Extent

64 folders, approximately 4,300 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records concerning the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy, which took place on November 28, 2000. The White House Conference on Culture grew out of the reorganization of the United States Information Agency (USIA) in October 1999. The files contain correspondence, publications, memoranda, speeches, schedules, email, and cables.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2006-0201-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 2006-0201-F contains materials from several agencies and individuals, including the First Lady’s Office and Millennium Council. The White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy, which took place on November 28, 2000, grew out of the reorganization of the United States Information Agency (USIA) in October 1999. The USIA merged with the Department of State, and many of its functions passed over to the Office of the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. Evelyn S. Lieberman, head of this particular office, and Ellen Lovell of the Millennium Council played key roles in bringing about the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy. They wanted the United States to make cultural concerns a more important factor in the development of its foreign policy. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Categories for the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy contain only three records of interest. WHORM Subject File FG001 is a memo to President Clinton in which a number of recent news items are dealt with briefly, including Secretary of State Madeleine Albright’s assessment of the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy. WHORM Subject File MC003 is the address President Clinton

delivered at this meeting. WHORM Subject File (unknown) is a request from a member of Congress that a not-for-profit organization be allowed to send a representative to the gathering on November 28, 2000. The WHORM Alpha Files contain no relevant records. The White House Staff and Office Files contain correspondence, publications, memoranda, speeches, and schedules maintained by individual staff members. The files of Raj Adlakha consist of various drafts of schedules for the day of the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy. Stephanie Cutter files include talking points and information sheets dealing with the four afternoon workshop sessions, which were an integral part of the seminar. Constituting the core of the textual records, the files of Ellen Lovell contain biographical materials concerning participants in the workshops, background memos, press briefings, and NSC recommendations as to who should be invited to the conference. Additional information about those receiving invitations to the meeting can be found in the files of Melanne Verveer, who was the First Lady's Chief of Staff. Her papers contain several lists of the close to 200 invitees to the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy. Ministers of culture and education, members of Congress, key figures in the Clinton Administration, and celebrities such as Meryl Streep, Jack Valenti, Yo-Yo Ma, and Charlie Rose were among individuals invited to attend this heavily publicized assembly. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Emails provide more in the way of detail pertaining to the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy. There are press releases (coming mainly from the Department of State), transcripts of press briefings involving Evelyn S. Lieberman and Ellen Lovell, a transcript of the opening session of the meeting at which both the President and First Lady delivered prepared remarks, and correspondence dealing with the follow-up to the gathering. A highlight of the ARMS Emails is the back-and-forth exchange revolving around who should be invited to participate in the workshops. Particularly interesting is the debate over what course of action to pursue if an original invitee turned down an invitation from the White House. The NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems supply the researcher with additional insight into the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy. Especially useful are the NSC Emails which contain a considerable amount of give-and-take over who would make good panelists/participants at the meeting. In the end, the NSC arrived at a recommendation list broken down by geographical areas.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in four collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails, 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. WHORM Subject and WHORM Alpha files are processed at the document level. 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 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 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 552 as amended) and the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 22) 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) 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 Information Agency

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2006. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2009-10-08

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2006-0201-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files
Category Case Number
FG001 Scanned: Case Number 434230
MC003 Scanned: Case Number 435850
[Unknown] Scanned: Case Number 433750
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Cabinet Affairs
Raj Adlakha Files
White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy – 28 November 2000

[OA/ID 23690]
Communications
Stephanie Cutter Files
Conference on Culture and Diplomacy [OA/ID 20157]
First Lady’s Office
Melanne Verveer Files
Conference on Culture and Diplomacy – Lists [1] [OA/ID 20029]
Conference on Culture and Diplomacy – Lists [2] [OA/ID 20029]
Culture Conference – Final [OA/ID 20029]
International Culture Conference [OA/ID 20029]
White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy [OA/ID 20029]
White House Culture Conference [OA/ID 20058]
Millennium Council
Jennifer Ballen Files
White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy (11/20/00) [OA/ID 21035]
Ellen Lovell Files
International Conference on Culture/Diplomacy [1] [OA/ID 21050]
International Conference on Culture/Diplomacy [2] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [1] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [2] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [3] [OA/ID 21050]
Box 2
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [4] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [5] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [6] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [7] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [8] [OA/ID 21050]
WH Conference on Cultural Diplomacy [9] [OA/ID 21050]
WHCCD Correspondence (Working Dinner on Diplomacy) [OA/ID 21050]
WHCCD – Guests [OA/ID 21050]
WHCCD – Presidential Panel & Scenarios [1] [OA/ID 21050]
WHCCD – Presidential Panel & Scenarios [2] [OA/ID 21050]
WHCCD – Press [OA/ID 21050]
White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy Articles [OA/ID 23077]
Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails
WHO 2000/04-2000/06
[Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]

[06/03/2000] [OA/ID 800000]
WHO 2000/07-2000/09
[Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]
[07/06/2000-09/21/2000] [OA/ID 850000]
Box 3
WHO 2000/10-2001/01
[Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]
[08/07/2000-11/21/2000] [OA/ID 900000]
[11/21/2000-11/28/2000] [OA/ID 900000]
[11/28/2000-11/29/2000] [OA/ID 900000]
[12/01/2000-01/16/2001] [OA/ID 900000]
CEA 2000/01 – 2001/01 [OA/ID 1,000,000]
[Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]
[11/27/2000 – 11/28/2000]
Default 2000/01 – 2001/01 [OA/ID 1,150,000]
[Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]
[10/02/2000 – 10/11/2000]
[10/12/2000 – 10/23/2000]
[10/23/2000 – 11/06/2000]
[11/06/2000 – 11/15/2000]
Box 4
[11/15/2000 – 11/24/2000]
[11/24/2000 – 01/08/2001]
NSC 2000/01 – 2001/01 [OA/ID 1,250,000]
[Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]
[07/05/2000 – 10/27/2000]
[10/30/2000 – 11/15/2000]
[11/15/2000 – 11/28/2000]
[11/28/2000 – 11/29/2000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems
NSC Cables
January 1999-December 2000
[Culture and Diplomacy]
[10/26/2000-12/22/2000] [OA/ID 530000]
[White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]
[09/13/2000] [OA/ID 530000]
NSC Emails

September 1997-January 2001
[White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy]
[06/16/2000-11/27/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
March 1997-January 2001
[Culture and Diplomacy]
[06/30/2000-09/26/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/26/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/28/2000] [1] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/28/2000] [2] [OA/ID 630000]
Box 5
[09/28/2000] [3] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/28/2000] [4] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/28/2000] [5] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/28/2000] [6] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/28/2000] [7] [OA/ID 630000]
[09/29/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[10/11/2000] [1] [OA/ID 630000]
[10/11/2000] [2] [OA/ID 630000]
[10/12/2000-11/09/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[11/09/2000-11/27/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
NSC Records Management System
PRS – Presidential Records
[Culture and Diplomacy]
0007623 [OA/ID 3977]