Extent

48 folders, approximately 800 pages

Summary

This collection consists of correspondence, meetings, and phone calls between President Clinton and the Reverend Billy Graham. The topics of correspondence and conversations included congratulations (to President Clinton on his re-election in 1996), get well wishes, religious matters, travel, and national health care. Also included are photocopies of newspaper and magazine articles from the White House Staff and Office Files, Public Liaison, regarding the life and career of Billy Graham.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in 2006-0485-F are a selective, not necessarily all inclusive, body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. FOIA request 2006-0485-F contains records relating to correspondence, meetings, and phone calls between President Clinton and the Reverend Billy Graham. The two men were on friendly terms and wrote each other on a fairly regular basis throughout the 1990s. Clinton exhibited a considerable amount of concern about the steadily worsening physical condition of Graham and his wife, Ruth. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Alpha File contains just a few records of interest. In a letter to Clinton, Graham congratulated him on winning re-election in 1996. The world renowned clergyman generally composed his correspondence with Clinton and other confidantes on a manual typewriter. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject File contains material from several categories. There were many types of messages that passed between President Clinton and Graham. These missives are encompassed by a number of the subject categories and include annual birthday greetings from Clinton to Graham, get well wishes Clinton sent upon learning of the hospitalization of the Grahams, and encouragement Graham offered

to Clinton in the matter of his pursuit of a national health care plan and other issues. On a more personal basis, Clinton and Graham exchanged letters that dealt with religious matters. Graham exhorted Clinton to be a “positive force” in “challenging times.” The President responded by thanking the iconic figure for the prayers he voiced during the turbulent years of his Administration. The White House Staff and Office Files contain printed materials and memos. The records of Floy McAfee in Public Liaison are comprised largely of background material in the form of photocopies of magazine and newspaper articles and booklets. These papers document the life of Billy Graham and have a wealth of information about the various international religious crusades he embarked on during his career. Providing only very basic details about phone calls and meetings involving Graham and Clinton, the Electronic Daily Diary is not, on the whole, a valuable tool for the researcher. The NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems contain memos, letters, and talking points dealing with Graham and the countries of Japan, China, and North Korea. For instance, Graham was planning a Tokyo Crusade in Japan and wanted Clinton to supply letters of introduction to the Prime Minister and American Ambassador. These records show how this entire process played out.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in five collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Alpha Files, Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: Electronic Daily Diary, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems. As policy, 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. WHORM Subject and WHORM Alpha Files are processed at the document level. 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. A complete listing of the categories with detailed descriptions is provided in our research room.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 2201) 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 (Title 17, USC 101) 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).

Person Names

Graham, Billy, 1918-2018

Topical Subjects

Evangelists
Christianity

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2008. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2010-02-25

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2006-0485-F:
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Alpha Files
Box 1
Category Case Number/Name
AF Scanned: Case Number 424237 Billy Graham – Montreat, North Carolina
AF Scanned: [Unknown] Graham, B.
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files
Category Case Number
CO038 Scanned: Case Number 299791
DI Scanned: Case Number 108775
Scanned: Case Number 112122
FG001-03 Scanned: Case Number 197978
GI001 Scanned: Case Number 186020
GI002 Scanned: Case Number 220387
ME Scanned: Case Number 093292 [1]
Scanned: Case Number 093292 [2]
Scanned: Case Number 093292 [3]
ME001 Scanned: Case Number 039833SS

Scanned: Case Number 041341
Scanned: Case Number 102163
Scanned: Case Number 140548
Scanned: Case Number 187777SS
Scanned: Case Number 280237
ME001-01 Scanned: Case Number 033147
ME001-02 Scanned: Case Number 085985
Scanned: Case Number 138805
Scanned: Case Number 192997
Scanned: Case Number 240959
Scanned: Case Number 402098
Scanned: Case Number 432594
ME001-04 Scanned: Case Number 117064
Scanned: Case Number 124619SS
Scanned: Case Number 245736
Scanned: Case Number 294328
Scanned: Case Number 423198
ME002 Scanned: Case Number 051888
Box 2
PP Scanned: Case Number 035803SS
Scanned: Case Number 194600
RM Scanned: Case Number 025341
Scanned: Case Number 050139
Scanned: Case Number 071611
Scanned: Case Number 268428
SP230-96 Scanned: Case Number 149440
Scanned: Case Number 152225
TR474 Scanned: Case Number 437691
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Public Liaison
Floy McAfee Files
Billy Graham/Background [1] [OA/ID 10832]
Billy Graham/Background [2] [OA/ID 10832]

Ruby Moy & Alexis Herman Files
May 1, 1996 Tea with Dr. Billy Graham [OA/ID 8236]
Clinton Presidential Records: Electronic Daily Diary

[Billy Graham]
[02/03/1993 – 12/23/1998] [OA/ID 150000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems
NSC Records Management
[Billy Graham]
9307521 [OA/ID 164]
9402762 [OA/ID 192]
9402834 [OA/ID 192]
9410224 [OA/ID 4015]
9902525 [OA/ID 2721]