



George Bush Presidential Library

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Inventory for FOIA Request 2008-1089-F

Selected Arnold Kanter Files: National Security Review 12 and Open Skies Initiative

Extent

9 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, February 2010. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Related Collections

Related material may be found in FOIA requests 2008-1087-F "Selected Philip Zelikow Files: Relating to Various National Security Reviews and Directives", 2008-1088-F entitled "Selected William Tobey Files: National Security Reviews 3, 12, and 14", 2008-1090-F "Selected Nancy Bearg Dyke and Heather Wilson Files: National Security Reviews 4, 5, 12, and 24", and and 2008-1091-F "Selected Torkel Patterson, Daniel Poneman, and Stephen G. Rademaker Files: Assorted National Security Directives (NSDs)".

Scope and Content

The materials in FOIA 2008-1089-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 2008-1089-F contains materials from agencies and individuals including the United States Department of Defense and the Staff of the National Security Council (NSC), focusing on selected files of Arnold Kanter, Special Assistant to the President and NSC Senior Director of Defense Policy/Arms Control from November, 1989 to June, 1991, that concern National Security Review (NSR) 12 and the "Open Skies" Initiative. NSR-12 (available online at <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/research/pdfs/nsr/nsr12.pdf>) directed a review of the basic national defense strategy in light of budget limitations and changes in Soviet domestic and foreign policies. President Bush's "Open Skies" Initiative was a proposal for an arms control regime that would allow participating countries to fly unarmed observational flights over other participants' territories as a confidence building measure. A treaty based on this initiative was signed on March 14, 1992, ratified by the U.S. Senate in 1993, and entered into force on January 1, 2002. It currently has 34 participant countries.

The Staff and Office Files contain agendas, cables, charts, cover sheets, lists, memoranda, meeting minutes, notes, outlines, papers, press releases, publications, reports, schedule proposals, and talking points maintained by individual staff members and offices. The records consist of materials used in the drafting of NSR-12, such as meeting minutes, agendas, schedule proposals, background reports, correspondence, and draft versions. In addition, cables, talking points, memoranda, charts, papers, and notes detail the "Open Skies" Initiative and foreign response to it shortly after President Bush made the proposal in 1989.

Please note that at this time the majority of this request remains classified for National Security reasons. As documents are declassified they will be added to the open 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, 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.

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 2008-1089-F.

Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files

National Security Council

Arnold Kanter Files—Subject Files

- NSR-12 – April 1989 [1] [OA/ID CF00777]
- NSR-12 – April 1989 [2] [OA/ID CF00777]
- NSR-12 – April 1989 [3] [OA/ID CF00777]
- NSR-12 – April 1989 [4] [OA/ID CF00777]
- NSR-12 – March 1989 [1] [OA/ID CF00777]
- NSR-12 – March 1989 [2] [OA/ID CF00777]
- Open Skies Initiatives – June 1989 [OA/ID CF00779]
- NSC Meeting – NSR-12 (Sections II & III) – [May 17, 1989] [OA/ID CF00779]
- NSC Meeting – NSR-12 (Defense) – [May 23, 1989] [OA/ID CF00779]

Last modified: 01/27/2011