

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Agency Liaison

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Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 15141

FolderID:

Folder Title:

[Folder 5 - 409329 - Bulk Mail on Coast Guard Treatment of Cuban Refugees] [2]

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Position:

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (1 page)	06/29/1999	b(6)
002. letter	Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (1 page)	06/29/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Agency Liaison
Correspondence
OA/Box Number: 15141

FOLDER TITLE:

[Folder 5 - 409329 - Bulk Mail on Coast Guard Treatment of Cuban Refugees] [2]

2011-1039-F

jm1496

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

22
H/1/05

DOT

Hilda M. Harley
20420 N.W. 25th Court
Miami, Florida 33056

July 1, 1999

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

Dear President Clinton:

The Cubans in Miami-Dade County are out of control. They continuously break our laws and are rewarded with the release of undocumented, smuggled in and illegal convicts in our community.

The actions/conduct of the Cubans Tuesday, June 29 and Wednesday, June 30, 1999 is what we as Miami-Dade County residents have to deal with every day. These two dates, they held the county hostage, they were the terrorists, they were the law breakers, and how did the U.S. Government reward them for these actions? They release six illegal immigrants into the community without a complete background check as to criminal history/activities.

The pictures shown on local television were obvious. The U.S. Coast Guards were doing their jobs. To protect and secure our water boundaries. The Cubans complain about the treatment with pepper spray and the cannon hose. We were not in either of the boats and we did not and could not hear what commands the Coast Guard were giving these men. Nevertheless, one thing is for sure. The men were being defiant. Yes, they have not reached our shores yet, however, they have learned how to be defiant and not follow orders given by officers of the law.

Another thing Mr. President, what were so many Cubans doing on the shore then? Could it be they were waiting for their relatives that they paid to be smuggled into Florida? I believe and it is the belief of many residents, their relatives knew they were coming and expected them at Surfside (which is also filled with Cubans. They could blend in quite well.) I could not believe my eyes when I saw the Surfside Police Officers bring two of the illegal immigrants out to "greet" the people outside. Since when do you bring criminals out to greet citizens? To add insults to injury, the City Manager of Surfside comes on the air and says he can understand because he is Cuban. Does that make what is going on right? I know it did not help the situation especially when you see people on the shores interfering with the police officers who were trying to do their job. I wonder how many of those protesters they arrested for obstruction of justice or interfering with law enforcement officers. None I am sure.

The Honorable William Clinton
Page Two
July 1, 1999

The Cuban elected officials in Miami-Dade County are no help to the situation. They talk about Castro, they are doing the same things here in Miami. If you do not speak Spanish, you cannot get a government or private job. They are in control and using the same tactics Castro used to control Cuba. Can't the U. S. Government see that is what is happening in Miami?

I am tired of this ridiculous situation and I am pleading with you and Attorney General Janet Reno to insure these situations do not happen again. The Cubans blocked traffic on the McArthur Causeway where a man was taking his pregnant wife to the hospital because she was having complications. One Cuban asked him if he were Cuban or Hispanic. The man replied no. What happens next? The Cuban hits the man with a Cuban flag. When the man reported it to an officer, they did nothing. He reports it to another officer who appeared to arrest the man and place him in his patrol car. The Cubans got upset and began shaking the car until they released the man that appeared to be under arrest. If this right?

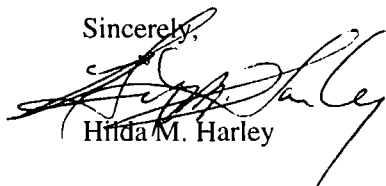
The Cubans called their actions "protesting" or "civil disobedience." These actions were far from both. When they show the Mayor of Hialeah, Raul Martinez, on television physically fighting a man and when a police officer gets cuts that require stitches, that is not civil disobedience nor protesting. They call that breaking the law. What will happen? Nothing, because they are all Cubans and they can do whatever they want in Miami-Dade County.

Do citizens have to go through scenarios like these every time illegal Cubans show up on our shorelines? I think not, but most of all I **pray** not. They stopped traffic so people could not get home from work or get to work because they know they have the power of the local government and some U.S. Government officials in their hands. I was very surprised, but thankful when Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen said the way they were going about this is "wrong" and "there is a process" to follow. Now she needs to tell that to her Cuban residents. All other ethnic groups seeking the "American Dream" follow the process without breaking the law with criminal activities. They must teach the Cubans that is not the way.

Smuggling illegal immigrants is now the big money making business for the Cubans. They must stop this. There is a process other immigrants must follow to get the American Dream. Why don't the Cubans have to follow the same process? There is no excuse for their "criminal actions."

Mr. President, I appeal to you, I beg of you, stop these illegal actions by these Cubans. It is not fair to U.S. citizens who are abiding by the law. As the saying goes, "In Rome, do as the Romans do." We must stick to our laws and do not reward illegal immigrants/criminals with their freedom for breaking our American laws.

Sincerely,



Hilda M. Harley

cc: The Honorable Janet Reno
Attorney General, United States of America
Department of Justice
Constitution Avenue & 10th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Enclosure

Enter the "Are You at Risk" Sweepstakes...
WIN A COMPUTER SYSTEM

NEWS

Published Thursday, July 1, 1999, in the Miami Herald

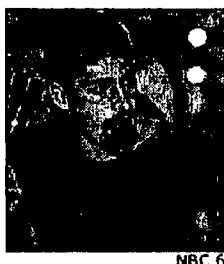
Hialeah mayor, protester mix it up at traffic blockade

By **SANDRA MARQUEZ GARCIA** and **JOSEPH TANFANI**
Herald Staff Writers

Hialeah Mayor Raul Martinez took his reputation as a hands-on mayor to the streets early Wednesday, pummeling a young butcher who was blocking traffic on the Palmetto Expressway.

Both the mayor, weighing in at 6-3, 255 pounds, and the protester, 150-pound, 5-10 Ernesto Mirabal, say the other guy swung first.

Martinez emerged the champion of the roadside bout. He landed a left and at least five right uppercuts as police officers jumped Mirabal, leaving the protester bleary-eyed and spitting blood. The fight video played all day on news stations.



NBC 6

BLOODIED IN SCUFFLE: Ernesto Mirabal said Hialeah Mayor Raul Martinez attacked him.

Still undecided: the battle of public opinion.

Radio hosts Hank Goldberg -- who once claimed that Martinez hit him -- and Neil Rogers cheered the mayor for taking on an annoying traffic blocker.

But opinion was a lot less positive among the people who really count for Martinez -- Cuban Americans. Hialeah is Miami-Dade's most Cuban city and a natural source of support for the traffic blockades that tied up commuters Tuesday.

"This is an abuse of power," said electrician Francisco Rodriguez, 57, standing outside Chico's Restaurant on West 12th Avenue. "Martinez is a magnificent mayor, but on this occasion I don't think he acted properly."

More than 400 people gathered on the Palmetto on Tuesday night to protest the Coast Guard's treatment of six Cuban rafters, blocking the northbound lanes at Northwest 103rd Street for about four hours. The protest turned into a battle after 2 a.m. Seven people were arrested.

Chief Rolando Bolaños was hit in the head with a rock. He got six stitches and was back at work Wednesday.

Martinez said he was in bed just after midnight Wednesday

when he got a call from Bolaños. The chief thought the mayor could help calm the crowd.

The Cuban-American Martinez, charismatic and hugely popular in Hialeah, showed up and tried to persuade people to leave. At one point, he had words with Mirabal, who was lying in the road. Martinez told him to get up, but Mirabal refused to budge.

Mirabal, interviewed later Wednesday, accused Martinez of trying to undercut his fellow Cuban Americans.

"[Politicians] always go and appease the public and everyone goes home. Then there is no justice," said Mirabal, 21, who came to Hialeah from Cuba six years ago.

Mirabal said Martinez walked away but came back later for vengeance.

He said Martinez approached him from behind and sucker-punched him in the face.

"He said with these words, and I will never forget this: 'This is the guy I wanted to get,' " Mirabal said. "He doesn't have the pants to hit someone from in front."

Mirabal, who dropped out of American High in his junior year to work as a butcher at Winn-Dixie on West 49th Street, said he tried to return the punch but was immediately restrained by two Hialeah police officers. He said he has contacted a lawyer.

Martinez has another version:

He saw a crowd at the expressway median, went to see if he could calm people down and took a fist in the face.

"So I turned and I just started punching," said Martinez, 50. "People say, walk away. But in the middle of the adrenaline going? I can tell you that he landed probably three on me."

Martinez said he was not breaking up a legitimate protest.

"The hoodlums who were there didn't care for Cuba, didn't care for the six balseros. They were only there to disrupt," he said.

Video from NBC 6 shows Martinez standing in a line of police officers along the northbound side of the road. Martinez sees something happening in the median and heads that way as officers follow.

WSVN Channel 7's tape shows Mirabal making some pushing motions at a police officer. Martinez lunges at his neck and starts to pummel him.

Freelance photographer Fabrissio Lopez of Protel News, who shot the Channel 7 video, said he couldn't tell who started the fight. He said he saw Mirabal yelling at Martinez earlier: "You're a racist!" The mayor responded calmly, he said.

Mirabal, who was arrested in 1995 for battery and indecent exposure, was charged with battery on an elected official, resisting arrest with violence and inciting a riot. He spent the night in jail and was released Wednesday afternoon on \$15,000 bail.

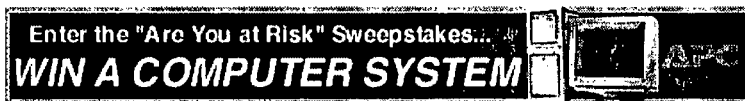
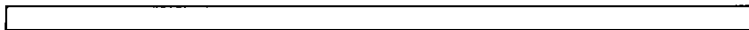
Ninoska Perez-Castellon, spokeswoman for the Cuban American National Foundation, said she isn't sure how Cuban exiles will react to the mayor's scuffle. She said Martinez could catch flak for punching a protester at an emotional time.

"I don't know what the circumstances were -- whether he was provoked," she said. "Of all the times that it could have happened, I think that was the worst of times."

Martinez said he did his best to avoid violence.

"Trust me that I don't go out and look for trouble," he said. He said he had no experience as a boxer.

"No, hell no," the mayor said. "I'm a lover."



[Contact Us](#)
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DOT
1004

689-2433

DR. ERNESTO F. SANZ
JURIS DOCTOR
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, SOCIOLOGY,
SOCIAL STUDIES AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

FAMILY COUNSELING

295 Beretta Court Gun Club Colony
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

July 2, 1999.

Honorable President Bill Clinton.
The White House.
Washington, D.C. 20510.

Dear Honorable President Clinton:

Thank you for sending me the pretty photograph from you wife First Lady Hilary Clinton and yourself, and I want to express my appreciation for your attention.

I would like this opportunity for you know the information revealing the violation of the law for improper actuation of the authority from the Coast Guard to denial of procedural guarantees of due process the law from the six young men come from Cuba under the Castro-comunist despotic regime was deteriorate the Cuba population and enforce the Cuba family to scape and expected the condition of good life living in other county without tyranny of Castro pressure control from January 1959 at 90 mile of distance from U.S.A.

The real question in a denial the process of equal protection of justice has usually been whether or not a state was responsible for some particular act or some specif omission of an act under international law was wrongful and cause discrimination an injury to all alien from Cuban comunist was denied the justice and force to deprivation of the life and liberty without the process of the law its objections because violate the Universal Declaration of the human rights by the General Assembly of the United Nation and the Civil Rights against unreasonable invasion of the personal rights to be great, dehumanizing, undignified, humiliating to signifying degradation and submission, to require a formal investigation and equal process of the law.

Thank you for your attention, and please let me know if you need any additional information, and I still to support you.

Respectfully yours,
Ernesto F. Sanz
Ernesto F. Sanz, J. D.



John R. Arenas

502 S. FREMONT AVENUE
SUITE 712
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33606

TELEPHONE 813/254-5918

July 6, 1999

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC

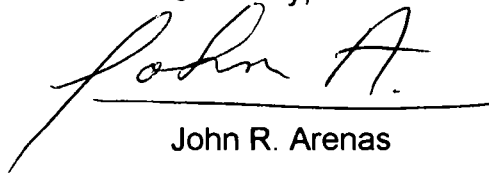
Re: Cuban refugees

Dear President Clinton,

Would you consider changing state department policy on rafting refugee Cubans that float to Florida for freedom? Currently they are sent back to Havana after being apprehended on our beaches.

I believe these people deserve liberty from the despotic communist leaders of Cuba. Please allow these people permanent asylum in America. It is important to me.

Sincerely,


John R. Arenas

lu
Aglias / DOT [unclear]

From: Louandris@aol.com on 07/07/99 11:52 AM GMT

To: president@Whitehouse.GOV
cc:
Subject: Illegal Immigration

From:

Louis Andris
8621 S.W. 161 Terr.
Miami, FL 33157

President Clinton:

Mr. President,
USA has lost control of it's borders. The Cuban adjustment act should be abolished. It makes no sense to let the illegal immigrants stay if they set foot on our soil and yet return them if they are intercepted at sea. The law should be applied equally to all the immigrants.
Regards,
Lou Andris

Sincerely,

Louis Andris

DOT/CG
MSH
SAC-2A

From: Jenny Morales <orbitin@bellsouth.net> on 06/30/99 04:26 PM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Cuban Refugee's

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.214.19.62 [209.214.19.62]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.04 [en]C-bls40 (Win95; U)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Jenny Morales
EMAIL-ADDRESS: orbitin@bellsouth.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP: citizen
STREET-ADDRESS: PO Box 173506
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33017-3506
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: Justice or Crime
AFFILIATION: Professional
SUBJECT: Cuban Refugee's

[Message]

Shame on you, Mr. President, I stand in amazement at the actions taken yesterday 6/29/99 by the US Coast Guard. Who's side are you on? Are you an American Indian or did your ancestors came here like all of us. As an American Cuban I can not sit back and ignor what was done to those six refugee's. Take action now and stop holding Castro's hand or your citizens will take action to the streets. I am now glad you can not run again you DO NOT have my vote.

DT/CO
MSH
6
AG-14

From: "Amalia C. Delgado" <acdelgado@worldnet.att.net> on 07/01/99 12:54 AM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: The Coast Guard incident off South Florida waters

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 12.77.147.32 [12.77.147.32]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; Windows 98)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Amalia C. Delgado
EMAIL-ADDRESS: acdelgado@worldnet.att.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 511 SW 104 Avenue
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33174
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: The Coast Guard incident off South Florida waters

[Message]

I came to the US from Cuba in 1962, at the age of 12. This was an experience I do not wish on anyone. I am very proud to be an American, but I am also very proud to have been born in Cuba. Cuban exiles have never had control of our own destiny. We have blindly believed in the US for support and refuge from the communist dictatorship of Castro.

What happened in South Florida waters yesterday is beyond comprehension. How could the US Coast Guard engage in such inhumane acts of violence against defenseless human beings? How many times have they engaged in these acts in South Florida waters, outside our view? How long is the US Government going to let Castro make a fool out of us?

Cuban families have been separated for over 40 years. I lost my family, my childhood and my hopes to ever see those I knew

before I was 12. How long is the US Government going to keep their silent deals with Castro, after he has destroyed the lives of so many Cubans. Yesterday, once again Cubans exiles have been deeply hurt by the actions of silence from the US Government. Their actions not very different to those of the sinking and massacre of the 13 de Marzo barge, or the shooting down of the Brothers to the Rescue plane by Cuban MIGs, in international waters. We are criticized for blocking traffic and causing an inconvenience to others when we demonstrate. Yes, REFUGEES are a bother to everyone, but you know I am a refugee, nevertheless I have been an American citizen for most of my life, and I am deeply insulted by the actions committed against defenseless human beings.

(Remember, immigrants created what is today the United States)

7/21/04 (207) *cc*
From: "Paula R. Sigler" <ordendivino@msn.com> on 06/30/99 02:50 AM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~

cc:

Subject: U.S. Coast Guard Misconduct in Miami, Florida

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 208.251.99.42 [208.251.99.42]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; MSN 2.6; Windows 98)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Paula R. Sigler
EMAIL-ADDRESS: ordendivino@msn.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 4010 S.W. 2 Terrace
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33134
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: Local or State Issues
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: U.S. Coast Guard Misconduct in Miami, Florida

[Message]

Dear Mr. President,

Today six Cuban refugees were in a small wooden boat trying to reach Miami shores. Members of the U.S. Coast Guard surrounded this boat, circling it at high speeds to create a wake, almost toppling the refugees, then proceeded to attack them with a high pressure water hose and pepper spray.

Is this behavior worthy of the name "United States Coast Guard?" I think it was an utterly cruel and sadistic thing to do, especially since these refugees were only seeking freedom and democracy and were already exhausted, weak and hungry when they were attacked.

Actually, this behavior reminds me more of Fidel Castro's tactics than anything else - stepping on people when they are down.

I believe the U.S. Coast Guard station should be publicly censured, and those cruel men who attacked these helpless refugees should be fired immediately.

One thing is to intercept illegal aliens, and quite another is to attack people who have risked their lives seeking freedom.

I am absolutely disgusted with the U.S. Coast Guard and I am embarrassed that they even represent the United States.

Thank you,
Paula R. Sigler

IL cc
1120 DOT
#GCTMS-
From: CindyD1218@aol.com on 07/04/99 04:17 PM GMT

To: president@Whitehouse.GOV
cc:
Subject: Cuban Immigrants

From:
Cindy Demos
8680 NW 10 St.
Pembroke Pines, FL 33024

President Clinton:

Dear President Clinton,
I hope you have a very Happy 4th of July.

I live in So. Florida. During the past week we have been indulged with news coverage on the 6 cubans who came to shore. I know we live in the land of the free but enough is enough. I really don't think anyone has a grasp on how the resentment is building amongst the native americans. It is a subject that is coming up a lot. The immigration laws are very lame. I read the paper daily and

one thing that stands out is medicare fraud. It is attached to dade county latin names all the time. They protest in the streets and block traffic. They are always fighting for their causes which at this point we don't care. They don't try to speak our language. They are discriminating against us. Try getting a job in dade county and if you aren't bi-lingual then you are out of luck. The billboards, business signs, and even mail is in spanish. I don't mean

to sound racist, I'm not, but if it is shoved down your throat daily you become

very resentful. Please, please don't let them loosen up the immigration laws. If anything please make them harder. I live in Broward County and it is starting here. I've lived here almost all my life and I really don't want to be

forced out. Please don't let this happen.

Sincerely,
Cindy Demos

Sincerely,

Cindy Demos

DOT/CG
not a USA
From: Darrell Daigrepont <darrellpd@usa.net> on 06/30/99 02:28 AM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Policy towards Cuban refugees

[Connection Information]

CYTEXT: 205.188.198.59[205.188.198.59]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; CS 2000; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Darrell Daigrepont
EMAIL-ADDRESS: darrellpd@usa.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 6711 Dogwood Dr
CITY: Pineville
STATE-PROVINCE: Louisiana
ZIP-CODE: 71360
COUNTRY:

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: No Answer
AFFILIATION: Professional
SUBJECT: Policy towards Cuban refugees

[Message]

I would like an explanation why the Coast Guard acted the way they did toward the Cuban refugees on Tuesday 6-29-1999. Is this any way to treat political refugees. I thought that the United States was a compassionate country. I also thought you were a champion for human rights. I'm sure you are aware of the way the Coast Guard treated these unarmed, weak Cuban men. This is a disgrace. What will be done about this?

DOT/03/10/11
10-7A

From: "Alfredo E. Alvarez" <alfxiol@bellsouth.net> on 06/30/99 02:32 AM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~

cc:

Subject: Abuse by the U S Coast Guard and Surfside Police department

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.214.10.207 [209.214.10.207]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.5 [en] (Win95; I)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Alfredo E. Alvarez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: alfxiol@bellsouth.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 25520 SW 127th Avenue
CITY: Princeton
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33032
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: Justice or Crime
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Abuse by the U S Coast Guard and Surfside Police
department

[Message]

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing you this letter after watching on television the abuse committed by the U.S. Coast Guard and police officers of the Surfside police department.

As a Cuban-American citizen, having resided in the United States for thirty eight (38) years, and as taxpayer of this great country, I demand a full investigation of the governmental agencies involved in this discriminatory act and abuse of six unarmed, weak and dehydrated men whose only wish was to reach freedom and the American dream. I can't help but to wonder, how many times this has already happened but there were no witnesses and no video record these barbaric acts, not only against Cubans but also the Haitians.

I hope that when the investigation is concluded (as soon as possible) you can afford me an explanation in writing and I would like to thank you in advance for your courtesy in replying.

Waiting to hear from you, I remain.

Very truly yours,

Alfredo E. Alvarez

DA106
From: Richard Prescod <decourcyp@usa.net> on 06/30/99 02:35 AM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~
cc:
Subject: Cuban Refugees

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 216.77.209.2 [216.77.209.2]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.61 [en] (Win95; U)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Richard Prescod
EMAIL-ADDRESS: decourcyp@usa.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: PO Box 8005
CITY: Coral Springs
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33075-8005
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: No Answer
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Cuban Refugees

[Message]

Dear President Clinton: The madness we have here in South Florida has to stop. I am concern about the abundance of Cubans allowed to enter US shores claiming they are fleeing their land because of political persecution. Cubans today are fleeing because of the economy in Cuba and not because of the Castro regime. Everyday Cubans reach our shores, it is our tax dollars who have to pay for their welfare untill they find jobs, it is our tax dollars paying for border control and the other services needed to minimize the invasion of Cubans. All of Miami is flooded with Cubans and most of them appear unwilling to learn English. Good jobs are being offered to those who are bilingual leaving American citizens and legal residents lost for jobs. These jobs even pay more for being bilingual. The Coast Guard actions were justified, as they were only trying to enforce the laws of the land. WE MUST PUT AN IMMEDIATE HALT TO THE INFLUX OF CUBANS. Haitians are

...
treated with contempt when they arrive here, so why are we glorifying Cubans. Stop the madness, as we have too many Cubans in Florida.. It must stop.

Sincerely,

Richard Prescod

207/CO 10/6/99 AGC
From: "Mrs. Alicia Fraga" <afraga@bellsouth.net> on 06/30/99 01:16 AM GMT

To: President@gateway

cc:

Subject: Cuban rafters' treatment by Coast Guard on 6/29/99 at Surfsi

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.215.30.150 [209.215.30.150]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.04 [en]C-bls40 (Win95; U)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Mrs. Alicia Fraga
EMAIL-ADDRESS: afraga@bellsouth.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 6320 SW 30 Street
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33155
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Cuban rafters' treatment by Coast Guard on 6/29/99 at
Surfside, FL (Miami Beach)

[Message]

Mr President:

It is with a deep sense of sadness and great outrage that I write to you this evening. I hope that by now, you have received reports and/or seen news video of the inhuman treatment received by a group of six Cuban rafters who were trying to reach freedom within our shores.

Mr President, the unthinkable has happened today in this land which is supposed to be the leader of the world in liberty, freedom, democracy and respect for human rights. When we see the Coast Guard (or is it the "Castro Guard") doing everything in their power to prevent these men from reaching our shores, is bad enough. However, we were astounded to see the methods used to do so. Who's orders are they following?

They were circled by different vessels, which caused waves that the wooden boat was barely able to resist. They were sprayed with pressured water hoses in order to make them fall from their boat, while trying to row towards the shore. They were also sprayed with some kind of irritant chemical, again, to make them fall from the boat. And then, as if this were not enough, when they saw that their only way out was to leave the boat and swim, they did the impossible trying to prevent them from reaching their goal.

Two of the rafters made it to shore. The first one was "greeted" by three policemen who treated him as if he was a criminal. The second one received the same kind of "welcome". The four who did not make it to shore, are being detained pending deportation to Cuba. The two who made it to the Land of the Free, are being questioned and no one knows what will happen to them.

Last week, The Miami Herald had a picture of you embracing a Kosovo refugee. Mr President, these six men are also refugees, the only difference being that they are from a different country. A land which seems to be forgotten in time. WHY? If a costly war was fought to stop and prevent present and future abuse of human rights in Kosovo... WHY DO WE CLOSE OUR EYES TO THE REALITY THAT EXISTS IN CUBA? If there were no human rights violations and lack of freedoms in Cuba, there would not be a need to risk any lives by crossing the rough waters between Cuba and the United States. And, I am sure you KNOW how many thousands of precious lives have been lost forever seeking freedom and liberty. If there was NO CASTRO, the United States would not have this problem and Cubans would stay in their country, just the way we always did.

I came here 37 years ago, because of Castro and his communist dictatorship. I am VERY proud to be a free Cuban and I am also very proud to be an American citizen. I don't want to lose the faith I have in this country and the principles for which it stands. I don't want to lose my faith in the Armed Forces, especially, in the Coast Guard. The same Coast Guard which worked so tirelessly to help Cubans reach our shores in their search for freedom... for the last 40 years!

Mr President, please grant these people the gift of freedom by letting them stay in this great country of ours. Remember the Kosovo refugees and DON'T FORGET THE CUBAN REFUGEES!

God bless America and God bless you.

Mrs Alicia Fraga
6320 SW 30 Street
Miami, FL 33155

6/30/99
Alina
From: Alina Rodriguez <alinaro@pacbell.net> on 06/30/99 05:16 PM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Treatment of the Cuban rafters by the Coast Guard

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 206.171.134.229[206.171.134.229]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Alina Rodriguez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: alinaro@pacbell.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: P.O. Box 32703
CITY: San Jose
STATE-PROVINCE: CA
ZIP-CODE: 95152
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Treatment of the Cuban rafters by the Coast Guard

[Message]

I was completely shocked by the actions of the US Coast Guard towards the group of 6 Cuban refugees trying to reach freedom. As a Cuban-American living in this country since 1964, I was under the impression that the US supported Human Rights. It is my opinion that the Coast Guard violated the Human Rights of those 6 Cuban refugees. I left Cuba at the age of 6 with my mother, leaving behind all our family and friends. I have always been thankful that the US gave us the opportunity to continue our lives in this magnificent country. I became a naturalized citizen at the age of 17 and have grown to love this country as my own. However, I did not love the actions of the Coast Guard or the Miami Beach police towards those defenseless men. They risked their lives to reach freedom and were almost drowned by the water hoses sprayed at their boat. What kind of policy is this that allows for such behavior by government employees? As a registered democrat who voted for

you in the last 2 presidential elections I would greatly appreciate an investigation into the incident yesterday, clarification of what the latest INS policy towards Cuban refugees is and what exactly is the procedure that the coast guard is instructed to follow when a raft or boat nears the shores of the US. I sincerely hope that this was an isolated incident and not the norm.

6
AGLTA
From: Bruce Albertine <bruce@screenmusic.com> on 06/30/99 04:56 PM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Florida Cuban refugee incident

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.204.4.103 [209.204.4.103]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_Presi=
dent.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Bruce Albertine
EMAIL-ADDRESS: bruce@screenmusic.com
ORGANIZATION: =20
RELATIONSHIP: =20
STREET-ADDRESS: 1160 Mooring Walk
CITY: Oxnard
STATE-PROVINCE: CA
ZIP-CODE: 93030
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Offer neutral commentary, advice, or a suggestion
TOPIC: Government or Constitution
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Florida Cuban refugee incident

[Message]

June 30, 1999

Re: Florida Incident involving Coast Guard and Cuban refugees

I am writing to express how appalled I was reading on the=20 front page of The Los Angeles Times this morning about an=20 incident in Florida wherein Coast Guard patrols tried to=20 prevent Cuban refugees from reaching the shore. The story=20 reports that the patrol went so far as to fire a =93water canon=94= =20 at one of the boats, causing it to sink and forcing its=20 occupants into the sea. Another officer shot pepper spray into=20 the faces of refugees who were struggling in the water.=20

This kind of action goes beyond mean =96 one wonders if it=20 isn=92t downright illegal. Certainly such behavior is morally=20 reprehensible. As a nation, we should be ashamed for handling=20

anyone at sea, refugee or otherwise, in such a manner.=20

I am not one who believes our shores should be open without=20
restriction, but I also believe our attitude toward and=20
handling of those entering illegally, or attempting to do so,=20
must be handled in the most gracious of ways =96 it is our duty=20
to live up to our sense of our heartfelt and intelligent=20
American society.=20

Sincerely,

Bruce Albertine
bruce@screenmusic.com

White
DOT
From: "Mirta L. Lorenzo" <mlorenzo@glendale.cc.ca.us> on 07/01/99 12:19 PM GMT *Hold*

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: A protest for human rights violation *femi*

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 207.233.96.125 [207.233.96.125]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.01 [en] (Win95; I)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Mirta L. Lorenzo
EMAIL-ADDRESS: mlorenzo@glendale.cc.ca.us
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 3434 Angelus Avenue
CITY: Glendale
STATE-PROVINCE: CA
ZIP-CODE: 91208
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: A protest for human rights violation

[Message]

I am registering a strong protest for the way the Coast Guard treated the Cuban refugees off the Coast of Florida. These people overcame the dangers of being caught and imprisoned by the Comunist tirany in Cuba, and the treacherous sea, in search of the freedom that we take for granted. They should had been helped by the Coast Guard instead of being treated like wild animals. As a U.S. citizen, I am ashamed of the Coast Guard. As a human being, I am appalled by their behavior. Please, make sure this situation is never repeated, and grant polical asylum to these brave people. Thank you.

DL
aghar

From: "John R. Hawkins IV, Senior Chief Petty Officer, USCG Retired" on 07/14/99 01:17 PM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~

CC:

Subject: ~~Betrayal of servicemembers, performing Administration Policy~~

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 205.152.16.33 [205.152.16.33]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.04 [en]C-bls40 (Win95; U)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: John R. Hawkins IV, Senior Chief Petty Officer, USCG
Retired
EMAIL-ADDRESS: coastie@bellsouth.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 4205 Tanglewood East, # 335
CITY: Palm Beach Gardens
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33410-1447
COUNTRY: U.S. A.

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Ask a specific question regarding Administration policy
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Betrayal of servicemembers, performing Administration
Policy

[Message]

Mr. President,

For over 21 years, I had the honor of serving in the U. S. Coast Guard in many different duties, including the Cuban Boat Lift of 1981. I view your comments at the Fanjul Residence on Tuesday, 13 July, a complete and utter betrayal of the Coast Guard and servicemembers. It is the Coast Gaurd servicemembers who attempt to carry out, what was from the very beginning in 1994, as flawed, and distrubing to US Policy regarding refugees.

It was your Administration that changed to "Feet Wet/Feet Dry" policy. Where in world have you been for the last 5 years. The Coast Guard didn't establish this policy by it's self. IT WAS DIRECTED to enforce the Administration policy.

Lynn

Sincerely,

Lynn Fernandez

If this policy was not authorized, then who in the Administration is or was responsible for the establishment of this policy.

Considering that both the INS(an agency of the Justice Department) and Coast Guard were working under the same policy, Your statements do not hold up under close examination.

DOT/208
MSH
AGCT
A
From: Hiram Rodriguez <Barbiro1@mediaone.net> on 07/01/99 12:14 AM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Cuban rafters

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 24.129.30.216 [24.129.30.216]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 5.0; Windows 98; DigExt)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Hiram Rodriguez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: Barbiro1@mediaone.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 9363 Fontainebleau Blvd #H-217
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33173
COUNTRY: Dade

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Social Issues
AFFILIATION: Other
SUBJECT: Cuban rafters

[Message]

I would like to know your opinion in the way the Goard Guard treated the Cuban rafters yesterday, June 29, 1999. Also, I would like to give you my opinion on the USA policy toward Cuba.

Before I do that, let me express my anger and disgust at the way the Coast Guard treated the rafters. Dogs are treated better. Pepper spray and pressure hoses on people that have risked their lives for freedom, not to mention being exhausted from it. Totally uncalled for and shocking. The only luck we had was viewing it on TV. How many others, Mr. President, have the Coast Guard injured, hurt or possibly killed in open waters where there are no TV's? Throughout the years I have heard stories, but did not believe them; now I do. Incredible what a small news footgace can do!

Open your eyes Mr. President. The Cuban people have been good to this country, not to mention how we have helped the economy and your political career. Please review and change the policy!

I personally think that the current policy is hurting the Cuban people only. Fidel Castro is eating better than its own people. I strongly feel that USA should improved the food and medicine policy toward Cuba, because, with the present policy, it is only hurting the common Cuban people.

Hiram Rodriguez

DOT/CG
M5H
SAGC
From: "Michael R. Wigal" <mrwigal@AOL.com> on 06/30/99 11:28 PM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Treatment of Cuban Refugees

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 152.163.197.84 [152.163.197.84]
BROWSER: Mozilla/2.0 (compatible; MSIE 3.02; AOL 4.0; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Michael R. Wigal
EMAIL-ADDRESS: mrwigal@AOL.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 228 South Bayshore Drive
CITY: Columbiana
STATE-PROVINCE: OHio
ZIP-CODE: 44408
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Treatment of Cuban Refugees

[Message]

I am writing to strongly protest the treatment of those Cuban refugees who were harassed and captured by the Coast Guard. This action is reprehensible! This country is a beacon of FREEDOM. For God's sake they are Americans too. We owe them our protection, not punishment.

I am a Veteran and a proud American but today I am embarassed and ashamed. Please order the Coast Guard and other authorities to cease this practice.

DOT/03 nsh
6
AGCA
From: "Otniel H. Batista" <obatista@yahoo.com> on 06/30/99 12:40 AM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Handling of Cuban Refugees

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 206.103.151.55[206.103.151.55]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.04 [en] (Win95; U)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Otniel H. Batista
EMAIL-ADDRESS: obatista@yahoo.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 13870 SW 284 St
CITY: Homestead
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33033
COUNTRY: U.S.A.

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Handling of Cuban Refugees

[Message]

I find it appalling that in this great nation, where freedom and justice are held in such high regard, that the very people who we entrust to defend and protect us feel compelled to take drastic measures in an effort to keep Fidel Castro's victims from achieving what has become the Cuban dream; to leave the Island and reach American shores in search of a better life and political freedom.

As the scene unfolded I watched in horror as United States Coast Guardsmen and other law enforcement personnel mistreated and abused 6 Cuban refugees just a few miles from Miami-Dade County's coast. It is incomprehensible how we can grant early releases to convicted felons, yet we treat refugees from nations where political and economic oppression are well documented as a threat to our society.

I urge you to take steps to assure that the Cuban refugees who underwent todays tribulations are handled with care, compassion and dignity.

Sincerely,

Otniel H. Batista
Miami, FL.

From: "Elio M. Garcia Sr." <eligar@earthlink.net> on 06/30/99 02:40 AM GMT

To: President@gateway

cc:

Subject: Disagreement on Current policy against Cuban rafters

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 159.252.70.21 [159.252.70.21]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.61 [en] (Win95; I)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Elio M. Garcia Sr.
EMAIL-ADDRESS: eligar@earthlink.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 1375 Eldron Blvd, S.E.
CITY: Palm Bay
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 32909
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Disagreement on Current policy against Cuban rafters

[Message]

Mr. President, once again I find myself writing to you to express my disagreement in the way your administration is treating Cubans trying to reach freedom in our country. As an american born in Cuba, and retired from the US Army, I'm ashamed at the way in which our Coast Guard acted against 6 Cubans trying to reach our coast. These Cubans risked their lives in an old wood boat not only from Castro's assassins, and the extreme hardships of seafaring, to have to endure such a violation of Human rights, and the use of excessive force by the Coast Guard and the Miami Beach police as seen on national television. I hope your administration starts an investigation on this matter and those responsible for this shameful act are properly disciplined, but I think, the current policy by your administration is to blame as evidenced by the statement made by the Coast Guard stating that this is our policy towards immigrants trying to arrive in our coasts.

It is time that this administration does something to alleviate the suffering of those trying to reach freedom from Castro's regime, instead of deporting them to a certain life in Cuban prisons. Let me remind you that this administration's policy to award a given number of visas to Cubans through a lottery system is not working or well behind schedule, I'm pretty sure some of those visas could be used to those which arrive from Cuba by different means. A response to this message would be greatly appreciated. Sincerely yours.
Elio M. Garcia Sr. US Army Airborne Ranger (Retired)

DOI/CG 3
From: "Allan E. Monica, Esq." <mascomar@msn.com> on 07/01/99 01:55 AM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Civil Disobedience in Miami

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 153.36.38.20 [153.36.38.20]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 5.0; MSN 2.6; Windows 98;
DigExt)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Allan E. Monica, Esq.
EMAIL-ADDRESS: mascomar@msn.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 6428 Country Fair Circle
CITY: Boynton Beach
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33437
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: No Answer
TOPIC: Social Issues
AFFILIATION: Professional
SUBJECT: Civil Disobedience in Miami

[Message]

Dear Mr President:

First, I agree with you that illegal Cuban immigrants should be repatriated. The time has long since gone where they should be given preference over other groups in coming to our shores.

The Coast Guard has the difficult task of enforcing the policy off the coast of Miami. Recently they were face with the difficult task of capturing illegal immigrants from Florida that resisted entering their vessel. The decision was made to use pepper spray and a water hose to subdue them. While I don't condone this, faced with going into the water after desperate men or using those items to help subdue them would probably been an attractive option for me.

Nevertheless, the Cuban thugs that used extreme civil

disobedience in shutting down two major expressways in Miami should not be condoned. Their illegal action placed innocent people using our highways at risk particularly those in need of emergency services. I hope that our Federal government is not positively influenced by such negative, illegal behavior in making a decision as to whether or not these illegal immigrants are granted asylum. In regards to asylum it is my belief that the people now fleeing Cuba are doing so for economic reasons. Those that felt oppressed should have been out a long time ago.

The situation in Miami makes me feel ashamed of our government. It is about time that the problem with immigration is addressed so that the Native American population is placed first. Miami has been transformed into one of the poorest cities in America; a true corrupt banana republic that corporate America has already started to shun.

274122
1094
AGUA
From: DBierer492@aol.com on 06/30/99 02:39 AM GMT

To: president@Whitehouse.GOV
cc:
Subject: Cuban Protests-Miami

Dear Mr. President,

I am a resident of Hollywood, Florida and watched the news tonight with extreme dissatisfaction at the protests of Cuban exiles for the treatment of illegal immigrants from Cuba today. I understand the Coast Guard acted irrationally, but with the new policy on Illegal Cuban Immigrants they probably are a little confused as to how aggressive they need to be in order to stop the Immigrants from hitting the beach. I, for one am sick and tired of hearing about Illegal Cuban Immigrants coming into this country and when they are detained by INS the Cuban exiles here make life miserable for the rest of us. Tonights demonstrations blocked the McArthur Causeway in Miami Beach for hours and now I hear on the news that the six immigrants will be admitted to our Country after all. This will send a loud and clear announcement to other Illegal Cuban Immigrants to float on over because we'll take them in. We have an unbelievable amount of third world illnesses here because we let these people in without health screening first. I just wanted you to know that there is another opinion on this matter that doesn't agree with Illeana Ross-Lehtinen and Lincoln Diaz-Ballart. They don't begin to speak for all of us here in this mess. If this were Haitian Immigrants not a word would've been mentioned about it and they probably would've been deported before they hit the shoreline, which is incredibly biased. I am neither haitian or Cuban, but this policy is UNFAIR.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Bierer

3511 SW 32 Avenue

Hollywood, Florida 33023

954-962-6828

DOT/CG
Agua
From: juan robles <aaahyd@msn.com> on 07/01/99 02:15 AM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: cuban policy or lack thereof

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 208.251.89.181[208.251.89.181]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 5.0; MSN 2.6; Windows 98;
Compaq)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: juan robles
EMAIL-ADDRESS: aaahyd@msn.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: po box 680818
CITY: miami
STATE-PROVINCE: fl
ZIP-CODE: 33168
COUNTRY: usa

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Local or State Issues
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: cuban policy or lack thereof

[Message]

why does the us implement policies that deal with immigration and at the first sign of protest from cuban nationals desist from following the specified policy? we have 6 illegal immigrants trying to gain access to US shores (against US policy) when they are intercepted (legally) by the coast guard and arrested (as per policy)all hell breaks loose in Miami,roads are blocked (illegally and maybe criminally if you consider that they are blocking the routes to hospitals to emergency vehicles)near riots break out, the mayor of Hialeah is physically attacked, the chief of police is assaulted to the point of physical injury and the following day we hear this news, the immigrants will be releasd (all 6) they will be filing legal suits because of civil right violations,and the coast guard is apologisynng for following specified guidelines.my question is why this defference to a certain

part of our population, why implement policies if they will not be enforced? i am a vietnam era veteran, never have asked (or received) any special treatment, but at this point i am really disappointed and disillusioned with US policy. when you see elected officials such as our mayors Penellas and carollo, our commissioners who are supposed to be serving all citizens of our county stand up in front of a tv camera and denounce US policy because of this incident that leaves a lot to be desired when you consider that this policy is not against cubans but for all immigrants. I know that you became President without the cuban vote as they predominantly voted against you , so this cannot be a political issue with you, but please answer me why this continues to happen in our society. thanking you in advance, i know that i will probably never hear from you but at least i got the satisfaction of saying what was in my heart and that in itself is very gratifying. thanks for listening

juan robles

DOT-06-16051
From: "Rosa M. Medina" <rnjmed@bellsouth.net> on 06/30/99 01:59 AM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~

cc:

Subject: The Cuban refugee incident in Miami.

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.215.31.77 [209.215.31.77]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.5 [en]C-bls40 (Win98; U)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Rosa M. Medina
EMAIL-ADDRESS: rnjmed@bellsouth.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 4753 SW 136 Pl
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: fl
ZIP-CODE: 33175
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Offer neutral commentary, advice, or a suggestion
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: No Answer
SUBJECT: The Cuban refugee incident in Miami.

[Message]

I am sure you are aware of what happened today off the shores of Miami Beach with the 6 Cuban rafters looking for freedom. I would just like to say that the US Coast Guard acted like "Pirates". I think their actions were barbaric and totally unnecessary. I am an American Citizen born here in the United States (of Cuban heritage) and am EMBARRASSED at what happened today in front of every News team in all of Miami for all to see. The only thing I ask of you, Mr. President, is that you take into consideration that these are Human Beings just like you and me and want to have the freedom of "CHOICE". I hope you will help the families of these desperate young men in search of Freedom and do what is right for the Human Race not for whatever country these or anyone else may come from. We are famous for going and helping countries in their time of need, well I understand we can't go over there and help the Cuban people so why not help them when they come to us. Please

do something. Thank you.

10/10/99 [Signature]
From: Raul Trujillo <raul.trujillo@theaustin.com> on 06/30/99 11:27 PM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Indignation for the attack of Cubans by the Coast Guard in M

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 207.69.10.180 [207.69.10.180]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Raul Trujillo
EMAIL-ADDRESS: raul.trujillo@theaustin.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 358 Tall Oaks Drive, NE
CITY: Atlanta
STATE-PROVINCE: GA
ZIP-CODE: 30342
COUNTRY:

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Seek assistance from the White House
TOPIC: Justice or Crime
AFFILIATION: Professional
SUBJECT: Indignation for the attack of Cubans by the Coast Guard in Miami

[Message]

The attack by members of the US Coast Guard, with water guns and chemical spray, to Cuban nationals that were hoping to reach US soil in their quest for freedom is a grave offense that demands your personal attention. An investigation is in order.

If these actions by members of the Coast Guard took place in front of TV cameras along the shores of Surfside in Florida, we have to wonder what other crimes against Cuban rafters may be committed, behind the cameras, in the open sea. Discrimination against those seeking political asylum shall be investigated,

We demand an explanation and the prosecution of those who ordered the attack on those Cubans in Florida.

Thanks for your future actions.

72
AST
To: President Clinton
From: Glenn Test
30386 Oleander Blvd.
Big Pine Key, Fl. 33043
Subj: Immigration Policy
Date: 07/12/99

Mr President,

I am a resident of So. Florida, raised in Miami in the early 60's, moved to the Keys in the late 70's, and now I am a police officer here in So. Florida. I am very concerned with the U.S. Governments attitude towards Cuban refugees. As an American I was disgusted when I watched the incident involving the Coast Guard and six refugees two weeks ago. As a police officer I was frustrated. To watch on TV as these refugees, who were smuggled to our coast, refuse to obey the first lawful order they receive in America. Then they resist arrest. How are they punished? Why they are all allowed to stay, and Mayor Penellas took them to dinner and bought them gifts! To irritate Americans even more the dinner celebration was shown on the news. That was not the end though, to show support for the refugees lawless behavior the existing Cuban population decided to break more laws. They took to the streets, blocked bridges for days and vandalized American's cars. Did the Miami government try to help? It is tough to say, but I think I saw the Mayor blocking traffic chanting "libertad".

How can we stop any refugee now, after allowing those criminals to stay? We have set a terrible precedence. Combined with the lack of enforcement of immigration policy for several decades, we are about to witness a terrible crisis. As an American I embarrassed by the governments racist enforcement of policy. Both Cubans and Haitians are ECONOMIC refugees, that is a fact. The above mentioned refugees were quite proud to announce on the news "... We had to leave (Cuba) because we could not afford to support our families in Cuba." Further more, it seems obvious that Haitians in Haiti are far worse off than Cubans in Cuba. Yet Haitians are sent back while Cubans can stay. Why? To any reasonable person the answer would be Haitians are sent back because they are black. The argument that Cubans are political refugees is laughable. These are the impoverished population, they have no link to Castro. They fled because of the economic disarray there. For that I cannot blame them. On the other hand Florida's economic and natural resources are being pushed beyond the brink by the Americans coming here. We cannot afford to import economically indigent refugees. They have driven out most Americans who used to call So. Florida home. Please don't let them drive the rest of us out.

America implemented immigration policies because we are unable to support unchecked immigration now as we could hundreds of years ago. Our resources simply won't handle it. The refugees willing to work take jobs from Americans. They are willing to accept low wages, which has artificially suppressed everyone's wages in So. Florida. The ones not willing to work place a strain on our welfare and drive up our crime rates.

Sir, it is time to push for fair and equal immigration. As with all economic refugees, Cubans should have to apply through the INS application process should they chose to come here. Unless they can prove true political refugee status, i.e. a high ranking member of Castro's government or military, any one entering our country illegally should be repatriated. Further

more they should be banned from ever entering the country. Smugglers should face extreme sentences.

Please help Florida. When the winds and seas calm this summer, we will be overrun by refugees. We need to let the people in Cuba know it is a waste of time. If they want to come, apply through INS. As I am sure you are aware, Americans have fled Miami. If the influx continues the few remaining Americans will be forced to leave as well. I would like to know your stance on this crisis, and is there anything you intend to do? I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Glenn C. Test

DA/CG
From: Tanya Hubbard-Arreola <TanArreola@aol.com> on 06/30/99 12:48 AM GMT

To: President@gateway

cc:

Subject: the treatment of the Cubans off Floridas coast today

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 63.15.16.149 [63.15.16.149]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; MSN 2.6; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Tanya Hubbard-Arreola
EMAIL-ADDRESS: TanArreola@aol.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 5455 se pueblo st
CITY: hillsboro
STATE-PROVINCE: or
ZIP-CODE: 97123
COUNTRY: usa

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: Justice or Crime
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: the treatment of the Cubans off Floridas coast today

[Message]

Dear President Clinton:

I am appalled at the actions that the Coast Guard took today against the Cubans off the coast of Florida. It disgusts me to think that, we, being a free country, and claiming to the four winds that we support ethical treatment of ALL people, would find that our officials are taking such action against those trying to reach our shores. We would not stand for another country treating our citizens in the same manner, and in fact, if I did a similar act to a neighbor, would probably be arrested for the very least assault. And perhaps a Felony assault at that. It was clear to me that the safety of those poor, defenseless men was not even a consideration in the attack that the Coast Guard raised against them. It looked as though their tiny boat was being boxed in and that the spray of water, at a pressure that fights fire, was going to sink their small vessel. I find it disgusting that the world will

be seeing those images as a direct reflection on the United States. I am embarrassed. Even more than embarrassed, I am ashamed, that here in the "Land of the free, and the home of the brave" the government uses such tractics against the defenseless.

Sincerely, Tanya M Hubbard-Arreola a very concerned and apalled citizen of this great nation, that now has a new stain on its face.

301/03 1994
AGUA

From: Manuel Sarduy. <dsarduy@aol.com> on 06/30/99 01:34 AM GMT

To: President@gatorway
cc:
Subject: Lack of liberty

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 152.163.204.206 [152.163.204.206]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; AOL 4.0; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Manuel Sarduy
EMAIL-ADDRESS: dsarduy@aol.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 301 nw 190 ave
CITY: P. Pines
STATE-PROVINCE: fl
ZIP-CODE: 33029
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Justice or Crime
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Lack of liberty

[Message]

Today, is a sad day in South Florida. Not only has the rain hampered some of our spirits, but what the United States of America's Coast Guard has done is something that goes beyond sad...How could a branch of our armed forces behave so unethically?? How could they do what they did to 6 cuban refugees?? How could Americans that stand for helping and saving lives be seen spraying water, chemicals, and attempting to ram a small row boat?? How??, Why?? There is an I in Ethics and it seems that these coast guardsmen forgot about that 'I'!! How can they forget that at one point in time or another, their ancestors migrated to this great land of ours?? Instead of helping those that rowed to liberty and in search of the pursuit of happiness, we sprayed chemicals at them....What a sad day it is in South Florida, this 29th day of June 1999.

DOT/CG 11541
6-30-99
From: Haroldo Rodriguez <hrodriguez@netrus.net> on 06/30/99 01:25 AM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~
cc:
Subject: Cuban immigration laws.

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 206.251.199.76 [206.251.199.76]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; Windows 95; 3Com U.S.
Robotics Connections)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Haroldo Rodriguez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: hrodriguez@netrus.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 6705 SW 88 Street Suite 305
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33156
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Cuban immigration laws.

[Message]

It is with a heavy heart that I sat and watched how the US Coast Guards have treated the Cuban rafters today, who by only being less fortunate than us, have been treated in such inhumane manner, that I can not still believe what I was watching. My name is Haroldo Rodriguez. I am thirty-four years old. I am an US citizen. I am an immigrant, who came from Cuba in 1980, through the Mariel Boat Lift, and by only working hard, have design a life that I can be proud of, and today I was not proud at all, of the monstrous performance of the US Coast Guard.

This is an agence created to aid any person in distress in US waters, not to carry out immigration laws. When concerning the Cuban rafters, the US Coast Guard will not assist any person, whom they believe to be of Cuban nationality, in reaching US

shores, without endangering human lives in their cause of action. Today activities prevented their reaching US soil and endangered their lives. I protest their repulsive, disgusting, heartless behavior.

I have got to tell you, that I will relentlessly work to change this law that prohibits a Cuban, like me, from coming to this country, from a communist repressive regime, to create a life with the most basic right, FREEDOM

Thank you,

From: "Maria B. Carratala" <mcarratala@aol.com> on 06/30/99 01:50 AM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~

cc:

Subject: protest for the treatment of Cuban rafters off the shores of

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 205.188.197.151 [205.188.197.151]
BROWSER: Mozilla/2.0 (compatible; MSIE 3.0; AOL 3.0; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Maria B. Carratala
EMAIL-ADDRESS: mcarratala@aol.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 9962 N.W. 32 Street
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: Fl.
ZIP-CODE: 33172
COUNTRY:

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: No Answer
TOPIC: No Answer
AFFILIATION: No Answer
SUBJECT: protest for the treatment of Cuban rafters off the shores
of Miami

[Message]

As a cuban-american but more importantly as a U.S. citizen what we have witenessed today off the shores of Miami Beach is an outrage. The Coast Guard treated those Cuban refugees like animals and I believe that act is illegal and inmoral. I disagree with the administration's policy in reference to Cuban refugees. However, this is the limit. The refugees that were captured must be released and the Coast Guard must take responsability for their action today.

201/09/99
AGUA

From: Raphael Alvarez <MIACUB77@AOL.COM> on 06/30/99 01:35 AM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~

cc:

Subject: South Florida Cuban sea non-rescue

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 205.188.198.44[205.188.198.44]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; AOL 4.0; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Raphael Alvarez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: MIACUB77@AOL.COM
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 7601 E Treasure Dr
CITY: North Bay Village
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33141
COUNTRY: usa

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: No Answer
TOPIC: No Answer
AFFILIATION: Political Advocate
SUBJECT: South Florida Cuban sea non-rescue

[Message]

I was born in this country - A Natural Born American. Today June 29th 1999 in south Florida I have never seen such violence and cruel behavior towards cuabn migrants tring to reach land.. Born to Cuban parents I know the hardship cuban suffer to leave their country and try to make it to freedom.. Today 6 young cuban men have tried to make it to land and our Coast guards and sea officer have attacked them with pepper spray and a water hose after being at sea for 6 days. The video I have seen on TV and the way these young men have been treated is unexcepthable. I beg you to grant them the freedom thet deserve. I know and understnad that we can not accomadate every person tring to make it into our country, but we do not have to treat them like criminals. They were trapped between boats and men screaming and making them jump the wood raft in which they have traveld. Today and only today have I fely ashamed to be an AMERICAN. I ask and beg you to help us grant

them freedom.. We here in Miami will help and support those young men.. I see this alot and sometime I think people tring to come here may not be all true.. Today I know these men are true and have been at SEA for 6 days in search of freedom... I value 2 things in LIFE my FREEDOM and HEALTH ONLY... These young men only wanted freedom and we treated them with more cruelty them CASTRO himself woulf have.. PLEASE PLEASE contact South Florida and grant these 6 men freedom.. Make me proud again to be a true American The city of Miami is in a uproar - bridges are closed by protesters and people of all orgins are upset and ashamed of this country --- I am a voter as well as a commuter serivcer - I LOVE MY COUNTRY THE FREE USA.. PLEASE HELPME MAKE THIS MESSAGE COUNT. MY PHONE 305 868 7154 - A NAUTURAL BORN AMERICAN -- LET THIS BE THE LAST TIME THIS HAPPENS

DOT/CG 175H
6409A

From: Carmen Morrina <jal07@aol.com> on 06/30/99 02:29 AM GMT

To: President@gateway

cc:

Subject: UNDUE FORCE BY US COAST GUARD

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 63.15.98.245 (63.15.98.245)
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; MSN 2.5; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Carmen Morrina
EMAIL-ADDRESS: jal07@aol.com
ORGANIZATION: citizen
RELATIONSHIP: self
STREET-ADDRESS: 8226 NW 165 Terrace
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33014
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: UNDUE FORCE BY US COAST GUARD

[Message]

I AM APPUALED AT THE REACTION OF THE US COAST GUARD STATION IN
MIAMI WITH RESPONSE TO THE SIX POLITICAL REFUGEES.
UNRESTRICTED FORCE BY ANY ARM OF A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT CAN
NOT BE TOLLERATED. I WAS MORE OUTRAGED WHEN I HEARD A
SPOKESWOMAN FROM THE AGENCY NOTE THAT THE COAST GUARD'S
REACTION WAS STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE AND JUSTIFIABLE.

108

DC
Ag...
007

From: "W. L. Goss" <gasslink@webtv.net> on 07/14/99 02:07 PM GMT

To: ~~President@gateway~~
CC:
Subject: ~~Cuban Refugees/U.S. Coast Guard~~

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.240.200.86 [209.240.200.86]
BROWSER: Mozilla/3.0 WebTV/1.2 (compatible; MSIE 2.0)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: W. L. Goss
EMAIL-ADDRESS: gasslink@webtv.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP: Long time citizen of the United States
STREET-ADDRESS: 2864 N.E. 26th Street
CITY: Fort Lauderdale
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33305
COUNTRY: United States

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Social Issues
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Cuban Refugees/U.S. Coast Guard

[Message]

President Clinton: You were just in Miami and made a statement putting down the U.S. Coast Guard. You were appalled at the actions of the U.S. Coast Guard. President Clinton you are a very whimsical individual.

You again have come out on the side of illegal activities and have failed to support the men and women you are charged with the support of. The U.S. Coast Guard did their job and were a hell of a lot more gentle than they had a right to be. They are charged with defending our shores from illegal activity and they did it in a very professional manner. You as their Commander-in- Chief should have supported them as they harmed no one and tried to prevent unlawful entry into our Country. You are sending mixed signals to this professional organization but a very clear one to the American people which are not part of the Cuban community and one which is large

enough to cause a problem in the attempted election of a Democratic office holder. This action in my opinion will easily carry over to any attempt of Al Gore and makes it more understandable that he is trying to distance himself from you.

The Coast Guard here in this area have been acting in an outstanding professional manner which obviously does not emanate from the White House. I am again appalled of your actions and lack of support for the job these men and women are doing on behalf of the silent majority of the American people. They truly deserve a great deal of praise and those beach combers who are trying to enter our country illegally need to feel the rath of the fullest extent of the law which should not be altered because a group of similarly established law breakers demonstrate. There are a lot of nondemonstrators who disagree with their demands.

I was at a Cuban function last evening and even they are joking about the incident. Their comment was, "If it happened in other parts of the country, the approach of the locals would be that the officials were merely doing their job. However, being that it happened in Miami, the officials were wrong and in need of reprimand". And Mr. President you obviously support that but I must tell you, I do not, and therefore do not support you in this issue. First line of a leader is to support the men and women who are doing the job well that has been laid out to them. The Coast Guard did just that!!!!!!

cc: (DOT/USCG)
From: Robbie Bieler <rbieler@bellsouth.net> on 06/30/99 02:40 PM GMT

To: President@gateway

cc:

Subject: The cuban refugees entering FL 6/29/99

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.214.10.142 [209.214.10.142]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.6 [en] (Win95; I)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Robbie Bieler
EMAIL-ADDRESS: rbieler@bellsouth.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 19800 SW 180 Avenue Lot 135
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33187
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Local or State Issues
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: The cuban refugees entering FL 6/29/99

[Message]

As I am sure you are aware yesterday there were 6 cubans trying to gain access to the US, by making it to land. As a resident of Florida, I feel the need to express my opinion. The news has been all over the supposed brutality of these men. I am sorry I saw nothing wrong with their treatment. I am not necessarily opposed to our government allowing entrance of cuban refugees, but to allow these six is a misjustice. The cuban exiles blocking our traffic and causing riots, then getting their way has again made it so that if they choose to fight they will always win. What happens next time when there are more cubans in the water and are not to be allowed entrance?? The exiles will again riot and think that we are supposed to allow those entrance also. Please put a stop to this these refugees should have been return as the policy states. If we continue to allow the exiles to riot and change the position of the INS then we might as well allow them to

run the INS.

Sincerely,

Robbie Bieler

007/2509

From: Julio Rodriguez-Butler <greyfish@adelphia.net> on 06/30/99 02:01 PM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: Cuban rafters at large

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 208.235.121.67 [208.235.121.67]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 5.0; MSN 2.5; Windows 98)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Julio Rodriguez-Butler
EMAIL-ADDRESS: greyfish@adelphia.net
ORGANIZATION: None
RELATIONSHIP: myself
STREET-ADDRESS: P.O. Box 960052
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33296
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Ask a specific question regarding Administration policy
TOPIC: Social Issues
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Cuban rafters at large

[Message]

Yesterday, 06/29/99, few Cubans rafters entered Miami and by this time I understand that your office has ample knowledge of this incident.

I, myself and other citizens are worried about the fact of the great number of aliens illigaly coming from Cuba and other countries to USA specially Florida. As we see it Cubans have a special treatment, maybe because of Fidel Castro's dictatorship or because they dominate Florida and part of the Congress and give them privileges bringing them above the law in South Florida, focus on the latest incidents.

These people come to our shores illigaly, they are rescue by the American-Cuban Council and other Cuban organizations and a year and a day later they automatically become American citizens. I understand that there are many of them that never

credited money for IRS nor Social Security and are using and enjoying Social Security benefits. Is there a law that protect aliens emigrants, specially Cubans, Vs american citizens?

cc: /BOT/uscg

From: Lissette Dominguez <ldominguez@miami.edu> on 06/30/99 02:54 PM GMT

To: President@gateway
cc:
Subject: The cruel and unjustified treatment of Cuban rafters.

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 129.171.54.92 [129.171.54.92]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Lissette Dominguez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: ldominguez@miami.edu
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 3638 S.W. 23 Terrace
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: FL
ZIP-CODE: 33145
COUNTRY: U.S.A.

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Civil Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: The cruel and unjustified treatment of Cuban rafters.

[Message]

Yesterday I was very saddened to see the treatment that six Cuban rafters received on our shores by the U.S. Coast Guard Service. I found the way the Coast Guard treated them disgraceful. The need for excessive force in this manner was without a doubt unjustified. I find it hard to believe that this has occurred in a nation which prides itself in protecting basic human rights. Fortunately this event was captured on film. Unfortunately we are unaware of how many other times this has occurred at sea. If this aggressive force used by our Coast Guard officials was basic protocol, then I urge you to please make changes. I do not believe that six Cuban rafters that have been out at sea for days without any food or water pose a physical threat to our Coast Guard officials. We must remember that these Cuban rafters are fleeing their country in search of freedom and basic human rights. These Cubans risk their lives to try to reach our

shores, in hope of a better way of life. I love our nation but at this time I am embarrassed that our Coast Guard officials have behaved in this manner. This behavior is not representative of our country. Our founding forefathers would be ashamed. How can we not provide someone the very same freedom this country was founded on? This treatment is not only unacceptable for Cubans but for any other nationality that is in the pursuit of freedom. I ask you Mr President to please look into this matter. Thank you for your time.

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

SEND TO
FAX NUMBER - (202) 456-2461
DELIVER TO - President Bill Clinton
COMPANY -
RE - Cuban Rafter
FROM - Merida M. Pelier
DATE - July 1, 1999

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE

2**PLEASE ADVISE IF ALL PAGES ARE NOT RECEIVED**

25
2820 Southwest 36th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33133

July 1, 1999

Reference: Six Cuban Rafter

VIA FACSIMILE
(202) 456-2461

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Clinton,

I am a proud American Citizen, born and raised in New Jersey. My parents were born in Cuba, which are now American Citizens whom migrated to this country approximately forty some odd years ago. I am very appalled about the way the entire rafter situation was dealt with on June 29, 1999 in Surfside, Florida. I am ashamed of my own government. I feel that the United States Coast Guard handled the situation in a unnecessary way. This makes us, the United States of America no different from Fidel Castro. I do not feel that there is a need to pepper spray people because they are in search for their freedom. If the six rafters would have been drug traffickers would they have been treated the same way?

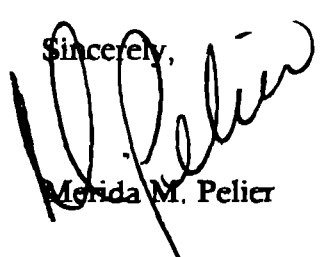
Personally we have or have had a family member migrate into this country for a better way of life. Remember the only true Americans, were, are and always will be the American Indians.

Where are our morals, our beliefs in human rights? The way the Cuban rafters were treated was very disappointing and I know I am not the only American that feels this way about this unexpected situation. All the protesters were there because of what we all believe in and because as Americans, we have all been educated about our rights for liberty and freedom.

I would greatly appreciate a return letter from you. I want to make sure that this letter came to your attention.

Thank you for your courtesy in this regard.

Sincerely,


Merida M. Pelier

25
C. Rueda

**EMERGENCY --- EMERGENCY ---
EMERGENCY**

DOT

ENRIQUE T. RUEDA
2110 SW 100 AVENUE
MIAMI, FL 33165

June 29, 1999

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

Dear Mr. President:

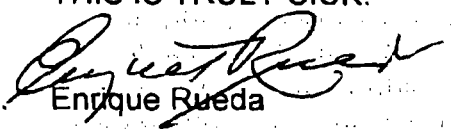
I never thought that I would live to see the US Coast Guard using ski jets to hunt like animals hapless escapees from Communist Cuba within sight of our shores. I never thought that I would live to see the US Coast Guard using high pressure hoses on hapless refugees from Communist Cuba within sight of our shores.

Yet, this is happening even as I FAX this letter, right in front of television cameras, for all of us to see. If this is what the Coast Guard under your command does in front of the cameras, what must they not do when no one is looking?

IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY, I AM ASKING THAT YOU RESCIND THIS INSANE POLICY.

IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY, I AM ASKING THAT YOU STOP THIS ABUSE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

THIS IS TRULY SICK.


Enrique Rueda

**EMERGENCY --- EMERGENCY ---
EMERGENCY**

Wm
a glia 507

From: Pío Torres <FAMTORR1@AOL.COM> on 06/29/99 11:03 PM GMT

To: President@gateway

CC:

Subject: The Hunting of the Cuban Balseros

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.198.199.153 [209.198.199.153]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.04 [en]C-AOL (Win95; U ;Nav)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Pío Torres
EMAIL-ADDRESS: FAMTORR1@AOL.COM
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP: Citizen of the United States of America
STREET-ADDRESS: 421 nw 88 Avenue
CITY: Pembroke Pines
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33024-6526
COUNTRY: U S A

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: No Answer
TOPIC: No Answer
AFFILIATION: No Answer
SUBJECT: The Hunting of the Cuban Balseros

[Message]

I am an American Citizen and very proud of it. Today the Coast Guard treated 6 Cuban looking for assylum like animals. Using powerful boats to stop them from coming to shore. Using water houses to try to sink the boat and pepper spray to force them to give up the desire to rich shore after the trip the made from Cuba.

I was ashamed of the use of force by the Coast Guard and also by the Police Department acting at the Beach.

Mr. President this is not the way the United States helps the people of the world. Help this Cubans, they are trying to find liberty and freedom. Thank you.

92B/S
Again HOT

From: Maria Lopez-Bernstein <MLB235@aol.com> on 06/29/99 10:13 PM GMT

To: President@gateway

CC:

Subject: Human Rights Violation on 29 June 1999 in the United States

[Connection Information]

CERTENT: 152.163.206.202[152.163.206.202]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; AOL 4.0; Windows 95;
Reba_CD)
URL:
http://www2.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Maria Lopez-Bernstein
EMAIL-ADDRESS: MLB235@aol.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 619 West 143rd Street, #34
CITY: New York
STATE-PROVINCE: NY
ZIP-CODE: 10031
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Human Rights Violation on 29 June 1999 in the United States

[Message]

I was born in Cuba and raised in New York City since the age of 4. I understand, speak, write and read better in english than I do in spanish through no fault of my parents (I was a rebellious child). I am informing you of this because I want you to understand the depth of the feelings I am experiencing right now due to what I have just seen on a spanish news television show.

My mother told me to turn on the spanish news today, 29 June 1999, which I did and I was beyond shock at what I saw. Tears came to my eyes and I felt a scream in my soul when I saw the United States Coast Guard try to hose down six (6) Cuban males in a small boat to dissuade them from reaching Florida beach sand to ask for asylum. Two made it to shore regardless, and

four were detained by the U.S. Coast Guard to face an uncertain destiny.

The inhumaneness of this gripped me so strongly that I am crying as I write this now. This is the kind of stuff that I remember watching on film in high school and documentaries since, about the civil rights struggle in this country. I think that this is abusive and against human rights in general. I can't believe the country I love and respect so dearly and call "home" can do this to fellow human beings (regardless of which country they are from). I am not a proud citizen today.

I hope that you are as disgusted by this as I am. I truly hope that you will see the injustice and human rights violation that I see. I hope with all my might that you will do something to correct this now for these people. I also hope you will put something in writing so that this never happens again.

9/13/99
regina DOT

From: Ray Gutierrez <Bongoboy@bellsouth.net> on 06/29/99 10:01 PM GMT

To: President@gateway

CC:

Subject: The un-fair treatment by coast guard to Cuban Exiles

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 209.215.28.94 [209.215.28.94]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.04 [en]C-bls40 (Win95; U)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Ray Gutierrez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: Bongoboy@bellsouth.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 2245 sw 131 court
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: Fl
ZIP-CODE:
COUNTRY:

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: The un-fair treatment by coast guard to Cuban Exiles

[Message]

Why is the U.S. Coast Guard acting as a Gestapo Police?

These coast guards attacked and ambushed 6 men on a wooden row boat. These

men who had made it to just short of 100 yards from shore, were victimized by water canons,

pepper spray and the physiological and physical torture of being blocked and left floating for 25

minutes, until exhaustion set in and they could be picked from the water.

Step up to the plate Mr. President. Make me proud to call myself an American. Do the right thing.

9/11/99
06/29/99
From: "Lisa M. Lopez" <llopez@miami.edu> on 06/29/99 10:01 PM GMT

To: President@gateway

CC:

Subject: Cubans detained in South Florida by the U.S. coastguard

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 129.177.50.50[129.177.50.50]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Lisa M. Lopez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: llopez@miami.edu
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 11482 SW 28 Terrace
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33165
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Offer neutral commentary, advice, or a suggestion
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Student - College or University
SUBJECT: Cubans detained in South Florida by the U.S. coastguard

[Message]

I am appalled by the behavior expressed by the U.S. coastguard in South Florida this afternoon. I understand that there are laws to intercept Cubans from entering our shorelines, but endangering peoples' lives in keeping them from reaching freedom is completely against what our country represents. The U.S. coastguard has brutally intercepted several Cubans just yards from the shoreline. Not only did they spray them with hoses of water, so that they may drown, but they also sprayed them with pepper spray. These are helpless people, just like you and me, who are just looking for the freedom they are not given in their country. It is disgusting that they be treated like animals. They have done nothing wrong, but seek freedom, which we all pride ourselves in having. Not only were those who were blocked from reaching the shoreline treated with much cruelty, but also those 2 that did reach the shore. The police treated them like criminals, even though one was only 16 years

old. I am asking that you look into this horrible situation and realize the freedom these poor human beings are seeking. It is imperative that you, as president of the United States, take a stand, and represent the people of this country, and let these people free. Do not return them to Cuba, where they will be tortured for seeking a better life in our country. Thank you for your help regarding this matter.

3. Wilson
DOT
June 30, 1999

Mr. William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC

Mr. President,

It has become imperative that I take this time to write you and share with you in a very simple fashion, my feelings towards the brutal treatment and extreme use of force by the US Coast Guard on the afternoon of June 29th in Miami, FL.

Upon the arrival of 6 innocent freedom seeker, trying to escape the oppression of communism in their native country of Cuba. We the greatest country in the world the preachers of freedom and human rights put up a battle with vessels, water hoses, and pepper spray 300 feet from shore to avoid 6 men from making contact with our soil.

This only leads me to have a state of confusion, why fight so hard in the Yugoslavia to free those poor people of being oppressed if we don't take care of the ones reaching our shores. Is it worth it? Are we doing it because we are humanitarians? Do our leaders really stand up for human rights? Do we want to act tough with the rest of the world or is it just politics. As commander and Chief of the armed forces of the United States of America take a strong stand with our servicemen, do not allow them to ruin the immaculate image of what America stands for "Freedom" remember land of the free.

I'm a Cuban born, had the privilege of arriving in this great nation in 1961 via Pedro Pan after communism took over my native country. Ever since, the Cuban people have been trying desperately to immigrate to the United States and other parts of the world to seek freedom from repression. However some have not been successful. We Cubans have not had the fortune of a US intervention to free our people from the bloody hands of Fidel Castro. Other countries like Yugoslavia, countries in the Middle East, Grenada in the Caribbean and even Panama have been very lucky but not Cuba.

My country is obligated and has been for 41 years to live under the most pathetic and violated human rights system in the Western Hemisphere and only 90 miles from our shores. The United States of America now serves as border patrols to the Cuban Government, any Cubans trying to escape oppression we pick up and deliver back to Cuba in our Coast Guard Vessels at our taxpayer expense. Is this what America stands for? Are this country leaders making the right decisions? Or is Washington really afraid of a small island country like Cuba, and a sick-minded leader like Castro?

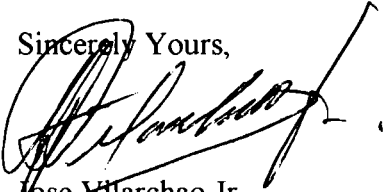
How proud it is to say I'm an American, how good it feels to have a motto like "IN GOD WE TRUST" and yes we do, or most of us do trust in God. However the real question is can we trust our leaders, are they really taking decisions based on what this country stands for or are they just political decisions.

Mr. President you have maintained a very negative and non-caring politics towards Cuba, and the Cuban people. It seems your administration is playing along with the dictatorship of your neighbor to the South and the masterminded games he plays all around the world. Why criticize other dictators and their killing games if you cant see or don't want to see the one at your doorstep. Open your eyes Mr. President don't hurt America anymore.

Mr. Clinton, I'm not asking you to free Cuba, I understand it's not in the American interest to do so, but I'm asking you to stop playing along with the games Castro is imposing on you do not let your hands get stained with blood like his.

I'm sorry that I'm not able to thank you for the release of the 4 Cubans that did not go on shore on that dark evening. The entire world saw what the US Coast Guard did and that's why the authorities had no choice but to release them to avoid further confrontation not only from Cubans in Miami but from shame from the rest of the free world.

Sincerely Yours,



Jose Villarchao Jr.

Hialeah, FL

5
Aylmer
DOT

June 29, 1999

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

Dear Mr. President:

Over the years, the U.S. Coast Guard has done a marvelous job protecting this country and saving lives at sea.

I'm grateful for the thousand of Cuban rafters that the U.S Coast Guard rescued , including my cousins.

However, I was outraged today by the inhumane procedure used by the U.S. Coast Guard in Miami Beach to catch Cuban refugees that were trying to be free.

Using water hoses and pepper spray against these men was cruel and unacceptable in this country where human rights are protected.

I hope you look into this matter and prevent the U.S Coast Guard for using excessive force when their lives are not at risk.

Thank you very much.

Beatriz T. Guillama

Beatriz T. Guillama
6862 N.W 166th Terrace
Miami Lakes, Fl 33014
(305)826-3334

S
AG-1A PBT
THE WHITE HOUSE

June 30, 1999

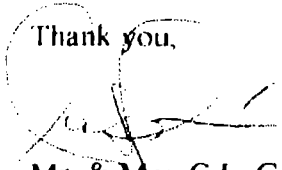
Dear Mr. President:

We were totally appalled to watch on TV the U.S. Coast Guard use such excessive force against six unarmed Cuban refugees.

This act reminded us of a similar brutal act performed by Castro's forces against his people in Havana Bay.

We hope that this was a mistake and not your new policy for controlling our coasts.

Thank you,


Mr. & Mrs. C.L. Garcia
22159 Altona Drive
Boca Raton, FL 33428

ROBERT L. WILSON13725 SOUTHWEST 75 AVENUE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33150-1241
305/235-5245

E-MAIL BOB4293@AOL

FAX 305/235-8060

03 July 1999

President Bill Clinton

The recent confrontation between our Coast Guard and a half dozen Cubans attempting to enter the country illegally points up the inconsistency of our immigration laws. The law involving Cubans is almost a childish game; if a Cuban can evade the Coast Guard and other authorities and set foot on US soil, he is "home" and after a brief visit with INS is released to the community with documentation and all the benefits such status brings. He's won the game

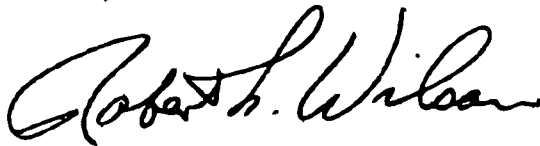
If caught at sea, he's lost the game and is returned to Cuba unless he can demonstrate presumption he would be persecuted by his involuntary return.

When Haitians, Mexicans, and others attempt illegal entry they are deported, whether they have set foot on land or not. They have the same opportunity to claim political asylum. This policy is manifestly unfair as it treats the Cubans by a different standard.

I believe the Government must adjust the immigration laws and the Cuban Adjustment Act so that Cuban are treated like all other illegal entrants. They are sent home. Such action would be politically unpopular given the vocal and volatile attitude of the Cuban exile community, but it is the right thing to do.

In recent days we've seen militant Cubans waving the Cuban flag while illegally blocking traffic as they demonstrated against the actions of the Coast Guard and other legal authorities. They've made a mockery of our laws as the Federal Government caved in to their demands. It's time to regain control of our borders; the alternative for South Florida is to be buried under an uncontrolled flood of illegal economic refugees who see it as their right to force themselves upon us.

It's time to act decisively.



WESTERN
UNION TELEGRAM

► L 3055923884 FRB TDXN MIAMI FL 19 06-29 0642F EST
ISSUE DATE: 06/29/99 MsgCtrlNo: 999 240 7690

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON,

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

WHAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS DONE TODAY IN MIAMI AGAINST CUBAN
RAFFERS SEEKING FREEDOM IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY.

ISABELL CAVADA

(305) 592-3884

4756 NW 114TH AVENUE #205

MIAMI

FL 33178

1842 EST

Msg Seq No. : 38007

(31)

WESTERN
UNION TELEGRAM

L ISSUE DATE: 06/30/99 MsgCtrlNo: 999 241 2951
3052234859 FRS TDXN MIAMI FL 78 06-30 0143P EST

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON,
WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

WE PROTEST ADAMANTLY AGAINST THE BARBAROUS AND OUTRAGEOUS BEHAVIOR
OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD IN THE MIAMI INCIDENT WHICH HAPPENED
YESTERDAY. THE COAST GUARD SHIP GUARDS MACE AND WATER CANONNED THE
MISFORTUNATE CUBAN REFUGEES AND ACTED LIKE GOONS. AT CASTRO SERVICE
THIS TRAVESTY INJUSTICE MUST BE DEALT WITH IN THE MOST SEVERE MANNER
AND THE CREW SHOULD BE CHARGED WITH CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY AND
THEIR DERELICTION OF DUTIES. YOU MUST REVERSE THIS INDIGNANT POLICY
ALL TOGETHER AT ONCE.

DR. ALBERTO PEREZ NODARSE

FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE CUBAN AMERICAN LAWYER ASSOCIATION

(CALI)

(305) 223-4859

3211 SW 94 COURT

MIAMI

FL 33165

1343 EST

Msg Seq No. : 38008


June 30, 1999

Dear Mr. President and Vice President:

The actions by the U.S. Coast Guard on June 29, 1999 are SHAMEFUL.

By collaborating with a tyranny in the return of individuals seeking freedom, one becomes an accomplice to the tyranny.

I FEEL EMBARRASSED TO HAVE WITNESSED ON TV. SUCH AN ACT OF INHUMAN BEHAVIOUR.

I ask you to not return these Cuban's to a communist dictatorship and to grant them immediate political asylum.

Next election will be my first election (I am only 21 years old) ---- and I will certainly vote Republican, just like my parents.

Cordially,

Mari-Claudia Jimenez

315 West 57 St. Apt 20C
New York, NY 10019

922 East 31st Street
Hialeah, Fl. 33013

June 29, 1999

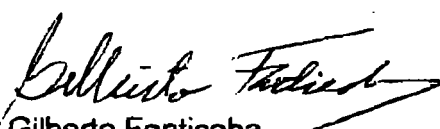
VIA FACSIMILE

Mr. President William J. Clinton
White House, Washington DC

Dear Mr. Clinton,

Mr. President, today I was watching my television set and was stunned. I could not believe what was happening in the United States. The Coast Guard, whose job is to save lives, weren't trying to help the defectors, but in fact they were trying to sink them. Six Cuban people, who's only fault was the struggle they went through to reach Liberty. To live in a country that let us express his or her feelings without worries. They were just searching for freedom. Trying to find a true way of life, and how were they treated? Like worthless human pests. I thought of it to be a nightmare. Because something like that would have only of happened in Cuba with the Dictator Castro. However, it happened here, in Miami Beach, South Florida, United States of America. The Coast Guard treated these innocent people like if they were assassins of Castro's Regime. It was not "Remocador 13 De Marzo", but it surely appeared to be identical. I think this incident has been an immense embarrassment to this country and I believe it deserves an extensive investigation.

Respectfully yours,


Gilberto Fonticoba
Newspaper Director
Libertad Inc.

R.F.

4/22/99 (1501)
From: Tony Garcia <Tgarciamar@aol.com> on 06/29/99 11:03 PM GMT

To: President@gateway

CC:

Subject: Cuban rafters ahve human rights

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 152.163.213.213[152.163.213.213]
BROWSER: Mozilla/2.0 (compatible; MSIE 3.02; AK; AOL 4.0; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Tony Garcia
EMAIL-ADDRESS: Tgarciamar@aol.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 3105 SW 124 Court
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33175-2640
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register disagreement with a position
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Cuban rafters ahve human rights

[Message]

It was very embarassing to witness this afternoon the inhumane treatment of six Cuban rafters by several boats of the US Coast Guard. It was unnecessary to hose them with high pressure water. It was stupid and ridiculous to spray the rafters with somekind of pepper gas/ mace. They were no threat to anyone, specially they were no threat to any of the US Coast Guardsmen aboard the Coast Guard Cutters.

What if anyone of the six would have drown? What if anyone of the six would have been chopped up by the propellers of the many Coast Guard boats around them in the water.

Please, teach a lesson to the Miami Coast Guard Commander about how not to abuse power, and let the 6 stay in the US.

Mr. President, please review the videotape of the incident and take appropriate action.

Tony Garcia*

US citizen

* I voted for you twice, I would vote for you again. If my wife and I lived in NY, we would vote for Hilllary.

5
2
June 30, 1999

DOT
President Clinton
The White House
Via Fax: (202) 456-2461

Dear President Clinton:

I came from Cuba five years ago looking for freedom and opportunity by the same means others tried to arrive just yesterday.

Today, I am proud to be a legal resident of this country and look forward to my American citizenship. Yet I feel hurt and puzzled about the incident that took place just north of Miami Beach only a day ago. I think the people involved in this aggression need to be punished and these incidents cannot continue to take place.

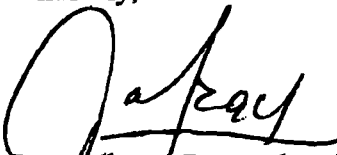
We have been a good immigration for this country. The majority of the Cuban immigrants are hard working people looking to serve this country as many for years have.

Mr. President, this incident needs to be investigated. This brutality is embarrassing and humiliating not only to me but to the many Cuban Americans that have been in this country for so many years. We have been promoting "this is the best country in the world" and IT IS...but we can make it better by not allowing mal-treatment of any human being, whether is a Cuban man trying to touch free land or anyone else, for that matter.

From the Coast Guards to the Police Department of Surfside need to be corrected for this brutal treatment given to these men looking for the freedom we all deserve.

Hoping you give this matter the attention it deserves,

Sincerely,


Juan Alberto Fernandez, Jr.
8260 W. 16th Ave
Hialeah, Florida 33014

25
June 30, 1999

DOT
President Clinton
The White House
Via Fax: (202) 456-2461

Dear President Clinton:

In 1970 I arrived in the US from Cuba in an eighteen feet boat along with my family. My parents as well as I were able to adapt to this society in which we were able to make a good life for ourselves with nothing more than hard work, honesty and dignity.

Today, I am proud to be an American citizen and proud to have two daughters born in this great country. Yet I feel ashamed that incidents like the one that occurred to "fellow rafters" yesterday, just north of Miami Beach would be allowed. The people involved in this aggression need to be punished and these incidents cannot continue to take place.

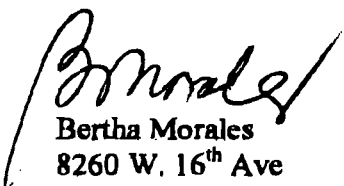
We have been a good immigration for this country. The vast majority of the Cuban immigrants are hard working people looking to serve this country as many of us have.

Mr. President, this incident needs to be investigated. This brutality is embarrassing and humiliating to me at the same time. I know many of us Cuban Americans feel the same way.

From the Coast Guards to the Police Department of Surfside need to be corrected for this brutal treatment given to these men looking for the freedom we all deserve.

Hoping you give this matter the attention it deserves,

Sincerely,


Bertha Morales
8260 W. 16th Ave
Hialeah, Florida 33014

25
DOT
Perez

Alejandro Perez
9274 SW 212 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33189
Tel (305) 252-5021
Fax (305) 594-7527

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Dear Mr. President and Vice President:

The action by the U.S. Coast Guard on June 29, 1999 are both regrettable and shameful. The six Cuban men who were attacked by the Coast Guard were merely attempting to come to the U.S. in escape of a tyranny. This country was built by immigrants in search of freedom and a better life. It is a sad state for the U.S. authorities to deny these individuals a chance for freedom. By collaborating with a tyranny in the return of individuals seeking freedom, one becomes an accomplice to the tyranny.

It is stated in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution."

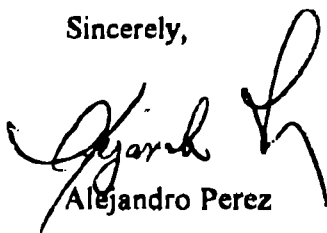
The United States has a long-standing tradition for the respect of human rights. The action by the Coast Guard clearly tarnishes this tradition.

Again the brutal and inhumane treatment of these individuals is deplorable. As a United States citizen I want to see justice. We need a complete investigation of the officers involved, their commanders and the official policies and procedures in dealing with these matters.

When will this administration understand that the problem is not the rafters but the policies that this administration maintains with Castro? Why is this administration helping Castro? Please stop delaying the inevitable and enforce the Helms Burton Act.

We spend millions of dollars helping the world; trying to set an example of democracy, justice and respect for human rights. However our actions give a different message. We need an official and public presidential statement on this incident.

Sincerely,


Alejandro Perez



El Toro Exterminator

Pest Control, Lawn, Termite & IPM Specialist

1460 N.W. 107th Avenue Unit 1 Miami, FL 33172 Tel: (305) 594-4767 Fax: (305) 594-7527 E-Mail: E-Toro@worldnet.att.net

FAX COVER

TO: _____

FAX NUMBER: (305) 56-2461

FROM: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES ENCLOSED INCLUDING COVER SHEET:

COMMENTS:

DATE: _____

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY: The information on this facsimile message is legally privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the addressee listed in this cover sheet. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this telecopy is strictly prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please immediately notify us by telephone at the number listed in this coversheet and return the original message to us at the above address via The United Postal Service. We will reimburse any costs you incur in notifying us and returning the message to us. Thank you.

25
POT
Pablo

To: Mr. President Bill Clinton
From: Pablo Gonzalez and family.

Miami, FL June 30, 1999

Dear Mr President,

What we saw yesterday (June 29, 1999) was a total shame to me as a citizen of the United States and to the country as well. A group of six Cubanmen that came on a raft all the way from Cuba trying to escape Castros dictatorship. They were treated like criminals. Something that you notice Cuban Americans like me do not accept. We hope that yourself as your government do something about this subject, and do something to improve the FLORIDA COAST GUARD behavior.

Sincerely,
Pablo Gonzalez and Family

Pablo Gonzalez
Address: 7048 SW 22 St. Miami Florida 33155
Phone: (305) 262-3186

PEDIATRICS

25 DIT
P. 1002

PEDIATRIC MEDICINE ASSOCIATES

8620 Southwest 87 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33143
Telephone (305) 225-4434
Fax (305) 279-9466

6/29/99

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

IT HAS BEEN A SHAME TO SEE THE COAST GARD
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ., HURT THIS
POOR PEOPLE AT MIAMI BEACH FLORIDA, FOR THE
SIMPLE REASON TO WANT TO BE FREE.

COMING FROM A COMMUNIST OCUNTRY SEEKING
FREEDON , AND THEY WERE TRATED LIKE ANIMALS.

SO SAD IN SUCH RICH COUNTRY THAT THE ANIMALS
ARE TREATED IN BETTER CONDITIONS.

TO SEE THIS ALL OVER THE WORLD IN TV. IS
THE MORE SHAMENFULL THING TO SEE ONLY A FEW
DAYS AWAY FROM THE FOURTH OF JULY.

PLEASE MR. PRESIDENT THIS BOY THAT THEY HURT
IS ONLY 16 YEARS OLD.

IMAGING WHAT THEY ARE DOING WENT NOBODY IS
WACHING.

YOU HAVE A BIG HART PLEASE HELP THE CUBANS
TO HAVE DIGNITY, AND FREEDOM.

Julia Martinez
GILDA MARTINEZ

MIAMI, FLORIDA

25
2/29/99
TO PRESIDENT CLINTON
THE WHITE HOUSE
FAX (202) 456-2461

DUT

I HAVE JUST WATCHED ON CHANEL 14 THE EFFORTS OF THE COAST GUARD TO STOP THE CUBAN RAFT FROM TOUCHING THE FLORIDA COAST. WHAT AN EMBARRASING SHAME FOR US TO THREATEN THOSE PEOPLE AFTER THEY HAVE RISKED THEIR LIVES CROSSING THE GOLF WATERS. TO TRY TO STOP THE RAFTER WITH WATTER GUNS, SINKING THEM AND KEEPING THEM FROM REACHING SHORE. WHAT A SHAMEFUL 4TH OF JULY PICTURE! A 16 YEAR OLD THROWN ON THE SAND, FACE DOWN HANDCUFFED WITH A POLICEMAN ON HIS BACK, AND DENIED A DRINK OF WATER. SHAME ON US ALL, HAVE WE FORGOTTEN PLYMOUTH ROCK ?

MILLY Morelan
2235 MIDDLETOWN DR.
CAMPBELL, CA. 95008

15 [Signature] DOT
June 30, 1999

Attn: To the Clinton Administration

I am sending you this letter because I am very concerned in what occurred yesterday with the six Cuban refugees.

I feel very dissatisfied, very hurt, and I hardly condemn the conduct taken by the U.S. Coast Guard against them, it reminds me of the way Castro Regime is acting in Cuba with his people for more than 40 years.

That is not a way to treat any Cuban refugees or any other immigrants, they are not animals or criminals, they are just human beings risking their lives looking for freedom, peace, and a new life in this country of opportunities.

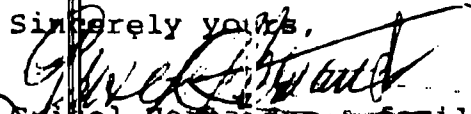
It is unbelievable how this is happening in the United States of America a country that supposedly said, in order to form a more perfect union they would try granting people the right of Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

And I ask myself, What the Statue of Liberty is standing for?

We hope that you really solve this situation as soon as possible and that you never let this happen again.

Thank you for your time & attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,


Grisel Hernandez & family
30 S. W. 115th Avenue
Miami, Fla. 33174

25
[Handwritten signature]

POT

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. President of the United States
Mr. Vice President of the United States
202-456-2461

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Vice President

The actions by the U.S. Coast Guard on June 29, 1999 are both regrettable and shameful. The six Cuban men which were attacked by the Coast Guard were merely attempting to come to the U.S. in escape of a tyranny. This country was built by immigrants in search of freedom and a better life. It is a sad state for the U.S. authorities to deny these individuals a chance for freedom. By collaborating with a tyranny in the return of individuals seeking freedom, one becomes an accomplice to the tyranny. It is stated in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution." The United States has a long standing tradition for the respect of human rights. The actions by the Coast Guard clearly tarnishes this tradition. I ask you to not return these Cuban's to a communist dictatorship and to grant them immediate political asylum.

Cordially,

Robert I. Nuño PE, RPLS
15450 El Padre Dr.
Houston, Texas 77083
281-495-6571
nunorob@wt.net

25 pages
DOT

6/29/99

To: The White House Administration.

We are democrat voters, we are also outraged at today's inhumane and intolerable procedure with which the U.S. Coast guard in Miami Beach greeted 6 Cuban refugees when reaching U.S. Land. Something must be done to STOP This!

Emilio Rodriguez
1000 W. 33 Place
Hialeah, FL 33012
Emilio Rodriguez

OUT
1/1/99

June 29, 1999

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

The Statue of Liberty may not be too proud today. Hundreds of our citizens witnessed our ugly side as they watched members of the U.S. Coast Guard beat up several Cuban nationals "yearning to be free". I can assure you that Castro must be laughing at us. I am also certain he will re-transmit images of our police brutally preventing the Cubans from reaching our shores.

Every year we denounce numerous countries for violating the so called "civil rights" yet we are also guilty of the same crime. Your policy towards Cuba is not only misguided but also wrong. If Vice President Gore expects to win any votes in South Florida, I ask that you both intervene in releasing these six brave men promptly and let them enjoy their first FOURTH OF JULY.

Yours Truly,

Jose M. Arellano

Jose M. Arellano
1415 Sevilla Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Mr. President:
Thank you very much for the
release of these 6 young men.
Have a Happy 4th of July.
God Bless You
Jose M. Arellano
7/1/99

**EMERGENCY --- EMERGENCY ---
EMERGENCY**

**ENRIQUE T. RUEDA
2110 SW 100 AVENUE
MIAMI, FL 33165**

June 29, 1999

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

Dear Mr. President:

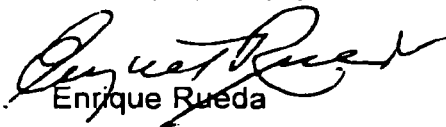
I never thought that I would live to see the US Coast Guard using ski jets to hunt like animals hapless escapees from Communist Cuba within sight of our shores. I never thought that I would live to see the US Coast Guard using high pressure hoses on hapless refugees from Communist Cuba within sight of our shores.

Yet, this is happening even as I FAX this letter, right in front of television cameras, for all of us to see. If this is what the Coast Guard under your command does in front of the cameras, what must they not do when no one is looking?

IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY, I AM ASKING THAT YOU RESCIND THIS INSANE POLICY.

IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY, I AM ASKING THAT YOU STOP THIS ABUSE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

THIS IS TRULY SICK.


Enrique Rueda

**EMERGENCY --- EMERGENCY ---
EMERGENCY**

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (1 page)	06/29/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Agency Liaison
Correspondence
OA/Box Number: 15141

FOLDER TITLE:

[Folder 5 - 409329 - Bulk Mail on Coast Guard Treatment of Cuban Refugees] [2]

2011-1039-F

jm1496

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Miami, Fl June 29, 1999

Mr William Jefferson Clinton
White house
Washington D.C.

Mr President:

The attitude of you Administration is
similar to the dictatorship of Castro.

Today the Cost Guard had act like Castro
do with the towing March 13.

*
The blood that my brother spill in Viet-Nam
in defense of the United States was not for this.

I regret voted for you in two occasion.



Carlos J. Ruiz Jr
Disabled American Veteran

* Sgt. George A. Ruiz

(b)(6)

[001]

Carlos J. Ruiz Jr
3572 S.W. 13 Terrace
Miami, Fl 33145-1012-72

FAY 1202 4567044

15832 NW 83 PL NW 83 PL Miami Lakes FL 33016-8609

PEDRO P. CARBALLO, M.D.*25 Higher*
Fax**To:** President Bill Clinton**From:** Pedro P. Carballo, M.D.**Fax:** 202-456-2461**Pages:** 1**Phone:****Date:** 06/29/99**Re:** Coast Guard Atrocities☒ **X Urgent**☐ **For Review**☐ **Please Comment**☐ **Please Reply**☐ **Please Recycle**

This fax is to let you know of the indignation we Cuban -Americans have towards the events earlier today off the coast of Miami Beach. The coast guard was filmed by TV stations and others as they brutally tried to sink a small wooden boat with six Cubans who were trying to reach the shore in search of freedom. The policy of your administration is wrong in being an accomplice to the brutalities of Fidel Castro by "repatriating " Cubans, but today's actions by the Coast Guard was unforgivable. I wonder if they do the same or worse when cameras are not rolling out at sea.

I demand an investigation at the highest level and bring the officers responsible for this crime to justice. I would also respectfully urge you to reconsider the administration's policy towards Cuba and Cuban exiles. I would urge you to stop being an accomplice to Fidel Castro.

Sincerely,

Pedro P. Carballo

CC Representative Lincoln Diaz-Balart

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. letter	Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (1 page)	06/29/1999	b(6)

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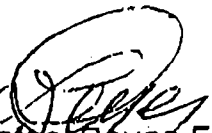
PST

June 29, 1999

Honorable President
of the United States of America
Mr. Bill Clinton.

Today June 29, 1999, we the people of the United States and
the people of the whole world have witnessed one of the darkest and
most shameful days in the history of the democracy of our country.
This is in reference to the acts comitted by the Coast Guard and
police forces of the Miami beaches against cuban inmigrantes.

Respectfully,


Rafael Reyes-Falcon

(b)(6)

[002]

Father of three service men.

7213 SW 127 PL.
Miami, FL 33183.

25 [signature]
June 29, 1999

(DOT)

Mr. Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Clinton,

I as a Cuban-American citizen in the United States, feel I should exercise my constitutional rights and bring an occurring, disturbing problem upon you. This afternoon I was faced with horrible news that the United States Coast Guard abused some Cuban rafters that had been sailing into the United States, for human rights and freedom. The Cuban rafters were on the beach shores of Miami Beach, Florida there on there way inward to land they were harassed by the Coast Guards. The rafters were water hosed on, were sprayed mace on, waves were made around their boat in order to tip it over and make them drown. Two of these rafters swam to the shores of Miami Beach, where there one of them was practically beaten by police officers. The other two rafters were caught by the Coast Guard and could result in having them sent back into the hands of government of Castor.

Now I ask myself how could the we let this occur? No matter where we are from we are all humans and we all deserve human rights. These people came through 90 miles of ocean and put there lives in danger to gain exile from a government that is starving and dying, due to a mans dictatorship. The last thing we could do is work with them and grant them some freedom that we all as humans deserve.

I do not understand the Coast Guards behavior to the rafters; they did not harm anyone or mean any harm. That is why I bring this problem to your attention. Please help us put a stop to having these men deported back to Cuba. As the President of the United States, you are the leader that we all look up to and rely on for help so this problem is dealt with.

As a Cuban immigrant it brings pain in my heart to see this abuse happening to my people that are going through what a few years ago went through. We as Cubans only mean the best; we are not the enemies.

Sincerely,

[signature]
Miguel Rodriguez

15430 S.W. 15TH STREET
MIAMI, FLA 33187

25
Rosalie

POT

Rosalie P. Lopez
820 N.W. 87th Ave. #114
Miami, FL 33172
Tel. (305) 220-7626
E-mail: rosilopez@aol.com

July 1st, 1999

Hon. President William Clinton
Via Fax (202) 456-2461

Dear Mr. President:

The actions by the US Coast Guard on June 29, 1999 in the shores of Miami Beach are both regrettable and shameful.

The 6 Cuban men were attacked by US Coast Guard personnel when they were merely attempting to come to the United States to escape of a communist tyranny.

The United States was built by immigrants in search of freedom and a better life. It is a sad state for the U.S. authorities to deny these individuals their chance for freedom. By collaborating with the Cuban Communist regime and returning to them individuals that are seeking freedom, you become an accomplice.

As stated in Art. 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution". The US has a long standing tradition for the respect of Human Rights, the actions by the US Coast Guard on 6/29/99 clearly tarnish this tradition, as well as any agreements that have been made between yourself and Mr. Castro.

I hereby respectfully request that these 6 Cubans, and any others that may come from time to time be allowed to stay in this country and not returned to the communist dictatorship of Mr. Castro.

Respectfully

Rosalie P. Lopez

6
- 7/1/99
PUT

Miami, June 30th, 1999

Mr. President of the United States
Mr. Vice-President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President and Vice-President:

The actions by the U.S. Coast Guard on June 29th, 1999, are both regrettable and shameful. The six Cuban men which were attacked by the Coas Guard were merely attempting to come to the United States in escape of a tyranny. This country was built by immigrants in search of freedom and a better life. It is a sad state for the U. S. authorities to deny these individuals a chance for freedom. By collaborating with a tyranny in the return of individuals seeking freedom, one becomes an accomplice to the tyranny.

It is stated in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution." The United States has a long standing tradition for the respect of human rights. The actions by the Coast Guard clearly tarnishes this tradition. This action will be compared by the rest of the world to the attack the Cuban government did to the "13 de marzo" towboat, where more than 40 persons, including children and women died in Havana Bay. The action by the U.S. Coast Guard yesterday against six innocent men was seen across the nation in the news and by now it has disseminated through out the world. How could the United States defend this inequity?

I ask you to not return these Cubans to a Communist dictatorship and to grant them immediate political asylum.

Sincerely,



Lesbia Orta Varona
4426 S.W. 129th Place
Miami, FL 33175

6
Ag... DOT
FROM: JULIO FEBRES
PRESIDENT OF:

JUNE 30, 1999

REAL CORP
1711 W. 40 ST. UNIT 3
HIALEAH, FLORIDA 33012

TO: MR. BILL CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MR. PRESIDENT,

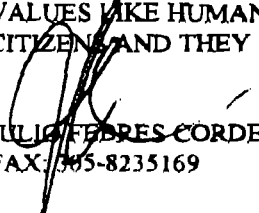
I CAME TO THIS COUNTRY FROM VENEZUELA, MORE THAN THERTY(30) YEARS AGO AND THIS IS THE VERY FIRST TIME I WRITE TO A PUBLIC OFFICER.

YESTERDAY, I SAW ON T.V. THE BRUTALITY OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD AGAINST A GROUP OF REFUGEES THAT CAME TO MIAMI IN A VERY SMALL BOAT, IT WAS QUITE A SEEM. THE ALL MIGHTY COAST GUARD WITH HELICOPTERS, GUN BOATS, BIG BOATS AND ALSO SMALL BOATS STOPPING THIS PEOPLE FROM COMING TO OUR SHORES.

THIS IS A GREAT NATION. WITH BRAVE SOLDIERS THAT HAD FOUGHT FOR LIBERTY AND EQUALITY ON EVERY SINGLE CONTINENT OF THIS PLANET AND THERE ARE CROSSES ALL OVER TO PROOF HOW THEY DIE FOR THEIR IDEALS.

WE, MY FAMILY AND MYSELF, ARE AGAINST THIS KIND OF ABUSE COMMITED BY OUR COAST GUARDS RIGHT IN FRONT OF OUR HOMES.

YOU HAVE ASKED OUR CHILDREN TO FIGHT FAR AWAY WARS, AND SOME OF THESE CHILDREN ARE LATIN DESCENDENTS, AND THEY HAD FOUGHT WELL AND WON, THIS TIME WE NEED YOU TO LEAD THE WAY TO FIND THE RIGHT PATH, IT IS TRUE THAT AN AGREEMENT SHOULD BE HONORED BUT AT THE SAME TIME THERE OTHER HUMAN VALUES LIKE HUMANITY, IDEALS, DECENCY. ALL OF THESE COME FROM LORD OBEYING CITIZENS AND THEY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHEN AN AGREEMENT IS MADE.


JULIO FEBRES CORDERO
FAX: 305-8235169

S. AGUIA POT
Santiago de Juan
1672 Bomi Circle
Winter Park, FL 32792
(407) 657-0460

June 29, 1999

The White house Fax Number (202) 456-2461

Dear Mr. President and Vice President:

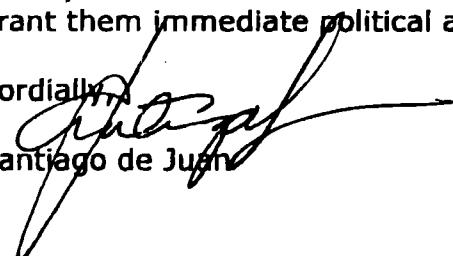
The actions by the U.S. Coast Guard on June 29, 1999 are both regrettable and shameful. The six Cuban men who were attacked by the Coast Guard were merely attempting to come to the U.S. in escape of a tyranny. Immigrants in search of freedom and a better life built this country. It is a sad state for the U.S. authorities to deny these individuals a chance for freedom. By collaborating with a tyranny in the return of individuals seeking freedom, one becomes an accomplice to the tyranny.

It is stated in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution."

The United States has a long-standing tradition for the respect of human rights. The actions by the Coast Guard clearly tarnish this tradition.

I ask you to not return these Cuban's to a communist dictatorship and to grant them immediate political asylum.

Cordially,


Santiago de Juan



Dr. Agatha (Agueda) G. Ogazon
1732 S.W. 99 Pl. Miami, FL 33165

June 30, 1999

Mr. William Clinton
Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Subject: The Coast Guard incident in Miami Beach

Fax: (202) 456-2461

Dear Mr. President and First Lady:

Six Cuban men were attacked by the Coast Guard yesterday, as they were attempting to come to the U.S. in escape of a tyranny. These men had one had only one thing in mind, survival. How could we now explain to them that the assumed saviors originated the attack?

The actions by the U.S. Coast Guard on June 29, 1999 are both regrettable and shameful. These Cuban men were humble human beings, not roaches or ants. Immigrants in search of freedom and a better life built this country. Those coast guards who attacked the boaters forgot their long-lived reasons for being there. It was a repugnant and cruel incident.

These individuals, like many others, should not be denied a chance for freedom. How long will the US be willing to play "the bad guy" while the Cuban tyrant continuous to bask in the dubious victory of 40 years of government control. There must be a record somewhere of how many Cubans emigrated to the US before Castro, very few. No one wants to leave behind "the most beautiful land human eyes ever contemplated," it would not make sense. It is Castro,

Do not return these men to Cuba, for the sake of their sanity. Living under tyrannical conditions make people paranoid, give them a chance to get out of it. And above all, have someone in a position of power apologize to them and to all who watched the incident on TV, it was a horrific experience.

In the US, there is a tradition of respect for human rights. The action by the Coast Guard clearly tarnishes this tradition. An apology is due and it should come from someone quite above the Coast Guard, at a more intellectual level, so that the brutality of the attack may be distinguished from the immigration issue.

I ask you not to return these Cuban's to a communist tyranny and to grant them immediate political asylum.

Cordially,

Affair / DET

From: Susana Mauri-Hernandez <Ramon1411@aol.com> on 06/29/99 11:59 PM GMT

To: President@gateway

cc:

Subject: Protest of the Coast Guard to Cuban Rafter arriving in Miami

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: 205.188.197.34 [205.188.197.34]
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 4.01; AOL 4.0; Windows 95)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Susana Mauri-Hernandez
EMAIL-ADDRESS: Ramon1411@aol.com
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 13489 NW 9 Lane
CITY: Miami
STATE-PROVINCE: Florida
ZIP-CODE: 33182
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Professional
SUBJECT: Protest of the Coast Guard to Cuban Rafter arriving in Miami

[Message]

Dear Mr. President: This message is to let you know that I am an American Citizen. I was born in this country to Cuban immigrants who came to this country to find freedom to raise their family in the home of the free and the brave.

It is shameful that my fellow Americans have betrayed my roots by throwing water and spraying pepper spray to those innocent men who came to find freedom in this country. I cannot believe that you will allow this to happen. You established a law on May of 1995 that in order for immigrants to stay in this country they must touch American soil. How can they reach American soil when your men of the Coast Guard tried to encircle these men and creating waves to entrap them as if they were delinquents coming in to this country. You must understand that we have always accepted ALL immigrants to live

Sincerely,

Michael De Santis

freely. They were not allowed! This country's population is made of immigrants from all over the world. The cubans today were treated as if they were criminals. You have no right to deprive politically oppressed people to be repatriated to Cuba where they will be battered and imprisoned for trying to escape from Cuba. Please understand that I have Cuban blood in me. I feel for that country as if I were born there. I want my people to accept my plea to have those innocent men, women, and children returned to the United State. They deserve a life of freedom as we have. I hope that I can receive an answer from you. It is very important to me and to my new baby to continue to live in a country where people can be proud to be called Americans.

WE ASK THAT YOU CHANGE THAT THIS POLICY. EVERYONE WANTS TO BE FREE! WE MUST HELP THOSE WHO LIVE IN AN OPPRESSED SOCIETY.

Many lives are lost at sea everyday. We need to open our doors to these Cubans who do not have a country of liberty and justice. They deserve a chance to make it. Especially those that want to get a better life for their children.

Thank you for your time in this matter. This means a lot to me. I would like a response from you via regular mail. I am proud to be called a CUBAN AMERICAN!!

Sincerely yours,
Susana Mauri-Hernandez