



[Records on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization \(NATO\) Summit - Brussels, Belgium, May 29 - 30, 1989](#)

FOIA Number: 2002-2036-F

Scope and Content Note:

The materials in FOIA 2002-2036-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 request 2002-2036-F consists primarily of materials related to the United States Government's participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit meeting held in Brussels, Belgium, May 29 - 30, 1989. President Bush led the U.S. delegation and participated in the meetings. The summit 2002-2036-F 2 took place during a time sweeping changes in the world political and geographical landscapes. Following President Bush's commencement addresses at Texas A&M University and Boston College in May of 1989 in which he detailed the new approach of the United States toward the Soviet Union ("beyond containment"), the Cold War took a surprising turn as the former Communist Bloc countries of Eastern Europe began to shed Communism for Western-style republican forms of government. On May 3, 1989 the border between Austria and Hungary was opened and the following November the Berlin Wall, the most recognizable symbol of the Cold War, was dismantled, allowing freedom of travel between East Germany and West Germany. The heart of the NATO summit discussions - relations between the NATO signatories and the Soviet Union/Warsaw Pact - were suddenly outdated just a few months later in the Fall of 1989. FOIA request 2003-0368-F contains a wider breadth of records pertaining to this subject, with additional records included in the request from the WHORM Subject Files as well as the Staff and Office Files of the Bush Presidential Records. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject Categories consist primarily of routine transmittal memoranda between staff members passing along the following types of documents (as well as the documents themselves): talking points for the President's summit sessions and meetings with world leaders; speech drafts with edits for commencement addresses at Texas A&M University and Boston College (May 1989) in which the President outlined U.S. policy toward the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact nations in the wake of political changes affecting Eastern Europe in 1989; draft remarks for arrival ceremonies, toasts, and summit sessions; summit meeting agendas; press releases; position papers on topics of interest to NATO member countries and regarding U.S. global leadership; briefing book papers outlining issues to be discussed during the NATO Summit such as CFE (Conventional Armed Forces in Europe) negotiations with the Soviet Union/ Warsaw Pact; the Glasnost policies of Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev and their implications for U.S.-Soviet relations and Eastern Europe, and the desired (and anticipated) reunification of Germany.

Processed by: Staff archivist, December 2005. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.