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Inventory for FOIA 2016-0042-F

Photographs of Vice President Al Gore and the Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission as well as the Environmental Task Force and the Measurements of Earth Data for Environmental Analysis (MEDEA) Program

Extent

27 folders, 211 contact sheets containing approximately 6,330 photographs

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Gore Vice Presidential records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 552, as amended) and therefore may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

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Provenance

Official records of the Albert Gore, Jr. vice presidency are in the custody of the Presidential Materials Division in Washington, DC and are administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed By

Staff Archivists, April 2017. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Related Collections

FOIA 2014-0028-F, 2014-0029-F, 2014-0030-F, 2014-0032-F, 2014-0035-F, FOIA 2014-0040-F, 2014-0041-F, and 2014-0048-F, Presidential Materials Division.

Scope and Content

The contact sheets in this collection relate to Vice President Gore and his work on the Environmental Task Force and the Measurements of Earth Data for Environmental Analysis (MEDEA) Program as well as the Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission.

The Environmental Task Force and follow-on MEDEA group was established in 1992 at the urging of then-Senator Al Gore. MEDEA (Measurements of Earth Data for Environmental Analysis) was a group of roughly sixty scientists, cleared for access to classified material, who sought to determine whether the technical assets of the intelligence community could be used productively by the scientific community to deal with natural disasters and track such problems as global warming, ozone depletion, deforestation, desertification, and oceanic degradation.

The Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission formally known as the U.S. – Russian Joint Commission on Economic and Technological Cooperation was a collaborative effort established by President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin after their April 1993 summit meeting in Vancouver, Canada to increase cooperation in space, energy, business development, defense conversion, the environment, science and technology, health, and agriculture. Vice President Al Gore and Russian Prime Minister Victor Chernomyrdin were appointed and served as co-chairmen and the Commission derives its name from both individuals.

People photographed include but are not limited to Vice President Al Gore, Second Lady Tipper Gore, President Bill Clinton, First Lady Hillary R. Clinton, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Senator Joseph Biden, Rahm Emanuel, Leon Fuerth, National Security Advisor Samuel (Sandy) Berger, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Russian Environmental Affairs adviser Alexey V. Yablokov, and MEDEA Chair Gordon MacDonald.

Locations in photographs include but are not limited to the United States Embassy in Moscow; the White House; the Old Executive Office Building; the State Department; the Capitol; Air Force II; the Pinetree Compound and Samara, Russia; Andrews AFB; Chicago; San Jose University; Lockheed Martin facility in San Jose, California; and CIA Headquarters.

Key event dates include:

September 1-2, 1993 – Chernomyrdin visits White House; Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission meetings September 15, 1993 – Environmental Task Force meeting November 19, 1993 – Meeting with Alexey V. Yablokov May 3, 1994 – Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission meeting June 21-24, 1994 - Chernomyrdin visits White House

February 24, 1995 - CIA declassification of satellite imagery event

June 29, 1995 – Gore visits Moscow

September 13, 1995 - Meeting with MEDEA Chair, Gordon MacDonald

December 15, 1995 – GCC Meeting with Russian representatives

January 30, 1996 - Chernomyrdin visits White House; Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission meetings

May 14, 1996 – Roundtable meeting with MEDEA representatives

July 10, 1996 - Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission meeting

July 15, 1996 – Gore visits Moscow; Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission meetings

February 3-8, 1997 - Chernomyrdin visits White House; Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission meetings

September 21-24, 1997 – Gore visits Russian Pinetree Compound

March 10-13, 1998 - Chernomyrdin visits White House and California; Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission signing ceremony

System of Arrangement

Records responsive to this FOIA request were found in the Vice Presidential records of the White House Photograph Office.

The White House Photograph Office assigned each roll of 35 mm film a unique roll number. The roll numbers for the Vice Presidential photographs begin with "V" in order to distinguish them from the Presidential photographs taken by White House photographers during the administration. The office created a contact sheet for each roll of film and organized them in binders by film type (color or black and white) and roll number. The contact sheets responsive to this request are arranged by binder book number, and thereunder, by roll number. The Photograph Office left gaps in the roll numbers for unexplained reasons.

Archival processing of photographs is done at the contact sheet level.

The following is a list of photograph contact sheets processed in response to FOIA 2016-0042-F:

Gore Vice Presidential Records: White House Photograph Office Vice Presidential Photographs Book 17 (V002138-V002270)

V002229	September 1, 1993
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V002231	September 1, 1993
V002232	September 1, 1993
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V002236	September 1, 1993
V002248	September 2, 1993
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V002251	September 2, 1993
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V002256	September 2, 1993
V002257	September 2, 1993
V002262	September 2, 1993

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Book 6 (B/W) (V002081-V002383)
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       V002265
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Book 19 (V002411-V002550)
                     September 15, 1993
       V002429
Book 23 (V002928-V003073)
       V003015
                     November 19, 1993
Book 8 (B/W) (V002826-V003779)
       V003035
                     November 19, 1993
Book 9 (B/W) (V003785-V004745)
       V004434
                     May 3, 1994
Book 38 (V004804-V004940)
                     June 24, 1994
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Book 39 (V004941-V005017)
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Book 10 (B/W) (V004689-V005169)
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Book 60 (V006923-V007023)
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                     February 24, 1995
Book 14 (B/W) (V008117-V008696)
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June 29, 1995

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Book 74 (V008501-V008602)
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Book 84 (V009494-V009598)
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Book 16 (B/W) (V009658-V0010498)
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Book 89 (V010003-V010110)
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Book 98 (V010904-V010993)
       V010947
                     May 14, 1996
Book 104 (V011428-V011530)
       V011529
                     July 10, 1996
Book 18 (B/W) (V011271-V011821)
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       V011587
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Book 105 (V011530-V011627)
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July 15, 1996

V011581

V011589 July 16, 1996

Book 121 (V013567-V013675) V013644 February 3, 1997

Book 122 (V013676-V013772)

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March 11, 1998

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Last modified: 10/30/2017