Extent

157 folders, approximately 1,790 pages.

Summary

This collection consists of records related to correspondence between President Clinton and those involved in the Northern Ireland Peace Process. The collection contains correspondence with the following individuals: Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams; Taoisigh of Ireland Albert Reynolds, John Bruton, and Bertie Ahern; and British Prime Ministers John Major and Tony Blair. The records also include correspondence with three architects of the Good Friday Agreement: John Hume, David Trimble, and Senator George Mitchell. The collection further contains memoranda, letters, schedules, and press statements regarding the President's involvement in the peace process. The majority of the records address with routine issues: thank you letters for visits and head of state gifts, and farewell letters to outgoing leaders.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2009-0572-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. FOIA 2009-0572-F contains records dealing with correspondence between the President and parties involved in the Northern Ireland peace process. Researchers should also see 2006-0215-F (Records regarding British Prime Minister John Major), 2006-0217-F (Records regarding British Prime Minister Tony Blair), and 2006-1759-F (Records concerning the Good Friday Agreement and the Northern Ireland Peace Process). The Northern Ireland peace process sought an end to thirty years of political violence. "The Troubles," as this period is called, began on October 5, 1968 with a civil rights march in Londonderry and ended on April 10, 1998 with the signing of the Good Friday Agreement. The conflict centered around the constitutional status of Northern Ireland. The Protestant majority that defined itself

as British wanted to remain a part of the United Kingdom (unionists) and the Catholic minority that considered itself Irish wanted a unified Ireland apart from the United Kingdom (nationalists). Another key issue in the conflict was discrimination against Catholics by the Protestant majority. More than 3,500 people were killed during the conflict. The FOIA request was for correspondence between the President and those involved in the peace process. Responsive records were found regarding Sinn Fein party leader Gerry Adams. Most dealt with his requests for visas to visit the United States and for permission to fundraise while visiting. Sinn Fein is a hardline nationalist party dedicated to a unified Ireland and because it is the political arm of the Provisional Irish Republic Army (PIRA), a paramilitary group, Adams' initial visa request in May 1993 was denied. He was however granted a visa by President Clinton in 1994 in order to further the peace process. A June 1996 letter from Adams to the President in appreciation of a meeting is also included. Northern Ireland has numerous Unionist parties all believing in the preservation of the political union between the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. Two letters from the Ulster Democratic Unionist Party are included: one from 1995 arguing against the decision to grant Gerry Adams a visa and the second in 1999 from party leader Gary McMichael regarding illegal weapons being shipped into Ireland from the United States by the Provisional IRA. Also included is correspondence with three Taoisigh (plural form of Taoiseach; Gaelic for prime minister) of Ireland: Albert Reynolds (February 1992 - December 1994), John Bruton (December 1994 - June 1997), and Bertie Ahern (June 1997-May 2008). Two architects of the Good Friday Agreement and the co-recipients of the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize, John Hume and David Trimble, both have correspondence responsive to this FOIA request. As do British Prime Ministers John Major (1990-1997) and Tony Blair (1997-2007), and Irish President Mary Robinson (1990-1997). United Kingdom Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Mo Mowlam (1997-1999) and her replacement, Peter Mandelson (1999-2001), are also included. On the American side are Ambassador to Ireland Jean Kennedy Smith (1993-1998), Senator George Mitchell – Special Envoy for Northern Ireland and primary architect of the 1998 Good Friday Peace Agreement, and several U.S. Congressmen. The Congressional letters mainly involve the issue of whether to issue Gerry Adams a visa to visit the United States and, if so, the question of lifting any fundraising restrictions imposed on the visit. A 1993 congressional letter urging the President to take a more active role in the peace process is also included. The majority of responsive records deal with routine issues: thank you letters for visits and head of state gifts, and farewell letters to outgoing leaders. Also included are

letters thanking President Clinton for his support of the peace process (Taoiseach Reynolds in 1994 and President Robinson in 1996). The schedule for the 1998 St. Patrick's Day meetings on Northern Ireland with Gerry Adams, David Trimble and John Hume is also included, as are letters from individuals and organizations urging President Clinton to approve Gerry Adam's visa request to enter the United States.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas - Clinton Presidential Records: White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Alpha Files, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Alpha Project, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM (OP) Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains a variety of series created to organize and track documents and correspondence. The WHORM Alpha file was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management from 1993 – 1996 and is a series of documents arranged by name of persons, organizations, or events. 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. In addition, there are WHORM (OP) and WHORM (Alpha Project) series. 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 2009-0572-F includes WHORM records from these subject codes: CO0178 Countries - United Kingdom CO081 Countries - Ireland FG001-06 Federal Government - Appointments – Interviews, Meetings with, Presidential FG031 Federal Government - The Congress of the United States FO008-

03 Foreign Affairs - Passports – Visas GI002 Gifts – Gifts to the President HO043 Holidays – Saint Patrick’s Day IM Immigration – Naturalization ME Messages PP005-01 Presidential (Personal) – First Lady PP010-03 Presidential (Personal) – Election – Nomination- Primaries (Message Received)

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

Last Modified Date

2016-06-06

Container List

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

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2009-0572-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Alpha Files
254484 [Adams, Gerry]
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Alpha Project
254748 [Smith, Annie]
283520 [Dublin Progressive Unionist Party]
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File
Category Case Number
CO081 038609
CO081 081575
CO081 081879
CO081 082610SS
CO081 103767
CO081 154178
CO081 204101
CO081 262240
CO081 305194
CO081 305260
CO081 413380
CO081 413589
CO081 421220
CO178 060343
CO178 434552
FG001-06 080804
FG001-06 080917
FG031 056282
FO008-03 016038
FO008-03 042141

FO008-03 099643
FO008-03 099840
FO008-03 155596
FO008-03 159315
GI002 168256
HO043 172002
IM 015856
IM 019873
IM 050769CU
IM 050807
IM 050969
IM 051577
IM 051743
IM 052307
IM 052314
IM 052457
IM 052459
IM 052491
IM 052499
IM 052607
IM 053710
IM 078843
IM 079856
IM 081350
IM 088118
IM 088836
IM 089600
ME 247724 [Gerry Adams]
PP005-01 424052
PP010-03 202003SS
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: (OP)
263358 [Adams, Gerry]
309983 [McCleove, Mary]
409333 [Nesbitt, Michael]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Press Secretary

Myers, Dee Dee
Gerry Adams [OA/ID 3338]
Box 2
National Security Council
Staff Director
Soderberg, Nancy
Ireland – Gerry Adams, 1995 [1] [OA/ID 1397]
Ireland – Gerry Adams, 1995 [2] [OA/ID 1397]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994 [OA/ID 505000]
[Clinton and letter and Ireland…]
[04/07/1993 – 12/20/1994]
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 [OA/ID 510000]
[Clinton and letter and Ireland…]
[03/23/1995 – 10/10/1996]
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 [OA/ID 520000]
[Clinton and letter and Ireland…]
[03/01/1997 – 07/31/1998]
Jan 1999-Dec 2000 [OA/ID 530000]
[Clinton and letter and Ireland…]
[04/01/1999 – 10/24/2000]
NSC Records Management System
[Pres and ltr and Adams…]
9302970 [OA/ID 2268]
9308391 [OA/ID 169]
9309004 [OA/ID 173]
9309752 [OA/ID 177]
9400379 [OA/ID 182]
9400516 [OA/ID 2282]
9401236 [OA/ID 2283]
9401660 [OA/ID 2284]
9402730 [OA/ID 2286]
9405689 [OA/ID 2293]
9407425 [OA/ID 213]
9407649 [OA/ID 214]

9407878 [OA/ID 215]
9407883 [OA/ID 215]
9408113 [OA/ID 216]
9408135 [OA/ID 216]
9409405 [OA/ID 223]
9409494 [1] [OA/ID 223]
9409494 [2] [OA/ID 223]
9409576 [OA/ID 224]
9409642 [OA/ID 224]
Box 3
9501333 [OA/ID 566]
9501433 [OA/ID 567]
9502052 [OA/ID 571]
9502116 [OA/ID 571]
9502179 [OA/ID 572]
9508058 [OA/ID 612]
9508583 [OA/ID 616]
9600611 [OA/ID 2327]
9601106 [OA/ID 1086]
9601252 [OA/ID 1087]
9601274 [OA/ID 1087]
9601349 [OA/ID 1088]
9601573 [OA/ID 1089]
9801637 [OA/ID 2020]
9805807 [OA/ID 2055]
0002021 [OA/ID 4083]
[Pres and ltr and Ahern…]
9704475 [OA/ID 1628]
9707191 [OA/ID 1647]
9903520 [OA/ID 2728]
0006373 [OA/ID 4109]
[Pres and ltr and Amb Smith…]
9701118 [OA/ID 1603]
[Pres and ltr and Blair…]
9704175 [OA/ID 1626]
9705707 [OA/ID 1637]

9706807 [OA/ID 1644]
[Pres and ltr and Bruton…]
9502313 [OA/ID 573]
9502601 [OA/ID 575]
9600666 [OA/ID 1084]
9600789 [OA/ID 1084]
9704463 [OA/ID 1628]
[Pres and ltr and Hume…]
9506189 [OA/ID 599]
9601993 [OA/ID 1092]
9902220 [OA/ID 3797]
0002898 [OA/ID 4088]
Box 4
0004250 [OA/ID 4097]
[Pres and ltr and Major…]
9300885 [OA/ID 2264]
9300973 [OA/ID 141]
9407136 [OA/ID 480]
9407474 [OA/ID 480]
9409140 [OA/ID 482]
9409393 [OA/ID 483]
9409580 [OA/ID 483]
9501553 [OA/ID 568]
9501844 [OA/ID 570]
9501931 [OA/ID 570]
9503328 [OA/ID 579]
9600589 [OA/ID 1083]
9600742 [OA/ID 1084]
9607649 [OA/ID 1130]
9608118 [OA/ID 1134]
[Pres and ltr and Mandelson…]
9908913 [OA/ID 2764]
[Pres and ltr and Mitchell…]
9702609 [OA/ID 1614]
[Pres and ltr and Mowlam…]
9907565 [OA/ID 2755]

9907658 [OA/ID 2755]
0005606 [OA/ID 4104]
[Pres and ltr and Reynolds…]
9308041 [OA/ID 167]
9404818 [OA/ID 476]
[Pres and ltr and Robinson…]
9604973 [OA/ID 1113]
9706001 [OA/ID 1639]
9706455 [OA/ID 1642]
[Pres and ltr and Trimble…]
9603365 [OA/ID 1102]
9608286 [OA/ID 1135]
9804889 [OA/ID 2048]
0006724 [OA/ID 4110]
[Unionist Party…]
9503030 [OA/ID 577]
9507321 [OA/ID 607]
9507963 [OA/ID 611]
9601611 [OA/ID 1090]
9705209 [OA/ID 1633]
9706719 [OA/ID 1644]
9805395 [OA/ID 2052]
9807184 [OA/ID 2065]
9905942 [OA/ID 2744]
0003646 [OA/ID 3966]

Content Available Online