Extent

54 folders, approximately 3,117 pages

Summary

This collection contains memorandum, notes, administrative forms, cables, emails, and correspondence. The records discuss President George H. W. Bush’s trip to Kuwait, the assassination plot, the Kuwaiti investigation and trial of suspected assassins, and includes records related to the United States' June 26, 1993 retaliation against Iraq. The majority of records related to this FOIA case are closed for national security reasons.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2018-0724-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. Records released in this collection include memorandum, notes, administrative forms, cables, emails, and correspondence. Open records discuss President George H. W. Bush’s trip to Kuwait, the assassination plot, the Kuwaiti investigation and trial of suspected assassins, and records related to the United States’ June 26, 1993 retaliation against Iraq. President George H. W. Bush left office January 20, 1993 and looked forward to fulfilling a November 1992 invitation by Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the State of Kuwait to visit. On April 14, 1993, Bush traveled to Kuwait and was feted at a large and elaborate dinner in which he was awarded Kuwait’s highest award, the Order of Mubarak the Great. The Kuwaiti people saw former President Bush as a savior of their country and a great hero in their liberation from Iraq. However, President of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, saw Bush as the reason for much of the suffering of the Iraqi people. A formerly classified and now released CIA report entitled “The Attempt that Failed: Iraq’s Attempt to Assassinate Former President Bush in Kuwait, April 1993” notes a long history of threats against the life of President Bush in, or through, the Iraqi press. Agents of

the Iraqi Intelligence Service put in motion a plot to kill President Bush in Kuwait during his April 1993 visit. Many of the details have been reported in the press and through the Kuwaiti courts at trial. The plan failed when the Kuwaiti Security Services discovered the vehicles and explosives and arrested those involved. Ultimately at trial in the Kuwait State Security Court, 13 of 14 defendants were convicted of the attempted assassination of President Bush. On June 26, 1993, the United States retaliated against Iraq. President Clinton addressed the people of the United States on the evening of the 26th. In that speech Clinton noted, “It is clear that this was no impulsive or random act. It was an elaborate plan devised by the Iraqi Government and directed against a former President of the United States because of actions he took as President. As such, the Iraqi attack against President Bush was an attack against our country and against all Americans. We could not and have not let such action against our Nation go unanswered.” The United States attack resulted in the deaths of between six and eight Iraqi nationals and the wounding of another 12. On June 27, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright spoke to an emergency gathering of the United Nations Security Council. The majority of records related to this FOIA case are closed for national security reasons.

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 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.

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, 2024. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2025-07-25

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2018-0724-F:

Box 1

Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files

National Security Council

Legislative Affairs

Rosner, Jeremy

Iraq - June 1993 Bombing [1] [OA/ID 2]

Iraq - June 1993 Bombing [2] [OA/ID 2]

National Security Advisor

Lake, Anthony

Iraq - June 26, 1993 Retaliation [1] [OA/ID 1459]

Iraq - June 26, 1993 Retaliation [2] [OA/ID 1459]

Iraq - June 26, 1993 Retaliation [3] [OA/ID 1459]

Iraq - June 26, 1993 Retaliation [4] [OA/ID 1459]

National Security Advisor

Lake, Anthony

Iraq - June 26, 1993 Retaliation [5] [OA/ID 1459]

Iraq - June 26, 1993 Retaliation [6] [OA/ID 1459]

Near East and South Asian Affairs

Cooper, Kathleen

Iraq Briefing Book [1] [OA/ID 2832]

Iraq Briefing Book [2] [OA/ID 2832]

Iraq Briefing Book [3] [OA/ID 2832]

Box 2

Grummon, Stephen

Iraq Plot on Bush, April 1993 [1] [OA/ID 729]

Iraq Plot on Bush, April 1993 [2] [OA/ID 729]

Iraq Plot on Bush, April 1993 [3] [OA/ID 729]

Iraq Plot on Bush, April 1993 [4] [OA/ID 729]

Iraq Plot on Bush, April 1993 [5] [OA/ID 729]

Kuwait [OA/ID 727]

Indyk, Martin

Iraq / Bush 1993 [1] [OA/ID 255]

Iraq / Bush 1993 [2] [OA/ID 255]

Parris, Mark

[Martin Indyk] Chron Files, April 1993: 9302990 [OA/ID 509]
Staff Director
Soderberg, Nancy
Iraq - Bombing, June 26, 1993 [OA/ID 1405]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994 [OA/ID 505000]
[Assassination Investigation]
[05/14/1993-06/18/1993]
[Assassination, Plot, Bush]
[03/02/1993-06/26/1993]
Box 3
[06/27/1993-08/31/1993]
[09/11/1993-11/01/1993]
[Bush, Kuwait, Assassination]
[03/02/1993-04/29/1993]
[04/29/1993-05/07/1993]
[05/10/1993-05/12/1993]
[05/12/1993-05/25/1993]
[05/27/1993-05/28/1993]
[06/05/1993-06/26/1993]
[06/27/1993]
[06/27/1993-06/28/1993]
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994 [OA/ID 505000]
[Bush, Kuwait, Assassination]
[06/28/1993-06/29/1993]
[06/29/1993-07/02/1993]
Box 4
[07/02/1993-07/13/1993]
[07/13/1993-07/21/1993]
[07/22/1993-09/24/1993]
[09/30/1993-11/01/1993]
NSC Email
A1-Record (Jan 93-Sept 94) [OA/ID 570000]
[Assassination and Bush]
[05/17/1993-07/20/1993]

[Assassination and Plot]
[05/10/1993-11/23/1993]
[Bush and Kuwait]
[04/27/1993-05/20/1993]
[06/02/1993-10/26/1993]
NSC Records Management System
[Bush]
9302990 [OA/ID 43314]
9304672 [OA/ID 43314]
9304776 [OA/ID 43314]
9305433 [OA/ID 2273]
[Iraq]
9303624 [OA/ID 149]
9304084 [OA/ID 150]
9304631 [OA/ID 2271]
9304722 [OA/ID 2271]
9304774 [OA/ID 152]
9304835 [OA/ID 152]
9304906 [OA/ID 2272]