Extent

237 folders, approximately 20,400 pages

Summary

This collection consists of the files from 1993 to 1995 of Elisa Harris, National Security Council (NSC) Director for Nonproliferation and Export Controls. Harris was a primary adviser for United States nonproliferation policy, most notably regarding chemical and biological weapons, international space launch agreements, and the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). It contains correspondence, press clippings, briefing materials, and reports on these and related topics.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2016-0158-F Segment 2 are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. FOIA 2016-0158-F contains the National Security Council (NSC) files of Elisa Harris, Director for Nonproliferation and Export Controls from 1993 through 2001. Prior to joining the NSC, she was a staff consultant to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1980 through 1984. After several years as an analyst at the Brookings Institution and a research fellow at Harvard University, Harris served in the NSC as Director for Nonproliferation and Export Controls during the entire Clinton administration. As Director, she was responsible for developing administration policy on chemical, biological, and missile proliferation. At the end of President Clinton’s second term, Harris returned to academics to become Senior Research Scholar at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland (CISSM). As of April 2019, she remains in residence at CISSM. Harris was a primary advisor for U.S. nonproliferation policy, most notably regarding the chemical and biological weapons, international commercial space launch agreements, and the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). A law passed by Congress and signed by President Reagan in 1985 ordered

the destruction of a vast majority of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile. In 1989, then-Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, also named the Bilateral Verification Experiment and Data Exchange Agreement. The MOU provided for a system of data disclosures and onsite inspection visits between the United States and the Soviet Union (later Russia) to support the intentions of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The MTCR, established by the G-7 countries in 1989, aimed to curb the proliferation of missile technology through export controls. Harris's files in this segment include correspondence, press clippings, briefing materials, and reports regarding these two international agreements from 1993 through 1995. The files also contain materials regarding the commercial impacts of the export controls, potential sanctions determinations against violators, and the negotiation of international space launch cooperation agreements. Please note that in OA/ID 2559, only the first Chemical Weapons Demilitarization folder was responsive to this case. The second folder contains post-1995 records. The research should note that the majority 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 these collection areas— 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.

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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

2019-07-16

Container List

Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council

Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Harris, Elisa
Angola [OA/ID 1377]
Argentina [1] [OA/ID 1377]
Argentina [2] [OA/ID 1377]
Asian Senator [1] [OA/ID 2423]
Asian Senator [2] [OA/ID 2423]
Brazil [1] [OA/ID 1377]
Brazil [2] [OA/ID 1377]
Brazil [3] [OA/ID 1377]
Brazil Space Cooperation [1] [OA/ID 2423]
Brazil Space Cooperation [2] [OA/ID 2423]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Harris, Elisa
Brazil Space Cooperation [3] [OA/ID 2423]
Bulgaria [OA/ID 1377]
[Chemical Weapons] – Abandoned Chemical Weapons [1] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Abandoned Chemical Weapons [2] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Abandoned Chemical Weapons [3] [OA/ID 2558]
Box 2
[Chemical Weapons] – Abandoned Chemical Weapons [4] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [1] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [2] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [3] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [4] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [5] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [6] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [7] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [8] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – November 1993 [9] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – [November 1993] – Classified Portion [1] [OA/ID 2558]
Box 3
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – [November 1993] – Classified Portion [2] [OA/ID 2558]

[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – [November 1993] – Classified Portion [3] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – [November 1993] – Classified Portion [4] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – Non-Stockpile Report – [November 1993] – Classified Portion [5] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Declassification Initiative [1] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Declassification Initiative [2] [OA/ID 2558]
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Demilitarization [Folder 1] [1]
[OA/ID 2559]
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Demilitarization [Folder 1] [2]
[OA/ID 2559]
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Demilitarization [Folder 1] [3]
[OA/ID 2559]
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Demilitarization [Folder 1] [4]
[OA/ID 2559]
Box 4
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Demilitarization [Folder 1] [5]
[OA/ID 2559]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Harris, Elisa
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Demilitarization [Folder 1]: Cryofracture [OA/ID 2559]
[Chemical Weapons] – United States Chemical Weapons Demilitarization [Folder 1]: Permit Process [OA/ID 2559]
Chile [OA/ID 1377]
China [1] [OA/ID 1377]
China [2] [OA/ID 1377]

China [3] [OA/ID 1377]
China [4] [OA/ID 1377]
China [5] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part I: January 1992 to July 1993 [1] [OA/ID 1377]
Box 5
China Sanctions Part I: January 1992 to July 1993 [2] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part I: January 1992 to July 1993 [3] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part I: January 1992 to July 1993 [4] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [1] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [2] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [3] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [4] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [5] [OA/ID 1377]
Box 6
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [6] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [7] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions Part II: August 1993 to Present [1995] [8] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions 1995 [1] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions 1995 [2] [OA/ID 1377]
China Sanctions 1995 [3] [OA/ID 1377]
China Space Launch [1] [OA/ID 1377]
China Space Launch [2] [OA/ID 1377]
Box 7
[Closed Folder Title] [OA/ID 2423]
Cuba [OA/ID 1378]
Czech Republic [OA/ID 1378]
Egypt [1] [OA/ID 2556]
Egypt [2] [OA/ID 2556]
Egypt [3] [OA/ID 2556]
Egypt [4] [OA/ID 2556]
Egypt [5] [OA/ID 2556]
Egypt [6] [OA/ID 2556]
Egypt [7] [OA/ID 2556]
Egypt [8] [OA/ID 2556]
[Enhanced Proliferation Control Initiative] EPCI and Missile Sanctions [OA/ID 2423]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council

Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Harris, Elisa
Export Controls – General [1] [OA/ID 2423]
Export Controls – General [2] [OA/ID 2423]
Box 8
France [OA/ID 1378]
France – Apache [1] [OA/ID 2388]
France – Apache [2] [OA/ID 2388]
[France] – French Missile/Space Launch Notification Proposal [OA/ID 2423]
Global Missile Ban [OA/ID 2423]
Global Positioning System [OA/ID 2423]
Hungary [OA/ID 1378]
India [OA/ID 1378]
[India] – ISRO [Indian Space Research Organization] Cases [OA/ID 2423]
India Missile Sanctions [OA/ID 2388]
Iran [OA/ID 1378]
Iraq [OA/ID 1378]
Israel [1] [OA/ID 1378]
Box 9
Israel [2] [OA/ID 1378]
Israel – Shavit [1] [OA/ID 2388]
Israel – Shavit [2] [OA/ID 2388]
Israel – Shavit [3] [OA/ID 2388]
Kazakhstan [OA/ID 1378]
Libya [1] [OA/ID 1378]
Libya [2] [OA/ID 1378]
Libya [3] [OA/ID 1378]
Libya [4] [OA/ID 1378]
Malaysia [1] [OA/ID 2423]
Box 10
Malaysia [2] [OA/ID 2423]
Missiles/SLV [Satellite Launch Vehicle] Conversion [1] [OA/ID 2423]
Missiles/SLV [Satellite Launch Vehicle] Conversion [2] [OA/ID 2423]
North Korea [1] [OA/ID 1378]
North Korea [2] [OA/ID 1378]
North Korea [3] [OA/ID 1378]
North Korea [4] [OA/ID 1378]

Pakistan [OA/ID 1378]
Poland [OA/ID 1378]
Box 11
PRD-31 BMD [Ballistic Missile Defense] [1] [OA/ID 2423]
PRD-31 BMD [Ballistic Missile Defense] [2] [OA/ID 2423]
PRD-31 BMD [Ballistic Missile Defense] [3] [OA/ID 2423]
[Reports] – 1994 Nunn-Lugar Certification Report [OA/ID 2389]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Harris, Elisa
[Reports] – 1995 Nunn-Lugar Certification [1] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – 1995 Nunn-Lugar Certification [2] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Arms Control] Compliance Report (Pell) [Folder 1] [1] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Arms Control] Compliance Report (Pell) [Folder 1] [2] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Arms Control] Compliance Report (Pell) [Folder 1] [3] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Arms Control] Compliance Report (Pell) [Folder 1] [4] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Arms Control] Compliance Report (Pell) [Folder 2] [1] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Arms Control] Compliance Report (Pell) [Folder 2] [2] [OA/ID 2389]
Box 12
[Reports] – [Arms Control] Compliance Report (Pell) [Folder 2] [3] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Biological Weapons] BW Section 1207 Report [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Biological Weapons National Intelligence Estimate 1993] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Biological Weapons National Intelligence Estimate 1995] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – Chemical and Biological Weapons Nonproliferation Report to Congress – PL 102-182 [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – [Counterproliferation Program Review Committee] CPRC Report [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – Helms Report [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – Nonproliferation Report [1] [OA/ID 2389]
[Reports] – Nonproliferation Report [2] [OA/ID 2389]
Romania [OA/ID 1378]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1993 [1] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1993 [2] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1993 [3] [OA/ID 2386]
Box 13
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1993 [4] [OA/ID 2386]

[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1993 [5] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1993 [6] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [1] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [2] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [3] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [4] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [5] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [6] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [7] [OA/ID 2386]
Box 14
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1994 [8] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1995 [1] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1995 [2] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1995 [3] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1995 [4] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1995 [5] [OA/ID 2386]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Harris, Elisa
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1995 [6] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues 1995 [7] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues Fall 1995 [1] [OA/ID 2387]
Box 15
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues Fall 1995 [2] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues Fall 1995 [3] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues Fall 1995 [4] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Issues Fall 1995 [5] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Talks October 1994 [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Talks June 1995 [1] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Talks June 1995 [2] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Talks June 1995 [3] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Talks June 1995 [4] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Talks July 1995 [1] [OA/ID 2387]
Box 16
[Russia] – Bilateral Chemical Weapons Talks July 1995 [2] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Clinton/Yeltsin Summit April 1993 [1] [OA/ID 2386]

[Russia] – Clinton/Yeltsin Summit April 1993 [2] [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Clinton/Yeltsin Summit Prep January 1994 [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Clinton/Yeltsin Summit Prep September 1994 [OA/ID 2386]
[Russia] – Clinton/Yeltsin Summit Prep June 1995 [1] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Clinton/Yeltsin Summit Prep June 1995 [2] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Clinton/Yeltsin Summit Prep June 1995 [3] [OA/ID 2387]
[Russia] – Gore/Chernomyrdin/Other CBW [Chemical, Biological Weapons] Talks, December 1994 [OA/ID 2386]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 1] [1] [OA/ID 2388]
Box 17
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 1] [2] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 1] [3] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 1] [4] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 1] [5] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 2] [1] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 2] [2] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 2] [3] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 2] [4] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 2] [5] [OA/ID 2388]
Box 18
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 3] [1] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 3] [2] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 3] [3] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 3] [4] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 3] [5] [OA/ID 2388]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Harris, Elisa
Russia Missiles/Space Policy [Folder 3] [6] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missile Talks – July 1993 [1] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missile Talks – July 1993 [2] [OA/ID 2388]
Russia Missile Talks – July 1993 [3] [OA/ID 2388]
[Russia] – Russian Chemical Weapons Program: 1993-1995 [1] [OA/ID 2385]
Box 19
[Russia] – Russian Chemical Weapons Program: 1993-1995 [2] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – Russian Chemical Weapons Program: 1993-1995 [3] [OA/ID 2385]

[Russia] – Russian Chemical Weapons Program: 1993-1995 [4] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – Russian Chemical Weapons Program: 1993-1995 [5] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – [Russian Memorandum of Understanding Declaration Assessment] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – Russian Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration [1][OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – Russian Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration [2][OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – Russian Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration [3][OA/ID 2385]
Box 20
[Russia] – Russian Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration [4][OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part I [1][OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part I [2][OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume I [1] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume I [2] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume I [3] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume I [4] [OA/ID 2385]
Box 21
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume II [1] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume II [2] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume II [3] [OA/ID 2385]
[Russia] – United States Memorandum of Understanding Phase II Declaration Part II Volume II [4] [OA/ID 2385]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Nonproliferation and Export Controls

Harris, Elisa
[Sanctions] – Chemical and Biological Weapons Sanctions, 1993-1995 [1] [OA/ID 2556]
[Sanctions] – Chemical and Biological Weapons Sanctions, 1993-1995 [2] [OA/ID 2556]
[Sanctions] – Chemical and Biological Weapons Sanctions, 1993-1995 [3] [OA/ID 2556]
Sanctions Decision Making Process [OA/ID 2556]
[Sanctions] – FSA [Freedom Support Act] Sanctions – Russia Missile 1993 [1] [OA/ID 2556]
Box 22
[Sanctions] – FSA [Freedom Support Act] Sanctions – Russia Missile 1993 [2] [OA/ID 2556]
[Sanctions] – McCain/Liebermann Amendment [OA/ID 2556]
[Sanctions] – Sensitive Sanctions Cases [OA/ID 2556]
Slovakia [OA/ID 1378]
South Asia Missile Proposal [OA/ID 2423]
South Korea [OA/ID 1378]
Syria [OA/ID 1378]
Taiwan [OA/ID 1378]
Thailand [1] [OA/ID 1378]
Thailand [2] [OA/ID 1378]
Tomahawks [OA/ID 2423]
Turkey [OA/ID 1378]
Ukraine [1] [OA/ID 1378]
Box 23
Ukraine [2] [OA/ID 1378]
Ukraine [3] [OA/ID 1378]
Ukraine [4] [OA/ID 1378]
[United Nations] UN Outer Space Study [1] [OA/ID 2423]
[United Nations] UN Outer Space Study [2] [OA/ID 2423]
Yin He Post Mortem [1] [OA/ID 2556]
Yin He Post Mortem [2] [OA/ID 2556]
Yugoslavia (Former) [1] [OA/ID 1378]
Yugoslavia (Former) [2] [OA/ID 1378]