Extent

73 folders, approximately 5,858 pages

Summary

This collection consists of material concerning the transition from the administration of President William Jefferson Clinton to that of George Walker Bush in January 2001. The disputed results from the November 7, 2000 election in the state of Florida shortened the transition period to just over a month. The records in this collection include correspondence, press materials, emails, and cables concerning preparations for the incoming administration and disposition of Clinton Administration records.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2008-0015-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. FOIA 2008-0015-F contains records regarding the transition from the administration of President William Jefferson Clinton to the administration of George Walker Bush in January 2001. The researcher should note that several files responsive to this FOIA may be found with FOIA requests 2006-0588-F and 2007-0019-F. The White House Staff and Office files contain materials that reflect preparations on the part of Clinton administration staff to facilitate a transition to the next administration. In the Counsel’s Office, Jane Schaffner’s files contain notes and materials from a retreat at the Brookings Institution on November 16, 2000 that focused on the Presidential transition. However, most of the textual records responsive to this FOIA request originated in the National Security Council. In the Intelligence Programs directorate, James Smith’s papers contain notes, papers, and minutes of Security Policy Board meetings regarding the clearance of incoming transition team staff. In International Economic Affairs, Richard Samans’ files and include correspondence and press materials regarding issues ongoing in that

directorate at the time of the 2000 election. There is also a presentation and a paper by Marcel Lettre of Harvard University detailing suggestions for the coordination of National Security Policy and Economic Policy in the next administration. Similar materials, though dealing with different topics, are located in the files Gary Samore in the Nonproliferation and Export Control Directorate. In the office of the Legal Advisor, Mary Derosa's files contain memoranda, correspondence, schedules, and forms regarding the production of transition documents and the transfer of Clinton Presidential Records to the National Archives and Records Administration. The NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System also contains documents responsive to the topics of the FOIA request. The NSC Records Management numbered documents contain a January 12, 2001 memo from Greg Schulte to Executive Secretary Robert Bradtke regarding the transition papers on the implementation of the Dayton Accords. The NSC Cables consist of electronic cables dating between November 8, 2000 and January 20, 2001 regarding ongoing foreign policy issues and reference consultations with the transition team. The cables also include requests from foreign officials to visit the United States after the transition, meet with the next administration's transition team, meeting with the President-elect, or attend the inauguration. There are also numerous congratulatory messages intended for President-elect Bush. The majority of the responsive materials are found in the NSC Email system. These emails, dating between November 8, 2000 and January 19, 2001, primarily concern administrative matters. These include transition planning meetings, guidance on the retention and transfer of Presidential records, the preparation of transition and administrative history papers, personnel matters, contact information for the Bush transition team, and the logistical challenges in finding workspace for transition team staff. The emails also contain drafts of the unclassified transition papers and some mention of ongoing foreign policy issues. The researcher should be aware that many of the records related to this FOIA case are closed for national security reasons.

Biographical Note

On October 12, 2000, President Clinton signed the Presidential Transition Act to facilitate the change of administrations following the November 7, 2000 election. However, disputed elections results in the state of Florida prolonged the election for 36 days. On December 12, 2000, the United States Supreme Court 5-4 ruling in Bush

v. Gore halted the recount of votes in Florida. Vice President and Democratic candidate Albert Gore, Jr. conceded the election, and Republic Governor of Texas George Bush became the 43rd President-elect of the United States. The disputed election had shortened the transition period by over a month, and the Clinton and Bush transition teams had to move quickly to ensure a smooth transition. As part of this effort, National Security Council staff prepared memos and briefing materials to pass off to the incoming Bush national security team, headed by Condoleeza Rice and Stephen Hadley.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas – Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Record Management System [Email], and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems. Staff and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. Clinton Presidential Library’s web site 2008-0015-F http://www.clintonlibrary.gov 3 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 email. The ARMS dataset is comprised of 7 sub-series of email records called “Buckets.” The buckets include NPR, OPD, POTUS, WHO, CEA, Default, and NSC. 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).

Subject Headings

Presidents--Transition periods

Person Names

Bush, George W. (George Walker), 1946-

Topical Subjects

Presidents--Transition periods

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2012. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2014-04-07

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2008-0015-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Counsel’s Office
Schaffner, Jane
Brookings Institution Retreat 2000 Elections Transition 11/16/00 [1] [OA/ID CF 2056]
Brookings Institution Retreat 2000 Elections Transition 11/16/00 [2] [OA/ID CF 2056]
Management and Administration
Lindsay, Mark
Misc Transition [OA/ID CF 2027]
National Security Council
Executive Secretary
Bradtke, Robert
Transition File (Clinton to Bush) [OA/ID 4161]
Intelligence Programs
Smith, James
DoJ [Department of Justice]/Security Policy Board/Transition WAVES Check [OA/ID 4038]
International Economic Affairs
Samans, Richard
Transition [OA/ID 3946]
Legal Advisor
Derosa, Mary

Transition Issues [1] [OA/ID 4057]
Transition Issues [2] [OA/ID 4057]
Multilateral & Humanitarian Affairs
Smith, Peter
Transition Memo Drafts (November – December 2000) [OA/ID 3076]
Transition [OA/ID 4019]
Nonproliferation and Export Controls
Samore, Gary
Transition Papers [1] [OA/ID 4027]
Transition Papers [2] [OA/ID 4027]
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Emails]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[Transition]
[12/14/2000 – 01/08/2001]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[Transition]
[12/28/2000]
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[Transition]
[01/05/2001]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
[Transition…]
[11/09/2000 – 11/30/2000]
Box 2
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems
NSC Cables
Jan 1999 – Dec 2000
[Transition…]
[11/08/2000 – 11/30/2000] [OA/ID 530000]
[12/01/2000 – 12/15/2000] [OA/ID 530000]
[12/16/2000 – 12/30/2000] [OA/ID 530000]
Jan 2001
[Transition…]
[01/02/2001 – 01/12/2001] [OA/ID 540000]
[01/13/2001 – 01/17/2001] [OA/ID 540000]
[01/18/2001 – 01/20/2001] [OA/ID 540000]

NSC Emails
Exchange – Record (Sept 97 – Jan 01)
[Transition…]
[11/08/2000 – 11/13/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
Box 3
[11/14/2000 – 11/15/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[11/16/2000 – 11/20/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[11/21/2000 – 11/24/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[11/26/2000 – 11/30/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/01/2000 – 12/04/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/05/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/06/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/07/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
Box 4
[12/08/2000] [1] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/08/2000] [2] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/09/2000 – 12/11/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/12/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/13/2000 – 12/14/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/15/2000] [1] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/15/2000] [2] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/16/2000 – 12/18/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
Box 5
[12/19/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/20/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/21/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/22/2000 – 12/24/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/26/2000 – 12/27/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/28/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
[12/29/2000] [OA/ID 620000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Emails
Exchange – Record (Sept 97 – Jan 01)
[Transition…]
[01/02/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/03/2001] [OA/ID 620000]

Box 6
[01/04/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/05/2001 – 01/07/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/08/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/09/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/10/2001 – 01/11/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/12/2001 – 01/15/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/16/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
[01/16/2001 – 01/17/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
Box 7
[01/18/2001 – 01/19/2001] [OA/ID 620000]
Exchange – Non-Record (Mar 97 – Jan 01)
[Transition…]
[11/08/2000 – 11/15/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[11/16/2000 – 11/30/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[12/01/2000 – 12/06/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[12/07/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[12/08/2000 – 12/13/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[12/14/2000 – 12/15/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
Box 8
[12/16/2000 – 12/21/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[12/22/2000 – 12/29/2000] [OA/ID 630000]
[01/02/2001 – 01/04/2001] [OA/ID 630000]
[01/05/2001 – 01/06/2001] [OA/ID 630000]
[01/08/2001 – 01/09/2001] [OA/ID 630000]
[01/10/2001 – 01/12/2001] [OA/ID 630000]
[01/13/2001 – 01/19/2001] [OA/ID 630000]
NSC Records Management
[Transition…]
0007231 [OA/ID 4182]
0007265 [OA/ID 4182]
0100197 [OA/ID 4180]