Extent

160 folders, approximately 23,733 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records from the files of Daniel Poneman, NSC Nonproliferation and Export Controls Senior Director. The collection contains correspondence, memoranda, reports, briefing materials, schedules, press guidance, emails, and notes mostly regarding nonproliferation issues and North Korea.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2016-0157-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. FOIA 2016-0157-F contains the National Security Council (NSC) files of Daniel Poneman, Senior Director for Nonproliferation and Export Controls from 1993 through 1996. After several years as an associate in a Washington, D.C. law firm and a brief stay at the Department of Energy, Poneman first served in the NSC as Director for Defense Policy and Arms Control from 1990 to 1993. After leaving the NSC in 1996, Poneman moved back to the private world as a principal consultant in the Scowcroft Group. In 2009, he was nominated by President Obama to serve as the Deputy Secretary of Energy; he was the acting Secretary of Energy from April to May 2013. In 2014, he left the Department of Energy to be president and chief executive officer of Centrus Energy Corp. As of January 2017, he remains the president and CEO of Centrus. As Senior Director in Nonproliferation and Export Controls, Poneman was responsible for U.S. nonproliferation policy, most notably toward North Korea. Early in President Clinton’s first term, the U.S. tried to stem the North Korean nuclear threat. Those efforts soon broke down, and North Korea defied the International Atomic Energy Agency requests for a special inspection. When North Korea threatened to withdraw from the Nonproliferation Treaty, the U.S. responded with persistent diplomacy that eventually led to the North Korean nuclear

program to be “frozen” under international monitoring through the Agreed Framework in October 1994. The Framework committed North Korea to dismantle the nuclear reactor facilities and ship spend fuel rods out of North Korea. In exchange, the U.S. agreed to take the lead in setting up a consortium with South Korea and Japan to build several light-water reactors and provide enough heavy oil to offset the closure of North Korea’s nuclear facilities. The records responsive to this FOIA consist of the first segment of Daniel Poneman’s systematically processed NSC files. These files include his Chron files and copies of the NSC Records Management numbered documents that he received or worked on during his time in the Clinton Administration. The files also contain correspondence, memorandums, briefing materials, press guidance, and notes concerning a variety of nonproliferation issues, mostly regarding the North Korean nuclear threat from 1993 thru 1995. The researcher should note that nearly half 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 this collection area—Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files. 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, 2017. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2017-07-03

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2016-0157-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Nonproliferation and Export Controls

Poneman, Daniel
China 1993 #1 [1] [OA/ID 718]
China 1993 #1 [2] [OA/ID 718]
China 1993 #1 [3] [OA/ID 718]
China 1993 #1 [4] [OA/ID 718]
China #2 (1993 Time Frame) [1] [OA/ID 718]
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IWGs [Interagency Working Groups], 1993 [1] [OA/ID 718]
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IWG [Interagency Working Group] Books (1993 Time Frame) [1] [OA/ID 718]
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Korea, December 1994 [2] [OA/ID 709]
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Korea, June 1995 [3] [OA/ID 710]
Korea, July 1995 [OA/ID 710]
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Box 12
Korea 1994 Time Frame [OA/ID 717]
Korea #1 [1] [OA/ID 717]
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Korea #2 (1993 Time Frame) [2] [OA/ID 718]
Korea #2 (1993 Time Frame) [3] [OA/ID 718]
Korea #2 (1993 Time Frame) [4] [OA/ID 718]
Korea #3 [1] [OA/ID 717]
Box 14
Korea #3 [2] [OA/ID 717]
Korea Military [OA/ID 717]
Korea PC & DC [Meetings] [1] [OA/ID 717]
Korea PC & DC [Meetings] [2] [OA/ID 717]
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Box 15
Korea PC & DC [Meetings] [4] [OA/ID 717]
Korea PC & DC [Meetings] [5] [OA/ID 717]
Box 16
[Poneman] Chron Files, January 20-31, 1993 [OA/ID 712]
[Poneman] Chron Files, February 1993 [1] [OA/ID 712]
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[Poneman] Chron Files, December 1993 [3] [OA/ID 714]
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