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BUSH PRESIDENCY AND DEVELOPMENT AND DEBATE OVER CIVIL RIGHTS POLICY AND LEGISLATION



This collection contains materials on civil rights, the development of civil rights policy, and the debate over civil rights legislation during the administration of President George H.W. Bush and during his tenure as vice president. Contents of this collection includes memoranda, talking points, correspondence, legal briefs, transcripts, news summaries, draft legislation, statements of administration policy (SAP's), case histories, legislative histories and news-clippings covering a broad range of civil rights issues.

Date Range: 1989-1991 (small number of materials from 1981-1989)

Content: 133,499 images

Source Library: George H.W. Bush Presidential Library

Detailed Description:

This collection contains materials on civil rights, the development of civil rights policy, and the debate over civil rights legislation during the administration of President George H.W. Bush (1989-1993) and during his tenure as vice president (1981-1989). Contents of this collection includes memoranda, talking points, correspondence, legal briefs, transcripts, news summaries, draft legislation, statements of administration policy (SAP's), case histories, legislative histories and news-clippings covering a broad range of civil rights issues. Most of the documents in this collection are from the Counsels Office Files of C. Boyden Gray, Fred Nelson, Nelson Lund, and Lee Liberman. Although these files cover a wide range of civil rights issues, the bulk of the Counsels Office files concern the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1990 and the Civil Rights Act of 1991. The confidential correspondence between Senators and Congressmen concerning the Civil Rights Act of 1990 (Kennedy-Hawkins Bill) and the Civil Rights Act of 1991 have been included. Of particular interest are Nelson Lund's files which contain correspondence between Senator John Danforth (R-MO) and White House officials detailing his attempts to broker a compromise between Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) and the White House in an effort to avoid a presidential veto of the Civil Rights Act of 1990. Other files of interest in the Counsels Office include Fred Nelson's files focusing on the "business necessity" language of the Civil Rights Act of 1990 which became a major point of disagreement between Senator Kennedy and the White House. Lee Liberman's Civil Rights

Legislation Files chronicle the development of the Bush administration's civil rights policy and detail administration objections to the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1990. C. Boyden Gray's files also contain information on the Civil Rights Act of 1990, Senator Danforth's negotiations with the White House, and discussion of the administration's civil rights strategy. Mr. Gray's files also contain information on other civil rights issues including civil rights and the military, civil rights and education, and background information on quotas.

Contents

Although many White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject File categories contain information relevant to civil rights, several categories stand out because they contain a concentration of materials. The entire category on Human Rights (HU) has been included in this collection. In addition, there are three sub-categories including FG017 (Department of Justice), FG026-01 (Civil Rights, Office of (Department of Education)), and FG093 (U.S. Commission on Civil Rights) with substantial documentation on civil rights during the Bush Administration.

The WHORM subject file for Human Rights contains extensive information pertaining to human and civil rights, equality, citizenship, equal education and employment, right to housing, women, segregation, ethnic groups, ideologies, civil disturbances, and voting rights, including communications from the public expressing views or complaints about these subjects.

The WHORM Alphabetical Files contain civil rights-related information on thirty-seven prominent business, political, civic, and civil rights leaders. These include William Bell, Melvin Bradley, Carlos Campbell, Linda Chavez, Clay Claiborne, James H. Cleaver, William T. Coleman Jr., St. George I.B. Crosse, James Cummings, LeGree Daniels, Thelma Duggin, Arthur Fletcher, H. Minton Francis, Thaddeus Garrett Jr., B. Sam Hart, Alan Keyes, William Keyes, J.A. (Jay) Parker, Clarence Pendleton, Joseph Perkins, Samuel Pierce, J. Steven Rhodes, Stanley Scott, Harry M. Singleton, Daniel J. Smith, J. Clay Smith, Jerry Solomon, Louis Sullivan, Arthur E. Teele Jr., Franklin Thomas, Gloria Toote, Ricardo Urbina, Joan Wallace, Val Washington, Barbara Watson, Armstrong Williams, and Michael Williams.

The Bush Vice Presidential WHORM Subject File and Bush Vice Presidential WHORM Alphabetical File are very similar to the Bush presidential files of the same names. The Bush Vice Presidential WHORM Subject File contains individually numbered documents discussing various aspects of civil rights. The vice presidential WHORM Alphabetical File contains information on the same thirty-seven individuals listed under the Bush Presidential WHORM Subject File.

The second largest concentration of records in this collection is the Staff and Office Files. Most of the materials are located in the Counsels Office Files of C. Boyden Gray, Fred Nelson, Nelson Lund, and Lee Liberman. Although these files cover a wide range of civil rights issues, the bulk of the Counsels Office files concern the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1990 and the Civil Rights Act of 1991. Other files of interest in the Counsels Office include Fred Nelson's files focusing on the "business necessity" language of the Civil Rights Act

of 1990 which became a major point of disagreement between Senator Kennedy and the White House. Lee Liberman's Civil Rights Legislation Files chronicle the development of the Bush administration's civil rights policy and detail administration objections to the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1990. C. Boyden Gray's files also contain information on the Civil Rights Act of 1990, Senator Danforth's negotiations with the White House, and discussion of the administration's civil rights strategy. Gray's files also contain information on other civil rights issues including civil rights and the military, civil rights and education, and background information on quotas.

Other areas of interest in the Bush Presidential Staff and Office Files include the files of Marianne McGettigan in the Office of Policy Development and the file of Claudia Butts, Willa Hall Smith, and Joe Watkins in the Office of Public Liaison. The Quayle Vice Presidential Records generally contain documents that tend to focus on competitiveness and the impact of certain legislation on the business community. Finally, the Federal Records of Ann Wallace and Bonnie Guiton (U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs) concern trips they made to address organizations on the Bush administration's civil rights policy and civil rights initiatives. In many cases, copies of their remarks are included.

Publisher's Note: This collection comprises the FOIA Requests 1999-0285-F [1], 1999-0285-F [2], and 1999-0285-F [3], filed by the George H.W. Bush Library. All available documents, including those subsequently-opened and interfiled at the time of scanning, have been included. There are a number of individual documents that remain classified or unprocessed. "Document Withdrawal/Redaction Sheets" have been included in this collection. These withdrawal/redaction sheets itemize documents that have been withdrawn due to either national security or privacy restrictions, by the staff of the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library.