Extent

29 folders, approximately 2,835 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to communications between Anthony Lake, SSCI Chairman Arlen Specter, and SSCI Vice Chairman Bob Kerrey pertaining to Bosnian arms shipments. It includes Department of State press briefing transcripts and press guidance in response to news media reports of Iranian arms shipments into Bosnia, National Security Council emails related to press guidance and legislative updates on the SSCI inquiry, and newspaper articles pertaining to weapons shipments to Bosnia.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2017-0035-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should see FOIA Requests 2006-0996-F and 2013-0687-F for related material. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request 2017-0035-F was for records pertaining to National Security Advisor Anthony Lake, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI), and arms shipments to Bosnia. Specifically, the requester asked for 2 letters sent by the SSCI to Anthony Lake in 1996 and all documents delivered to the SSCI pertaining to their formal inquiry into Iranian and other arms shipments to Bosnia during the Bosnian War. This collection includes letters sent to and from Anthony Lake, SSCI Chairman Arlen Specter, and SSCI Vice Chairman Bob Kerrey pertaining to the Bosnia arms shipments inquiry. It includes the SSCI’s published final report, Department of State press briefing transcripts and press guidance in response to news media reports of Iranian arms shipments into Bosnia, National Security Council (NSC) emails related to press guidance and legislative updates on the SSCI inquiry, and newspaper articles pertaining to weapons shipments to Bosnia. A significant portion of the records in this collection were found in the staff and office files of James E. Baker, who was Deputy Legal

Advisor to the National Security Council from 1994-1997 and Legal Advisor to the NSC from 1997-2000. As early as September 1992, news media sources reported on Iranian military aid and arms shipments in support of the Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina's conflict against Yugoslavia-backed Republika Srpska forces. In 1995 and 1996, more news reports surfaced claiming that the Clinton Administration secretly permitted shipments of Iranian weapons into Bosnia in violation of the United Nations arms embargo. In April 1996, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence began a formal inquiry into arms shipments to Bosnia by requesting documents and testimony from the Department of Defense, Department of State, Central Intelligence Agency, National Security Council, Attorney General, and Intelligence Oversight Board. Anthony Lake served as National Security Advisor from 1993-1997 and was a key figure in the SSCI's inquiry. In November 1996, the SSCI released a report on their findings, which detailed problematic miscommunications between Executive Branch officials and Congress regarding arms shipments to Bosnia and U.S. foreign policy decisions. The majority of these 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 areas—Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System. 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, 2018. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2018-04-09

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 2017-0035-F:

Box 1

Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files

National Security Council

European Affairs

Vershbow, Alexander

Bosnia/Iran/IOB-SSCI [Intelligence Oversight Board/Senate Select Committee onIntelligence] Minority Report [1] [cover page – page 155] [OA/ID 898]

Bosnia/Iran/IOB-SSCI [Intelligence Oversight Board/Senate Select Committee onIntelligence] Minority Report [2] [page 156 – Appendix G] [OA/ID 898]

Bosnia/Iran/IOB-SSCI [Intelligence Oversight Board/Senate Select Committee onIntelligence] Report [OA/ID 898]

Legal Advisor

Baker, James

Bosnia: CIA Materials [binder] [1] [OA/ID 999]

Bosnia: CIA Materials [binder] [2] [OA/ID 999]

Bosnia: CIA Materials [binder] [3] [OA/ID 999]

[Bosnia: Department of Defense Materials Provided to SSCI [Senate SelectCommittee on Intelligence] [binder] [1] [OA/ID 999]

[Bosnia: Department of Defense Materials Provided to SSCI [Senate SelectCommittee on Intelligence] [binder] [2] [OA/ID 999]

Box 2

Bosnia: [Department of] State Materials [binder] [1] [OA/ID 999]

Bosnia: [Department of] State Materials [binder] [2] [OA/ID 999]

Bosnia: [Department of] State Materials [binder] [3] [OA/ID 999]

SSCI [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence] Bosnia Document Lists [1][OA/ID 1005]

SSCI [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence] Bosnia Document Lists [2][OA/ID 1005]

Box 3

SSCI [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence] Draft Report on Bosnia(including comments) [1] [OA/ID 1005]

SSCI [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence] Draft Report on Bosnia(including comments) [2] [OA/ID 1005]

SSCI [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence] Draft Report on Bosnia(including

comments) [3] [OA/ID 1005]
SSCI [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence] Draft Report on Bosnia(including comments) [4] [OA/ID 1005]
SSCI [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence] Final Report on Bosnia[OA/ID 1005]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Emails
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97) [OA/ID 590000]
[Lake, Bosnia]
[04/09/1996 – 04/24/1996]
Box 4
[04/24/1996 – 05/22/1996]
[05/23/1996 – 08/12/1996]
[08/21/1996 – 09/24/1996]
[10/10/1996 – 01/30/1997]
[02/03/1997 – 02/26/1997]
[02/28/1997 – 04/14/1997]
MSMail-Non-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97) [OA/ID 605000]
[Lake, Bosnia]
[04/30/1996 – 04/07/1997]
NSC Records Management System
[Lake, Bosnia]
9605811 [OA/ID 1118]
9630100 [OA/ID 3170]
9630164 [OA/ID 3171]

Content Available Online