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Original OA/ID Number: 192				
Document ID: 9402849				
Stack: V	Row: 44	Section: 3	Shelf: 1	Position: 2

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9402849
RECEIVED: 13 APR 94 15

TO: LAKE

FROM: SCHWARTZ
CLARKE

DOC DATE: 13 JUN 94
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: CUBA
CO

REFUGEES

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR FM REP DEUTSCH ONCUBA EXODUS RELIEF FUND

ACTION: OBE / STATUS OF ORIGINAL UNKNOWN DUE DATE: 16 APR 94 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: OWENS-KIRKPATRICK

LOGREF:

FILES: WH NSCP: CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
NSC CHRON

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSJDA

CLOSED BY: NSJEB

DOC 2 OF 2

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9402849

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 OWENS-KIRKPATRICK

Z 94041315 PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE

001

Z 94052015 ACTION TRANSFERRED

001 SCHWARTZ

Z 94052015 PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE

002 LAKE

Z 94062115 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIG

002

X 94102608 OBE / STATUS OF ORIGINAL UNKNOWN

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

June 13, 1994

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH: RICHARD A. CLARKE

FROM: ERIC SCHWARTZ *ES*

SUBJECT: Letter from Rep. Deutsch on the Cuban Exodus
Relief Fund

I have attached for your consideration a memorandum to the President and a draft response to Rep. Deutsch on the subject issue.

Concurrences by: *ECBjr* Larry Rossin, *WDjr JR* Jeremy Rosner

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President
Tab A Letter to Rep. Deutsch
Tab B Incoming Correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE
SUSAN BROPHY

SUBJECT: Letter from Rep. Deutsch on the Cuban Exodus
Relief Fund

Purpose

Rep. Peter Deutsch has written to request that the Administration reach agreement with the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF) for renewal of CANF's Cuban Exodus Relief Fund (CERF) Program.

Background

The CERF Program

Under this program, Cubans who left Cuba by boat before January 1, 1992, arrived in third countries and are deemed to be refugees can come to the U.S. via a special program funded by the Cuban American National Foundation. The Refugee Act of 1980 permits such private sponsorship of refugees as a subcategory of the annual worldwide refugee admissions ceiling.

The CANF Request

CANF wants to reach an agreement with the USG that would push back the current "cut-off date" for this program from 1992 to 1994, so that Cuban refugees who arrived in third countries between 1992 and the date of the agreement would also obtain resettlement in the US. Doing so, however, raises several concerns. First, the current 1992 cut-off date is itself an extension of prior cut-off dates of 1988 and 1990. Thus, should we change the date again, Cubans in Cuba would fairly expect that the 1994 date would also be extended in a year or two from now. As a result, we might inadvertently encourage further boat departures by those who might more safely use our in-country refugee processing program. Secondly, contrary to Rep. Deutsch's suggestion, the program is not cost-free, as it imposes third country interviewing (and resource) requirements on the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Third, the program

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

absolves countries in the region from taking responsibility for Cubans who arrive on their shores.

Finally, extension of the program would result in protests from the African-American community, whose members would claim that the program is yet another benefit provided to Cubans and not to Haitians. In view of your announcement ending direct return, however, extension of the CERF program might be more acceptable now than it would have been prior to May 8. With this in mind, we are asking the State and Justice Departments for their views on program extension. We will also seek views of the White House Office of Political Affairs and the Domestic Policy Council and will report back to you on this issue.

In the meantime, we have drafted a letter to Rep. Deutsch indicating that this issue is under review.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Rep. Deutsch at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Rep. Deutsch

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Peter:

Thank you for your letter of April 11, 1993 regarding the Cuban Exodus Relief Fund (CERF).

This program has served as an important route to freedom for thousands of Cubans and reflects the Cuban-American community's generosity and deep commitment to protecting the victims of repression in Cuba.

My Administration is reviewing the question of extending the "cut-off" date for this program and we expect to report shortly on the outcome of that review. As you know, the question of extension relates directly to a number of important migration policy issues that we are now considering, including what forms of regional cooperation we should seek in refugee protection, how we might best discourage dangerous sea voyages while maintaining principles of refugee protection and what role the private sector can play in refugee resettlement. Our review is considering each of these important issues and will benefit greatly by the perspectives contained in your letter.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Peter Deutsch
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0920

PETER DEUTSCH
20TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND
THE MIDDLE EAST
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, FINANCE
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
SUPERVISION, REGULATION AND DEPOSIT INSURANCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER CREDIT
AND INSURANCE

COMMITTEE ON MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0920

April 11, 1993

2849
MAILING ADDRESS
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MAIN DISTRICT OFFICE
10100 PINES BLVD,
PEMBROKE PINES, FL 33025
(305) 437-3936
(305) 437-4776 (FAX)
DADE (305) 371-8721
KEY LARGO (305) 852-0159
BIG PINE (305) 872-3916
KEY WEST (305) 294-5815

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

It has come to my attention that the Administration has failed to reach an agreement with the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF) for the renewal of its Cuban Exodus Relief Fund (CERF) program. This program provides a critical service to the United States by resettling Cuban refugees from third countries at little or no cost to taxpayers.

As the Member of Congress whose district is closest to Cuba, I see firsthand the many desperate individuals who risk their lives to reach freedom in the United States. The role of smugglers in bringing Cubans to the United States has grown as conditions in Cuba worsen. While the Castro regime expands its crack down on dissident activity, smugglers take advantage of U.S. policy which denies third country refugees entrance to the United States.

A failure to address the conditions which increase smuggling only creates further opportunities for the smugglers to prey on the growing desperation of Cuban refugees. Not only is refugee smuggling illegal and immoral, it also places the financial burden for the resettlement of the newly arrived individuals on the shoulders of the federal government. I believe that a solution which alleviates both problems is the renewal of the CERF program.

CERF is a proven program which has no fiscal impact on the United States budget. Since 1988, CERF has resettled nearly 10,000 Cuban refugees saving the government approximately \$35-40 million dollars. As the summer approaches (the season during which most refugees arrive), it seems that the government should be actively seeking ways to minimize the impact of a large refugee exodus and thwart the intentions of smugglers.

Deutsch-CERF program pg.2

I urge you to renew the CERF program as soon as possible.
Thank you for your swift attention to this matter. Please do not
hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Deutsch", written in a cursive style.

Peter Deutsch
Member of Congress

cc: Joe Velasquez
Deputy Director of Political Affairs

2849
ID# 060330

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1994

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE PETER DEUTSCH

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RENEW THE CUBAN EXODUS
RELIEF FUND (CERF) FUND

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
PATRICK GRIFFIN/		ORG	94/04/18		C	94/04/18
WILLIAM ITOH	REFERRAL NOTE:	RSA	94/04/18			/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:F INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230
MAIL USER CODES: (A)D FL (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION *OUTGOING *
* * *CORRESPONDENCE: *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL * OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED * CODE = A *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC * OUTGOING *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * *
*X-INTERIM REPLY * * *

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75,OEOb) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

SCANNED

PETER DEUTSCH
20TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND
THE MIDDLE EAST
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER CREDIT
AND INSURANCE

**COMMITTEE ON MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES**

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0920

April 11, 1994

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(305) 437-4770 (FAX)

DAPH. 305) 371-8721
KEY LARGO (305) 852-0159
BIG PINE (305) 872-2910
KEY WEST (305) 284-5816

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

It has come to my attention, through local press reports, that the Administration has failed to reach an agreement with the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF) for the renewal of its Cuban Exodus Relief Fund (CERF) program. This program provides a critical service to the United States by resettling Cuban refugees from third countries at little or no cost to taxpayers.

As the Member of Congress whose district is closest to Cuba, I see firsthand the many desperate individuals who risk their lives to reach freedom in the United States. The role of smugglers in bringing Cubans to the United States has grown as conditions in Cuba worsen. While the Castro regime expands its crack down on dissident activity, smugglers take advantage of U.S. policy which denies third country refugees entrance to the United States.

A failure to address the conditions which increase smuggling only creates further opportunities for the smugglers to prey on the growing desperation of Cuban refugees. Not only is refugee smuggling illegal and immoral, it also places the financial burden for the resettlement of the newly arrived individuals on the shoulders of the federal government. I believe that a solution which alleviates both problems is the renewal of the CERF program.

CERF is a proven program which has no fiscal impact on the United States budget. Since 1988, CERF has resettled nearly 10,000 Cuban refugees saving the government approximately \$35-40 million dollars. As the summer approaches (the season during which most refugees arrive), it seems that the government should be actively seeking ways to minimize the impact of a large refugee exodus and thwart the intentions of smugglers.

Deutsch-CERF program pg.2

I urge you to renew the CERF program as soon as possible. Thank you for your swift attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Deutsch", written in a cursive style.

Peter Deutsch
Member of Congress

cc: Joe Velasquez
Deputy Director of Political Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 12, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM ITOH

FROM: SUSAN BROPHY *SB*
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL MAIL

Attached is a copy of the letter sent to the President from Representative Peter Deutsch (D-FL), concerning Cuban refugees. I would appreciate your assistance in drafting a response.

Thank you very much for your assistance. If you have any questions, please feel free to call LeeAnn Inadomi at x7500.

Enclosure

2849
ID# 060330

THE WHITE HOUSE
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INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1994

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE PETER DEUTSCH

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		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
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OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
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	REFERRAL NOTE:		___/___/___		___/___/___
	REFERRAL NOTE:		___/___/___		___/___/___
	REFERRAL NOTE:		___/___/___		___/___/___

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0920

April 11, 1994

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The White House
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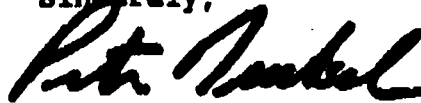
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Peter Deutsch
Member of Congress

cc: Joe Velasquez
Deputy Director of Political Affairs

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WASHINGTON

April 12, 1994

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Enclosure

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: DEUTSCH, PETER

DOC DATE: 11 APR 94
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: CUBA
CO

REFUGEES

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR TO PRES FM REP DUTSCH RE AGREEMENT W/ CUBAN - AMER NATL
FOUNDATION FOR RENEWAL OF CUBAN EXODUS FUND PROGRAM

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE

DUE DATE: 16 APR 94 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: OWENS-KIRKPATRICK

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

~~OWENS-KIRKPATRICK~~

SCHWARTZ

FOR CONCURRENCE

CLARKE

ROSNER

~~SCHWARTZ~~

OWENS-KIRKPATRICK

FOR INFO

FEINBERG

ITOH

KENNEY

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSJDA

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DOC 1 OF .1