

# FOIA MARKER

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|                                |            |               |             |                |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
|                                |            |               |             |                |
| Original OA/ID Number:<br>4086 |            |               |             |                |
|                                |            |               |             |                |
| Document ID: 0002498           |            |               |             |                |
| Stack:<br>V                    | Row:<br>47 | Section:<br>2 | Shelf:<br>5 | Position:<br>2 |

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 0002498  
RECEIVED: 11 APR 00 16

TO: GRAHAM, BOB  
MACK, CONNIE

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 29 MAY 00  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: CUBA  
HUMAN RIGHTS

LEGAL ISSUES  
CO

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: REPLY RE CUBAN NATIONALS AT GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE

ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 22 APR 00 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: PATTEN

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  
WH STRIPPING DESK

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO  
LACKEY  
NSC CHRON  
PATTEN  
SCHWARTZ

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSDBG

CLOSED BY: NSSWL

DOC 5 OF 5

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 0002498

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

|                       |   |          |                                |
|-----------------------|---|----------|--------------------------------|
| 001 HOLLIS            | Z | 00041116 | PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER        |
| 001                   | Z | 00041210 | ACTION TRANSFERRED             |
| 001 PATTEN            | Z | 00041210 | PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER        |
| 002 BERGER            | Z | 00052013 | FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE |
| 002 PATTEN            | Z | 00052013 | FOR REDO                       |
| 003 BERGER            | Z | 00052319 | FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE |
| 003                   | X | 00052510 | STEINBERG SGD MEMO             |
| 003 BRAIN, C          | Z | 00052510 | FOR SIGNATURE                  |
| 004 PRESIDENT         | Z | 00052615 | FOR SIGNATURE                  |
| 005                   | X | 00053014 | PRESIDENT SGD LTRS             |
| 005 WH STRIPPING DESK | X | 00053014 | FOR DISPATCH                   |

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC DATE DISPATCH FOR ACTION

DISPATCH FOR INFO

|     |        |                   |                   |
|-----|--------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 004 | 000526 |                   | VICE PRESIDENT    |
| 004 | 000526 |                   | WH CHIEF OF STAFF |
| 005 | 000529 | WH STRIPPING DESK | DEFENSE           |
| 005 | 000529 | GRAHAM, BOB       | STATE             |
| 005 | 000529 | MACK, CONNIE      | CIA               |

UNCLASSIFIED

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
THE WHITE HOUSE**

PROOFED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOG # 2498  
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: \_\_\_\_\_ SYSTEM (RRS) INT ARS  
 BYPASSED WW DESK: \_\_\_\_\_ DOCLOG (S) A/O 01

|                | SEQUENCE TO | INITIAL/DATE    | DISPOSITION |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| GIRE           | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| JACOBSON       | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| POWELL         | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| BASH           | <u>1</u>    | <u>PR/5/90</u>  | _____       |
| BRADTKE        | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| RUDMAN         | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| STEINBERG      | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| BERGER         | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| SITUATION ROOM | _____       | _____           | _____       |
| WEST WING DESK | <u>2</u>    | <u>D 5/30</u>   | <u>D</u>    |
| RECORDS MGMT.  | <u>3</u>    | <u>SWR 5/30</u> | <u>S</u>    |
| _____          | _____       | _____           | _____       |

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

CC:  
 '00 MAY 30 AM 10:25

COMMENTS: DATE MAY 29, 2000

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
THE WHITE HOUSE**

PROOFED BY: DS LOG # 2498  
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: \_\_\_\_\_ SYSTEM PR INT ARS  
 BYPASSED WW DESK: \_\_\_\_\_ DOCLOG DS A/O 1

|                | SEQUENCE TO | INITIAL/DATE   | DISPOSITION                |
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| GIRE           | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| JACOBSON       | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| POWELL         | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| BASH           | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| BRADTKE        | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| RUDMAN         | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| STEINBERG      | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| BERGER         | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| SITUATION ROOM | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| WEST WING DESK | <u>1</u>    | <u>DS 5/26</u> | <u>A</u> <u>Staff Sec.</u> |
| RECORDS MGMT.  | _____       | _____          | _____                      |
| _____          | _____       | _____          | _____                      |

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

CC:

COMMENTS:

*Ready for staff sec.*

00 MAY 26 10:46

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
THE WHITE HOUSE**

5/25

PROOFED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ LOG # 2499 <sup>2510</sup>  
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: \_\_\_\_\_ SYSTEM PRS INT ARS  
 BYPASSED WW DESK: \_\_\_\_\_ DOCLOG 17 A/O 01

EPW

|                | SEQUENCE TO | INITIAL/DATE      | DISPOSITION            |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| GIRE           |             |                   |                        |
| JACOBSON       | <u>1</u>    | <u>D 5/24</u>     |                        |
| POWELL         |             |                   |                        |
| BASH           |             |                   |                        |
| BRADTKE        |             |                   |                        |
| RUDMAN         | <u>2</u>    | <u>MR 5/10/71</u> |                        |
| STEINBERG      | <u>3</u>    | <u>✓</u>          |                        |
| BERGER         | <u>4</u>    |                   |                        |
| SITUATION ROOM |             |                   |                        |
| WEST WING DESK | <u>4</u>    | <u>DA 5/25</u>    | <u>✓</u> <sup>WH</sup> |
| RECORDS MGMT.  |             |                   |                        |

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

CC:

00 MAY 23 PM 7:21  
COMMENTS:

*Congress. Corres on  
Cuban Refugees at  
Guantanamo Bay*

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE YES \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
THE WHITE HOUSE**

PROOFED BY:   DJ   LOG #   2498    
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: \_\_\_\_\_ SYSTEM   PBS   INT ARS  
 BYPASSED WW DESK: \_\_\_\_\_ DOCLOG   DJ   A/O \_\_\_\_\_

  CPR  

|                       | SEQUENCE TO  | INITIAL/DATE       | DISPOSITION      |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| GIRE                  | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| JACOBSON              | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| POWELL                | <u>  1  </u> | _____              | _____            |
| BASH                  | <u>  2  </u> | _____              | _____            |
| BRADTKE               | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| RUDMAN                | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| STEINBERG             | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| BERGER                | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| SITUATION ROOM        | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| WEST WING DESK        | <u>  2  </u> | <u>  DJ 5/19  </u> | <u>  WLP  </u>   |
| RECORDS MGMT.         | _____        | _____              | _____            |
| <u>  MULTI-PART  </u> | <u>  3  </u> | _____              | <u>  EDITS  </u> |

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

CC:

COMMENTS:

*Congressional Corres. on  
Cuban Refugees at Guantanamo Bay*

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE   yes

LOG # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

FM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

*Mara- suggest you send upstairs*  


FM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 29, 2000

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter concerning Cuban nationals at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

We are committed to the prompt resettlement of Cuban refugees from Guantanamo Bay to third countries willing to give them protection. The State Department arranges for resettlement and provides support for integration into his or her new country. Recently, nine Cuban nationals were resettled in Central America. I regret that some refugees have had to wait long periods before obtaining resettlement offers, but we are working hard to encourage other governments to accept refugees.

Additionally, we are making efforts to better assist Cubans at Guantanamo who are awaiting resettlement. Most adult refugees work on the base, earning and saving money that helps ease their transition to new countries. We have launched a school for the children that is staffed by a trained, Cuban-refugee teacher and American volunteers who live on the base. A program of physical education and recreation for the children has also been established. Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care offered to all other persons on the base. According to U.S. Navy physicians, no Cuban at the facility is being deprived of necessary medical care.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter and thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Bill", written in a cursive style.

The Honorable Bob Graham  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0903

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 29, 2000

Dear  Senator Mack:

Thank you for your letter concerning Cuban nationals at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

We are committed to the prompt resettlement of Cuban refugees from Guantanamo Bay to third countries willing to give them protection. The State Department arranges for resettlement and provides support for integration into his or her new country. Recently, nine Cuban nationals were resettled in Central America. I regret that some refugees have had to wait long periods before obtaining resettlement offers, but we are working hard to encourage other governments to accept refugees.

Additionally, we are making efforts to better assist Cubans at Guantanamo who are awaiting resettlement. Most adult refugees work on the base, earning and saving money that helps ease their transition to new countries. We have launched a school for the children that is staffed by a trained, Cuban-refugee teacher and American volunteers who live on the base. A program of physical education and recreation for the children has also been established. Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care offered to all other persons on the base. According to U.S. Navy physicians, no Cuban at the facility is being deprived of necessary medical care.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter and thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Connie Mack  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0904

5-30-00

00 MAY 26 PM 12:29

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 26, 2000

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER *MB*  
CHARLES M. BRAIN *MB*

SUBJECT: Congressional Correspondence

*sb should be  
dated 5/29/00*

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Senators Mack and Graham about conditions for Cuban nationals at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base.

Background

Senators Connie Mack and Bob Graham express concerns about several issues, including the length of time that some Cuban nationals have remained at Guantanamo Bay and the purported absence of schooling and adequate medical care.

The longtime residents at Guantanamo are those migrants interdicted at sea who the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has determined should not be returned to Cuba because they would risk persecution. Our policy is to seek third country resettlement, but finding governments willing to accept the Cubans can be time-consuming. (Bringing interdicted Cubans into the United States is not a viable alternative because we fear it would encourage dangerous boat departures from Cuba.)

Your response describes our continuing efforts to seek third country resettlement and to make life at Guantanamo as productive as possible. You also indicate that we make schooling and adequate medical assistance available at the base.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached responses at Tab A.

## Attachments

Tab A Letters to Senators Mack and Graham  
Tab B Incoming Correspondence

cc: Vice President  
Chief of Staff

420611

1

1

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

redo2498

May 23, 2000

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *ES*  
FROM: WENDY PATTEN *WP*  
SUBJECT: Letter from Senators Mack and Graham on Cuban  
Refugees at Guantanamo Bay

Attached is a memorandum to the President and proposed response to a letter from Senators Connie Mack and Bob Graham.

**The NSC received the incoming correspondence on April 11, 2000.**

Concurrence by: Caryn Hollis, Mark Tavlarides, Mary DeRosa } *via email*

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum at Tab I.

Attachments

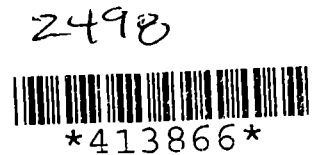
Tab I Memorandum for the President

Tab A Responses to Letter from Senators Mack and Graham

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510



March 24, 2000

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It has recently been brought to our attention that there are approximately 50 Cuban nationals at the Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba, some of whom have been detained for at least two years.

Last year, your administration stated that Cuban nationals would no longer be held in indefinite detention. Pursuant to this statement, Commissioner Doris Meissner issued a memorandum dated April 30, 1999, declaring a new mandatory review policy for INS Long Term Detainees. This memorandum explains that "every individual in long term detention has a right at anytime to request a review of his or her case, based on a change of circumstances to determine if the release is appropriate."

Mr. President, while this memorandum is meant to address those individuals who have final orders of removal but whose immediate repatriation is not possible, please be assured that the 50 freedom-seeking Cubans being detained indefinitely at Guantanamo have committed no crime but have paid a very high price in search of liberty. If reviews that are uniform and standardized will determine eligibility for release of criminal aliens, then by comparison, the 50 individuals who only seek to escape an oppressive and tyrannical regime clearly must not be treated as common criminals. They should be afforded, at a minimum, the same level of due process.

Furthermore, we are deeply concerned with the allegations that none of the children within the group of Cuban refugees at Guantanamo is receiving any schooling and that the medical facility is not adequately equipped to treat at least one member of this group who is severely ill. As to the former, the Supreme Court has held that illegal alien children are entitled to some form of public education.

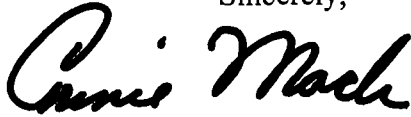
459916

W. J. Clinton

We must recognize and honor the human dignity of these Cuban nationals, and must insist they be treated with the greatest of respect and care.

We respectfully request that this matter be investigated by both the Administration and the INS in accordance with current policy. We look forward to hearing from you on this issue of great concern.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Connie Mack in cursive script.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Connie Mack  
United States Senator

Handwritten signature of Bob Graham in cursive script.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Graham  
United States Senator

**THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

ID# 413866

PAGE 1

DATE RECEIVED: 04/05/2000

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE CONNIE MACK

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE 50 CUBAN NATIONALS AT THE GUANTANAMO NAVAL  
BASE IN CUBA

|                            |                          | ACTION         |                  | DISPOSITION  |        |                       |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|--------|-----------------------|
| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY | (STAFF NAME)             | ACTION<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C<br>D | COMPLETED<br>YY/MM/DD |
| LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS        | CHARLES "CHUCK"<br>BRAIN | ORG            | 2000/04/04       |              |        |                       |
| ACTION COMMENTS            |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |
| NSC                        |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |
| ACTION COMMENTS:           |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |
|                            |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |
| ACTION COMMENTS:           |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |
|                            |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |
| ACTION COMMENTS:           |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |
|                            |                          |                |                  |              |        |                       |

COMMENTS BATCH #413866 a: INS

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 1

MEDIA: LETTER

INDIVIDUAL CODES:

REPORT CODES:

USER CODES:

**ACTION CODES:**

A - APPROPRIATE ACTION  
C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION  
D - DRAFT RESPONSE  
F - FURNISH FACT SHEET  
I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY  
R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY  
S - FOR SIGNATURE

**DISPOSITION CODES:**

A - ANSWERED  
B - NON-SEPC-REFERRAL  
C - COMPLETED  
S - SUSPENDED

**OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**

TYPE RESP = INITIALS OF SIGNER  
CODE = A  
COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ROOM 72, OEOB) EXT-62590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO  
RECORDS MANAGEMENT.



**THE WHITE HOUSE**

**WASHINGTON**

**April 10, 2000**

**MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT A. BRADTKE**  
**NSC Executive Secretariat**

**FROM: KAY CASSTEVENS**  
**Legislative Affairs**

**SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Attached are copies of letters sent to the President by various Members of Congress. Since these letters address national security issues, we would appreciate your assistance in drafting the responses.

Thank you very much for your assistance. If you have any questions, please call Courtney Crouch at x67500.

The following is a brief description of the letters:

- 1) Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-TX) and six other Members of Congress, concerning Mexico's non-compliance with the 1944 Water Treaty;
- 2) Sen. Connie Mack (R-FL) and Sen. Bob Graham (D-FL), expressing concern for the 50 Cuban nationals currently being detained at the Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba;
- 3) Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-NY) and seven other Members of Congress, concerning the economic situation in Romania as a result of destroyed bridges that are blocking the Danube River from commercial traffic to Romania;
- 4) Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL) and twenty-four other Members of Congress, concerning a potential Initial Public Offering by China National Petroleum Company and/or the PetroChina oil company;
- 5) Rep. Eliot L. Engel (D-NY) and twelve other Members of Congress, concerning the redeployment and withdrawal of Syrian Armed Forces and security personnel out of Lebanon;
- 6) Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA), requesting the President to appoint a special ambassador to estranged Kurdish citizens;

APR11 8:12

- 7) Rep. Tony Hall (D-OH), requesting the President to send USAID Administrator Brady Anderson and Secretary of Education Richard Riley to the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal;
- 8) Rep. John P. Murtha (D-PA) and twenty-five other Members of Congress, expressing opposition to granting China Permanent Normal Trade Relations status;
- 9) Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr., (D-NJ), urging the President to work to decrease Turkey's weapons inventory;
- 10) Rep. Jim Ramstad (R-MN), enclosing material on his constituent, Gopal Khanna, and his expertise on the current situation in India;
- 11) Rep. Steven R. Rothman (D-NJ), supporting the President's decision to introduce a resolution on China's human rights practices at the 56<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights;
- 12) Rep. James A. Traficant, Jr., (D-OH), expressing concern over the State Department's release of intelligence photos of a base belonging to the People's Mojahedin; and,
- 13) Rep. Curt Weldon (R-PA) and Benjamin A. Gilman (R-NY), concerning the Parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan.

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*make  
O.W. change*

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER  
CHARLES M. BRAIN

SUBJECT: Congressional Correspondence ~~on Conditions for~~  
~~Cuban Refugees at Guantanamo Bay~~

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Senators Mack and Graham about conditions for Cuban nationals at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base.

Background

Senators Connie Mack and Bob Graham express concerns about several issues, including the length of time that some Cuban nationals have remained at Guantanamo Bay and the purported absence of schooling and adequate medical care.

The longtime residents at Guantanamo are those migrants interdicted at sea who the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has determined should not be returned to Cuba because they would risk persecution. Our policy is to seek third country resettlement, but finding governments willing to accept the Cubans can be time-consuming. (Bringing interdicted Cubans into the United States is not a viable alternative because we fear it would encourage dangerous boat departures from Cuba.)

Your response describes our continuing efforts to seek third country resettlement and to make life at Guantanamo as productive as possible. You also indicate that we make schooling and adequate medical assistance available at the base.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached responses at Tab A.

*Please make changes  
here - my editing style  
is just a little  
different from Elliotts.  
Done  
CMB  
T & R*

CC: Vice President  
Chief of Staff

Attachments

Tab A Letters to Senators Mack and Graham

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Senator Mack:

Thank you for your letter concerning Cuban nationals at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

We are committed to ~~facilitating~~ <sup>written statement</sup> the prompt resettlement of Cuban refugees from Guantanamo Bay to third countries willing to ~~afford~~ <sup>give</sup> them protection. ~~After a Cuban national is found to require protection,~~ <sup>its determines the</sup> The State Department arranges for resettlement and provides support for integration into his or her new country. I regret that some refugees have had to wait long periods before obtaining resettlement offers, but we are working hard to encourage other governments to accept refugees for resettlement. (Recently, nine Cuban nationals were resettled in Central America.)

Additionally, we are making efforts to better assist Cubans at Guantanamo who are awaiting resettlement. Most adult refugees work on the base, earning and saving money that helps ease their transition to new countries. We have launched a school for the children that is staffed by a trained, Cuban-refugee teacher and American volunteers who live on the base. A program of physical education and recreation for the children has also been established. Regarding medical care, Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care ~~that is afforded~~ <sup>afforded</sup> to all other persons on the base. According to U.S. Navy physicians, no Cuban at the facility is being deprived of necessary medical care.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter and thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

↑

Sincerely,

The Honorable Connie Mack  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-20904

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

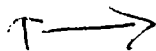
Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter concerning Cuban nationals at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

We are committed to facilitating the prompt resettlement of Cuban refugees from Guantanamo Bay to third countries willing to afford them protection. After a Cuban national is found to require protection, the State Department arranges for resettlement and provides support for integration into his or her new country. I regret that some refugees have had to wait long periods before obtaining resettlement offers, but we are working hard to encourage other governments to accept refugees for resettlement. Recently, nine Cuban nationals were resettled in Central America.

Additionally, we are making efforts to better assist Cubans at Guantanamo who are awaiting resettlement. Most adult refugees work on the base, earning and saving money that helps ease their transition to new countries. We have launched a school for the children that is staffed by a trained, Cuban-refugee teacher and American volunteers who live on the base. A program of physical education and recreation for the children has also been established. Regarding medical care, Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care as all other persons on the base. According to U.S. Navy physicians, no Cuban at the facility is being deprived of necessary medical care.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter and thank you for writing.

A handwritten signature, likely of Jimmy Carter, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line and an arrow pointing to the right.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Bob Graham  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0903

**Williams, Mary C. (ADMIN)**

---

**From:** Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 21, 2000 4:59 PM  
**To:** Williams, Mary C. (ADMIN)  
**Subject:** FW: Gitmo Letters [UNCLASSIFIED]

Mary -- please be on the look out for this redo for me. I'd like to turn it around as quickly as possible. thanks -- WLP

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Powell, Elliott (WHSR/EXSEC)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2000 8:25 PM  
**To:** Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)  
**Cc:** @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary  
**Subject:** Gitmo Letters [UNCLASSIFIED]

Made some changes. Package is being returned to you.



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

2498

May 15, 2000

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *ES/wp*

FROM: WENDY PATTEN *WP*

SUBJECT: Letter from Senators Mack and Graham on Cuban  
Refugees at Guantanamo Bay

Attached is a memorandum to the President and proposed response  
to a letter from Senators Connie Mack and Bob Graham.

**The NSC received the incoming correspondence on April 11, 2000.**

Concurrence by: Caryn Hollis, Mark Tavlarides, Mary DeRosa *} via email*

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum for the President

Tab A Responses to Letter from Senators Mack and Graham

Tab B Incoming Correspondence



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER  
CHARLES M. BRAIN

SUBJECT: Congressional Correspondence on Conditions for  
Cuban Refugees at Guantanamo Bay

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Senators Mack and Graham about conditions for Cuban nationals at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base.

Background

Senators Connie Mack and Bob Graham express concerns about several issues, including the length of time that some Cuban nationals have remained at Guantanamo Bay and the purported absence of schooling and adequate medical care.

The longtime residents at Guantanamo are those migrants interdicted at sea who the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has determined should not be returned to Cuba because they would risk persecution. Our policy is to seek third country resettlement, but finding governments willing to accept the Cubans can be time-consuming. (Bringing interdicted Cubans into the United States is not a viable alternative because we fear it would encourage dangerous boat departures from Cuba.)

Your response describes our continuing efforts to seek third country resettlement and to make life at Guantanamo as productive as possible. You also indicate that we make schooling and adequate medical assistance available at the base.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached responses at Tab A.

cc: Vice President  
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*fat*  
*the*  
*finger*

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER  
CHARLES M. BRAIN  
SUBJECT: ~~Congressional Correspondence~~  
~~Letter from Senators Mack and Graham on~~  
Conditions for Cuban Refugees at Guantanamo Bay

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Senators Mack and Graham about conditions for Cuban nationals at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base.

Background

Senators Connie Mack and Bob Graham express concerns about several issues, including the length of time that some Cuban nationals have remained at Guantanamo Bay, and the purported absence of schooling and adequate medical care at the naval facility.

The long<sup>time</sup> residents at Guantanamo are those migrants interdicted at sea who the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has determined should not be returned to Cuba because they would risk persecution there. Our policy is to seek third country resettlement for these persons, but finding governments willing to accept the Cubans can be time-consuming. (Bringing interdicted Cubans into the United States is not a viable alternative because we fear it would encourage dangerous boat departures from Cuba). Your response describes our continuing efforts to seek third country resettlement and to make life at Guantanamo as productive as possible. You also indicate that we make schooling and adequate medical assistance available at Guantanamo.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached responses at Tab A.

cc: Vice President  
Chief of Staff

Attachments ~~was~~

Tab A <sup>^</sup> ~~Responses~~ <sup>to</sup> Letters ~~from~~ <sup>to</sup> Senators Mack and Graham

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Senator Mack:

Thank you for your letter concerning Cuban nationals at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

We are committed to facilitating the prompt resettlement of Cuban refugees from Guantanamo Bay to third countries willing to afford them protection. After a Cuban national is found to require protection, the State Department arranges for resettlement and provides support for integration into his or her new country. I regret that some refugees have had to wait long periods before obtaining resettlement offers, but we are working hard to encourage other governments to accept refugees for resettlement. Recently, nine Cuban nationals were resettled in Central America.

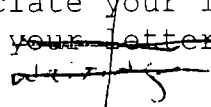
*Additionally, we*

*We* ~~also~~ are making efforts to better assist Cubans at Guantanamo who are awaiting resettlement. Most adult refugees work on the base, earning and saving money that helps ease their transition to new countries. We have launched a school for the children that is staffed by a trained, Cuban-refugee teacher and American volunteers who live on the base. ~~We have also established a~~

*Established. Regarding medical care, Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care that is afforded to all other persons on the base.* ~~A program of physical education and recreation for the children and Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care as~~

*all other persons on the base.* According to U.S. Navy physicians, no Cuban at the facility is being deprived of necessary medical care.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter and thank you for ~~your letter~~ *showing your concerns with me.*

  
Sincerely,

The Honorable Connie Mack  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510 - 0904

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter concerning Cuban nationals at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

We are committed to facilitating the prompt resettlement of Cuban refugees from Guantanamo Bay to third countries willing to afford them protection. After a Cuban national is found to require protection, the State Department arranges for resettlement and provides support for integration into his or her new country. I regret that some refugees have had to wait long periods before obtaining resettlement offers, but we are working hard to encourage other governments to accept refugees for resettlement. Recently, nine Cuban nationals were resettled in Central America.

*Additionally, we*  
~~We also~~, are making efforts to better assist Cubans at Guantanamo who are awaiting resettlement. Most adult refugees work on the base, earning and saving money that helps ease their transition to new countries. We have launched a school for the children that is staffed by a trained, Cuban-refugee teacher and American volunteers who live on the base. ~~We have established a~~ program of physical education and recreation for the children, *has also been established.* ~~and~~ Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care as all other persons on the base. According to U.S. Navy physicians, no Cuban at the facility is being deprived of necessary medical care.

*Regarding medical care,*  
I appreciate your interest in this important matter and thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Bob Graham  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0903

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

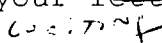
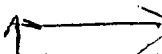
Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter concerning Cuban nationals at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

We are committed to facilitating the prompt resettlement of Cuban refugees from Guantanamo Bay to third countries willing to afford them protection. After a Cuban national is found to require protection, the State Department arranges for resettlement and provides support for integration into his or her new country. I regret that some refugees have had to wait long periods before obtaining resettlement offers, but we are working hard to encourage other governments to accept refugees for resettlement. Recently, nine Cuban nationals were resettled in Central America.

~~We~~ <sup>U.S.</sup> Also, are making efforts to better assist Cubans at Guantanamo who are awaiting resettlement. Most adult refugees work on the base, earning and saving money that helps ease their transition to new countries. We have launched a school for the children that is staffed by a trained, Cuban-refugee teacher and American volunteers who live on the base. We have ~~also~~ established a program of physical education and recreation for the children, and Cuban migrants continue to receive the same medical care as all other persons on the base. According to U.S. Navy physicians, no Cuban at the facility is being deprived of necessary medical care.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter and thank you for ~~your letter~~.

  
  
Sincerely,

The Honorable Bob Graham  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0903

**PRESIDENTIAL/NSA CORRESPONDENCE**

**IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED**

ACTION OFFICER:

Hollis

Patten

LOG NUMBER:

2498

DUE DATE:

Apr. 22

DATE STAFFED:

Apr. 11

**CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:**



PRESIDENT



NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

FROM:

Mack, Graham

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.

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 0002498  
RECEIVED: 11 APR 00 16

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: MACK, CONNIE  
GRAHAM, BOB

DOC DATE: 24 MAR 00  
SOURCE REF: 413866

KEYWORDS: CUBA  
HUMAN RIGHTS

LEGAL ISSUES  
CO

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: CONCERN FOR 50 CUBAN NATIONALS BEING DETAINED AT GUANTANAMO NAVAL  
BASE

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER

DUE DATE: 22 APR 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  
BAKER  
LACKEY  
PATTEN

FOR INFO  
MCCARTHY  
SCHWARTZ  
VALENZUELA

*Transfer to Multi, Patten. [Signature]*

COMMENTS: IF FINAL REPLY CANNOT BE PREPARED BY DUE DATE, AN INTERIM RESPONSE  
MUST BE PREPARED FOR MILES LACKEY'S SIGNATURE.

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSDBG

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 0002498  
RECEIVED: 11 APR 00 16

TO: PRESIDENT

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GRAHAM, BOB

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NSCP:

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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  
BAKER  
LACKEY  
PATTEN

FOR INFO  
MCCARTHY  
SCHWARTZ  
VALENZUELA

*Transfer to Multi, Patten. [Signature]*

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DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSDBG

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 0002498

REFERRAL

DATE: 30 MAY 00

MEMORANDUM FOR: WH STRIPPING DESK

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: GRAHAM, BOB

SOURCE: PRESIDENT

DATE: 29 MAY 00

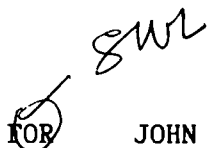
SUBJ: REPLY RE CUBAN NATIONALS AT GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE

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REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 31 MAY 00

COMMENT:

*gwr*  
FOR

JOHN W. FICKLIN

NSC RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICE

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
DISTRIBUTION RECEIPT

LOG 0002498  
DATE 29 MAY 00

SUBJECT: REPLY RE CUBAN NATIONALS AT GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE  
DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:

DATE

TIME

SIGNATURE

WH STRIPPING DESK

PRINT LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COPY: ORIGINAL

DATE, TIME, SIGN THE RECEIPT AND RETURN TO: NSC RECORDS MGNT, ROOM 379 OEOB  
PAGE 01 OF 01 PAGES