Extent

9 folders, approximately 119 pages

Summary

This collection contains records related to the death of African National Congress National Chairman, Oliver Tambo. Open records include letters of condolence and letters of thanks from President Clinton to members of the U.S. delegation, led by Donna Shalala and Jesse Jackson, sent to attend the funeral in South Africa. The collection also includes emails and cables related to the funeral and the delegation planning, and reports to the President about the impact of the delegation, all dating from April and May 1993.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2020-0232-F Segment 1 are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. The researcher submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records related to the death of African National Congress National Chairman, Oliver Tambo. Records were found in Clinton Presidential Records: White House Office of Records Management – Subject Files, and the National Security Council’s Cable, Email, and Records Management System. Records include letters of condolence, letters of thanks from President Clinton to members of the U.S. delegation sent to attend the funeral in South Africa, emails and cables related to the funeral and the delegation, and reports to the President about the impact of the delegation, all dating from April and May 1993.

Biographical Note

Oliver Reginald Kaizana Tambo was born October 27, 1917, in what was then known as Mpondoland, a region in South Africa. In 1938, Tambo graduated from high school in Johannesburg and began studies at the University of Fort Hare, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics in 1941 or 1942. He enrolled into graduate programs but was asked to leave the school after he, Nelson Mandela, and others organized a strike at school related to use of the tennis courts. In 1944, Tambo, Mandela, and Walter Sissulu started the African National Congress Youth League (ANC Youth League). The ANC Youth League revived a dormant ANC but sought to change the methods by which South Africans challenged apartheid. They advocated for boycotts, civil disobedience, strikes, and non-collaboration. In 1955, Tambo became Secretary-general of the ANC. He was arrested for treason in 1956 but released in 1957. In 1958, he was named Deputy President and in 1959 was banned by the government to participate in any anti-apartheid activities for 5 years. Following the Sharpeville massacre in 1960, the ANC was also banned. In response, the ANC sent Tambo to London, England to fundraise, advocate, and recruit on their behalf. Tambo became the acting President of the ANC in 1967. Though he was now president, the ANC remained a banned organization and Tambo remained in exile in London until 1990. F. W. de Klerk removed the ban on the ANC in February of 1990 and Tambo returned to South Africa in December 1990. However, Tambo was in ill health from complications related to a stroke he had in 1989. He resigned as party president in 1991 and gave his seat to Nelson Mandela. Tambo had another stroke in 1993 and died of complications on April 24, 1993.

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) Subject Files, 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. In addition, there are WHORM, WHORM Counsel, WHORM (CL), WHORM (OP), WHORM (Too Late); WHORM (Various Offices); and WHORM (Alpha Project) series. FOIA 2020-0232-F Segment 1 includes WHORM records from these subject codes: FE001-01 Deaths - Funerals FG001-02 Personal Representative of the President ND001-01 Non-Military Use of Aircraft.

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

2023-02-15

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2020-0232-F, Segment 1:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File
Category Case Number
FE001-01 017291
FE001-01 017882SS
FE001-01 018599SS
FG001-02 022244
FG001-02 033246
ND001-01 025481
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994 [OA/ID 505000]
[Tambo and Funeral]
[04/26/1993-05/03/1993]
NSC Emails
A1-Record (Jan 93-Sept 94) [OA/ID 570000]
[Tambo and Funeral]
[04/29/1993-05/25/1993]
NSC Records Management
[Tambo and Funeral]
9303231 [OA/ID 2269]