Extent

162 folders, approximately 12,609 pages

Summary

This collection is the first segment of a request for all records related to Russian Prime Minister Sergey Kiriyenko. Kiriyenko was only in office from March to August 1998. Much of Kiriyenko’s time in office was focused on Russian financial issues. Vice President Albert Gore had close contact with Kiriyenko through their work on the Gore-Kiriyenko Commission. Given Kiriyenko’s short time in office Gore only held one meeting with Kiriyenko in July 1998. Records released in this collection include memorandum, briefing papers, talking points, reports, notes, administrative forms, cables, emails, and correspondence. The bulk of material in this collection is email. This collection dates from March 1, 1998 to October 1, 1998. Topics discussed include: the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation–also called the U.S.-Russia Commission, the Russia-U.S. Commission, Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission, Gore-Kiriyenko Commission, Gore-Primakov Commission–the President’s trip to Ukraine and Moscow in September 1998, Sandy Berger’s meetings with Russian Security Council counterpart Andrei Kokoshin, and Iranian nonproliferation, among others.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2018-0784-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. This collection is the first segment of a request for all records related to Russian Prime Minister Sergey Kiriyenko. Kiriyenko was only in office from March to August 1998. Much of Kiriyenko’s time in office was focused on Russian financial issues. Vice President Albert Gore had close contact with Kiriyenko through their work on the Gore-Kiriyenko Commission. Given Kiriyenko’s short time in office Gore only held one meeting with Kiriyenko in July 1998. Records released in this collection

include memorandum, briefing papers, talking points, reports, notes, administrative forms, cables, emails, and correspondence. The bulk of material in this collection is email. This collection dates from March 1, 1998 to October 1, 1998. Topics discussed include: the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation–also called the U.S.-Russia Commission, the Russia-U.S. Commission, Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission, Gore-Kiriyenko Commission, Gore-Primakov Commission–the President's trip to Ukraine and Moscow in September 1998, Sandy Berger's meetings with Russian Security Council counterpart Andrei Kokoshin, and Iranian nonproliferation, among others. Sergey Kiriyenko was named Prime Minister of the Russian Federation March 23, 1998. At the time he was the youngest Prime Minister in Russian history being only 35. Prior to being named Prime Minister Kiriyenko served as the Minister of Fuel and Energy. Kiriyenko was frequently named in press reports as being part of a group of "young reformers" who sought to change Russian economic policy. Indeed, during his time in office he spent much of the period attempting to address the financial crisis in Russia. Ultimately, it would be economics that caused Kiriyenko's short term in office. His cabinet, led by the Union of Right Forces party, struggled to gain control of inflation, short term debt, and correct a weak ruble. Kiriyenko's government ultimately allowed a devaluation of the ruble which exacerbated the financial crisis in Russia. Kiriyenko took responsibility for the default and stepped down as Prime Minister on August 23, 1998. He would later return to government work in 2000 when he was appointed as the first Presidential Envoy of the Volga Federal District. As Prime Minister, Kiriyenko was tasked with continuing the work of the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation. More frequently referred to under the names of the Vice President and Prime Minister it was initially called the Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission and later the Gore-Kiriyenko Commission, and the Gore-Primakov Commission. The commission was created by Presidents Clinton and Yeltsin at the Vancouver Summit in April 1993. The commission met at least six times before the end of the Clinton administration. President George W. Bush would modify the United States government's position toward Russia though his administration continued dialog through the Bush-Putin Strategic Dialogue or the U.S.-Russia Strategic Dialogue. The Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission focused on: Agricultural Business, Business Development, Defense Conversion, Energy Policy, Environment, Public Health, Space, Science and Technology, and Capital Market Reform. They also fostered a Regional Investments Initiative. In July 1998, during Vice President Al Gore's meetings with Kiriyenko, the commission finalized three statements: Joint

Statement of the Co-Chairmen of the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation, Joint Statement on U.S.-Russian Cooperation to Implement the Nuclear Cities Initiative, and the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation in the Management of Plutonium that Has Been Withdrawn from Nuclear Military Programs.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email], Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems. 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. 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 most 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

This 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).

Subject Headings

U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation
Gore-Kiriyenko Commission

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2024-2025. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2025-11-14

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2018-0784-F (Segment 1):
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Russia, 1998 [2] [OA/ID CF 1193]
Russia, 1998 [3] [OA/ID CF 1193]
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National Security Council
National Security Advisor
Berger, Samuel
U.S.-Russia: Briefing Materials for Berger Visit to Russia, May 1998 [OA/ID 3832]
Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Samore, Gary
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Records Management
PC0285 PC Meeting on Russia, July 14, 1998 [OA/ID 3906]
PC0294 PC Meeting on Russian Financial Crisis, August 14, 1998 [OA/ID 3906]
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[Russia] Summit Prep 1997-1998 [OA/ID 2681]
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Russia-Moscow Summit 1998 Briefing Papers [OA/ID 2875]
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Pascual, Carlos
Russia - Bilateral Relations: [Pena-Kiriyenko] [OA/ID 1244]
Russia - Bilateral Relations: [Yeltsin to Gore, March 28, 1998] [OA/ID 1244]
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
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Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 [OA/ID 520000]
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Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System (continued)

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Box 15
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files (Oversize)
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