Extent

13 folders, approximately 346 pages

Summary

This collection consists of materials related to Frank Fountain, a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB). It includes letters, email, and cables. Some of the records within this FOIA came from personnel files, which result in many closures related to personal privacy.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2006-1019-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 2006-1019-F contains letters, emails and cables concerning Frank Fountain. Many of the records deemed responsive to this FOIA request came from personnel files and were closed for personal privacy. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Files contain one responsive file. CO068 includes letters of thanks from the President to individuals who contributed to the Intelligence Oversight Board’s Report to the President on the Guatemala Review, including Frank Fountain. In the White House Staff and Office Files, responsive documents can be found in the Security Office’s records. However, most of these documents were withheld to protect personal privacy. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Emails contain emails between Frank Fountain and other White House staff during his tenure as a member of PFIAB. The NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems contain additional records regarding Frank Fountain. The NSC Cables include records regarding Mr. Fountain’s travels as a PFIAB member, including travel itineraries. The NSC Email system contains records regarding Mr. Fountain’s work on the Report to the President on the Guatemala Review.

Biographical Note

Frank Fountain was a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB) during the Clinton Administration, serving as the Board's Assistant Director and Counsel. Before joining the PFIAB staff in 1995, Mr. Fountain spent 18 years with the Department of Defense. He served 11 of those years as a DOD lawyer and advisor to the Commander-in-Chief, US Central Command.

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 were responsive to this FOIA were found in four collection areas – Clinton Presidential Records: White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Email 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 folders 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. However, WHORM files are processed at the document level. 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. Staff and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. 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 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.

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 (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).

Organization Names

United States. President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2009. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2011-06-21

Container List

The following is a list of folders processed in response to FOIA 2006-1019-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files
Category Case Number
CO068 Scanned: 174269SS
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Security Office
Fountain, Frank Walter [OA/ID CF 1883]
Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails
OPD [OA/ID 250,000]
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[09/19/2000]
WHO [OA/ID 500,000]
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[06/06/1995 – 09/18/2000]
[09/22/2000 – 01/13/2001]
NSC [OA/ID 1,200,000]
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[01/26/1999 – 05/16/2000]
[05/30/2000 – 11/14/2000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems (RMS)
NSC Cables
January 1995-December 1996
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[09/12/1995 – 05/29/1996] [OA/ID 510000]
January 1997-December 1998
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[12/02/1997 – 08/31/1998] [OA/ID 520000]
January 1999-December 2000

[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[01/04/1999 – 10/16/2000] [OA/ID 530000]
NSC Emails
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[07/18/1995 – 07/11/1996] [OA/ID 590000]
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01)
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[02/21/1998 – 01/05/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01)
[Fountain and PFIAB…]
[09/09/1997 – 04/12/1999] [OA/ID 630000]