Extent

1 SRL, 1,113 assets

Summary

This collection consists of records concerning the 1994 State of the Union address. The electronic records responsive to this request came from the Automated Records Management System (ARMS). Records to be opened include internal communications; meeting planning; transcripts; internal transcripts; weekly reports; talking points, press clippings, and transcripts of press briefings.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2020-0808-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 consists of records related to the 1994 State of the Union address. The electronic records to be released in this collection consist of interoffice communication concerning drafts of the speech; policy discussions around domestic issues to be included in the speech, correspondence concerning meetings; transcripts of the final speech as delivered; internal transcripts of speech prep meetings; weekly reports from White House staff detailing their work on and around the State of the Union; as well as talking points for press, press clippings, and transcripts of press briefings that are about or mention the State of the Union. The records date between November 3, 1993 and January 30, 1994.

Biographical Note

The 1994 State of the Union (often abbreviated as SOTU or SOU) was President Clinton’s first official State of the Union address, and took place on January 25, 1994 at around 9pm EST.2 The speech lasted just over an hour and covered many topics,

particularly domestic policy issues like the budget deficit, economic recovery, More information can be found in the Clinton Presidential Library exhibit titled “President Clinton and the State of the Union,” available at https://clinton.presidentiallibraries.us/exhibits/show/sotu/sotu-introduction Although President Clinton addressed a joint session of Congress in February 1993, following his inauguration, it was not technically a State of the Union address. For more information, please see Dr. Colleen J. Shogun’s 2015 Congressional Research Service report titled “The President’s State of the Union Address: Tradition, Function, and Policy Implications” at https://sgp.fas.org/crs/misc/R40132.pdf crime and law enforcement, job creation and unemployment, educational standards and reform, welfare reform, and the health care crisis and his goals for health care reform. President Clinton also discussed defense spending and national security.

Record Type

Electronic Records

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas— Clinton Presidential Records: (SAS) Automated Records Management System [Email]. The Executive Office of the President (EOP) subsystem of the Electronic Records Archive (ERA) contains electronic records created or received by Clinton Administration officials. These records are stored in Search and Access Sets (SAS) that represent their originating computer program. Search strings are used to locate records responsive to FOIA requests, and responsive assets are placed into Search Results Lists (SRLs). Depending on the complexity of the search, there may be multiple SRLs within each SAS. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential email.

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, 2023. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2023-12-07

Container List

The following is a list of Search and Access Sets processed in response to FOIA 2020-0808-F:
Clinton Presidential Records: EOP ERA Search and Access Sets (SAS)

(SAS) Automated Records Management System [Email] contains 1113 assets.