Extent

67 folders, approximately 1,211 pages

Summary

This collection consists of unclassified material pertaining to Venezuelan diplomatic relations. Most of the records here deal with trips President Clinton, the First Lady, and Thomas (Mack) McLarty made to Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile in 1997. They had constructive talks with Rafael Antonio Caldera, the president of Venezuela, and other Latin American officials. The collection contains of reports, memoranda, correspondence, schedules, speeches, fact sheets, lists, diagrams, cables, and talking points.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in 2017-0391-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. The topic of diplomatic relations between the United States and Venezuela is examined in the responsive records largely through trips taken by President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, and other American officials to Latin American countries in general. These individuals traveled specifically to Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile in September and October 1997. They met with leaders, participated in ceremonies and events and gave speeches. FOIA 2017-0391-F consists of memoranda, schedules, correspondence, newspaper articles, reports, background notes, speeches, papers, fact sheets, lists, diagrams, bios, cables, and talking points. In the White House Office of Records Management-Subject Files-General, there is correspondence between Thomas F. “Mack” McLarty and various Venezuelan officials. Serving briefly as President Clinton’s Chief of Staff and Special Envoy for the Americas, McLarty went to South America in the fall of 1997 had meetings with dignitaries and discussed NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement). The records of Bruce Lindsey in the Counsel’s Office deal with Venezuela, Brazil, and

Argentina and concern the visit President Clinton made to these countries in October 1997. Materials include memoranda, background notes, talking points, reports, schedules, and speeches. There is information related to a meeting with President Caldera and information related to ceremonies and events. In addition, there is a memo related to issues such as counternarcotic programs, environmental cooperation, judicial reform, and economic austerity measures. Comprising the vast majority of the collection, the files of the First Lady's Office provide information about the relationship of the U.S. with particular South American nations. The files of Daniela Nanau and Huma Abedin contain schedules, diagrams, reports, background notes, bios, press clips, lists, articles, brochures, memoranda, fact sheets, papers, and letters. Abedin's records pertain solely to the trip Hillary Clinton made to Venezuela on October 12-13, 1997. There is material associated with the visit to the Children's Museum in Caracas, the description of the plans for the state dinner to be held at La Casona (the official residence of President Caldera), and the meeting of the First Lady with the Venezuelan members of the IWF (International Women's Forum). The files of Nanau deal collectively with the trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, and Argentina on October 12-18, 1997. Records relating only to Venezuela include fact sheets produced by the U.S. Department of State under such headings as geography, people, government, economy, political conditions, foreign relations, and travel and business information and one-page reports on regional issues like human rights in South America, education and technology in the region, and the development of clean and reliable energy supplies. The papers of Kirk Hanlin in the Scheduling Office concern the trip of President Clinton and the First Lady to Venezuela in October 1997. A staff advisory provides essential information about conditions in Caracas including the time for baggage calls, the money exchange rate, and precautions regarding the consumption of food and water. Also, a ceremonial wreath laying at the Pantheon, a speech to the Venezuelan people, and President Clinton receiving the keys to the city is briefly described. Files from the Special Envoy for the Americas largely pertain to the activities of Thomas F. "Mack" McLarty. He served for a few months in that position; the records in question involve pre-advance preparations for a trip to Chile, Argentina, and Venezuela in the fall of 1997. The material relates to U.S. trade objectives with regard to that country, environmental energy issues, and counternarcotics and law enforcement issues. A series of graphs depicts Venezuelan oil trends, focusing especially on reserves and prices. There are also drafts of remarks McLarty made at a meeting of the OAS (Organization of American States) and documents concerning him and VENAMCHAM

(VenezuelanAmerican Chamber of Commerce).

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject FilesCF, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM (OP), 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. In addition, there are WHORM, WHORM Counsel, WHORM (CL), WHORM (OP), WHORM (Too Late), WHORM (Various Offices), 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 2017-0391-F includes WHORM records from these subject codes: CO001-09 South America – Central and Latin America CO182 Venezuela, Republic of FG006-01 White House Office FG006-06 National Security Council GI002 Gifts to the President PP005-01 First Lady TR Trips TR257 Venezuela/Brazil/Argentina, 10/12-19/97 TR257-01 Caracas, Venezuela, 10/12-13/97 TR280 Santiago/Valparaiso, Chile, 4/15-20/98.

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 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.

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2017. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2017-11-29

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to 2017-0391-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File
Category Case Number
CO001-09 205752

214616
285326SS
CO182 167072
212278
222878
222885
222889
222892
222899
222908
222910
292387SS
293243
FG006-01 161920
FG006-06 010266
GI002 242273
PP005-01 046481
084936
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File (continued)
Category Case Number
PP005-01 249024
TR 215118
231064SS
TR257 239514SS
TR257-01 242492
246335
TR280 267242
Clinton Presidential Records: Subject Files-CF
Category Case Number
CO182 405243
FO008-01 059195SS
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM (OP)
261989 [McLarty, Mack – Erwin Arrieta & Visit to Venezuela]
261989 [McLarty, Mack – Luis Giusti & Visit to Venezuela]
261989 [McLarty, Mack – Reduction of Venezuelan Tariff]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Counsel’s Office

Lindsey, Bruce
S. America Trip – Venezuela [OA/ID 10547]
Trip Book from the President’s Trip to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina [binder] [1] [OA/ID 24776]
Trip Book from the President’s Trip to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina [binder] [2] [OA/ID 24776]
Trip Book from the President’s Trip to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina [binder] [3] [OA/ID 24776]
First Lady’s Office
Abedin, Huma
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela – October 12-13, 1997 [binder] [1] [OA/ID 23410]
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela – October 12-13, 1997 [binder] [2] [OA/ID 23410]
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela – October 12-13, 1997 [binder] [3] [OA/ID 23410]
Nanau, Daniela
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina – October 12-18, 1997 [1] [OA/ID 20216]
Box 2
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina – October 12-18, 1997 [2] [OA/ID 20216]
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina – October 12-18, 1997 [3] [OA/ID 20216]
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina – October 12-18, 1997 [4] [OA/ID 20216]
Rabner, Nicole
Sixth Conference of the Wives of Heads of State & Government of the Americas – Venezuelan Motion for the 6th Plenary [OA/ID 103731]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files (continued)
First Lady’s Office
Schiller, Laura
HRC Speeches, 8/97-10/97: [10/13 Development of People’s Economy, Caracas, Venezuela [OA/ID 24606]
Speechwriting – Nora Meyer Subject Files
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Argentina, & Brazil [OA/ID 103623]
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina, October 12-18, 1997 (D. Shipley, [Binder]) [1] [OA/ID 103632]
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina, October 12-18, 1997 (D. Shipley, [Binder]) [2] [OA/ID 103632]

Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina, October 12-18, 1997 (D. Shipley, [Binder]) [3] [OA/ID 103632]
Trip of the First Lady to Venezuela, Brazil, & Argentina, October 12-18, 1997 (D. Shipley, [Binder]) [4] [OA/ID 103632]
Scheduling Office
Hanlin, Kirk
Diagrams, Schedules, & Manifests for Venezuela – October 1997 [1] [OA/ID 23444]
Diagrams, Schedules, & Manifests for Venezuela – October 1997 [2] [OA/ID 23444]
Streett, Stephanie
The Trip of the President to Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, October 1997 [Binder][1] [OA/ID 20679]
The Trip of the President to Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, October 1997 [Binder][2] [OA/ID 20679]
The Trip of the President to Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, October 1997 [Binder][3] [OA/ID 20679]
The Trip of the President to Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, October 1997 [Binder][4] [OA/ID 20679]
The Trip of the President to Venezuela, Brazil, and Argentina, October 12-18, 1997 [OA/ID 20691]
The Trip of the President to Venezuela, Brazil, and Argentina, October 12-18, 1997, Appendix A [OA/ID 20691]
The Trip of the President to Venezuela, Brazil, and Argentina, October 12-18, 1997, Scenarios & Diagrams [OA/ID 20691]
Special Envoy for the Americas
Dennison, Richard – Country Files
Venezuela – Briefing Memorandum & Talking Points [OA/ID 19504]
Venezuela – Travel – November 11-14, 2000 [OA/ID 19504]
Farnsworth, Eric
Venezuela [OA/ID CF 1048]
Friendly, Andrew
Venezuela [OA/ID 11376]
General Files
McLarty Pre-Advance – Trip to Chile, Argentina, & Venezuela – September 19 –October 2, 1997 [1] [OA/ID 11853]
McLarty Pre-Advance – Trip to Chile, Argentina, & Venezuela – September 19 –October 2, 1997 [2] [OA/ID 11853]
President Clinton – Trip to Venezuela – Brazil – Argentina – October 1997 [1] [OA/ID

11853]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files (continued)
General Files
President Clinton – Trip to Venezuela – Brazil – Argentina – October 1997 [2] [OA/ID 11853]
McLarty, Thomas (Mack)
Venezuela [OA/ID CF 1042]