Extent

323 Folders, approximately 12,400 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records concerning Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1997 to 2001. The records include speeches, cables, correspondence, email, and memoranda. A variety of topics are covered including, but not limited to, state visits, the G-7, Northern Ireland, and the European Union. There is also information regarding schedules, appointments and foreign travel. The majority of this FOIA case is currently withheld under PRA and FOIA restrictions.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2006-0217-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 2006-0217-F contains materials from NSC staff members and NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems. British Labour Party Leader Tony Blair emerged as Prime Minister after his party won a majority of Parliamentary seats in the 1997 general election. Charting a centrist course in domestic and foreign policy in keeping with his “New Labour” political direction, Blair emerged as a key ally to President Clinton on a series of foreign policy issues ranging from Iraq to Kosovo. In a key policy item on Blair’s domestic agenda, Northern Ireland, the Prime Minister frequently praised the role of President Clinton in facilitating negotiations between Unionists and Republicans. The Prime Minister resigned his office on June 27, 2007, ending as the longest-serving Labour Party Prime Minister in British history. The White House Staff and Office Files contain memoranda, speeches, press releases, and emails from records of National Security Council staff members. The bulk of the files contain records related to Blair’s first visit to the United States as Prime Minister in February 1998. The National Security Council files of Lawrence Butler, for example, include an advanced copy of a speech

given by the Prime Minister on February 5, 1998 at the White House. These files also have copies of press releases and speeches made by Blair and British Foreign Minister Robin Cook related to the 1998 ascendancy of the United Kingdom to the rotating Presidency of the European Union. Files of the NSC Executive Secretary, on the other hand, contain “scenesetters” describing various settings that were part of President Clinton’s May 1997 visit to France, Great Britain, and the Netherlands. The NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems generally provide researchers with administrative-level communications such as profile sheets, memcon/telcon lists, transmittal memoranda, and routing slips An example of correspondence between the two leaders is a September 16, 1997 letter from Prime Minister Blair to President Clinton thanking the President for his letter of condolence after the death of Princess Diana. There are also letters from President Clinton to Blair and Argentine President Carlos Menem congratulating them on the successful completion of negotiations on certain issues related to the Falkland Islands on July 14, 1999.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in two collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and NSC Records Management Systems. As policy, Staff and Office Files are processed at the folder level; individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method of processing Staff and Office Files maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 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 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).

Subject Headings

Labour Party (Great Britain)
Great Britain
Northern Ireland
Falkland Islands
Menem, Carlos
Argentina

Person Names

Blair, Tony, 1953-

Diana, Princess of Wales, 1961-1997

Processed by

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

Last Modified Date

2011-05-03

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2006-0217-F:
The majority of this FOIA case is currently withheld under PRA and FOIA restrictions.
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Box 1
National Security Council
Defense Policy
Robert Bell
Blair Call April-June 1998 [OA/ID 3661]
European
Donald Bandler
Blair Visit [1] [OA/ID 1505]
Blair Visit [2] [OA/ID 1505]
Blair Visit [3] [OA/ID 1505]
Lawrence Butler
Blair Briefing [U.K.] [1] [OA/ID 1574]
Blair Briefing [U.K.] [2] [OA/ID 1574]
Blair Briefing [U.K.] [3] [OA/ID 1574]
Blair Briefing [U.K.] [4] [OA/ID 1574]
Blair Briefing [U.K.] [5] [OA/ID 1574]
Box 2
Blair Visit, April 22 [OA/ID 1724]

National Security Council (continued)
Executive Secretary
POTUS Visit to Paris, The Hague […] [1] [OA/ID 2589]
POTUS Visit to Paris, The Hague […] [2] [OA/ID 2589]
International Economic Affairs
Sherman Boone
Blair Visit [U.K.] [1] [OA/ID 1233]
Blair Visit [U.K.] [2] [OA/ID 1233]
John Duncan
G-7-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction-Prime Minister Blair
[OA/ID 2861]
Box 3
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Record Management Systems
NSC Emails
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Memcon]
[03/26/1996-05/03/1997] [OA/ID 590000]
MSMail-Non-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Memcon]
[03/20/1997] [OA/ID 605000]
Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01)
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Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Record Management Systems (continued)
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Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Record Management Systems (continued)
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Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Record Management Systems (continued)
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PRS-Presidential Records
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