Extent

143 folders, approximately 11,157 pages

Summary

This collection consists of Clinton presidential records related to John F. Kennedy, Jr. Though the records date from 1993-1999, they majority of this collection revolves around the 1999 plane crash that killed John F. Kennedy, Jr.; his wife, Carolyn Bessette Kennedy; and her sister, Lauren Bessette. It contains hand-edited speech and statement drafts, head of state correspondence, press releases, emails, news articles, letters, correspondence, memoranda, and schedules.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2017-0713-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. The researcher submitted a FOIA request for all material related to John F. Kennedy, Jr. John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Jr. was the son of the 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, and Jacqueline Kennedy (later Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis). Commonly referred to as JFK Jr, or “John-John” by the media, Kennedy remained in the public spotlight for the rest of his life. Amid rumors that he would eventually run for president himself, Kennedy launched a political/lifestyle magazine, George, in 1995. The same year, he was named to the President’s Committee on Mental Retardation. In 1996, he married Carolyn Bessette, a fashion publicist, under intense media scrutiny. In July 1999, a small aircraft piloted by Kennedy carrying passengers Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy and her sister Lauren Bessette, crashed off the coast of Martha’s Vineyard, killing all onboard. The loss hit President Clinton and the First Lady personally as they felt a kinship to the Kennedys through the office of the Presidency. In 1993, the President traveled to Boston for the dedication of the museum at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library. Clinton was asked to speak at the interment of John’s mother, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, at Arlington National

Cemetery in 1994. These records hold copies of the original hand-edited speech cards of that address. During Kennedy’s visit to the White House for a screening of the HBO special From the Earth to the Moon in 1998, the President took the couple on a personal tour of the West Wing. Finally, President and Mrs. Clinton were among the invited guests at the final memorial service in New York for Kennedy and his wife in July 1999. Records to be opened include articles, cables, emails, drafts, head of state correspondence, letters, memoranda, press releases and statements, schedules, speeches, and transcripts. Subjects include birthday greetings and wedding congratulations, condolences from the President to Kennedy upon the death of his mother, appointment to the Presidential Committee on Mental Retardation, and Kennedy’s attendance at the screening of the HBO special. However, the majority of the records revolve around the events as they unfolded after the crash. The records include the President's hand-edited statements on the disappearance of the plane, worldwide news media coverage, drafts of statements to be made upon the location of the wreckage, internal and external reactions to the disappearance, condolence messages and letters from foreign heads of state, the National Transportation and Safety Board’s investigation of the incident, public response to President Clinton's decision to use the Coast Guard and U.S. Navy to search for the wreckage, as well as responses to Kennedy’s controversial burial at sea. TIME Magazine published a commemorative issue featuring Kennedy after his death, which is also included in these records.

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 Subject Files-General, Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails, Clinton Presidential Records: TRP Emails, Clinton Presidential Records: Electronic Daily Diary, Clinton Presidential Records: Electronic WAVES Files, Clinton Presidential Records: WHODB, 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. 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. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential email. The ARMS database is comprised of six sub-series of email records called "buckets." The buckets generally represent a specific White House office. The buckets are titled: NPR for National Performance Review, OPD for Office of Policy Development, POTUS for President of the United States, WHO for White House Office, CEA for Council of Economic Advisers, and Default for emails not associated with an office. Records responsive to this request are derived from the OPD, WHO, CEA, and Default buckets. The OPD bucket contains email created or received by an individual with an Office of Policy Development (OPD) White House user account. The WHO bucket contains email created or received by individual with an Executive Office of the President White House user account not identified as CEA, NPR, or OPD. The CEA bucket contains email created or received by an individual with a Council of Economic Advisors (CEA) White House user account. The Default bucket contains email created or received by unknown or un-recognized email accounts. Email found within the Default bucket often includes email created or received by offices or individuals outside the Executive Office of the President. ARMS emails are arranged by topic, thereunder by bucket, and thereunder chronologically by creation date. The Tape Restoration Project (TRP) is a database consisting of restored emails from the Automated Records Management System (ARMS) from July 1994 through June of 2000. The TRP is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential record email. The TRP database is comprised of the same six sub-series of email as in ARMS. TRP

emails are arranged by topic, thereunder by bucket, and there-under chronologically by creation date. The White House Electronic Daily Diary System logs the President's daily activities as events with participants. Activities include but are not limited to travel, meetings, and telephone calls. Each event was recorded and indexed with a description, a subject code, and start and end time. Electronic Daily Diary records are printed and arranged By Event Type or Search String and thereunder by date. The White House database (WHODB) is a database of White House events and individuals that attended those events. The database also includes a log of individuals that received White House greeting correspondence. Data was entered and maintained by the Office of Correspondence, Social Office, and Office of Public Liaison. WHODB records are printed and arranged by Event Type or Individual, and further arranged chronologically by appointment date. The Electronic WAVES Search System is a log of visitors/appointments to the White House and is arranged by name of visitor thereunder by date. FOIA 2017-0713-F includes WHORM records from these subject codes: [BE003-17] [Business/Economics-Miscellaneous] [FE001-01] [Federal Gov't-Deaths-Funerals] [FE004] [Federal Gov't-Heraldry-Flags-President's Seal] [FG001-07] [Federal Gov't-Organizations-POTUS-Appointments Granted, Presidential] [FG002-35] [Federal Gov't-Organizations-Former Presidents-Kennedy, John F.] [FG235] [Federal Gov't-Organizations-President's Committee on Mental Retardation] [ME001-02] [Messages-Birthday Greetings] [ME001-03] [Messages-Condolence/Death] [ME001-05] [Messages-Wedding Congratulations] [PO] [Postal Service] [PP] [Presidential-Personal] [PP010-02] [Presidential-Personal-Condolence/Sympathy Message Received by POTUS] [PP010-03] [Presidential-Personal-Election (Message Received)] [PR005-01] [Public Relations-Photos Granted, Presidential] [PR010] [Public Relations-Motion Pictures/Recordings] [PR013-08] [Public Relations-Opinions, Statements, Questionnaires, Articles] [PU] [Publications] *[SP695] [Speeches-Interment of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, 5/23/94] An asterisk [*] indicates that the entire subject code has been processed.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 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 USC 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

2017-12-28

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 2017-0713-F.
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Alpha Files
[Kennedy, John F., Jr.]
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject File (General)
[BE003-17] 421313

FE001-01 315334
FE004 313081
FG001-07 284599SS
425516
FG002-35 265952
268730
FG235 145915SS
414458
ME001-02 046519
141075
195030
243626
284580
ME001-03 075229
315210
ME001-05 188524
PO 401333
PP 131658SS [Kennedy, John F., Jr.]
PP010-02 313402
PP010-03 200673
PR005-01 050736
266633
402909
PR010 256429SS
PR013-08 311969SS
PU 122889
132910
317167
406937
SP695 066088SS
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Cabinet Affairs
Balderston, Kris
[Death of John F. Kennedy, Jr.] [OA/ID 23921]
Marshall, Thurgood, Jr.
John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 1 [1] [OA/ID 19081]

John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 1 [2] [OA/ID 19081]
Box 2
John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 2 [1] [OA/ID 19081]
John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 2 [2] [OA/ID 19081]
John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 1 [1] [OA/ID 19083]
John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 1 [2] [OA/ID 19083]
John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 2 [1] [OA/ID 19083]
John F. Kennedy Jr. Crash Folder 2 [2] [OA/ID 19083]
John F. Kennedy Jr. [OA/ID 19083]
Correspondence
Roddick, Trudy
P2023, John F. Kennedy, Jr., Condolences [OA/ID 19962]
Counsel’s Office
Kennedy, John [CF 1526]
Kennedy, John F. Jr. [CF 1526]
Radd, Victoria
John F. Kennedy, Jr. [OA/ID 6611]
Schaffner, Jane
Kennedy, John [CF 1615]
Kennedy, John F [CF 1615]
Presidential Personnel
Koh, Phillip
Kennedy, Jr., John F. [OA/ID 19296]
Przeworski, Bethany
Folder #9 [John F. Kennedy, Jr.] [OA/ID 12011]
Folder #10 [John F. Kennedy, Jr.] [OA/ID 12624]
Box 3
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[JFK, Jr]
[08/16/1995 – 07/07/2000]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[JFK, Jr]
[10/26/1993 – 08/16/1995]
[08/16/1995 – 12/11/1996]
[12/11/1996 – 03/05/1998]

[03/15/1998 – 02/18/1999]
[02/19/1999 – 07/17/1999]
Box 4
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[JFK, Jr]
[07/17/1999 – 07/19/1999]
[07/19/1999 – 07/20/1999]
[07/20/1999]
[07/20/1999 – 07/21/1999]
[07/21/1999]
[07/22/1999] [Folder 1]
Box 5
[07/22/1999] [Folder 2]
[07/22/1999] [Folder 3]
[07/23/1999] [Folder 1]
[07/23/1999] [Folder 2]
[07/23/1999 – 07/24/1999]
[07/24/1999 – 07/25/1999]
Box 6
[07/26/1999]
[07/26/1999 – 07/28/1999]
[07/28/1999 – 08/04/1999]
[08/04/1999 – 08/13/1999]
[08/13/1999] [1]
[08/13/1999] [2]
Box 7
[08/13/1999] [3]
[08/13/1999 – 11/01/1999]
[11/02/1999 – 02/10/2000]
[02/15/2000 – 07/07/2000]
[07/07/2000 – 07/24/2000]
[12/04/2000 – 12/19/2000]
CEA [OA/ID 950000]
[JFK, Jr]
[08/13/1997 – 06/23/2000]

Box 8
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[JFK, Jr]
[07/29/1994 – 05/12/1999]
[06/08/1999 – 07/19/1999]
[07/19/1999 – 07/20/1999]
[07/20/1999] [1]
Box 8 (cont)
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[JFK, Jr]
[07/20/1999] [2]
[07/20/1999 – 07/21/1999]
Box 9
[07/21/1999 – 07/23/1999]
[07/23/1999]
[07/24/1999 – 07/27/1999]
[07/27/1999]
[07/27/1999 – 07/29/1999]
[07/29/1999]
[07/30/1999] [1]
Box 10
[07/30/1999] [2]
[07/30/1999 – 11/03/1999]
[11/03/1999] [1]
[11/03/1999] [1]
[11/12/1999 – 01/19/2000]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
[JFK, Jr]
[09/23/1996 – 03/15/1998]
[03/15/1998 – 07/18/1999]
[07/18/1999 – 07/19/1999]
[07/19/1999 – 07/20/1999]
Box 11
[07/20/1999 – 07/21/1999]
[07/21/1999 – 07/22/1999]
[07/23/1999]

[07/23/1999 – 07/25/1999]
[07/25/1999 – 07/28/1999]
[07/28/1999 – 08/09/1999]
[08/09/1999 – 10/04/1999]
[10/08/1999 – 11/01/1999]
Box 12
[11/01/1999 – 12/09/1999]
[01/18/2000 – 03/31/2000]
[05/04/2000 – 07/07/2000]
[07/11/2000 – 08/18/2000]
[09/26/2000 – 10/06/2000]
Box 12 (cont)
Clinton Presidential Records: Tape Restoration Project (TRP) [Email]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[JFK, Jr]
[10/21/1998] [1]
[10/21/1998] [2]
Box 13
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[JFK, Jr]
[11/22/1996 – 07/29/1999]
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[JFK, Jr]
[07/21/1995 – 09/11/1995]
[09/19/1995 – 04/03/1997]
[04/28/1997 – 02/13/1998]
[03/02/1998 – 03/09/1999]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
[JFK, Jr]
[07/18/1999]
Clinton Presidential Records: Electronic Daily Diary
[A]
[JFK, Jr]
[03/05/1998 – 07/18/1999] [OA/ID 150000]
[M]
[JFK, Jr]

[07/23/1999 – 08/29/1999] [OA/ID 150000]
[P]
[JFK, Jr]
[07/07/1995 – 08/12/1999] [OA/ID 150000]
Clinton Presidential Records: Electronic Waves Search System
WAVES
[JFK, Jr]
[02/05/1998 – 11/06/1998] [OA/ID 180000]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Database (WHODB)
[Kennedy Jr, John F]
ID Number: 312511, 137845175 [OA/ID 160000]
Box 14
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 [OA/ID 510000]
[JFK, Jr]
[09/20/1995]
Box 14 (cont)
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1999-Dec 2000 [OA/ID 530000]
[JFK, Jr]
[07/19/1999 – 07/22/1999]
[07/22/1999 – 08/14/2000]
NSC Emails
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97) [OA/ID 590000]
[JFK, Jr]
[06/17/1996 – 12/04/1996]
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 620000]
[JFK, Jr]
[09/19/1997 – 07/21/1999]
[07/22/1999 – 12/06/1999]
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 630000]
[JFK, Jr]
[06/12/1997 – 07/22/1999]
[07/23/1999 – 11/18/1999]

NSC Records Management System
[JFK, Jr]
9905659 [OA/ID 2742]
9906005 [OA/ID 2744]
9906194 [OA/ID 2745]
9909305 [OA/ID 2767]
9909306 [OA/ID 2767]

Content Available Online