Extent

31 folders, approximately 2,000 pages

Summary

This collection contains records concerning Brigadier General Terry Schwalier, U. S. Air Force (USAF), who served as the commanding officer of the Khobar Towers housing complex at the time of its bombing. The material consists almost entirely of press summaries and briefings, and one report complete with executive summary and appendix.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in 2006-0649-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 2006-0649-F contains records dealing with Brigadier General Terryl Schwalier and the terrorist bombing at Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia in June 1996. This collection consists almost entirely of press summaries and briefings. There is very little in the way of revelatory or groundbreaking documents that would be beneficial to the researcher. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains just one record. The material found here concerns General Schwalier and the actions he failed to take to increase security measures at the Khobar Towers compound in the period preceding the terrorist attack. A report entitled “Personal Accountability for Force Protection at Khobar Towers” (complete with executive summary and appendix) is open and can be perused in detail. However, this same report is readily available online. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Emails focus primarily on two documents in which General Schwalier receives only a brief mention. There is a transcript of a press briefing by Mike McCurry on July 31, 1997 in which the denial of promotion to Schwalier because of Khobar Towers gets discussed in passing. Also, a transcript of a “McLaughlin Group” program for December 27-28, 1997 contains

references to end-of-the-year awards, with Schwalier receiving “Bummest Rap of the Year” for taking the fall for Khobar Towers. The NSC Cable and Email Systems contain multiple copies (with revisions) of Press Guidance for December 12, 1996. Various topics are covered, including the Khobar Towers bombing. Mention is made of the press dealing with the possible involvement of Iran in the episode. The press briefer is instructed to say an investigation is ongoing and no conclusion has been reached about what role (if any) Iran may have had in the attack against the American base.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in three collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS 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. 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 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).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2007. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2007-12-20

Container List

Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files
Category Case Number
ND 007-06 Scanned: Case Number 237189SS
Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails
OPD 1993/01-1998/12
[Schwalier]
[07/31/1997-12/29/1997] [OA/ID 250000]

[12/29/1997-01/27/1998] [OA/ID 250000]
WHO 1996/01-1997/12
[Schwalier]
[06/27/1996-07/31/1997] [OA/ID 550000]
[07/31/1997] [OA/ID 550000]
[08/03/1997-12/30/1997] [OA/ID 550000]
WHO 1998/01-1998/11
[Schwalier]
[01/02/1998-04/13/1998]
CEA 1996/07-1999/12
[Schwalier]
[08/03/1997- 01/27/1998] [OA/ID 950000]
Default 1993/01-1997/12
[Schwalier]
[10/01/1996-12/29/1997] [OA/ID 1100000]
Default 2000/01-2001/01
[Schwalier]
[01/09/2001] [OA/ID 1200000]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable and Email Systems
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996
[Schwalier]
[07/01/1996-12/17/1996] [OA/ID 510000]
Jan 1997-Dec 1998
[Schwalier]
[1/28/1997-04/16/1997] [OA/ID 520000]
NSC Emails
A1-Record (Jan 93-Sept 94)
[Schwalier]
[06/28/1994-07/08/1994] [OA/ID 570000]
A1-Non-Record (Apr 94-Sept 94)
[Schwalier]
[07/05/1994] [OA/ID 580000]
MSMail-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Schwalier]
[06/26/1996-12/12/1996] [OA/ID 590000]

[12/12/1996] [OA/ID 590000]
Box 2
[12/13/1996-12/14/1996] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/16/1996] [1] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/16/1996] [2] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/17/1996] [1] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/17/1996] [2] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/18/1996] [1] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/18/1996] [2] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/19/1996] [1] [OA/ID 590000]
Box 3
[12/19/1996] [2] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/19/1996] [3] [OA/ID 590000]
[12/20/1996] [OA/ID 590000]
[04/14/1997-04/25/1997] [OA/ID 590000]
MSMail-Non-Record (Sept 94-Sept 97)
[Schwalier]
[12/19/1996] [OA/ID 605000]
[12/19/1996-03/21/1997] [OA/ID 605000]

Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01)
[Schwalier]
[07/29/1997-08/07/1997] [OA/ID 630000]