Records on Assistant Secretary of Defense John Hamre and Kosovo

Extent
4 folders, approximately 95 pages

Access
Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 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 the copyright law of the United States (17 U.S.C. Chapter 1) 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, 2019. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Scope and Content
The materials in FOIA 2019-0337-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material.

This collection contains material related to Assistant Secretary of Defense John Hamre’s involvement in matters pertaining to the conflict in Kosovo. A part of the several regional and ethnic conflicts that occurred in the former Yugoslavia, the Kosovo war broke out in February between the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), with NATO support, and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in February of 1998. It lasted until June 1999, when Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic accepted a peace plan and the entrance of a NATO-led peacekeeping force, Kosovo Force or KFOR, into Kosovo. As of May 2019, the Republic of Kosovo is a partially recognized state and a small number of KFOR troops remain in the area.

As Assistant Secretary of Defense from 1997 to 2000, John Hamre was heavily involved in Kosovo-related matters, particularly in informing Congress and seeking its support for American involvement in
NATO-led airstrikes and peacekeeping activities. Both the Automated Records Management System (ARMS) Emails and the NSC Emails contain references to Hamre’s involvement in briefing Congressional committees on Kosovo and in requesting an emergency supplemental appropriation in 1999. The NSC Emails also contain invite lists for interagency meetings on Kosovo that included him.

The researcher should note that all of the NSC Cables in this FOIA case are closed for national security reasons.

**System of Arrangement**

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: ARMS Emails and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems.

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 email. The ARMS database is comprised of six sub-series of email records called "buckets." The buckets generally represent a specific White House office. The buckets are titled: NPR for National Performance Review, OPD for Office of Policy Development, POTUS for President of the United States, WHO for White House Office, CEA for Council of Economic Advisers, NSC for National Security Council and Default for emails not associated with an office.

The NSC bucket contains email created or received by an individual with a National Security Council (NSC) White House user account.

**Box 1**

**Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]**

NSC [OA/ID 1200000]

[Hamre; Kosovo]

[04/19/1999 – 04/22/1999]

**Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System**

NSC Cables

Jan 1997-Dec 1998 [OA/ID 520000]

[Hamre; Kosovo]


NSC Email

Exchange-Record (Sept 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 620000]

[Hamre; Kosovo]


Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) [OA/ID 630000]

[Hamre; Kosovo]


Last modified: 9/5/2019