Extent

11 folders, approximately 299 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to the film Contact. The film, released on July 1, 1997, is a science fiction film about the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI) Program. The screenplay was co-written by Carl Sagan and Ann Druyan and based on the novel of the same title written by Sagan. This collection consists of memos regarding the use of the President's image in the film and email concerning the film's co author and Sagan's wife, Ann Druyan.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2006-1877-F are a selective, not necessarily all inclusive, body of documents. FOIA request 2006-1877-F contains materials from the White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Files; the Automated Records Management System [Email], Tape Restoration Project [Email], and the NSC Email System. This collection consists largely of email and correspondence concerning Ann Druyan in reference to her relationship to Carl Sagan and her involvement with the film "Contact." The film Contact, released on July 1, 1997, is a science fiction film about the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI) Program. The screenplay was co-written by Carl Sagan and Ann Druyan and based on the novel of the same title written by Sagan. The film was produced and directed by Robert Zemekis. The release of Contact was followed by controversy over the use of President Bill Clinton's digitally composited appearance in the motion picture. Responsive documents may be found in the White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Files. The files contain correspondence and memos regarding the use of the President's image in the film. Documents responsive to this FOIA may also be found in the Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Emails and the Tape Restoration Project (TRP) Emails. These emails discuss the relationship of Carl

Sagan’s widow, Ann Druyan, to him, his work, and the film “Contact.” Documents responsive to this FOIA may also be found in the NSC Email System. These emails primarily consist of drafts of a speech given by National Security Advisor Samuel “Sandy” Berger in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the National Security Council (NSC) on October 31, 1997. In his remarks, Berger referenced how films such as “Contact” had popularized the NSC.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in four collection areas – Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails, Clinton Presidential Records: TRP Emails, and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Emails. 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. 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

2011-05-05

Container List

View all digitized files in the National Archives Catalog (NAC)

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2006-1877-F:

Box 1

Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files

Category Case Number

GI002 Scanned: Case Number 258564

PR010 Scanned: Case Number 413567

PR015-01 Scanned: Case Number 229809SS

Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Emails]

OPD [OA/ID 250,000]

[Ann Druyan]

[11/12/1998]

Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Emails] (continued)

WHO [OA/ID 500,000]

[Ann Druyan]

[08/11/1998 – 06/23/2000]

Default [OA/ID 1,100,000]

[Ann Druyan]

[04/28/1997 – 03/08/1999]

NSC [OA/ID 1,200,000]

[Ann Druyan]

[07/09/1997]

Clinton Presidential Records: Tape Restoration Project [Emails]

WHO [OA/ID 500,000]

[Ann Druyan]

[02/26/1997 – 01/08/1999]

Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Emails

Exchange – Record (Sept 97-Jan 01)

[Movie Contact]

[10/24/1997 – 10/28/1997] [OA/ID 620000]

[10/29/1997 – 10/31/1997] [OA/ID 620000]

Exchange – Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01)

[Movie Contact]

[07/11/1997 – 11/07/1997] [OA/ID 630000]

Content Available Online