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Document ID: 0001432				
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UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 0001432
RECEIVED: 29 FEB 00 18

TO: BERGER

FROM: ROS-LEHTINEN, ILEANA

DOC DATE: 24 FEB 00
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: CUBA
NCO

REFUGEES

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: CUBAN DETAINEES AT GUANTANAMO

ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY DUE DATE: 11 MAR 00 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: STATE

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

CODES:

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

FOR ACTION
STATE

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
EXECSEC
NSC CHRON
PATTEN

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSTSM

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DOC 1 OF 1

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UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 0001432

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 HOLLIS	Z	00022918	PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
001	Z	00030115	ACTION TRANSFERRED
001 PATTEN	Z	00030115	PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
001	Z	00031707	ACTION TRANSFERRED
001 STATE	X	00031707	DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

<u>DOC</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DISPATCH FOR ACTION</u>	<u>DISPATCH FOR INFO</u>
001	000224	STATE	

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 0001432

REFERRAL

DATE: 17 MAR 00

MEMORANDUM FOR: KENNEY, K

STATE SECRETARIAT

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: BERGER

SOURCE: ROS-LEHTINEN, ILEANA

DATE: 24 FEB 00

SUBJ: CUBAN DETAINEES AT GUANTANAMO

REQUIRED ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY

DUE DATE: 21 MAR 00

COMMENT: POC AT NSC IS WENDY PATTEN AT 456-9141

FOR



JOHN W. FICKLIN

NSC RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICE

COMMITTEES:

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
GOVERNMENT REFORM

CHAIR:

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
POLICY AND TRADE

VICE CHAIR:

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WESTERN HEMISPHERE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
18TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

PLEASE RESPOND TO: 1432
2160 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0918
(202) 225-3931
FAX (202) 225-5620

DISTRICT OFFICE:
9210 SUNSET DRIVE
SUITE 100
MIAMI, FL 33173
(305) 275-1800
FAX (305) 275-1801

February 24, 2000

Mr. Samuel R. Berger
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
National Security Council
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20506

To: INTERAM
RUDMAN
LEGAL
LEGIS
PLS DRAFT
REPLY.

Dear Mr. Berger:

I am increasingly concerned that unfair reprisals may have been taken against the 40 Cuban adults and 12 Cuban children who are being detained at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay after I held a press conference in Miami stating that the conditions for them are not adequate.

Access to telephones may have been restricted since the media reported that these desperate freedom seeking refugees are not being given entry in the U.S. or any third country as political refugees. Many of these political asylum seekers have been unnecessarily detained for excessive periods of time, some nearing two full years. While awaiting freedom at the naval base, the detained Cuban children are reported to have no access to books, teachers or any component of a basic education. The 40 adults are reported to be living in constant fear as they are watched closely and scrutinized by military personnel. Most recently, a report was issued that a Cuban refugee did not phone a friend in the United States as he has on a weekly basis without fail. This disturbing report has instilled even more concern among the Cuban-American community as they wonder whether he was wrongly denied access to a phone call.

We acknowledge that the detainees cannot be held indefinitely at Guantanamo, yet there are even more compelling and obvious reasons as to why they cannot and should not be repatriated to Cuba where they will assuredly be ostracized, mistreated, persecuted, and undoubtedly labeled as traitors and out-casts.

I ask that you please consider the seriousness of this case immediately and that in your thorough review, you advise toward releasing these detainees from the hands of our US armed forces and transferring them to the United States where they wish to reside.

Sincerely,

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress

IRL:jt

U.S. Department of State
ARA/CCA, Room 3234
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520-6263

Phone: (202) 647-9273
FAX: (202) 736-4476
FAX: HELMS-BURTON UNIT: (202) 647-7095

F A X C O V E R S H E E T

DATE: 3-16-00

TO: NSC/IS - Wendy Patten

FROM: TOM GERTH

SUBJECT: Res- Retraction letter

REMARKS: Our legislative folk say State can respond to both letters, but NSC to be needed. Attached is appropriate redraft, which also incorporates other minor changes.

NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER PAGE: 4

(IF THIS TRANSMISSION WAS NOT RECEIVED IN ITS ENTIRETY, PLEASE CALL 202 647-9273)

Dear Ms. Ros-Lehtinen:

This is in response to your letters of February 24 to Secretary Albright and to National Security Adviser Berger regarding the Cuban migrants at the United States Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, awaiting third country resettlement.

It is U.S. policy not to repatriate to Cuba those Cuban migrants at the Naval Base found by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to have a well-founded fear of persecution. The Administration seeks to deter irregular migration to the United States from Cuba and prevent loss of life at sea and in the Cuban minefields surrounding the Naval Base. For this purpose, under the U.S.-Cuban Migration Accord of September 9, 1994, the United States greatly expanded the opportunities for safe, legal and orderly migration from Cuba. As a matter of policy, since the migrants at the Naval Base sought to enter the United States outside those legal channels, we will not be bring them to the United States. Rather, those found by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to have a well-founded fear of persecution are temporarily protected at the Naval Base until they can be resettled in third countries willing to afford them protection.

The Honorable
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen,
U.S. House of Representatives.

-2-

We believe that our military at the Naval Base are dealing fairly and humanely with the migrant population. For example, all adult migrants afforded temporary protection awaiting third-country resettlement are permitted to work for remuneration with local contractors on the Base. Those migrants are encouraged to save a portion of their earnings for their new future. Nevertheless, as a functioning military base, where U.S. Marines daily face Cuban troops across the fenceline, all personnel--U.S., Cuban and third-country, military, civilian or dependent--are subject to a number of restrictions on their freedom of action.

Migrants afforded temporary protection are able, at their own expense or collect, to make a weekly telephone call to family or friends in the United States, but at the Base telephone exchange. Many migrants regularly use this opportunity each week.

Despite limited resources and the uncertainties of how long any minor will be at the Naval Base, a school was established in the migrant camp some eight months ago. Volunteer Department of Defense teachers and other Base residents teach four core subjects two to three hours each weekday. Textbooks, mostly supplied by the American Red Cross, are used. In addition, the children are given required homework, which is to be completed under the supervision of their parents. The children are also provided supervised recreational activities.

-3-

Despite limited resources and the uncertainties of how long any minor will be at the Naval Base, a school was established some eight months ago. Volunteer Department of Defense teachers and other Base residents teach four core subjects two to three hours each weekday. Textbooks, mostly supplied by the American Red Cross, are used. In addition, the children are given required homework, which is to be completed under the supervision of their parents. The children are also provided supervised recreational activities.

If you need additional information or believe that we may be of further assistance in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Barbara Larkin
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

TO: BERGER

FROM: ROS-LEHTINEN, ILEANA

DOC DATE: 24 FEB 00
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: CUBA
NCO

REFUGEES

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: CUBAN DETAINEES AT GUANTANAMO

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER

DUE DATE: 11 MAR 00 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: HOLLIS

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

CODES:

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

FOR ACTION

HOLLIS

FOR CONCURRENCE

LACKEY
PATTEN
SCHWARTZ

FOR INFO

GUARNIERI
MCCARTHY
ROSA
VALENZUELA

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSTSM CLOSED BY: DOC 1 OF 1

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0918

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Ilona Ros-Lettinen
M.C.

Mr. Samuel R. Berger
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
National Security Council
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20506



State Dept (which received the
identical letter) is handling
(draft enclosed - I will deal on it)

* NSC ~~needs~~ needs to send tasker
to State Secretariat

PRESIDENTIAL/NSA CORRESPONDENCE

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

ACTION OFFICER:

HOLLIS
TATTO

LOG NUMBER:

1432

DUE DATE:

11 MAR

DATE STAFFED:

29 FEB

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

PRESIDENT

NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

FROM:

REP. ROS-LENTINS

PREPARE A RESPONSE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S OR NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR'S SIGNATURE WITHIN 10 DAYS. IF A LETTER DOES NOT REQUIRE A RESPONSE, PLEASE RETURN IT TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (RM 379) WITH THIS FORM, ANNOTATED ACCORDINGLY.