Extent

24 folders, 575 total pages

Summary

This collection consists of materials regarding American astronomer Carl Sagan. Credited with popularizing science and astronomy, Sagan promoted the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence and published a novel, "Contact." These files contain correspondence, email, and other records related to Sagan's work, his relationship with the White House, and his death on December 20, 1996.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2006-1879-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 2006-1879-F contains materials from the White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Files; the WAVES system; the White House Database (WHODB); the Automated Records Management System [Email]; the Tape Restoration Project [Email]; NSC Cables; and NSC Emails. This collection consists of memos and correspondence concerning but not limited to Carl Sagan’s involvement in nuclear nonproliferation, articulating science initiatives, and ultimately Carl Sagan’s death. Carl Sagan was an American astronomer and successful proponent of astronomy and science. He pioneered exobiology and promoted the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI). Sagan died December 20, 1996. A film adaptation of Sagan’s novel, Contact, was released in 1997. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject files contain responsive documents. These include correspondence from Carl Sagan and memos regarding Sagan’s work, as well as letters from the President to Sagan at the beginning of his illness and condolence letters to his widow upon his death. The WAVES system contains a record of a visit between Carl Sagan and Vice President Albert Gore, Jr. The White House Database (WHODB) contains a record of invitations

and holiday cards sent to Sagan. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Emails consist of emails mentioning Sagan and his work, the statements of the Vice President and others upon his death, emails regarding the film Contact, press and television program transcripts mentioning Sagan, and emails regarding a “Friends of Carl Sagan” event hosted by the Vice President on November 17, 1998. The Tape Restoration Project (TRP) Emails consist of emails regarding Carl Sagan’s death and the “Friends of Carl Sagan Event.” The NSC Cables contain excerpts from publications mentioning Sagan and a cable regarding the formation of the Green Cross, an environmental organization founded by Mikhail Gorbachev. Sagan was mentioned as a potential member of this organization. The NSC Emails also contain excerpts from publications mentioning Carl Sagan’s name.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in six collection areas – Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: WAVES System, Clinton Presidential Records: WHODB System, Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails, Clinton Presidential Records: TRP Emails, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable and Email 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. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area. WHORM Subject files are processed at the document level. The WHORM Subject file was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management and is a series of categories designed by a letter/number combination. A complete listing of the categories with detailed descriptions is provided in our research room and on our website. The WAVES System is a database containing information pertaining to individuals entering the White House from 1993 to 2000. WAVES information includes the entrance of visitors, the authority who escorted those visitors into the White House, locations visited, visit times and dates of entry. Printed waves entries are arranged chronologically by badge date. The Clinton White

House Database (WHODB) contains information about White House events. Individuals from the WHODB system may be related to the events in the system and vice versa. Event information is printed and arranged by database ID number. 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 record 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. The Tape Restoration Project (TRP) is a database consisting of restored emails from the Automated Records Management System from July 1994 through June of 2000. The TRP is a database that contains email records of the Executive office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential record email. The TRP 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 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).

Processed by

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

Last Modified Date

2011-06-15

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2006-1879-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files
Category Case Number
CO023 Scanned: Case Number 084813 [OA/ID 21715]
FG001 Scanned: Case Number 240082SS [OA/ID 21829]
MA026 Scanned: Case Number 249696SS [OA/ID 23547]
ME001-03 Scanned: Case Number 199740 [OA/ID 17743]
ME001-04 Scanned: Case Number 102593 [OA/ID 23635]
OS Scanned: Case Number 237114SS [OA/ID 14087]
PE002 Scanned: Case Number 201313 [Sagan] [OA/ID 12437]
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Emails
OPD [OA/ID 250,000]
[Carl Sagan]
[05/02/1996 – 11/16/1998]
WHO [OA/ID 500,000]
[Carl Sagan]
[10/01/1993 – 10/02/1997]

[10/03/1997 – 07/12/1999]
Default [OA/ID 1,100,000]
[Carl Sagan]
[04/14/1994 – 09/09/1997]
NSC [1,200,000]
[Carl Sagan]
[10/30/1996 – 10/02/1997]
[01/05/1998 – 05/19/2000]
Clinton Presidential Records: Tape Restoration Project (TRP) Emails
OPD [OA/ID 250,000]
[Carl Sagan]
[01/08/1999]
WHO [OA/ID 500,000]
[Carl Sagan]
[02/25/1997 – 11/16/1998]
Default [OA/ID 1,100,000]
[Carl Sagan]
[08/20/1997 – 11/16/1997]
Clinton Presidential Records: Worker and Visitor Entry System (WAVES)
[Carl Sagan]
[Waves Entry: Badge Date 12/11/96] [OA/ID 2000000]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Database (WHODB)
[Carl Sagan]
[WHO Detail ID: 360310] [OA/ID 2100000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable and Email Systems
NSC Cables
Jan 1993 – Dec 1994
[Carl Sagan]
[05/07/1993] [OA/ID 505000]
Jan 1995 – Dec 1996
[Carl Sagan]
[08/15/1995] [OA/ID 510000]
Jan 1999 – Dec 2000
[Carl Sagan]
[01/07/1999] [OA/ID 530000]
NSC Emails
MSMail – Non-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)

[Carl Sagan]
[02/28/1997] [OA/ID 605000]
Exchange – Record (Sept 97-Jan 01)
[Carl Sagan]
[02/18/1999][OA/ID 620000]
Exchange – Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01)
[Carl Sagan]
[07/23/1998 – 05/18/2000] [OA/ID 630000]