



[Records on John Sununu White House Chief of Staff](#)

FOIA Number: 1998-0004-F

Scope and Content Note:

The materials in FOIA 1998-0004-F [1], FOIA 1998-0004-F [2] , and FOIA 1998-0004-F [3] 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 1998-0004-F [1] contains the first segment of the files of Chief of Staff John Sununu. These files contain correspondence from senior level staff from every office in the White House Office, most offices of the Executive Office of the President, and from every member of the Cabinet. In addition this request contains correspondence from many members of Congress and from several conservative organizations, including the National Right to Life Committee and the Heritage Foundation. The material covers many of the issues that faced the Bush Administration from 1989 to 1990, including the transition from the Reagan Administration, abortion / fetal tissue research, the Exxon Valdez oil spill, international trade (especially international textiles), the savings and loan industry, the steel VRA (Voluntary Restraint Agreement) program, the Clean Air Act, the White House Conference on Global Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), relations with China following the student demonstrations in Tiananmen Square in 1989, immigration policy for Chinese students studying in the United States after the 1989 demonstrations, the National Drug Control Strategy, the 1990 Houston Economic Summit, the 1990 Education Summit, the 1990 Bipartisan Budget Agreement, oil drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf, the spotted owl issue, turtle excluder devices, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the nomination of Supreme Court Justice David Souter. FOIA 1998-0004-F [2] contains the second segment of the files of Chief of Staff John Sununu. These files contain correspondence from senior level staff in every office in the White House Office, most offices of the Executive Office of the President, and from every member of the Cabinet. In addition this request contains correspondence from many members of Congress and from several organizations, including the National Right to Life Committee and the Heritage Foundation. The material covers many of the issues that faced the Bush Administration from 1989 to 1991, including the transition from the Reagan Administration to the Bush Administration, abortion, AIDS, the automobile industry, the Brazil Environmental Conference, civil rights, Clean Air, the credit crunch, planning for the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum, the London Economic Summit, proposed Presidential Fast Track authority, FIN/SYN (Financial Interest and Syndication Rules), global warming, the National Energy Strategy, the Persian Gulf War, the nomination of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, the Uruguay Round of economic negotiations, wetlands conservation, and Most Favored Nation status for the People's Republic of China. In addition, this segment contains the daily itinerary files for John Sununu from 1989 through the end of 1991. These itinerary files show Sununu's daily schedule for both office activities and travel. This segment also contains Sununu's Daily Agenda binders from 1989 to 1991. These binders contained lists of discussion items for the Chief of Staff, with copious annotations from Sununu and an assortment of background material for the discussion items. The amount of background material varies widely from week to week, and, in fact, there are several weeks of discussion items missing from the file entirely. FOIA 1998-0004-F [3] contains the third segment of the files of Chief of Staff John Sununu. This segment contains photocopies of correspondence handled both by the Office of the Chief of Staff and by the Correspondence Office on behalf of the Chief of Staff. The method for filing photocopies of correspondence varied during Sununu's stint as Chief of Staff. In some cases incoming correspondence that had been marked as M.I. (More Important, or appropriate for the WHORM Subject File) was photocopied along with the cover sheet assigned to the document by the White House Office of Records Management. In other cases the outgoing correspondence from either the Chief of Staff or his office was photocopied. There is also a small amount of unanswered public mail in this segment. This segment also contains the previously processed section of the WHORM Subject File subcategory FG006-03 (Chief of Staff) that deals with John Sununu. Due to the restrictions of the Presidential Records Act, all decision-making memoranda, annotations, and correspondence have been removed, leaving only routine correspondence, routine reports, routine annotations, press releases, press clippings Due to the restrictions of the Presidential Records Act all decision-making memoranda and correspondence have been removed, leaving only routine correspondence, routine reports, press releases, press clippings, papers produced by organizations outside the Administration, and speech drafts in the open file. The folders devoted to individual offices and members of the Administration vary widely in size and content. Many of these folders contain information on the topics listed above. It should be noted that this request contains information on more topics than just the issues listed above. In some cases, material for the additional topics can be found in the files of the appropriate individual offices or staff members. In other cases, the topics have their own folders.

Processed by: Staff Archivists, June 1998. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.