

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Original OA/ID Number: 203				
Document ID: 9405475				
Stack: V	Row: 44	Section: 3	Shelf: 5	Position: 1

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9405475
RECEIVED: 07 JUL 94 15

TO: TORRICELLI, R

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 22 JUL 94
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: HAITI
REFUGEES

BROADCASTING
CO

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: REPLY TO REP TORRICELLI RE HAITI

ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 11 JUL 94 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HALPERIN

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

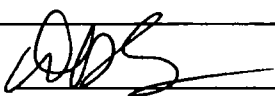
FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

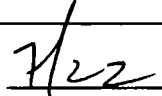
DANVERS
HALPERIN
NSC CHRON
SPIRO

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY



DATE



BY HAND

W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSDRS

CLOSED BY: NSDRS

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9405475

DOC ACTION OFFICER

001 HALPERIN
002 LAKE
003 PRESIDENT
004
004 WH STRIPPING DESK

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

Z 94070715 PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE
Z 94071316 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIG
Z 94072218 FOR SIGNATURE
X 94072214 PRESIDENT SGD LTR
X 94072214 FOR DISPATCH

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC DATE DISPATCH FOR ACTION

003 940721
003 940721
004 940722 TORRICELLI, R
004 940722 WH STRIPPING DESK

DISPATCH FOR INFO

VICE PRESIDENT
WH CHIEF OF STAFF

UNCLASSIFIED

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 21, 1994

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter regarding the increase in the number of Haitians who are attempting to flee their country. I firmly share your belief that stemming this flow is in our national interest and that of the Haitian people.

We have taken steps to adjust our policy respecting asylum seekers to discourage Haitians from undertaking the dangerous voyage by boat on the open seas. We have sought on an urgent basis to explain the new policy to those it will affect. We have bought airtime on radio stations in Haiti to broadcast stay-at-home messages directly to the Haitian people. These messages, which are in Creole, are being played eight times a day in the provinces and four times a day in Port-au-Prince. Heavy coverage by the local Haitian media has magnified their effectiveness, as have Voice of America retransmissions.

We have also undertaken daily direct broadcasts into Haiti from Defense Department platforms to publicize the new policy. These broadcasts will continue as long as significant departures continue. Finally, as you suggest, we are working cooperatively with President Aristide to develop appropriate messages for broadcast on Radio Democracy.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on this important humanitarian issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Clinton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

The Honorable Robert G. Torricelli
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 21, 1994 94 JUL 21 P 1 : 56

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ANTHONY LAKE *TL*
SUSAN BROPHY *SB*

SUBJECT:

Response to Torricelli Letter on Haitian Migrants

Purpose

To inform Congressman Torricelli of our actions to disseminate in Haiti our new policy on Haitian migrants.

Background

Congressman Torricelli has written to you expressing his concern over the upsurge of Haitian migrants. He suggests that we include stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, the cooperative venture we have undertaken with President Aristide to allow him an avenue of direct communication with the Haitian people.

The attached letter from you to Torricelli explains the significant efforts we have undertaken to disseminate our new policy on migrants among the Haitian people. These efforts include the purchase of time on radio stations in Haiti and direct broadcasts from Defense Department airborne platforms.

Although Aristide has balked at the inclusion of stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, we are working with him to formulate mutually acceptable announcements emphasizing the availability of in-country processing. The letter to Torricelli reflects this possibility.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Congressman Torricelli at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Congressman Torricelli

Tab B Letter from Congressman Torricelli

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

5475

069775

ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
9TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
CHAIRMAN: SUBCOMMITTEE ON WESTERN
HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
SELECT INTELLIGENCE



WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2158 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3009
202-228-5081

DISTRICT OFFICES:
COURT PLAZA
25 MAIN STREET
HACKENSACK, NJ 07601
201-846-1111
14A PATH PLAZA
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07308
201-722-8100

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

June 28, 1994

Washington, DC 20515-3009

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The recent surge in the number of refugees leaving Haiti for a dangerous journey at sea is obviously of great concern to the United States. According to published reports, the number of Haitians intercepted at sea by the United States Coast Guard has increased from an average of 50 per day to over 1,000 yesterday. These vast numbers of refugees are placing an unbearable burden on our shipboard processing facilities, and they are also creating a humanitarian crisis.

It is my understanding that an agreement will soon be reached with President Aristide to beam "Radio Democracy" broadcasts to Haiti. I urge you to include in those broadcasts a message warning Haitian citizens of the dangers they face by leaving their country in rickety boats at sea.

It is overwhelmingly in the national interest of the United States to reduce the number of refugees leaving Haiti. The shipboard processing facilities established by your Administration simply cannot handle a flood of refugees that approaches 1,000 per day. It is also questionable whether Florida and other states that will become home to those who are granted refugee status can handle such large numbers without adequate resources and adequate time to prepare. It is therefore essential that the number of people leaving Haiti to seek political asylum in the United States be reduced to more reasonable levels.

This is also a grave humanitarian issue. Most of those who are leaving Haiti are doing so in rickety boats with little food and water. Indeed, a sizable number of those picked up by the U.S. Coast Guard are dehydrated and in need of immediate medical attention. Ironically, many of those who are leaving Haiti do not understand that they will only obtain political asylum if they have been politically persecuted, and not solely because they are living in extreme poverty. Haitian citizens must realize that they are placing themselves at great risk by taking to the high seas, and that adequate resources may not exist to rescue them and properly care for them.

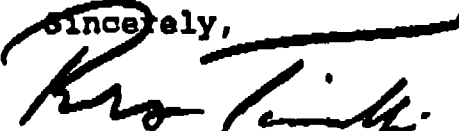
President William J. Clinton
June 28, 1994
Page 2

Mr. President, I applaud you for your decision to beam radio broadcasts to Haiti. Like Radio Free Europe and Radio Marti, the new Radio Democracy could be an effective means of bringing hope to an oppressed people and furthering opposition to a dictatorial regime.

I am disappointed, however, that your Administration has apparently agreed to refrain from transmitting a message to discourage an influx of refugees because of objections from President Aristide. This message is essential not only to avert a refugee crisis in our own country, but to protect thousands of Haitians from a deadly journey at sea. Mr. Aristide should be thanking us for our efforts to assist him in this manner, rather than issuing threats and criticizing Administration policy.

Mr. President, I urge you to include a strong warning to those considering a dangerous escape from Haiti in your Radio Democracy broadcasts to the island. This is firmly in the best interest of the United States and it is clearly the correct policy from a humanitarian standpoint.

Sincerely,



ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 05, 1994

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO INCLUDE A STRONG
WARNING TO THOSE CONSIDERING A DANGEROUS
ESCAPE FROM HAITI IN HIS RADIO DEMOCRACY
BROADCASTS TO THE ISLAND

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)		ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
PATRICK GRIFFIN		ORG	94/07/05		C	94/07/05
WILLIAM ITOH	REFERRAL NOTE:	RSA	94/07/05			
	REFERRAL NOTE:					
	REFERRAL NOTE:					
	REFERRAL NOTE:					
	REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230
MAIL USER CODES: (A) D NJ (B) (C)

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*****
*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      *      *                  *      *
*****

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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

July 15, 1994

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH: MORTON H. HALPERIN *MH*
FROM: PETER SPIRO *PS*
SUBJECT: Response to Torricelli Letter on Haitian Migrants

Congressman Torricelli has written to the President expressing his concern over the upsurge of Haitian migrants. He suggests that we include stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, our cooperative broadcasting undertaking with President Aristide which will inaugurate service on July 15.

The attached draft letter from the President to Torricelli explains the significant efforts we have undertaken to disseminate our new policy on migrants among the Haitian people. These efforts include the purchase of time on radio stations in Haiti and direct broadcasts from Defense Department airborne platforms.

Although Aristide has balked at the inclusion of stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, we are working with him to formulate mutually acceptable announcements emphasizing the availability of in-country processing. The letter to Torricelli reflects this possibility.

Concurrences by: *RS* Randy Beers, *BS* Bill Danvers, *RS* Larry Rossin, *RS* Eric Schwartz

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President
Tab A Letter to Congressman Torricelli
Tab B Letter from Congressman Torricelli

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____

LOG # 5475

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____

SYSTEM PRS NSC INT

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____

DOCLOG _____ A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Reed	_____	_____	_____
Kenney	_____	_____	_____
Itoh	_____	_____	_____
Soderberg	_____	_____	_____
Berger	_____	_____	_____
Lake	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>1</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
NSC Secretariat	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc: VP McLarty Other _____

Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

COMMENTS:

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____

LOG # 5475

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____

SYSTEM PRS NSC INT

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____

DOCLOG _____ A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Reed	<u>1</u>	<u>JWR</u>	
Kenney			
Itoh			
Soderberg	<u>2</u>		
Berger			
Lake			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>2</u>	<u>18K 7/22</u>	<u>D</u>
NSC Secretariat			<u>D</u>

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc: VP McLarty Other _____

Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

COMMENTS:

Date 7-21-94 ?

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 5475
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG _____ A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Reed	_____	_____	_____
Kenney	_____	_____	_____
Itoh	_____	_____	_____
Soderberg	_____	_____	_____
Berger	_____	_____	_____
Lake	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>1</u>	<u>7/24</u>	<u>D PRS</u>
NSC Secretariat	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

A = Action	I = Information	D = Dispatch	R = Retain	N = No Further Action
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cc: VP McLarty Other _____

Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

COMMENTS:

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 5475
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT
 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG _____ A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Reed	<u>1</u>	<u>JWZ</u>	
Kenney			
Itoh			
Soderberg	<u>2</u>		
Berger			
Lake			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>2</u>	<u>18K 7/22</u>	<u>D</u>
NSC Secretariat		<u>1005 7/22</u>	<u>D</u>

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc: VP McLarty Other _____

Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

COMMENTS:

Date 7-21-94 ?

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9405475
RECEIVED: 07 JUL 94 15

TO: TORRICELLI, R

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 22 JUL 94
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: HAITI
REFUGEES

BROADCASTING
CO

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: REPLY TO REP TORRICELLI RE HAITI

ACTION: ORIGINALS RETURNED TO NSC/S

DUE DATE: 11 JUL 94 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HALPERIN

LOGREF: 9405479

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

DANVERS
HALPERIN
NSC CHRON
SPIRO

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSDRS

CLOSED BY: NSDRS

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9405475

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 HALPERIN	Z 94070715 PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE
002 LAKE	Z 94071316 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIG
003 PRESIDENT	Z 94072218 FOR SIGNATURE
004	X 94072214 PRESIDENT SGD LTR
004 WH STRIPPING DESK	X 94072214 FOR DISPATCH
004	X 95010917 ORIGINALS RETURNED TO NSC/S

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC DATE DISPATCH FOR ACTION

DISPATCH FOR INFO

003 940721	VICE PRESIDENT
003 940721	WH CHIEF OF STAFF
004 940722 TORRICELLI, R	
004 940722 WH STRIPPING DESK	

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9405475
RECEIVED: 07 JUL 94 15

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: TORRICELLI, ROBERT G

DOC DATE: 28 JUN 94
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: HAITI
REFUGEES

BROADCASTING
CO

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: REQUEST RADIO DEMOCRACY BROADCAST WARNINGS TO HAITIANS TO PREVENT
REFUGEES FM LEAVING

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR LAKE

DUE DATE: 11 JUL 94 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: CLARKE

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
CLARKE

FOR CONCURRENCE
DANVERS
ROSSIN
SCHWARTZ
SPIRO
Clarke

FOR INFO
FEINBERG
HALPERIN
KENNEY

SPIRO

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSDRS

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

5475

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

1] NW TO SRB Date: 7/18

PU. sign out for R.
12x
N.

2] _____ TO _____ Date:

3] _____ TO _____ Date:

4] _____ TO _____ Date:

5] _____ TO _____ Date:

National Security Council
The White House

rec'd 7/18 5p
rec'd 7/19 7145a

PROOFED BY: *[Signature]* LOG # *5475 red's*
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM *PRS* NSC INT
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG *[Signature]* A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
<i>W</i> Reed	_____	_____	_____
Kenney	<u><i>1</i></u>	<u><i>Wah</i></u>	_____
Itoh	_____	_____	_____
Soderberg	_____	_____	_____
Berger <i>(John not)</i>	<u><i>2</i></u>	<u><i>W</i></u>	_____
Lake	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	Deputy Natl Sec Advisor	_____
West Wing Desk	<u><i>3</i></u>	has seen	<u><i>D</i></u>
NSC Secretariat	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

A = Action	I = Information	D = Dispatch	R = Retain	N = No Further Action
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cc: VP McLarty Other _____

Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

COMMENTS:

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

Ent Sec's Office has desked

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: 78H LOG # 5475
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT
 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG 78H A/O _____

Q227

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Reed	<u>1</u>		
Kenney			<u>A</u>
Itoh			
Soderberg			
Berger			
Lake			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>2</u>		
NSC Secretariat	<u>3</u>		
<u>Spiro</u>	<u>4</u>		

A = Action	I = Information	D = Dispatch	R = Retain	N = No Further Action
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cc: VP McLarty Other _____

Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

COMMENTS: Why is letter through Executive Clerk? No reason I can see but if there is a reason, legal must clear.

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

EXERSEC HAS DBS E

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ANTHONY LAKE *TL*
SUSAN BROPHY

SUBJECT:

Response to Torricelli Letter on Haitian Migrants

Purpose

To inform Congressman Torricelli of our actions to disseminate in Haiti our new policy on Haitian migrants.

Background

Congressman Torricelli has written to you expressing his concern over the upsurge of Haitian migrants. He suggests that we include stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, the cooperative venture we have undertaken with President Aristide to allow him an avenue of direct communication with the Haitian people.

The attached letter from you to Torricelli explains the significant efforts we have undertaken to disseminate our new policy on migrants among the Haitian people. These efforts include the purchase of time on radio stations in Haiti and direct broadcasts from Defense Department airborne platforms.

Although Aristide has balked at the inclusion of stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, we are working with him to formulate mutually acceptable announcements emphasizing the availability of in-country processing. The letter to Torricelli reflects this possibility.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Congressman Torricelli at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Congressman Torricelli

Tab B Letter from Congressman Torricelli

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter regarding the increase in the number of Haitians who are attempting to flee their country. I firmly share your belief that stemming this flow is in our national interest and that of the Haitian people.

We have taken steps to adjust our policy respecting asylum seekers to discourage Haitians from undertaking the dangerous voyage by boat on the open seas. We have sought on an urgent basis to explain the new policy to those it will affect. We have bought airtime on radio stations in Haiti to broadcast stay-at-home messages directly to the Haitian people. These messages, which are in Creole, are being played eight times a day in the provinces and four times a day in Port-au-Prince. Heavy coverage by the local Haitian media has magnified their effectiveness, as have Voice of America retransmissions:

We have also undertaken daily direct broadcasts into Haiti from Defense Department platforms to publicize the new policy. These broadcasts will continue as long as significant departures continue. Finally, as you suggest, we are working cooperatively with President Aristide to develop appropriate messages for broadcast on Radio Democracy.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on this important humanitarian issue.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert G. Torricelli
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

5475

669775

ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
9TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY



COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
CHAIRMAN: SUBCOMMITTEE ON WESTERN
HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
SELECT INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2166 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3009
202-225-5061
DISTRICT OFFICES:
COURT PLAZA
25 MAIN STREET
HACKENSACK, NJ 07601
201-848-1111
14A PATH PLAZA
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306
201-222-8100

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

June 28, 1994

Washington, DC 20515-3009

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The recent surge in the number of refugees leaving Haiti for a dangerous journey at sea is obviously of great concern to the United States. According to published reports, the number of Haitians intercepted at sea by the United States Coast Guard has increased from an average of 50 per day to over 1,000 yesterday. These vast numbers of refugees are placing an unbearable burden on our shipboard processing facilities, and they are also creating a humanitarian crisis.

It is my understanding that an agreement will soon be reached with President Aristide to beam "Radio Democracy" broadcasts to Haiti. I urge you to include in those broadcasts a message warning Haitian citizens of the dangers they face by leaving their country in rickety boats at sea.

It is overwhelmingly in the national interest of the United States to reduce the number of refugees leaving Haiti. The shipboard processing facilities established by your Administration simply cannot handle a flood of refugees that approaches 1,000 per day. It is also questionable whether Florida and other states that will become home to those who are granted refugee status can handle such large numbers without adequate resources and adequate time to prepare. It is therefore essential that the number of people leaving Haiti to seek political asylum in the United States be reduced to more reasonable levels.

This is also a grave humanitarian issue. Most of those who are leaving Haiti are doing so in rickety boats with little food and water. Indeed, a sizable number of those picked up by the U.S. Coast Guard are dehydrated and in need of immediate medical attention. Ironically, many of those who are leaving Haiti do not understand that they will only obtain political asylum if they have been politically persecuted, and not solely because they are living in extreme poverty. Haitian citizens must realize that they are placing themselves at great risk by taking to the high seas, and that adequate resources may not exist to rescue them and properly care for them.

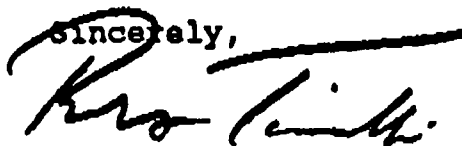
President William J. Clinton
June 28, 1994
Page 2

Mr. President, I applaud you for your decision to beam radio broadcasts to Haiti. Like Radio Free Europe and Radio Marti, the new Radio Democracy could be an effective means of bringing hope to an oppressed people and furthering opposition to a dictatorial regime.

I am disappointed, however, that your Administration has apparently agreed to refrain from transmitting a message to discourage an influx of refugees because of objections from President Aristide. This message is essential not only to avert a refugee crisis in our own country, but to protect thousands of Haitians from a deadly journey at sea. Mr. Aristide should be thanking us for our efforts to assist him in this manner, rather than issuing threats and criticizing Administration policy.

Mr. President, I urge you to include a strong warning to those considering a dangerous escape from Haiti in your Radio Democracy broadcasts to the island. This is firmly in the best interest of the United States and it is clearly the correct policy from a humanitarian standpoint.

Sincerely,



ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 05, 1994

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO INCLUDE A STRONG
WARNING TO THOSE CONSIDERING A DANGEROUS
ESCAPE FROM HAITI IN HIS RADIO DEMOCRACY
BROADCASTS TO THE ISLAND

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
PATRICK GRIFFIN		ORG	94/07/05		C 94/07/05
WILLIAM ITOH	REFERRAL NOTE:	RSA	94/07/05		
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 _____
 _____ MAIL USER CODES: (A) D NJ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*****
*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      *                  *                  *
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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

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

5475

July 15, 1994

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH: MORTON H. HALPERIN *MH*
FROM: PETER SPIRO *PS*
SUBJECT: Response to Torricelli Letter on Haitian Migrants

Congressman Torricelli has written to the President expressing his concern over the upsurge of Haitian migrants. He suggests that we include stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, our cooperative broadcasting undertaking with President Aristide which will inaugurate service on July 15.

The attached draft letter from the President to Torricelli explains the significant efforts we have undertaken to disseminate our new policy on migrants among the Haitian people. These efforts include the purchase of time on radio stations in Haiti and direct broadcasts from Defense Department airborne platforms.

Although Aristide has balked at the inclusion of stay-at-home messages on Radio Democracy, we are working with him to formulate mutually acceptable announcements emphasizing the availability of in-country processing. The letter to Torricelli reflects this possibility.

Concurrences by: *PS* Randy Beers, *PS* Bill Danvers, *PS* Larry Rossin, *PS* Eric Schwartz

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President
Tab A Letter to Congressman Torricelli
Tab B Letter from Congressman Torricelli