



George Bush Presidential Library

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Inventory for FOIA Request 2000-0429-F

Records on Memcons and Telcons, January 1989 to December 1991 Between President George H.W. Bush and various heads of state

Extent

72 folders

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Bush Presidential Records, Bush Vice Presidential Records, and Quayle Vice 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 George Bush's presidency and vice presidency are housed at the George Bush Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed By

Staff Archivists, June 2001. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Scope and Content

The materials in FOIA 2000-0429-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 2000-0429-F consists of memoranda of in-person conversations (memcons) and telephone

conversations (telcons) between President George Bush and other heads of state between January 1989 and December 1991. In most instances, memcons and telcons are detailed transcripts of such conversations and are based on the notes of National Security Council staff members or White House Situation Room personnel who monitor the conversations. On some occasions, these talks were not monitored or no memcon or telcon was produced by the notetaker. When this occurred, generally a marker was placed in the file by the NSC indicating a conversation had taken place, who the participants were, and the date and time of the contact. Also, there are instances where the memcons and telcons contain a mere summary of the conversation rather than a detailed transcript.

Memcons and telcons were generated primarily to record conversations between President Bush and other heads of state. However, there are also a small number of non-head of state memcons and telcons filed here as well. These conversations are most often with important world figures, such as African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela and Manfred Woerner, Secretary General of NATO. Memcons and telcons also are present for Pope John Paul II and the United Nations Secretary General. Finally, memcons and telcons are not always limited solely to a transcript of the discussion of the two heads of state. Secretary of State James Baker and National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft were, on rare occasions, active participants in these conversations.

While these memcons and telcons will one day be a valuable resource to researchers studying foreign policy issues during the Bush administration or President Bush's interaction with specific world leaders and/or their countries, currently little of this material is available for research. While processed, these records have been closed in accordance with Presidential Records Act (PRA) restrictions and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemptions which restrict the release of national security classified information.

Memcons and telcons are organized separately and are filed chronologically by the date of the conversation. On many occasions President Bush had multiple conversations with a head of state on the same day. Generally, each conversation was recorded in its own memcon by the NSC staff. These memcons are listed separately on the withdrawal sheets. Finally, these documents were maintained by the NSC for the specific purpose of having a record copy of all memcons and telcons. Therefore, there is little extraneous material located in these files.

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in one collection area—Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files. As policy, WHORM Alphabetical Files and WHORM Subject Files are processed at the document level. 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 WHORM Subject File compiled by the White House Office of Records Management is comprised of a series of documents assigned a letter/number combination and filed in a subject category. A complete listing of the subject categories including a detailed description of each category is available in our research room and on our website at <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/research/find/whorm/whorm.html>.

Please note that a single asterisk "*" indicates that the category is entirely processed and open.

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2000-0429-F.

BUSH PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS: WHITE HOUSE STAFF AND OFFICE FILES

National Security Council
Presidential Memcon File
January 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]

February 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]
March 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]
April 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]
May 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]
June 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]
July 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]
August 1989 [OA/ID CF01729]
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June 1990 [OA/ID CF01729]
July 1990 [OA/ID CF01728]
August 1990 [OA/ID CF01728]
September 1990 [OA/ID CF01728]
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February 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
March 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
April 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
May 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
June 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
July 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
August 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
September 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
October 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
November 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]
December 1991 [OA/ID CF01728]

Presidential Telcon File

January 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
February 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
March 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
April 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
May 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
June 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
July 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
August 1989 [OA/ID CF01731]
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April 1990 [OA/ID CF01731]

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June 1990 [OA/ID CF01731]
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September 1990 [OA/ID CF01731]
October 1990 [OA/ID CF01731]
November 1990 [OA/ID CF01731]
December 1990 [OA/ID CF01731]
January 1991 [OA/ID CF01730]
February 1991 [1] [OA/ID CF01730]
February 1991 [2] [OA/ID CF01730]
March 1991 [OA/ID CF01730]
April 1991 [OA/ID CF01730]
May 1991 [OA/ID CF01730]
June 1991 [OA/ID CF01730]
July 1991 [OA/ID CF01730]
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December 1991 [OA/ID 01730]

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