



## **George Bush Presidential Library**

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### **Inventory for FOIA Request 2021-0031-F**

## **Records on The President's Nuclear Initiative (PNI)**

#### **Extent**

31 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, May 2022. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

#### **System of Arrangement**

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in two collection areas—Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files and Bush Vice Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files.

## **Related Collections**

Related material may be found in FOIA request [1998-0136-F](#)—Records on Nonproliferation of Non-Nuclear Weapons—Particularly Biological and Chemical Weapons; [2004-0824-F](#)—Records on Jim Giffen & Kazakhstan; [2010-2613-F](#)—NATO, Strategic Nuclear Forces, President's Nuclear Initiative; and [2014-1126-F](#)—1992 Visit of President Nazarbayev.

## **Scope and Content**

The materials in FOIA 2021-0031-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 2021-0031-F contains records materials in relation to the President's Nuclear Initiative (PNI).

Near the Cold War's end, leaders in Washington and Moscow made reciprocal unilateral pledges to substantially limit and reduce their nuclear weaponry, most notably their tactical or "battlefield" nuclear weapons, such as nuclear artillery shells.

President George H.W. Bush initiated these commitments, collectively known as the Presidential Nuclear Initiatives (PNIs), in September 1991 in recognition of the breakup of the Eastern bloc and out of concern for the Kremlin's ability to maintain control of its vast nuclear arsenal as political changes swept the Soviet Union. President Bush pledged to end foreign deployments of entire categories of U.S. tactical nuclear weapons; specifically, to withdraw to the United States all ground-launched short-range weapons deployed overseas and destroy them along with existing U.S. stockpiles of the same weapons; and cease deployment of tactical nuclear weapons on surface ships, attack submarines, and land-based naval aircraft during "normal circumstances." Implicitly, the United States reserved the right to redeploy these arms in a crisis.

President Bush hoped that leaders in Moscow would follow suit; and they did, at least in part. On Oct. 5, 1991, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev responded to Bush's speech with reciprocal Soviet measures. Specifically, Gorbachev committed to eliminate all nuclear artillery munitions, nuclear warheads for tactical missiles, and nuclear mines, and to remove all tactical nuclear weapons from surface ships and multipurpose submarines. These weapons would be stored in central storage sites along with all nuclear arms assigned to land-based naval aircraft; and to separate nuclear warheads from air defense missiles and put the warheads in central storage. A "portion" would be destroyed.

Furthermore, on Jan. 29, 1992, Russian President Boris Yeltsin reaffirmed Gorbachev's commitments and expanded on them in response to a second round of unilateral U.S. nuclear weapons cutbacks focused on strategic forces. Following the Soviet Union's December 25, 1991 collapse, Russia assumed responsibility for the Soviet Union's nuclear complex and arms control commitments. Yeltsin said Russia would eliminate a third of its sea-based tactical nuclear weapons and half of its ground-to-air nuclear missile warheads; and halved its airborne tactical nuclear weapons stockpile. Pending reciprocal U.S. action, the other half of this stockpile would be taken out of service and placed in central storage depots. As a result, all Soviet nuclear weapons were reportedly successfully consolidated on Russian soil.

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2021-0031-F.

## **Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files**

National Security Council

Jones, Colonel Jeffrey B., Files—Subject Files

Presidential Nuclear Initiatives [OA/ID CF01455]

Koch, Susan, Files—Subject Files

Zero Ballistic Missiles / Eliminating Nuclear Weapons [OA/ID CF01339]  
Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Memo [OA/ID CF01341]  
Nuclear Weapons Council [1] [OA/ID CF01954]  
Nuclear Weapons Council [2] [OA/ID CF01954]  
President's Nuclear Initiative (PNI) [CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—Demirving [CF01955]  
President's Nuclear Initiative—[Nuclear Weapons] Safety, Security, and Dismantlement (SSD) [1] [OA/ID CF01955]  
President's Nuclear Initiative—[Nuclear Weapons] Safety, Security, and Dismantlement (SSD) [2] [OA/ID CF01955]  
President's Nuclear Initiative—[Nuclear Weapons] Safety, Security, and Dismantlement (SSD) [3] [OA/ID CF01955]  
President's Nuclear Initiative—[Nuclear Weapons] Safety, Security, and Dismantlement (SSD) [4] [OA/ID CF01955]  
President's Nuclear Initiative—[Nuclear Weapons] Safety, Security, and Dismantlement (SSD) [5] [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Allies [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Byelarus [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative] - SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Kazakhstan [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—March 1992 Trip [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—NATO [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Nuclear Testing [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Russia [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—START [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Ukraine [1] [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Ukraine [2] [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—SSD [Nuclear Weapons Safety, Security, and Dismantlement]—Ukraine [3] [OA/ID CF01955]  
PNI [President's Nuclear Initiative]—U.S. Forces [OA/ID CF01955]  
Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Plan [OA/ID CF01958]

Lamplsey, Virginia Files—Subject Files

National Commission on Future Role of U.S. Nuclear Weapons [OA/ID CF01391]

Tobey, William, Files—Subject Files

President's Nuclear Initiative II (PNI II) [OA/ID CF01463]  
President's Nuclear Initiative (PNI) [OA/ID CF01463]

Personnel, White House Office of

Boards and Commissions Files—Abolished Boards and Commissions File  
Future Role of U.S. Nuclear Weapons [OA/ID 07092]

Public Liaison, White House Office of  
Caldwell, William, Files  
Nuclear Weapons [OA/ID 06391]

**Bush Vice Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files**

Press Office  
Walsh, Sean Files—Clippings Files  
[Battlefield Nuclear Weapons in Germany] [OA/ID 14970]

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