Extent

24 folders, approximately 759 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to the 1996 Bilateral Trade Agreement negotiations with Vietnam (BTA). The BTA was signed on July 13, 2000 in Washington by Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and Vietnamese Trade Minister Vu Khoan. The decision by the U.S. to pursue the trade agreement was made after Vietnam had established a record of cooperation in accounting for POW-MIA's from the war, the highest priority in our relations. The files contain cables, notes, memoranda, email, drafts, correspondence, testimonies, talking points, fact sheets and news articles. The records cover meeting read-outs and handwritten notes from meetings, trade information, trade agreement status, analysis papers, U.S.-Vietnam BTA background materials, details of the bilateral trade agreement and chronology of U.S.-Vietnam relations.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2014-1062-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. Records responsive to this FOIA include cables, notes, memoranda, email, drafts, correspondence, testimonies, talking points, fact sheets and news articles. The records cover meeting read-outs and handwritten notes from meetings, trade information, trade agreement status, analysis papers, U.S.- Vietnam BTA background materials, details of the bilateral trade agreement and chronology of U.S.- Vietnam relations. The testimonies are about the agreement and U.S. policy on Vietnam and are from Virginia B. Foote, President, U.S.-Vietnam Trade Council; Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky U.S. Trade Representative; Timothy J. Hauser, Deputy Under Secretary of International Trade; Stanley O. Roth, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Biographical Note

The U.S. – Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement [BTA] was signed on July 13, 2000 in Washington by U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and Vietnamese Trade Minister Vu Khoan, after nearly 4 years of negotiations. At a signing ceremony held at Blair House on December 10, 2001 the U.S. Vietnam-Trade Agreement went into force. The ceremony was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, Trade Minister Vu Khoan and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick. The highest priority in our relations with Vietnam had been establishing a record of cooperation for accounting for POW-MIA's from the Vietnam War. There had been no economic trade relations in two decades between the U.S. and Vietnam since the end of the Vietnam War. The U.S. began developing trade talks with Vietnam in the early 1990's and the BTA helped reestablish economic relations. In 1995 the U.S. and Vietnam normalized relations, restoring full diplomatic ties. The BTA opened a market of nearly 80 million people to U.S. manufacturers who wanted to move operations into Vietnam. The BTA is focused on four major areas, trade in goods, and trade in services, investments, and intellectual property rights. The agreement reduced tariffs on goods and services, protected intellectual property, and improved investment relations. It opened Vietnam's economy to U.S companies, created jobs, and greatly increased trade between the U.S. and Vietnam. For more information, please see the following websites: http://www.usvtc.org/trade/bts/summary EN.pdf: Summary of the agreement between the U.S. and Vietnam and Trade Relations and https://clinton4.nara.gov/WH/EOP/nec/html/RosenUS-VietBilat000713.html.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files and Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files. 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 2014-1062-F includes WHORM records from these subject codes: CO183 Countries: Vietnam – Socialist Republic.

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 Archives Specialist, 2016. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2016-12-02

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2014-1062-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject Files
Category Case Number
CO183 197750
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Chief of Staff
Tramontano, Karen
Economy and Trade [Vietnam] [OA/ID 24689]
Domestic Policy Council
Magaziner, Ira – Trade Files
Vietnam [OA/ID 13113]
National Economic Council
Brainerd, Lael
Vietnam [OA/ID CF 1195]
Cutter, W. Bowman “Bo”
Vietnam [OA/ID CF 972]
Rosen, Dan
Vietnam “Economic Commission” [OA/ID 23984]
Vietnam: Fact Sheet on BTA [Bilateral Trade Agreement] (Damond) [OA/ID 23984]
Vietnam: Levin/Rangle Labor Letter [OA/ID 23984]
Vietnam: State (EAP) [East Asian and Pacific Affairs] Draft Press Guidance

[OA/ID 23984]
Vietnam Technical Assistance Deliverables [OA/ID 23984]
Vietnam Umbrella Follow-Up [OA/ID 23984]
Vietnam: Vietnam Materials [loose] [OA/ID 23984]
Vietnam: VN [Vietnam] Labor Issue Vulnerability [OA/ID 23984]
VN [Vietnam] 2: VN [Vietnam]: USTR [United States Trade Representative] TPRG [Trade Policy Review Group] 9/12/00 [OA/ID 23984]
Rubin, Robert
Vietnam [OA/ID CF 223]
Sperling, Gene
[Vietnam Commercial Trade Agreement with the U.S. July 26, 1999] [loose] [OA/ID 20616]
Subject Files
US – Vietnam BTA [Bilateral Trade Agreement] – Background Materials – July 7, 2000 [binder] [OA/ID 24554]
[Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement] [loose] [1] [OA/ID 24554]
[Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement] [loose] [2] [OA/ID 24554]
Vietnam BTA [Bilateral Trade Agreement] Questions & Answers [OA/ID 24554]
Vietnam Draft SAP [Statement of Administration Policy] [OA/ID 24554]
Public Liaison
Efurd, Laura
Jackson-Vanik/Vietnam Trade [OA/ID 21007]
Matsui, Doris
Normalization of Dipl. [Diplomatic] Rel. [Relations] w/Vietnam [OA/ID 6478]
Vietnam [Folder 2] [OA/ID 6478]