Extent

5 folders, approximately 228 pages

Summary

This collection contains material regarding Assistant US Trade Representative (AUTR) Dorothy Dwoskin and China. Ms. Dwoskin served as AUTR from June 1993 to March 2007 and in this capacity represented the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and United Nations organizations. During her tenure, the focus of US economic policy in relation to China was the latter's accession to the WTO. The records in this collection consist of National Security Council email correspondence referencing or mentioning AUTR Dwoskin in relation to ongoing negotiations on this matter.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2021-0518-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. This collection contains emails regarding Assistant US Trade Representative (AUTR) for the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Multilateral Affairs Dorothy Dwoskin, China, and the WTO or its predecessor, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. She served as AUTR from June 1993 to March 2007 and in this capacity represented the WTO, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and UN organizations. The records processed in response to this FOIA case consist of National Security Council (NSC) emails from 1994 to 2000 that reference or mention AUTR Dwoskin in matters related to the ongoing negotiations with China regarding GATT and WTO membership. For more information about the WTO negotiations with China, researchers might wish to consult FOIA Case 2010-1024-F, Records related to China, the World Trade Organization (WTO), Ambassador Michael Kantor and Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky. This collection has been digitized and is available on the National

Archives Catalog. Additional information regarding the work of the United States Trade Representative is available in the Clinton Administration History Project’s files. These are available digitally in the Clinton Digital Library. The majority of the records related to this FOIA case are closed for national security reasons.

Biographical Note

Previously, she had held other roles within the Office of the US Trade Representative. After transition to the private sector, Ms. Dwoskin was a Senior Director of Global Trade Policy and Strategy at Microsoft until 2017. The focus of economic policy in relation to China during AUTR Dwoskin’s tenure was largely on Chinese accession to the WTO. China began the process of joining the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in 1986. Though not a member, China was a signatory to the Uruguay Round of GATT in 1994. Following the formation of the WTO, China continued the process of bilateral negotiations with the members of the WTO on trade and services with the goal of acceding to the organization. Under the terms established in Articles I and II of the GATT, each member was to be accorded most favored nation status (MFN). Thus, under these provisions, Chinese accession to the WTO was predicated on receiving MFN status, a fact that complicated negotiations late in the accession process. In the United States, MFN was changed by law (P.L. 105-206) in 1998 to Normal Trade Relations (NTR)—often also called Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR). Negotiations between the United States and China on WTO accession intensified in 1996 and continued through the end of the Clinton administration. While the administration supported Chinese accession, Congressional concerns regarding China’s records on human rights and environmental issues delayed the granting of NTR until the passage of H.R. 4444 on September 19, 2000. President Clinton signed the United States-China Relations Act on October 10, 2000. The act authorized “extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the People's Republic of China” and established “a framework for relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China.” Following negotiations with other WTO parties, China finally acceded to the WTO on December 11, 2001.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in this collection areas— 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

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

Last Modified Date

2023-02-22

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 2021-0518-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Email
A1-Non-Record (Apr 94-Sept 94) [OA/ID 580000]
[Dwoskin...]
[09/06/1994]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System (continued)
NSC Email
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97) [OA/ID 590000]
[Dwoskin...]
[11/02/1994 – 06/27/1996]
MSMail-Non-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97) [OA/ID 605000]
[Dwoskin...]
[11/29/1994 – 04/30/1996]
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 620000]
[Dwoskin...]
[04/07/1999 – 03/14/2000]
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 630000]
[Dwoskin...]
[09/20/1999 – 06/05/2000]

Content Available Online