



George Bush Presidential Library

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Inventory for FOIA Request 2000-1198-F

Records on U.S. Recognition of Ukraine

Extent

7 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, August 2001. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Related Collections

Related material may be found in FOIA request 1999-0302-F entitled "Records on Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty(START)."

Scope and Content

The materials in FOIA 2000-1198-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 2000-1198-F contains material related to the United State's interaction with Ukraine during and after the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the Ukrainian referendum on independence. With the deterioration of the political strength of the Soviet Union, the republics of the USSR began seeking more independence from Moscow. As early as July 16, 1990, the Ukrainian parliament declared the Ukrainian republic to be a sovereign state. After the unsuccessful August coup attempt the following year, Ukraine declared itself an independent nation. On December 1, 1991, an overwhelming majority of Ukrainians voted for independence and elected Leonid Kravchuk as the first president of Ukraine. On Christmas Day 1991, the United States announced its formal recognition of Ukraine as a sovereign nation. This FOIA request specifically sought all documents related to the Bush administration's discussions in the fall of 1991 concerning recognition of Ukraine as an independent country. However, few documents were located that dealt directly with the issue of recognition. The majority of folders pertaining to Ukraine in no way relates to such discussions, and therefore remains unprocessed. Those files that were processed contained a broad array of documents related to Ukraine and its transformation from a republic of the Soviet Union to an independent country with full diplomatic ties to the United States.

The Staff and Office Files contain basic background and historical information about Ukraine, cables and reports on the evolving political, military, and economic situation, and profiles of the current and potential leaders. Press releases, head-of-state correspondence, and memoranda of conversations between Ukrainian and American officials record the evolving relationship between the two states. Of particular concern to the Bush administration during this period was the position of Ukraine on military matters, particularly the presence of large numbers of nuclear weapons on its soil and the Ukrainian position on the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE) and the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START). Other issues include Ukrainian participation in the United Nations, the development of a democratic system of government and the transformation to a market economy, and Ukrainian relations with other European countries and former Soviet republics, particularly with Russia.

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; 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 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>.

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2000-1198-F.

Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files

National Security Council

Nicholas Burns—Subject Files

Ukraine [OA/ID CF01487]

Briefing Book—State—on Ukraine [OA/ID CF01487]

Nicholas Burns/Ed Hewett—Russia Subject File

1.2.0—Political Situation; Ukraine [OA/ID CF01613]

4.4.0—U.S. Relations with Russia; Relations with Ukraine [OA/ID CF01536]

Craig Chellis—Subject File
CFE [Conventional Forces in Europe]—Ukraine [OA/ID CF01581]

John Gordon—Subject File
Ukraine, December 1991 [OA/ID CF01656]

Jane Holl—Electronic Message File
Electronic Messages—Ukraine [OA/ID CF01451]

Susan Koch—Subject File
CIS [Commonwealth of Independent States]—Recognition [OA/ID CF01957]

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