Extent

46 folders, approximately 1,900 pages, 7 assets

Summary

This collection consists of records related to the TWA (Trans World Airlines) Flight 800 crash. This collection consists of reports regarding recovery efforts, memoranda, printed email, handwritten notes, schedules, press releases, newspaper articles, and correspondence.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2026-0429-F (Segment 1) are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material including 2006-0468-F, 2006-0469-F, 2016-0305-F (Segment 1) and 2023-0127-S. This collection consists of reports regarding recovery efforts, memoranda, printed email, handwritten notes, schedules, press releases, newspaper articles, and correspondence.

Biographical Note

TWA (Trans World Airlines) Flight 800 was an international passenger flight from John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City to Paris, France on July 17, 1996. At 8:31 p.m. EDT, twelve minutes after takeoff, the Boeing 747 exploded and crashed into the Atlantic Ocean. All 230 people on board were killed in the crash. After four years the NTSB investigation ended, and the report concluded that the probable cause of the crash was the explosion of flammable fuel vapors in the center fuel tank due to ignition from a short circuit.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM (OP), and Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files.
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.

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.

FOIA 2026-0429-F (Segment 1) includes WHORM records from these subject codes:
CA001 Accidents - Safety
DI002 Natural Disasters
FG001-07 Presidential Appointments Granted
FG001-08 Presidential Telephone Calls
IV097 1997 Invitations
JL Judicial and Legal Matters

ME001 Messages Sent to Individuals
ME001-03 Condolence Messages for Death
ME002 Messages Sent to Groups and Organizations
PP005-01 First Lady
PP010-02 Condolence - Sympathy, Message Received by the President
SP1042-1 Announcement New Airport Security, John F. Kennedy Airport, NY, 7/25/96
SP300 Press Conferences
ST032 New York

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).

Subject Headings

TWA Flight 800 Crash (1996)

Organization Names

Trans World Airlines

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2026.

Last Modified Date

2026-08-28

Related Collections

2006-0468-F
2006-0469-F
2016-0305-F (Segment 1)
2023-0127-S

Container List

Box 1
[Electronic Media]
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File

Category	Case Number
CA001	178473SS
CA001	178488

CA001 179100
CA001 184671
CA001 186700
CA001 186878
CA001 191732
CA001 200357
CA001 201466
CA001 206952
CA001 211615
CA001 214283
CA001 218706
DI002 202499
FG001-07 297649SS
FG001-08 178877SS
FG001-08 179132SS
IV097 225095
JL 309823
ME001 200370
ME001-03 194900
ME001-03 229027
ME002 205053
PP005-01 211402 [TWA Flight 800]
PP010-02 178381
SP300 182465SS
SP1042-1 181750SS
SP1042-1 181762SS
ST032 213021

Box 2

Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: (OP)

191820 AF

Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files

Cabinet Affairs

Balderston, Kris

[TWA Flight 800] [loose] [OA/ID 13181]

TWA FL [Trans World Airlines Flight 800] [OA/ID 13190]

Higgins, Kitty

Box 2 Folder 5 [TWA [Trans World Airlines] 800 - January 1997 to June 1997] [OA/ID

9876]
Box 3, Folder 4: [TWA Flight 800 - July 1996 to November 1996] [1] [OA/ID 9899]
Box 3, Folder 4: [TWA Flight 800 - July 1996 to November 1996] [2] [OA/ID 9899]
Box 3
Box 3, Folder 4: [TWA Flight 800 - July 1996 to November 1996] [3] [OA/ID 9899]
Marshall Jr., Thurgood
TWA [Trans World Airlines] 800 [OA/ID 19087]
McGuire, Anne
TWA [Trans World Airlines] [OA/ID 13172]
Chief of Staff
Lieberman, Evelyn
TWA Flight 800 [OA/ID 8501]
Stephanopoulos, George
TWA Flight 800/Lockerbie [OA/ID 7638]
First Lady's Office
Press Office
TWA 7/96 [OA/ID 9466]
Intergovernmental Affairs
Hale, Marcia
TWA Flight 800 Crash [OA/ID 10076]
Legislative Affairs
Subject Files
POTUS [President of the United States] to NYC [New York City] (TWA [Trans World Airlines] 800) 7-25-96 [July 25, 1996] [OA/ID 14136]
Scheduling Office
AF
223288 [OA/ID 9739]
420555 [OA/ID 16071]
Hanlin, Kirk
New York/TWA [Trip of President to New York, New York - Crash of TWA Airliner] [OA/ID 23445]
Electronic Records
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File
ME001 200370 [disk]
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: (OP)
191820 [audio cassette] AF