda between Mr. Indyk and National Security Advisor Anthony Lake, as well as reports, cables and e-mails about the political and security situation in both Iran and Iraq, primarily focused on the years 1993 and 1994. The collection also contains State Department memoranda and emails concerned with diplomatic exchanges between the United States and our allies and also with the United Nations in relation to economic sanctions of both countries. The collection also contains memoranda and e-mails related to the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) inspections of Iraqi compliance with the cease-fire agreement at the end of Operation Desert Storm. The majority of the 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 these collection areasClinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems. Staff

and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. 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.

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).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2016. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2016-06-23

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2011-0652-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Near East and South Asian Affairs
Indyk, Martin
Dual Containment [1] [OA/ID 279]
Dual Containment [2] [OA/ID 279]
Iran, January 1993 [OA/ID 255]
Lake, Anthony, “Confronting Backlash States,” Foreign Affairs, Vol. 73, No. 2, March/April 1994.
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files (continued)
National Security Council
Near East and South Asian Affairs
Indyk, Martin
Iran Policy, January 1993 [1] [OA/ID 255]
Iran Policy, January 1993 [2] [OA/ID 255]
Iraq, January 1993 [OA/ID 255]
Iraq Policy, 1993 [1] [OA/ID 255]
Iraq Policy, 1993 [2] [OA/ID 255]
Iran / Iraq, June 1993 [OA/ID 279]
Iran [OA/ID 279]
Box 2
Iraq [1] [OA/ID 279]
Iraq [2] [OA/ID 279]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994 [OA/ID 505000]
[Dual Containment and Indyk]

[05/09/1993 – 09/07/1994]
NSC Emails
A1-Record (Jan 93-Sept 94) [OA/ID 570000]
[Dual Containment ...]
[04/09/1993 – 04/23/1993]
[04/23/1993 – 06/14/1993]
[06/15/1993 – 07/30/1993]
[08/02/1993 – 10/05/1993]
[10/05/1993 – 12/13/1993]
Box 3
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Emails
A1-Record (Jan 93-Sept 94) [OA/ID 570000]
[Dual Containment ...]
[12/13/1993 – 02/14/1994]
[02/16/1994 – 04/21/1994]
[04/21/1994 – 09/19/1994]
A1-Non-Record (Apr 94-Sept 94) [OA/ID 580000]
[Dual Containment ...]
[01/23/1993 – 09/22/1994]
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Dual Containment ...]
[10/04/1994]
MSMail-Non-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97) [OA/ID 605000]
[Dual Containment ...]
[10/06/1994]
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 620000]
[Dual Containment ...]
[04/03/1998 – 01/26/1999]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System (continued)
NSC Records Management System
[Indyk, Iran, Iraq, Dual Containment]
9300192 [OA/ID 2263]
9300761 [OA/ID 140]
9301443 [OA/ID 43314]
9302203 [OA/ID 145]

9303344 [OA/ID 149]
9304603 [OA/ID 152]
9306240 [OA/ID 157]
9306707 [OA/ID 160]
9307772 [OA/ID 166]
9320374 [OA/ID 2157]
9320535 [OA/ID 2158]
9320725 [OA/ID 2159]
9320790 [OA/ID 2159]
9402242 [OA/ID 189]
9402504 [OA/ID 471]
9404065 [OA/ID 474]
9406581 [OA/ID 209]