Extent

28 folders, approximately 912 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records relating to Harold W. Pote and his service on the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. Clinton Presidential Records relating to Harold W. Pote consist largely of personnel files relating to Pote’s appointment as a member of the PFIAB. Pote was re-appointed to the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board by President William Jefferson Clinton on September 30, 1993 and served throughout the Administration.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2006-1002-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. Harold W. Pote was re-appointed to the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board by President William Jefferson Clinton on September 30, 1993. Previously he served on the PFIAB under President George H. W. Bush. He was reappointed yearly, serving on the PFIAB through Clinton’s eight years in office.

Biographical Note

Harold W. Pote, also known as Hal, received his Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University in 1968 and a Master of Business Administration from Harvard in 1972. Considered by many to be a successful banker, he was a founding partner in the Beacon Group, an investment services company which was purchased by Chase Bank. He was also Chief Executive Officer of Fidelcor, Inc., a major regional bank holding company in Philadelphia, and a former founding partner of PBS Properties of

Pennsylvania. His expertise in banking led to a position as Executive Vice President and Head of Chase Regional Banking. He was later appointed Vice Chairman of retail financial services for J.P. Morgan & Chase Co. At his death in 2007, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of American Financial Reality Trust. Pote was a Trustee of Drexel University for seventeen years and on the board of Drexel University School of Medicine. He was also on the boards of a number of civic organizations including: Museum of Arts & Design, New York City Ballet, and the Spina Bifida Foundation. Pote died, June 26, 2007 while on vacation in Turkey.

The President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB) was created by President Dwight Eisenhower in 1956. Executive Order 10656, signed February 6, 1956, created the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities. Eisenhower believed that this board of respected and knowledgeable citizens could provide him with unbiased and candid appraisals of United States' intelligence activities. President John Kennedy, by the signing of Executive Order 10938 on May 4, 1961, renamed the Board of Consultants, the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. Though the name was changed, the board continued to operate in much the same fashion. Executive Order 11460, signed by President Richard Nixon on March 20, 1969, again changed the name of the PFIAB to the President's Advisory Intelligence Board. President Jimmy Carter abolished the board in March of 1977. Carter did, however, retain the Intelligence Oversight Board. The IOB was created by President Gerald Ford in 1976 following a post Watergate investigation by Congress into potential illegal activities of the intelligence agencies. The IOB was tasked with reporting potential illegal activities to the Department of Justice for review. As Ford told Congress in 1976, "I believe [the changes] will eliminate abuses and questionable activities on the part of the foreign intelligence agencies while at the same time allowing them to get on with their vital work of gathering and assessing information." President Ronald Reagan modified the role of the IOB in 1981 and re-established the PFIAB in 1985 by signing Executive Order 12537. President William Jefferson Clinton combined the IOB and the PFIAB, making the IOB a committee rather than an independent organization. President George W. Bush radically modified the role of both the IOB and the PFIAB following the creation of a Director of National Intelligence. The newly named President's Intelligence Advisory Board was designated to oversee the intelligence collection activities of any Federal agency engaged in the collection of intelligence or the production of intelligence policy. President Barack Obama more clearly defined the role of the PIAB and

strengthened the IOB with the passage of Executive Order 13516. Under President Clinton the PFIAB had between eleven and twelve members, by law it could be no more than sixteen, whose terms were established by the President. Members were chosen for their independence, knowledge, and experience. The members of the President’s Intelligence Advisory Board serve as unpaid observers of the United States intelligence community. Much of their work is highly secret in nature though Presidents have chosen on occasion to make the Board’s reports, or portions thereof, public. The members of the Board are appointed by the President and the Director serves at the leisure of the President.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in five collections areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject File, Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails, Clinton Presidential Records: TRP Emails, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cables, NSC Emails, and NSC Records Management System. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains a variety of series created to organize and track documents and correspondence. 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. White House Staff and Office Files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and documents all levels of administrative activity. WHORM files are processed at the document level; whereas, 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) is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system

maintained unclassified Presidential Records email. The ARMS dataset is comprised of 6 sub-series of email records called “Buckets.” The buckets include NPR, OPD, POTUS, WHO, CEA, and Default. ARMS emails are arranged chronologically by creation date. The Tape Restoration Project (TRP) is a database consisting of restored emails from the Automated Records Management System from July 1994 through June 2000. The TRP is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified presidential record email. The TRP dataset is comprised of 6 sub-series of email records called “Buckets.” The buckets include NPR, OPD, POTUS, WHO, CEA, and Default. TRP emails are arranged chronologically by creation date.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC Chapter 22) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 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 USC 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).

Organization Names

United States. President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board

Processed by

Staff Archivist, September 2010. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2012-03-15

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2006-1002-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Office of Records Management: Subject File
Category Case Number
FI010-02 Case Number: 123159
FG006-14 Case Number: 057405SS
FG006-14 Case Number: 189118SS
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Counsel’s Office
[Appointees] Pote, Harold [1] [OA/ID CF 1563]
[Appointees] Pote, Harold [2] [OA/ID CF 1563]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files (continued)
Counsel’s Office
Reynolds, Stacy
Pote, Harold [OA/ID 7414]
Counsel’s Office

Schaffner, Jane
Pote, Harold W. [OA/ID 18864]
Pote, Harold William [OA/ID CF 1629]
Pote, Harold William: Pote, Harold [1] [OA/ID CF 1629]
Pote, Harold William: Pote, Harold [2] [OA/ID CF 1629]
Pote, Harold [1] [OA/ID CF 1638]
Pote, Harold [2] [OA/ID CF 1638]
Presidential Personnel
Pote, Harold W. [OA/ID 19313]
Security Office
Pote, Harold W. [OA/ID CF 1896]
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[Harold W. Pote]
[06/28/1996]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[Harold W. Pote]
[09/09/1995-11/12/2000]
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[Harold W. Pote]
[07/26/1995-06/28/1996]
[09/15/1998]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
[Harold Pote]
[06/28/1996-11/09/1999]
[03/07/2000-05/17/2000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996
[Harold Pote]
[04/13/1995] [OA/ID 510000]
Jan 1997-Dec 1998
[Harold Pote]
[05/08/1998-05/29/1998] [OA/ID 520000]
Jan 1999-Dec 2000
[Harold Pote]
[09/11/1999-06/02/2000] [OA/ID 530000]

Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System (continued)
NSC Email
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Harold Pote]
[03/29/1995-06/27/1996] [OA/ID 590000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System (continued)
NSC Email
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Harold Pote]
[06/27/1996-06/28/1996] [OA/ID 590000]
MSMail-Non-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Harold Pote]
[03/29/1995-03/30/1995] [OA/ID 605000]
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01)
[Harold Pote]
[12/08/2000-05/05/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01)
[Harold Pote]
[02/26/1999-08/30/2000] [OA/ID 630000]