Extent

8 folders, approximately 260 pages

Summary

This collection consists for records regarding Ambassador Morton Abramowitz and the Former Yugoslavia. Having retired from a 30 year long State Department career in 1991, Ambassador Abramowitz was an influential and respected voice in public discussion of foreign policy during the conflicts in the region, particularly Kosovo. The records in this collection primarily consist of email correspondence that shows how the Clinton Administration reached out to him regularly for his input and support.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2019-0928-F Segment 1 are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. This collection contains materials regarding Ambassador Morton Ambramowitz and the Former Yugoslavia. The records in this case, which primarily consist of Automated Records Management System (ARMS) and National Security Council (NSC) email correspondence discussing public affairs strategy as the conflict in Kosovo escalated, show how the Clinton Administration reached out to him regularly in an effort to solicit his input and public support. In addition, the unclassified NSC Cables include a report on Serbian media that quoted Ambassador Abramowitz as well as discussion of his proposed nomination to the International Commission on Kosovo. The collection also includes a January 1999 letter from Ambassador Ambramowitz and others urging NATO action in Kosovo and a draft response from the President.

Biographical Note

After an over 30 year career in the State Department, most notably as the Ambassador to Thailand, the Director of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and the Ambassador to Turkey, Ambassador Abramowitz retired in 1991 to become President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace from 1991 to 1997. In 1995, he became a founding board member of the International Crisis Group. The Ambassador joined the Century Foundation as a Senior Fellow in 1997. From 1998 to 2007, he served on the board of the National Endowment for Democracy. Given his credentials, Ambassador Abramowitz was an influential voice in public discussions of foreign policy during the conflict in Kosovo. He generally favored a more aggressive U.S. policy in the region.

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. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) was a database that contained email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system held, and allowed access to, unclassified Presidential email. The ARMS database was comprised of seven sub-series of email records called "buckets." The buckets generally represented a specific White House office. The buckets were titled: NPR for National Performance Review, NSC for National Security Council, 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. In 2022, the National Archives and Records Administration transferred the majority of Clinton ARMS and TRP records to a records management and access system called ERA. This changed the processing of ARMS and TRP records. For technical reasons, however, NSC emails remained in their own bucket. NSC ARMS emails are arranged by topic, there-under by bucket, and there-under chronologically by creation date.

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, 2022. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2022-10-04

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2019-0928-F Segment 1:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
[Abramowitz…]
[03/11/1998 – 10/02/2000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 [OA/ID 520000]
[Abramowitz…]
[03/18/1998]
Jan 1999-Dec 2000 [OA/ID 530000]
[Abramowitz…]
[03/09/1999 – 09/01/1999]
NSC Email
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 620000]
[Abramowitz…]
[09/28/1998 – 03/30/1999]
[04/03/1999 – 10/15/1999]
NSC Email
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 630000]
[Abramowitz…]
[11/02/1998 – 10/15/1999]
NSC Records Management System
[Abramowitz…]
9806617 [OA/ID 2060]
9901291 [OA/ID 2713]