Extent

17 folders, approximately 1,185 pages

Summary

This collection consists of National Security Council cables, emails, and records management system documents pertaining to human rights reports on Rwanda, press guidance, media summaries, news releases, and articles relating to Paul Kagame, Rwanda, and the RPF. It include emails, cables, reports, press releases, and news articles.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2017-0888-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request 2017-0888-F was for Clinton Presidential Records related to Paul Kagame and the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF). This collection includes records from NSC ARMS and National Security Council cables, emails, and records management system documents pertaining to Country Human Rights Reports on Rwanda, press guidance, media summaries, news releases, and articles relating to Paul Kagame, Rwanda, and the RPF. The bulk of the records in this collection date from 1993 to 2001. The majority of these records related to this FOIA case are closed for national security reasons.

Biographical Note

The Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), formerly known as the Rwandese Alliance for National Unity (RANU), is currently the ruling political party in Rwanda. On October 01, 1990, the RPF led by MajGeneral Fred Gisa Rwigyema invaded Rwanda, starting the Rwandan Civil War. Maj-General Fred Gisa Rwigyema was killed on October 02,

1990. Paul Kagame, a close childhood friend of Rwigyema and active member of RANU and the RPF, returned from his studies abroad to take over the RPF. Over the next two years, the RPF under Kagame's rule participated in guerilla attacks and gained control of much of the Northern territory of the country. In 1993, negotiations between the RPF and the Rwanda government led to the signing of the Arusha Accords, which allowed the RPF and other refugees to return to Rwanda. In April of 1994, the Rwandan genocide was sparked by the death of Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu. On April 6, 1994, President Habyarimana's airplane was shot down above the Kigali airport. Between April and July 1994, Hutus killed an estimated 800,000 Tutsis and some moderate Hutus. The Tutsi Rwandese Patriotic Front or RPF, led by Kagame, launched a major offensive in response to these killings. The RPF captured the capital city, Kigali, on July 4th and claimed victory once the rest of the country was under their control on July 18, 1994. After the genocide, the post-war government, based loosely off of the Arusha Accords, was formed and Paul Kagame assumed the dual roles of Vice President of Rwanda and Minister of Defense while Pasteur Bizimungu, a Hutu who had been a civil servant under Habyarimana before fleeing to join the RPF, was appointed president. In March 2000, President Bizimungu resigned his position and Kagame became the acting president until he was officially appointed by the national assembly and government ministers. Kagame was sworn in on April 22, 2000.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems.

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, 2019. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2019-02-22

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 2017-0888-F:

Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[08/17/1998-06/09/2000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994 [OA/ID 505000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[01/14/1993 – 05/24/1994]
[06/09/1994 – 07/22/1994]
[07/22/1994 – 09/27/1994]
[10/06/1994 – 12/25/1994]
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 [OA/ID 510000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[01/13/1995 – 09/01/1995]
[09/01/1995 – 01/01/1997]

Box 2
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 [OA/ID 520000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[01/01/1997 – 08/04/1998]
Jan 1999-Dec 2000 [OA/ID 530000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[03/03/1999 – 07/24/2000]
[07/27/2000 – 12/14/2000]
Jan 2001
[Rwanda and Kagame…]

[01/20/2001]
NSC Emails
A1-Record (Jan 93-Sept 94) [OA/ID 570000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[07/08/1994]
A1-Non-Record (Apr 94-Sept 94) [OA/ID 580000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[07/07/1994-07/13/1994]
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 620000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[03/13/1998 – 12/13/2000]
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 630000]
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
[03/13/1998 – 12/13/2000]
NSC Records Management System
[Rwanda and Kagame…]
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Content Available Online