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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 23, 1993

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE E. CLAY SHAW JR.

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO WORK WITH THE UNITED
NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN
STATES TO REACH A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO
THE ONGOING CRISIS OF HAITIAN REFUGEES

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
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COMMENTS: See ID 000700

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COMMITTEE
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RANKING MEMBER

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0815
January 20, 1993

The Honorable Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing regarding the current crisis in Haiti. I applaud your decision to maintain President Bush's policy of returning Haitian boat people for in-country processing. As you know, this policy has allowed Haitians to continue to seek political asylum, while limiting the number risking their lives at sea.

While this change may have averted a short-term immigration emergency, a long-term solution to this crisis is still needed. That must begin with restoring economic hope and democracy to Haiti. I encourage you to take whatever steps necessary, including the use of American military force, to restore democratic rule to Haiti. As with our role in Somalia, this is a limited mission with a defined purpose, and it seems likely that even the credible threat of American intervention would topple Haiti's corrupt military regime.

I encourage you to continue to work with the United Nations and the Organization of American States to reach a negotiated solution to this ongoing crisis. However, such negotiations cannot continue indefinitely, and this crisis has already dragged on for more than 15 months.

As a former mayor of Fort Lauderdale and now the senior member of the South Florida congressional delegation, I represent the coastal communities that have already absorbed most Haitian refugees and stand directly in the path of a continued exodus. I stand ready to support your efforts towards restoring democracy and economic hope in Haiti, which will benefit the long-term interests of the people of South Florida as well.

I appreciate the opportunity to convey my thoughts.

Sincerely,

E. Clay Shaw, Jr.
Member of Congress

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