Extent

15 folders, approximately 360 pages

Summary

This collection consists of documents relating to the history and ownership of the presidential yacht Sequoia, in particular the efforts of a private citizens' group called the Presidential Yacht Trust to recover the Sequoia from the Norfolk Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation during the Clinton Administration. The records in this collection include memoranda, talking points, notes, papers, draft letters, letters, briefings, and faxes.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2011-0201-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 2011-0201-F contains a variety of records which provide historical background information about the presidential yacht, the Sequoia. The Sequoia was a government owned yacht, purchased by the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1931. In 1977, during the Carter administration, the Sequoia was sold and then in 1980 aquired by the Presidential Yacht Trust (a group of private citizens). As the Presidential Yacht Trust was unable to raise funds necessary to pay for renovations and maintenance, the Sequoia became the property of the Norfolk Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation (Norshipco) in 1990. During the Clinton Administration, the Presidential Yacht Trust continued in its efforts to raise the necessary funds to reacquire and maintain the yacht but were unsuccessful. In 2000 Norshipco sold the Sequoia to its present day owners, the Presidential Yacht Group, LLC. Most of the records found to be responsive to this FOIA are from the White House Counsel's Office and the Management and Administration Office. The majority of these records are concerned with a plan the Presidential Yacht Trust had to gain financial support from Kuwaiti business leaders.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in the following 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 System. 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. WHORM files are processed at the document level; whereas, 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 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. FOIA 2011-0201-F includes WHORM records from the following subject codes: CO091 Kuwait, State of IV Invitations WH009-03 Yacht, Presidential.

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 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).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, February 2011. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2011-0201-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File
Category Case Number
CO091 153512
IV 295086
WH009-03 060961
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files

Chief of Staff
Gergen, David
Sequoia [OA/ID 2158]
Counsel’s Office
Schroeder, Robert (Trey)
Sequoia [OA/ID CF 871]
Management and Administration
Watkins, David
The Sequoia [1] [OA/ID 8309]
The Sequoia [2] [OA/ID 8309]
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[Yacht near Sequoia]
[08/25/1999]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[Yacht near Sequoia]
[06/02/1994-11/13/2000]
NSC [OA/ID 1200000]
[Sequoia and Yacht]
[03/05/1999-10/17/2000]

Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Cables
Jan 1993-Dec 1994
[Sequoia and Yacht]
[05/02/24/1994-04/09/1994] [OA/ID 505000]
NSC Emails
A-1 Record (Jan 93-Sept 94)
[Sequoia and Yacht]
[09/22/1993] [OA/ID 570000]

MSMail-Record (Sept 94- Sept 97)
[Sequoia and Yacht]
[01/29/1996-01/30/1996] [OA/ID 590000]
Exchange -Record (Sept 97-Jan 01)
[Sequoia and Yacht]
[06/22/1998-06/29/1998] [OA/ID 620000]

NSC Records Management
[Sequoia and Yacht]
9601066 [OA/ID 1086]