

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	Scott Busby to Michael Orfini re: FW-Pls Clr-Update for POTUS on Cuban Boy and Cuban Migration (8 pages)	12/14/1999	P1/b(1)
002. email	Orfini to Richard Saunders re: FW-Double Red Dot Pkg 9026 Cuban Boy Update/Cuban Migration (8 pages)	12/16/1999	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Emails
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) ([Elian or Cuban Boy])
OA/Box Number: 630000

FOLDER TITLE:

[12/09/1999-01/07/2000]

2012-0371-F

rs2177

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]

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/9/99 6:14:32 PM
FROM Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Clearance ASAP: POTUS memo on Cuban boy [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)

CARBON_COPY Armstrong, Fulton T. (INTERAM)
Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Shannon, Thomas A. (INTERAM)
Snowden, Deniz (INTERAM)
Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)
Allen, Charles A. (LEGAL)
Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Hunerwadel, Joan S. (LEGAL)
Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)
Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
Feldman, Daniel F. (MULTI)
Guarnieri, Valerie N. (MULTI)
Hill, Roseanne M. (MULTI)
Kale, Dora A. (MULTI)
McClean, Matthew K. (MULTI)
Naplan, Steven J. (MULTI)
Schwartz, Eric P. (MULTI)
Stromseth, Jane E. (MULTI)
Vaccaro, Jonathan M. (Matt) (MULTI)

TEXT_BODY

SRB would like this to him by tonight.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

8934 POTUS memo.doc

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Case of Elian Gonzalez

Background: On Thanksgiving morning, six-year-old Elian Gonzalez was rescued from an inner tube by fishermen off the coast of Florida. Elian was one of three survivors of a boat holding 14 Cuban migrants that capsized at sea; Elian's mother and her mother's boyfriend were among those who perished. He was turned over to the Coast Guard, who, after conducting a medical evaluation, decided to bring him into the United States for emergency treatment. He was held in a hospital for several hours and then released by local Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) into the custody of extended relatives in Miami. He currently resides with one of his father's uncles.

Immigration Status: As with other aliens who arrive on U.S. soil, INS considers Elian an applicant for admission to the U.S. Any such applicant must be "inspected" before the applicant can legally "enter" the United States. In this case, INS has deferred Elian's inspection until December 23. This inspection could be deferred indefinitely.

In the meantime, like almost all other Cubans who arrive here illegally, Elian has been granted immigration parole. This permits him to reside on U.S. territory even though he has not been formally admitted. Such status also brings him within the scope of the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966, which means that he will be eligible to become a lawful permanent resident alien (LPR) a year and a day after his parole.

Procedures in the Case: The key issue in this case at present is Elian's immigration intent. Because he is a minor, it is generally assumed that Elian is not competent to represent his own wishes. The question is who can

speaking for
Elian. Ordinarily, it is presumed that a parent with lawful custody
over a minor
may speak for that minor.

Request from Father: The Cuban government has forwarded to us a
request from
Elian's putative father that Elian be returned to him. In response to
that
letter, INS is seeking to deliver a letter to the father that describes the
information and documents he needs to provide to establish (1)
paternity and (2)
his parental rights over the child. INS is also seeking to interview the
father
in our Interests Section in Havana on these same issues. Should the
father prove
both paternity and his custodial rights, INS believes that there would
be a
strong presumption in favor of allowing the father to speak on Elian's
behalf.
Should the father continue to wish for Elian's return to Cuba, INS
would deem
Elian's application for admission to be withdrawn and he would then
be returnable
to Cuba.

Intervention by Others: At the same time, it is clear that others,
including the
great uncle with whom Elian currently resides, also intend to
intervene on
Elian's behalf. We have received reports that Elian's relatives in Miami
are
preparing an asylum application on Elian's behalf, a state court action
aimed at
establishing custody over Elian, and a federal lawsuit to enjoin any
federal
action to remove Elian from the U.S. However, unless it can be shown
that
Elian's father is unfit, the Departments of State and Justice think it
unlikely
that any of these actions would ultimately be effective.

Timing: INS believes that it should be able to make a decision on
Elian's
immigration intent soon after receiving the necessary information
from the
father. However, it is unclear how long it would take to resolve any
litigation
that may be undertaken to thwart the father's claim (should he be
successful in

establishing paternity and custody). The issues in this case are unusual and will be decided in a politically charged atmosphere. Thus, we imagine that there could be significant delay in resolving the case.

2

8934

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/9/99 6:41:41 PM
FROM Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: Clearance ASAP: POTUS memo on Cuban boy [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)

CARBON_COPY Armstrong, Fulton T. (INTERAM)
Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Shannon, Thomas A. (INTERAM)
Snowden, Deniz (INTERAM)
Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)

TEXT_BODY Scott, we clear. But, beware fifth sentence down child is "his" not "her". Also could we take out "putative". He is referred to as father throughout. Seems unnecessary and not a very elegant word.

-----Original

Message-----

From: Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)

Sent: Thursday, December
09, 1999 6:15 PM

To: Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM); DeRosa, Mary
B. (LEGAL)

Cc: @INTERAM - Inter-American; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;

@MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs

Subject: Clearance

ASAP: POTUS memo on Cuban boy [UNCLASSIFIED]

<< File: 8934 POTUS
memo.doc >>

SRB would like this to him by tonight.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/10/1999 3:05:58 PM
FROM Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT PLS CLR ASAP: New Elian Gonzalez guidance [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)

CARBON_COPY Armstrong, Fulton T. (INTERAM)
Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Shannon, Thomas A. (INTERAM)
Snowden, Deniz (INTERAM)
Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)
Allen, Charles A. (LEGAL)
Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Hunerwadel, Joan S. (LEGAL)
Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)
Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
Feldman, Daniel F. (MULTI)
Guarnieri, Valerie N. (MULTI)
Hill, Roseanne M. (MULTI)
Kale, Dora A. (MULTI)
McClean, Matthew K. (MULTI)
Naplan, Steven J. (MULTI)
Schwartz, Eric P. (MULTI)
Stromseth, Jane E. (MULTI)
Vaccaro, Jonathan M. (Matt) (MULTI)
Orfini, Michael H. (VP)

TEXT_BODY

Mary, Arturo/Karen -- thank you.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

Elian guidance 12 10 99.doc
Elian Gonzalez Case
December 10, 1999

How do you intend to resolve the Elian Gonzalez case?

* This case will be processed by the INS in a deliberate way according to the rules and procedures applicable to these types of claims.

* As I have said before, the decision here is a legal one, not a political one, and I intend to do as much as I can to keep it that way.

* The key issue is determining who speaks for the child. INS is making every effort to collect the necessary information from Elian's father and will consider all other information relevant to this issue.

* We have made clear to the Cuban government what this process entails and hope they will help us facilitate the gathering of the necessary information.

Don't you think it would be better if the boy grew up in the United States?

Of course, we would like everyone to grow up in a free country, but there are other issues present in this case. The case must be resolved in the appropriate legal manner.

Last week, the State Department said that the USG would defer to the courts on this case. Now, you are saying that INS must make a decision of its own. Are you caving into the pressure applied by the Castro government?

* No. This case is a complex one, involving issues of both children's law and immigration law. Our approach to the case has evolved as more facts have come to light.

* The courts may end up playing a role in this case, but for now, we know that INS must make an important legal decision of its own, and that is, who speaks for the child's immigration wishes.

It appears that an asylum claim will/has been filed on Elian's behalf.

Will this
change your view of the case?

* No. The central issue remains the same: who should speak for this child.

That is the decision INS must make. And that is a decision that INS will make without involvement of the White House or any other political actor.

How quickly will INS make its decision?

* This is a question better directed at the Department of Justice and INS. It is important that we respect the integrity of their decision-making process.

How can you be sure that the father is speaking of his own free will, and not responding to pressure from the Castro regime? Why don't you grant the father a visa to come to the U.S.?

* INS is doing everything possible to ensure that the father can represent his wishes freely.

* We are also prepared to consider any request the father may make to come to the United States to pursue his case.

Do you think the resolution of this case will set back the U.S. relationship with Cuba on other matters?

* This is certainly not our intention or hope.

* This is a difficult legal matter that should be resolved in the appropriate legal way; it should not be a political issue between our two governments.

* We intend to continue our cooperation with the Government of Cuba on migration and other law enforcement issues.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/10/1999 6:30:44 PM

FROM Fuchs, Joachim D. (WHSR)

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT RE: Memo on Cuban Boy [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
Bayley, Douglas C. (WHSR)
Blackburn, John (WHSR)
Bresnahan, Gary E. (WHSR/STP)
Broadwick, Bonnie . (WHSR)
Cheramie, Don E. (WHSR)
Crowder, Stevan D. (WHSR)
Ehrendreich, Joel (WHSR)
Erdahl, Douglas M. (WHSR)
Ford, Robert G. (WHSR)
Fuchs, Joachim D. (WHSR)
Jansen, Christian P. (WHSR)
Jarosinski, Frank J. (WHSR)
Laskowski, Gregory J. (WHSR)
Manning, Michael T. (WHSR)
McGee, Jenny A. (WHSR)
Merletti, Roger D. (WHSR)
Payne, Raymond H. (WHSR/STP)
Porterfield Patrick C. (WHSR)
Powell, Elliott (WHSR/EXSEC)
Reyes, David (WHSR)
Rickard, Robin S. (WHSR)
Rogers, Elizabeth B. (WHSR)
Schrader, Joel M. (WHSR)
Sibley, Matthew W. (WHSR)
Sigler, Ralph H. (WHSR)
Smith, James A. (WHSR)
Sutliff, Deana R. (WHSR)
Swarm, Amy L. (WHSR)
Tarver, J. Sean (WHSR)
Williams, Robert S. (WHSR)

CARBON_COPY Gray, Wendy E. (NSA)
Rudman, Mara E. (NSA)
Burrell, Christina L. (LEGIS)
Lackey, Miles M. (LEGIS)
Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS)
Tavlarides, Mark J. (LEGIS)

TEXT_BODY

Message was delivered at trip site at 1825 DC time. JD

-----Original

Message-----

From: Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)

Sent: Friday, December

10, 1999 5:29 PM

To: Busby, Scott W. (MULTI); @WHSR - WH Situation
Room

Cc: @RUDMAN; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs

Subject: RE:

Memo on Cuban Boy [UNCLASSIFIED]

Sorry, here is attachment.

<< File: 8934 POTUS memo.doc >>

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

From: Busby,

Scott W. (MULTI)

Sent: Friday, December 10, 1999 5:26 PM

To: @WHSR

- WH Situation Room

Cc: @RUDMAN; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs

Subject: Memo

on Cuban Boy [UNCLASSIFIED]

WHSR -- Can you please relay ASAP

to Cindy Gire, who is on the road with POTUS? Thanks.

Mara/Myles

-- FYI

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/13/1999 10:02:58 AM
FROM Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: Enhanced press points on Elian Gonzalez [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
Feldman, Daniel F. (MULTI)
Guarnieri, Valerie N. (MULTI)
Hill, Roseanne M. (MULTI)
Kale, Dora A. (MULTI)
McLean, Matthew K. (MULTI)
Naplan, Steven J. (MULTI)
Schwartz, Eric P. (MULTI)
Stromseth, Jane E. (MULTI)
Vaccaro, Jonathan M. (Matt) (MULTI)

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

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

From: Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
Sent: Monday,
December 13, 1999 9:57 AM
To: @INTERAM - Inter-American; DeRosa,
Mary B. (LEGAL)
Cc: @LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @LEGISLAT - Legislative
Affairs; Orfini, Michael H. (VP); @PRESS - Public Affairs
Subject: Enhanced
press points on Elian Gonzalez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Mary/ Arturo/Karen

--

Please clear. I worked on these with State/Cuba desk and Bo
Cooper at INS.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

Elian Gonzalez 12 13 99.doc

Did the USG interview the father of Elian Gonzalez this morning?

* The Cuban government agreed late last night to permit USG officials to interview the father of Elian Gonzalez.

* Early this morning, two USG officials -- the INS Officer in Charge and a political officer from the Interests Section -- traveled to the father's home in Cardenas and met with the father. The meeting is now over and the officers are returning to Havana.

* One key purpose of the interview was for INS to ascertain the wishes of the father.

* This is an important first step but by no means completes the decision-making process. Any further questions should be directed to INS.

* We cannot comment further on the substance of the interview.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/14/1999 10:28:05 AM
FROM Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: Cuban boy conference call [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Kale, Dora A. (MULTI)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY D -- Please put this on E's schedule.

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

From: Busby,
Scott W. (MULTI)
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 1999 10:28 AM
To: Hollis,
Caryn C. (INTERAM); DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Cc: @MULTILAT - Multilateral
and Humanitarian Affairs; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @INTERAM - Inter-
American
Subject: Cuban
boy conference call [UNCLASSIFIED]

Per request of Jim Steinberg,
we're going to have another conference call on the Cuban Boy at 2
p.m, primarily to hear from Justice/INS about the process for deciding
the case. 757-2104 x5642.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	Scott Busby to Michael Orfini re: FW-Pls Clr-Update for POTUS on Cuban Boy and Cuban Migration (8 pages)	12/14/1999	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Emails
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) ([Elian or Cuban Boy])
OA/Box Number: 630000

FOLDER TITLE:

[12/09/1999-01/07/2000]

2012-0371-F

rs2177

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]

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/14/1999 5:52:27 PM
FROM Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)
CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CLASSIFICATIONREASON 1.5(d)
DATECLASSIFIEDON 12/14/1999
DECLASSIFYON 12/14/2009
SUBJECT RE: Update on Cuban Boy [CONFIDENTIAL]
TO Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)

CARBON_COPY Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Shannon, Thomas A. (INTERAM)
Snowden, Deniz (INTERAM)
Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)
Allen, Charles A. (LEGAL)
Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Hunerwadel, Joan S. (LEGAL)
Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)
Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
Feldman, Daniel F. (MULTI)
Guarnieri, Valerie N. (MULTI)
Hill, Roseanne M. (MULTI)
Kale, Dora A. (MULTI)
McClean, Matthew K. (MULTI)
Naplan, Steven J. (MULTI)
Schwartz, Eric P. (MULTI)
Stromseth, Jane E. (MULTI)
Vaccaro, Jonathan M. (Matt) (MULTI)

TEXT_BODY

Scott-- We clear. Caryn is back from State and appreciated your update. --Dale

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526

White House Guidelines,
September 11, 2006

By M NARA, Date 9/16/16

2012-0571-1

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

From: Busby, Scott
W. (MULTI)

Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 1999 5:27 PM

To: DeRosa,
Mary B. (LEGAL); Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)

Cc: @INTERAM - Inter-American;
@LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @MULTILAT - Multilateral and
Humanitarian
Affairs
Subject: Update on Cuban Boy [CONFIDENTIAL]

Mary/Dale
-- Please clear.

Sandy --

Here's what we learned from INS/DoJ
this afternoon about the process for determining the fate of Elian
Gonzalez.

First, INS will evaluate the documentation and information
received from the father during the interview. Based on this, INS
will determine paternity, whether the father has custodial rights
under Cuban law and whether the father wishes to withdraw his son's
application. (As to this last issue, they will consider whether
the father's wishes are voluntary in light of all the circumstances.)

Second,
INS must evaluate the status of the asylum claim filed last Friday
for Elian by a group of lawyers. INS has given these lawyers until
COB tomorrow (Wednesday) to file any materials or arguments that
support their authority to speak for the child.

If the INS determines
that the father does speak for the child and that the father wants
the child to return to Cuba, INS will then have to decide whether
(1) to permit Elian to withdraw his application for admission to
the U.S.; or (2) to place Elian in removal proceedings. If it chooses
the former course (which in light of the circumstances is the more
likely result), the decision would not be subject to administrative
review and Elian would then be returnable. If it chooses the latter
course, the case would go before an immigration judge who would
consider
whether to issue a removal order against Elian for being in the country
illegally. That order would be subject to further administrative
review.

In either case, it is possible that federal and/or state
actions could be filed to prevent Elian's removal from the U.S.
However, no such actions have been filed to date.

Given the various
issues that need to be decided and the possibility of litigation,
it is unclear how long the process of resolving the case may take.
Nevertheless, INS/DoJ recognizes the importance of making its decision

as quickly as possible and will do so to the extent possible so long as it does not compromise the quality of that decision.

We also discussed scenarios if INS decides that Elian should return to Cuba. It was agreed that Justice would consider whether it might be useful to have a third party (e.g., the church) communicate such a decision to Elian and his family members here and/or to facilitate Elian's return to Cuba.

INS/DoJ will inform us when it has reached a decision or of any other significant developments that occur in its adjudication process.

Scott

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/15/1999 12:33:10 PM
FROM Blackburn, John (WHSR)
CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
CLASSIFICATIONREASON 1.5(d)
DATECLASSIFIEDON 12/14/1999
DECLASSIFYON 12/14/2009
SUBJECT RE: Cuban boy update [CONFIDENTIAL]
TO Scott-Perez, Marilyn L. (NSA)
Bayley, Douglas C. (WHSR)
Blackburn, John (WHSR)
Bresnahan, Gary E. (WHSR/STP)
Broadwick, Bonnie . (WHSR)
Crowder, Stevan D. (WHSR)
Erdahl, Douglas M. (WHSR)
Fuchs, Joachim D. (WHSR)
Jansen, Christian P. (WHSR)
Laskowski, Gregory J. (WHSR)
McGee, Jenny A. (WHSR)
Porterfield Patrick C. (WHSR)
Powell, Elliott (WHSR/EXSEC)
Reyes, David (WHSR)
Rogers, Elizabeth B. (WHSR)
Schrader, Joel M. (WHSR)
Sibley, Matthew W. (WHSR)
Sigler, Ralph H. (WHSR)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY

PRINTED AND SENT TO TRIP SITE.

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

From: Scott-Perez,
Marilyn L. (NSA)

Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 1999 11:59 AM

To: @COMM

- WHSR Comm Officers

Subject: FW: Cuban boy update [CONFIDENTIAL]

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526

White House Guidelines,

September 11, 2006

By MI NARA, Date 9/16/16

2012-0371-6

Pls

forward to Mr. Steinberg

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

From: DeRosa,
Mary B. (LEGAL)
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 1999 7:00 PM
To: @NSA
- Natl Security Advisor
Cc: @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian
Affairs; @INTERAM - Inter-American; @LEGISLAT - Legislative
Affairs;
@PRESS - Public Affairs; Orfini, Michael H. (VP)
Subject: FW: Cuban
boy update [CONFIDENTIAL]

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

From: Busby,
Scott W. (MULTI)
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 1999 6:28 PM
To: DeRosa,
Mary B. (LEGAL)
Subject: PLS CLR BY COB: Cuban boy update [CONFIDENTIAL]

From
Scott Busby

Cleared by: Mary DeRosa and Dale Avery

Sandy --

Here's

what we learned from INS/DoJ this afternoon about the process for determining the fate of Elian Gonzalez.

First, INS will evaluate the documentation and information received from the father during the interview. Based on this, INS will determine paternity, whether the father has custodial rights under Cuban law and whether the father wishes to withdraw his son's application. (As to this last issue, they will consider whether the father's wishes are voluntary in light of all the circumstances.)

Second, INS must evaluate the status of the asylum claim filed last Friday for Elian by a group of lawyers. INS has given these lawyers until COB tomorrow (Wednesday) to file any materials or arguments that support their authority to speak for the child.

If the INS determines that the father does speak

for the child and that the father wants the child to return to Cuba, INS will then have to decide whether (1) to permit Elian to withdraw his application for admission to the U.S.; or (2) to place Elian in removal proceedings. If it chooses the former course (which in light of the circumstances is the more likely result), the decision would not be subject to administrative review and Elian would then be returnable. If it chooses the latter course, the case would go before an immigration judge who would consider whether to issue a removal order against Elian for being in the country illegally. That order would be subject to further administrative review.

In either case, it is possible that federal and/or state actions could be filed to prevent Elian's removal from the U.S. However, no such actions have been filed to date.

Given the various issues that need to be decided and the possibility of litigation, it is unclear how long the process of resolving the case may take. Nevertheless, INS/DoJ recognizes the importance of making its decision as quickly as possible and will do so to the extent possible so long as it does not compromise the quality of that decision.

We also discussed scenarios if INS decides that Elian should return to Cuba. It was agreed that Justice would consider whether it might be useful to have a third party (e.g., the church) communicate such a decision to Elian and his family members here and/or to facilitate Elian's return to Cuba.

INS/DoJ will inform us when it has reached a decision or of any other significant developments that occur in its adjudication process.

Scott

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/15/1999 2:39:15 PM
FROM Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Cuban Boy Update [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Saunders, Richard M. (VP)
Orfini, Michael H. (VP)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY The only new development since the e-mail I sent to Sandy is that Andrea Mitchell of NBC interviewed Fidel last night for about four hours. Much of it was about the boy's case (excerpts aired this morning on the Today show). Fidel is angry that it's taking us so long to resolve the case, that we are permitting the boy to have extensive contact with political groups in the Cuban exile community, and that the boy has gone to Disneyworld. Other than that, nothing to report.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/16/1999 8:12:44 AM
FROM Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CLASSIFICATIONREASON 1.5(d)
DATECLASSIFIEDON 12/13/1999
DECLASSIFYON 12/13/2009
SUBJECT RE: PLS CLR: Update for POTUS on Cuban Boy and Cuban Migration
[CONFIDENTIAL]
TO DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY

Good reminder on asylum. That was the one item in the memo that stood out to me.

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

From: DeRosa, Mary
B. (LEGAL)

Sent: Monday, December 13, 1999 6:06 PM

To: Busby,
Scott W. (MULTI)

Cc: Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM); @LEGAL - Legal
Advisor

Subject: FW: PLS CLR: Update for POTUS on Cuban Boy and
Cuban Migration [CONFIDENTIAL]

Scott -- a couple of comments.

The stuff about the timeline is what I think was said in the conference call today. Let me know if you know something more recent.

Do

you think it makes sense to add the reminder about the confidentiality of asylum petitions? I didn't know that until the conference calls this weekend, so I'm guessing others might not know either. I'm afraid people might say something if they aren't aware of the restriction.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines,
September 11, 2006

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

From: Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)

Sent: Monday, December
13, 1999 5:25 PM

By MO NARA, Date 9/14/16

722-0321-1

To: DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL); Hollis, Caryn C.
(INTERAM)
Cc: @INTERAM - Inter-American; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;
@MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs
Subject: PLS
CLR: Update for POTUS on Cuban Boy and Cuban Migration
[CONFIDENTIAL]

<< File: 9026 POTUS memo.doc >>

Mary/Karen -- SRB asked me to
do an update for POTUS by COB today on the Cuban Boy and the
broader
migration challenges we face with Cubans. Need your
clearances/comments
ASAP. Thanks.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. email	Orfini to Richard Saunders re: FW-Double Red Dot Pkg 9026 Cuban Boy Update/Cuban Migration (8 pages)	12/16/1999	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Emails
Exchange-Non-Record (Mar 97-Jan 01) ([Elian or Cuban Boy])
OA/Box Number: 630000

FOLDER TITLE:

[12/09/1999-01/07/2000]

2012-0371-F

rs2177

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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.

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]

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/17/1999 1:52:31 PM

FROM Orfini, Michael H. (VP)

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT Press guidance Re: Cuban Boy [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Saunders, Richard M. (VP)

CARBON_COPY Beardsley, Tyler S. (VP)
Dennett, Todd H.

TEXT_BODY Matt Gobush organizing press strategy for the announcement of the INS decision...decision might be announced early to mid next week. I told Gobush to contact Rosshirt...and also suggested to Rosshirt to get involved now.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/17/1999 6:53:21 PM
FROM Gobush, Matthew N. (PRESS)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Elian Gonzalaz Decision Roll-Out [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Leavy, David C. (PRESS)

CARBON_COPY Fallin, James (PRESS)
Gobush, Matthew N. (PRESS)
Hammer, Michael A. (PRESS)
Hoelzer, Jennifer I. (PRESS/INTERN)
Huff, Lindsey E. (PRESS)
Joshlyn, Gay L. (ADMIN)
Leavy, David C. (PRESS)
Williams, Mary C. (ADMIN)
Wozniak, Natalie S. (PRESS)

TEXT_BODY Dave - Note to Sandy and Jim regarding the Cuba boy decision roll-out. Tracks conversations with Maria Cardana at INS PA, Lula, and Scott Busby. OK with you? Will run by Multilat, Interam, and Legal, too.

FOR
SRB/JS

In anticipation of an INS decision on the Elian Gonzalaz case next week, we have worked with INS and State public affairs to draft a roll-out plan of the announcement. This plan is premised on the notion that the INS is the appropriate lead agency, and that it should not depart from its standard operating procedures in the public handling of this decision.

As Scott Busby indicates in a separate note, the INS sent a letter today to Elian's family in Miami inviting them to provide them with any information they deem relevant to the case. Although the INS did not announce that it sent this letter, we anticipate the family will share the letter with the press. INS has drafted press guidance, which we have reviewed, to prepare for any press inquiries. Their basic line is that the INS is following standard procedure in interviewing family members of the child, has yet to come to a decision on the case, and will not speculate on the timing of the decision. Their primary interest is that of the child, and although they seek to resolve the issue promptly, they are not rushing to decision. We will direct any questions

we receive to the INS.

When the INS does reach its decision (which could be as early as Monday), it plans to roll-out the announcement as follows:

1. Release of announcement and rationale behind decision
2. Targetted calls by INS Commissioner Doris Mitzner to select reporters covering the issue
3. Targetted calls by Mitzner to major news networks

INS prefers not to have Mitzner hold a press briefing at Justice after the announcement, fearing that it will spark a counterproductive feeding frenzy.

State PA is also reaching out to supporters within the Cuban-American community in Miami, and WH OPL is identifying other potential validators of any decision.

Please approve this roll-out plan.

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/17/1999 7:17:12 PM
FROM Gobush, Matthew N. (PRESS)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: URGENT: Elian Gonzalaz Press Plan [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
Feldman, Daniel F. (MULTI)
Guarnieri, Valerie N. (MULTI)
Hill, Roseanne M. (MULTI)
Kale, Dora A. (MULTI)
McLean, Matthew K. (MULTI)
Naplan, Steven J. (MULTI)
Schwartz, Eric P. (MULTI)
Stromseth, Jane E. (MULTI)
Vaccaro, Jonathan M. (Matt) (MULTI)
Allen, Charles A. (LEGAL)
Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Hunerwadel, Joan S. (LEGAL)
Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)
Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Shannon, Thomas A. (INTERAM)
Snowden, Deniz (INTERAM)
Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

State PA (Lula Rodriguez) has been in contact with select supporters in Miami who understand and appreciate the INS process in immigration cases, and whom the press are likely to speak with once they have caught wind of the letter. According to State, they are not speaking with supporters about any decision or its timing.

-----Original

Message-----

From: DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)

Sent: Friday, December

17, 1999 7:10 PM

To: Gobush, Matthew N. (PRESS); @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @INTERAM - Inter-American

Subject: RE:

URGENT: Elian Gonzalaz Press Plan [UNCLASSIFIED]

A couple of changes.

Only thing I worry about is the part about State PA reaching out to supporters in Cuban American community. Are they doing this in advance of a decision? I wouldn't want them to do anything that would be interpreted as a signal about timing or how the decision will come out.

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

From: Gobush, Matthew

N. (PRESS)

Sent: Friday, December 17, 1999 6:59 PM

To: @MULTILAT

- Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;

@INTERAM - Inter-American

Subject: URGENT: Elian Gonzalaz Press
Plan [UNCLASSIFIED]

Scott/Mary/Caryn - Would appreciate your quick chop on the note below, which serves as a follow-up to the one Scott just sent forward. Thanks.

FOR SRB/JS

In anticipation of an INS decision on the Elian Gonzalaz case next week, we have worked with INS and State public affairs to draft a roll-out plan of the announcement. This plan is premised on the notion that the INS is making this decision independently the appropriate lead agency, and that it should not depart from its standard operating procedures in the public handling of this decision.

As Scott Busby indicates in a separate note, the INS sent a letter today to Elian's family in Miami inviting them to provide any information they deem relevant to the case. Although the INS did not announce that it sent this letter, we anticipate the family will share the letter with the press. INS has drafted press guidance, which we have reviewed, to prepare for any press inquiries. Their basic line is that the INS is following standard procedure in interviewing family members of the child, has yet to come to a decision on the case, and will not speculate on the timing of the decision. Their primary interest is that of the child, and although they seek to resolve the issue promptly, they are not rushing to decision. We will direct any questions we receive to the INS.

When the INS does reach its decision (which could be as early as Monday), it plans to roll-out the announcement as follows:

1. Release of announcement and rationale behind decision
2. Targetted calls by INS Commissioner Doris Meisneritzner to select reporters covering the issue
3. Targetted interviews by Meisneritzner to major news networks

INS prefers not to have Meisneritzner hold a press briefing at Justice after the announcement, fearing that it will spark a counterproductive feeding frenzy.

State PA is also reaching out to supporters within the Cuban-American community in Miami, and WH OPL is identifying other potential validators of any decision.

Please approve this roll-out plan.

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/20/1999 9:03:19 AM
FROM Gobush, Matthew N. (PRESS)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: URGENT: Elian Gonzalaz Press Plan [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

Thanks. Note the version I sent up to SRB on Friday night - includes important edits from Legal. Also, I'll forward Maria Echaveste's response to the note I sent her per SRB - as you'll see, she agrees with our approach.

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

From: Hollis, Caryn
C. (INTERAM)
Sent: Monday, December 20, 1999 8:50 AM
To: Gobush,
Matthew N. (PRESS)
Subject: RE: URGENT: Elian Gonzalaz Press Plan
[UNCLASSIFIED]

Matt, Better late than never. This looks fine.
I saw absolutely notheing over the weekend. As I am still of the unbadged lot could not come in. Did this get any press coverage over the weekend? caryn

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

From: Gobush,
Matthew N. (PRESS)
Sent: Friday, December 17, 1999 6:59 PM
To: @MULTILAT
- Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;
@INTERAM - Inter-American
Subject: URGENT: Elian Gonzalaz Press
Plan [UNCLASSIFIED]

Scott/Mary/Caryn - Would appreciate your quick chop on the note below, which serves as a follow-up to the one Scott just sent forward. Thanks.

FOR SRB/JS

In anticipation of an INS decision on the Elian Gonzalez case next week, we have worked with INS and State public affairs to draft a roll-out plan of the announcement. This plan is premised on the notion that the INS is the appropriate lead agency, and that it should not depart from its standard operating procedures in the public handling of this decision.

As

Scott Busby indicates in a separate note, the INS sent a letter today to Elian's family in Miami inviting them to provide any information they deem relevant to the case. Although the INS did not announce that it sent this letter, we anticipate the family will share the letter with the press. INS has drafted press guidance, which we have reviewed, to prepare for any press inquiries. Their basic line is that the INS is following standard procedure in interviewing family members of the child, has yet to come to a decision on the case, and will not speculate on the timing of the decision. Their primary interest is that of the child, and although they seek to resolve the issue promptly, they are not rushing to decision. We will direct any questions we receive to the INS.

When the INS does reach its decision (which could be as early as Monday), it plans to roll-out the announcement as follows:

1. Release of announcement and rationale behind decision
2. Targetted calls by INS Commissioner Doris Mitzner to select reporters covering the issue
3. Targetted interviews by Mitzner to major news networks

INS prefers not to have Mitzner hold a press briefing at Justice after the announcement, fearing that it will spark a counterproductive feeding frenzy.

State PA

is also reaching out to supporters within the Cuban-American community in Miami, and WH OPL is identifying other potential validators of any decision.

Please approve this roll-out plan.

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/20/1999 5:05:38 PM
FROM Lackey, Miles M. (LEGIS)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: Another Call about Elian [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Burrell, Christina L. (LEGIS)
Lackey, Miles M. (LEGIS)
Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS)
Tavlarides, Mark J. (LEGIS)
Avery, Dale R. (INTERAM)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Shannon, Thomas A. (INTERAM)
Snowden, Deniz (INTERAM)
Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)
Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY I returned the call.

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

From: Hollis,
Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Sent: Monday, December 20, 1999 4:52 PM
To: Lackey,
Miles M. (LEGIS); @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @INTERAM - Inter-
American;
Busby, Scott W. (MULTI); DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Subject: Another
Call about Elian [UNCLASSIFIED]

Miles, Just received another voice
mail from Congressman Daschle's office, a Shiela Murphy 224-7512.
Appreciate the assistance. Interest is not going away. Thanks,
caryn

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/22/1999 6:29:00 PM
FROM Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: New Elian Guidance: Please clear ASAP [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Allen, Charles A. (LEGAL)
Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Hunerwadel, Joan S. (LEGAL)
Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

I cleared this guidance with Beth. She agreed with two recommended deletions; indeed recommended them herself. Two bullets on page 2 as noted below.

Mary - Please call Scott regarding an additional issue that was raised. Thanks.

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

From: Busby,

Scott W. (MULTI)

Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 1999 5:21 PM

To: DeRosa,

Mary B. (LEGAL); Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS); Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)

Cc: @INTERAM - Inter-American; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;

@LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian

Affairs; @PRESS - Public Affairs

Subject: FW: New Elian Guidance:

Please clear ASAP [UNCLASSIFIED]

I've made some additional changes to this based on comments received from Dan Shapiro.

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

From: Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)

Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 1999 4:57 PM

To: DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL); Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM); Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS)

Cc: @INTERAM - Inter-American;

@LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs;
@MULTILAT
- Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs
Subject: New Elian Guidance:
Please clear ASAP [UNCLASSIFIED]

Note: This guidance is
derived from guidance I just received from INS on the deferred
inspection
issue.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

Elian guidance 12 23 99.doc
Cuban Boy
December 23, 1999

Context: The INS today announced that it was deferring the
immigration
inspection of Elian Gonzalez from December 23 (when it had
originally been
scheduled) until January 21. However, this decision has no bearing on
the more
fundamental issue that lies at the heart of this case - who speaks for
Elian's
immigration intentions. A decision on this latter issue could occur at
any time
- before, on or after January 21. If, for instance, the INS decides
before
January 21 that his father does speak for Elian and that the father
voluntarily
wishes for Elian to return to Cuba, then Elian's application for
admission will
likely be considered withdrawn and he will not go through the
inspection process.

Separately, Connie Mack, Trent Lott and others have written to the
President to
indicate their intention of introducing a bill that would grant U.S.
citizenship
to Elian. They have requested that the President delay action on
Elian's case
until Congress returns in late January.

What does the decision to defer Elian's inspection mean? Will this
mean that
Elian gets to stay here until January 21?

* The INS decision means that Elian will not need to appear at an INS
office

tomorrow to meet with INS officials. INS is still gathering information relevant to this issue.

* However, this decision has no bearing on the timing of the more fundamental decision INS must make on who can speak on Elian's behalf regarding the immigration issues in his case. INS could make this latter decision at any time
- before, on or after the inspection now scheduled for January 21. Such a decision could render moot the need to proceed with Elian's immigration inspection on January 21.

* INS continues to work diligently to collect all the information it needs to make a decision about who can speak for Elian and his immigration wishes.

Did INS postpone the inspection because the USG did not want to send Elian back before Christmastime or because of the massive protests planned tomorrow at the INS office in Miami?

* No. It was simply not necessary for Elian to meet with the INS at this time. The INS needs more information before it can complete his inspection.

Why is it taking so long for INS to make a decision in this case?

* This is a complex case. INS is working to reach a decision as quickly as possible but it's important that it take the time necessary to gather all the relevant information and review all the facts.

What is your reaction to the letter sent to the President by Senator Mack and others indicating interest in granting citizenship to Elian?

* We received the letter. INS is conducting a review of the appropriate facts in this case and will be making a decision based on the law.

*

Will the President stay action on Elian's case pending action by the

Congress?

- * The INS will be following its procedures on cases such as this one.
- *
- * We refer you to INS for more details.

2

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/27/1999 1:51:30 PM
FROM Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW:: HAVANA KEEPS UP PROTESTS OVER BOAT BOY ELIAN
[UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

Scott....any word?

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

From: WHSR

Sent:

Monday, December 27, 1999 12:35 PM

To: Clarke, Richard A. (TNT);

Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM); McCarthy, Mary
O. (INTEL); Naplan, Steven

J. (MULTI); Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)

Subject: HAVANA KEEPS

UP PROTESTS OVER BOAT BOY ELIAN

a1476

^BC-CUBA-USA-BOY

^Havana

keeps up protests over boat boy Elian

HAVANA, Dec 27 (Reuters)

- Havana has maintained a campaign

of daily protests throughout

the holiday period to demand the return

of Elian Gonzalez, the

6-year-old boy at the centre of a Cuba-U.S. custody
battle.

Following two days of special children's parties over Christmas

dedicated to the "Free Elian" campaign, Communist youth organisations

were planning another mass rally on Monday evening at Havana University.

Cuba's state-run media has been dominated by coverage of
the

demonstrations and messages of support for reuniting Elian with his father in Cuba. Christmas and the upcoming millennium celebrations

barely have been mentioned.

The boy's face is now omnipresent on posters, T-shirts and banners across the Caribbean island. Even some dissident and religious groups have joined in the patriotic campaign, issuing communiques expressing their support.

Elian was rescued at sea on Nov. 25 by U.S. fishermen. He had been clinging to an inner-tube for two days after a craft full of Cuban boat people capsized. Eleven people, including the boy's mother, were killed.

The boy's father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, who was divorced

from the mother, is demanding Elian's immediate return to his provincial

hometown of Cardenas on Cuba's northern coast.

President

Fidel Castro has backed the demand, calling for permanent demonstrations to denounce the what he has described as the "kidnapping" of

Elian.

Communist youth organisations have been given the task of

organising the protests, many of which take place outside the U.S. diplomatic mission on Havana's sea-front.

Elian's case

also has become a cause celebre for Castro's enemies in the Cuban-American exile community in Florida. They are campaigning for the United

States to allow the boy to stay with relatives in Florida, arguing that he should not be sent back to the nation his mother died trying to flee.

The boy's fate is still uncertain. The U.S. Immigration and

Naturalisation Service is scheduled to hold a hearing on his status

on Jan. 21 but could return him to Cuba sooner if it decides his father has the sole right of custody. In Cuba, all the protests, which began on Dec. 5, have been shown live on state television and then frequently repeated. While most support the government's position in principle, some Cubans have begun to grumble about the saturation coverage and the daily protests, which have at times paralysed Havana. The situation also has become the subject of jokes.

RB-- 12/27/99 11:44:46

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/29/1999 10:00:28 AM
FROM Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Elian Gonzalez [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Valenzuela, Arturo A. (INTERAM)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY Vicki Huddleston approached the Cuban government last night requesting another interview with the father. The official said that he personally did not think it would happen, but took it to his superiors and will get back sometime today.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/29/1999 5:52:13 PM
FROM Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Intel on Elian Gonzalez [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Aguilo, Miguel A. (WHSR)
Bayley, Douglas C. (WHSR)
Blackburn, John (WHSR)
Bresnahan, Gary E. (WHSR/STP)
Broadwick, Bonnie . (WHSR)
Cheramie, Don E. (WHSR)
Crowder, Stevan D. (WHSR/STP)
Ehrendreich, Joel (WHSR)
Erdahl, Douglas M. (WHSR)
Ford, Robert G. (WHSR)
Fuchs, Joachim D. (WHSR)
Jansen, Christian P. (WHSR)
Jarosinski, Frank J. (WHSR)
Laskowski, Gregory J. (WHSR)
Manning, Michael T. (WHSR)
McGee, Jenny A. (WHSR)
Merletti, Roger D. (WHSR)
Payne, Raymond H. (WHSR/STP)
Porterfield Patrick C. (WHSR)
Powell, Elliott (WHSR/EXSEC)
Reyes, David (WHSR)
Rickard, Robin S. (WHSR)
Rogers, Elizabeth B. (WHSR)
Schrader, Joel M. (WHSR)
Sibley, Matthew W. (WHSR)
Sigler, Ralph H. (WHSR)
Smith, James A. (WHSR)
Sutliff, Deana R. (WHSR)
Swarm, Amy L. (WHSR)
Tarver, J. Sean (WHSR)
Williams, Robert S. (WHSR)

CARBON_COPY Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)
Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)

TEXT_BODY WHSR -- Could y'all make sure that Wendy Patten and I receive all intel and wire reports on the Elian Gonzalez case? We are the action officers on the case and several important pieces of information

were not sent to us directly. Many thanks. Scott

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 12/30/1999 9:53:42 AM
FROM Busby, Scott W. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: Cuba/Elian: Appeals to the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
CARBON_COPY Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)

TEXT_BODY

I wasn't aware of the communication from the Cuban border guard either. You might want to check with Greg Magee at Coast Guard to see whether the intel was specific enough for them to track down vessel (probably wasn't).

Clarification: We are not a party to the Convention of the Rights of the Child, but we are a signatory (Albright signed for us in 1995). And we do like to say that in substance our actions are consistent with most of the principles of the Convention. So we should be careful in invoking our non-ratification of the CROC in the context of this case.

As to Justice, I haven't gotten any reports of late but I imagine that they are awaiting the outcome of the request for the 2nd interview before they move forward to a final decision. Mary's out today but you and Wendy should probably have her check on Monday to see where we are.

Hopefully, we'll hear from Charles today on the status of our request for the second interview. If not, I'll call him.

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

From: Hollis,
Caryn C. (INTERAM)
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 1999 9:39 AM
To: Valenzuela,
Arturo A. (INTERAM); Busby, Scott W. (MULTI); Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI); DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Cc: @LEGAL - Legal Advisor
Subject: Cuba/Elian:
Appeals to the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights [UNCLASSIFIED]

MINISTER
OF CUBA DATED 13 ECEMBER 1999. THE OFFICE OF THE
HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGH
THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION.

END
TEXT.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF CUBAN LETTER ADDRESSED TO MARY ROBINSON,

UN
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
DECEMBER 13, 1999
HAVANA

EXCELENCIA:

EN
DIAS PASADOS, EXACTAMENTE EL 25 DE NOVIEMBRE, SE PRODUJO
UN LAMENTABLE
HECHO QUE, POR SU SERIEDAD Y POR SUS
IMPLICACIONES JURIDICAS, POLITICAS
Y HUMANAS, DEBO PONER EN
SU CONOCIMIENTO.

EN HORAS DE LA TARDE
DE ESE DIA, COMENZAMOS A RECIBIR
INFORMACIONES DE QUE UNA EMBARCACION
CON EMIGRANTES ILEGALES
A BORDO, PROCEDENTES DE CUBA, HABIA ZOZOBRADO
CERCA DE LAS
COSTAS DE LA FLORIDA. SE TRATABA DE UNA OPERACION
DE TRAFICO
ILIGAL DE PERSONAS REALIZADA POR DELINCIENTES
INESCRUPULOSOS
QUI
OPERAN EN EL TERRITORIO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA,
Y SOBRE
LA CUAL YA DESDE EL DIA 22 DEL PROPIO MES, LAS TROPAS
GUARDAFRONTERAS
DE LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA HABIAN ALERTADO AL
SERVICIO DE GUARDACOSTAS
DEL GOBIERNO DE LOS EASTADOS UNIDOS.

SEGUN INFORMACIONES ULTERIORES
MAS PRECISAS, DOS

SOBREVIVIENTES FUERON HALLADOS FRENTE KEY BISCAYNE,
FLORIDA,
Y UN NINO DE APENAS CINCO ANOS FUE DESCUBIERTO ASIDO A
UN
NEUMATICO FRENTE A HAULOVER INLET, CERCA DE LA CIUDAD DE
MIAMI.
LAS DECLARACIONES DE LOS SOBREVIVIENTES REVELARON QUE
SE TRATABA
DE UN GRUPO DE 14 PERSONAS QUE HABIAN SALIDO AL
AMANECER DEL DIA
22 DE NOVIEMBRE DESDE UN PUNTO DE LA CIUDAD
CARDENAS, PROVINCIA
DE MATANZAS, CUBA.

EL NINO, ELIAN GONZALEZ BROTONS, ESTABA SIENDO
TRASLADADO
ILEGALMENTE EN ESA NAVE POR UN CIUDADANO NOMBRADO
LAZARO
MUNERO
GARCIA, QUE MANTENIA ESTRECHAS RELACIONES PERSONALES
CON LA MADRE
DEL NINO, DIVORCIADA DEL PADRE DE ESTE, JUAN
MIGUEL GONZALEZ QUNITANA,
RESIDENTE EN LA CIUDAD DE CARDENAS,
PROVINCIA DE MATANZAS, CUBA.

EN
HECHO PROBADO QUE EL PADRE DEL NINO ELIAN SOSTENIA
CONSTANTES Y
AFECTUOSOS VINCULOS CON SU HIJO, CUMPLIENDO CON
TODAS SUS OBLIGACIONES
DE PADRE. VINCULOS IGUALMENTE
CONSTANTES Y AFECTUOSOS MANTENIAN
CON EL NINO SUS ABUELOS DE
PADRE Y MADRE, QUE RESIDEN EN LA CIUDAD
DE CARDENAS, Y A LOS
CUALES TAMBIEN SE LES ARREBATO DE SU LADO.

AL
PADRE NO SE LE CONSULTO EN ABSOLUTO, NO SE LE SOLICITO
AUTORIZACION
ALGUNA PARA TRASLADAR A SU PEQUENO HIJO A LOS
ESTADOS UNIDOS, Y
MENOS AUN DE FORMA ILEGAL, IRRESPONSABLE Y
RIEGOSA PARA EL NINO.
AMBOS RESPONSABLES DEL TRASLADO
ILEGAL, LA MADRE Y SU AMIGO, PERECIERON
EN EL NAUFRAGIO.

EL PADRE DEL MENOR ELIAN SE DIRIGO A NUESTRO

MINISTERIO
SOLICITANDO QUE SE INICIARAN DE IMMEDIATO LOS TRAMITES
DE
RECLAMACION DE SU HIJO, PEDIDO AL QUE SE UNE EL DE SUS
ABUELOS,
TANTOS MATERNOS COMO PATERNOS, TODOS RESIDENTES EN
CUBA, PARA QUE
ELIAN SEA REINTEGRADO A SU FAMILIA IN DILACION.

EN CORRESPONDENCIA
CON ELLO, EL MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES
EXTERIORES DE LA REPUBLICA
DE CUBA PRESENTO DOS NOTAS
VERBALES CON FECHA 27 DE NOVIEMBRE A
LA SECCION DE INTERESES
DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA EN CUBA
Y AL DEPARTAMENTO DE
ESTADO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA EN
WASHINGTON, DC. A
LA SEGUNDA NOTA SE LE ANEXO CARTA DEL PADRE DEL
MENOR
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 GENEVA 009720

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/ESA
AND WHA/CCA

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, UNHRC-1, PREL, CVIS,
US, CU
SUBJECT: ELIAN GONZALEZ CASE: INQUIRY FROM OFFICE OF THE
HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

RECLAMANDO SU DEVOLUCION.

EL
EJERCICIO DE LA PATRIA POTESTAD POR PARTE DEL PADRE DE
ELIAN ES JURIDICAMENTE
INOBJETABLE, Y ESTA AMPARADO TANTO POR
LAS LEYES CUBANAS COMO POR
EL DERECHO INTERNACIONAL.

LA CONVENCION SOBRE LOS DERECHOS DEL
NINO, APROBADA POR LA
ASAMBLEA GENERAL DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS MEDIANTE
SU
RESOLUCION 44/25 DE 20 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 1989, Y QUE ENTRARA
EN
VIGO
EL 2 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 1990, ESTABLECE EN SU ARTICULO 9,

PARRAFO

1, QUE "LOS ESTADOS PARTES VELERAN PORQUE EL NINO NO SEA SEPARADO

DE SUS PADRES CONTRA LA VOLUNTAD DE ESTOS,..."

EN SU ARTICULO 10

PARRAFO 1, QUE "...TODO SOLICITUD HECHA POR

UN NINO O POR SUS PADRES

ENTRAR EN UN ESTADO PARTE O PARA

SALIR DE EL A LOS EFECTOS DE LA

REUNION DE LA FAMILIA SERA

ATENDIDA POR LOS ESTADOS PARTRES DE MANERA

POSITIVA,

HUMANITARIA Y EXPEDITIVA", EN SU ARTICULO 11, PARRAFO

1, QUE

"LOS ESTADOS PARTES ADOPTERAN MEDIDAS PARA LUCHAR CONTRA

LOS

TRASLADOS ILICITOS DE NINOS AL EXTRANJERO Y LA RETENCION ILICITA

DE NINOS EN EL EXTRANJERO" Y EN SU ARTICULO 35, QUE

"LOS ESTADOS

PARTES TOMARAN TODAS LAS MEDIDAS DE CARACTER

NACIONAL, BILATERAL

Y MULTILATERAL QUE SEAN NECESSARIAS PARA

IMPEDIR EL SECUESTRO, LA

VENTA O LA TRATA DE NINOS PARA

CUALQUIER FIN O EN CAULQUIER FORMA."

SI

BIEN EL GOBIERNO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS ES EXCEPCION EN LAS MASIVA

ADHESION DE LA CUMUNIDAD INTERNACIONAL A UNA

CONVENCION QUE POR

SU CARACTER HUMANITARIO, HA CONCITADO LA

RATIFICACION DE 191 ESTADOS,

SUS DISPOSICIONES HACIA LA

INFANCIA, SU SEGURIDAD Y SU BIENESTAR,

CONSTITUYEN UN DEBER

MORAL PARA TODOS LOS INTEGRANTES DE LE COMUNIDAD

INTERNACIONAL,

SEAN O NO ESTADOS PARTES DEL INSTRUMENTO.

LA ARBITRARIA RETENCION

DEL NINO EN EL TERRITORIA DE LOS

ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA NO PUEDE

CALIFCIARSE MAS QUE COMO

UN ACTO DE SECUESTRO Y DE DESVERGONZADA

PIRATERIA, Y

CONSTITUYE UNA VERDADERA ESCLADA EN LA OBSTINADA Y

FRACASADA

POLITICA ANTICUBANA QUE LA COMUNIDAD INTERNACIONAL
RECHAZA
Y
QUE VA EN DETRIMENTO DE LOS MEJORES INTERESES DE LOS
PUEBLOS
ESTADOUNIDENSE
Y CUBANO.

LA MANIPULACION POLITICA QUE SE HACE EN TORNO A ESTE
CASO POR
CIERTOS GRUPOS EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA,
PRINCIPALMENTE
POR LA TRISTEMENTE NOTORIA ORGANIZACION
TERRORISTA DENOMINADA FUNDACION
NACIONAL CUBANO AMERICANA,
RESULTA REPUGNANTE, COMO REPUGNANTE RESULTA
TAMBIEN EL
INCREMENTO DEL TRAFICO DE PERSONAS ENTRE CUBA Y LOS
ESTADOS
UNIDOS,
CUANDO INDIVIDUOS INESCRUPULOSOS, CON MANIFESTO AFAN
DE LUCRE Y
MENOSPRECIO A LA VIDA HUMANA, PROCEDENTES DE LOS
ESTADOS UNIDOS,
PENETRAN EN LANCHAS RAPIDAS SUBREPTICIAMENTE
EN NUESTRO TERRITORIO
PARA TRASLADAR HACIA ESE PAIS A
CIUDADANOS CUBANOS, POR CIFRAS QUE
OSCILAN ENTRE 8 Y 10 MIL
DOLARES POR PERSONA, EN VIAJES POR LO GENERAL
CARGADOS EN
EXCESO Y CON EMBARCACIONES CON MUCHA FRECUENCIA
INSEGURAS.

NO
SON POCAS LAS PERSONAS, INCLUIDOS MUJERES Y NINOS, QUE HAN
PERECIDO
CON ESTOS PROCEDIMIENTOS DE TRAFICO HUMANO, QUE
DERIVAN DIRECTAMENTE
Y SE VEN ESTIMULADOS POR LA SELECTIVA
POLITICA QUE APLICA EL GOBIERNO
DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS HACIA
LOS MIGRANTES CUBANOS, A LOS QUE, A
DIFERENCIA DE AQUELLOS DE
OTRAS NACIONALIDADES, LES OTORGA DE INMEDIATO
PERMISO DE
ESTANCIA EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, EN VIRTUD DE LA LLAMADA
LEY
DE AJUSTE CUBANO, SIN CONSIDERAR LAS VIAS Y LOS MEDIAS
EMPLEADOS

PARA EMIGRAR, INCLUSO EL SECUESTRO DE NAVES Y LA
COMISION DE DELITOS
GRAVES Y ASESINATOS DE TRABAJADORES PARA
PODER EMIGRAR, SIN TENER
EN CUENTA TAMPOCO LOS ANTECEDENTES
PENALES DE LOS EMIGRANTES.

A
ELLO SE SUMA LA CAMPANA DE MAS DE DOS MIL HORAS
SEMANALES
DE PROGRAMACION
QUE EMITEN HACIA CUBA ESTACIONES DE RADIO QUE
INVADEN NUESTRO ESPACIO
RADIOELECTONICO, COMO CUBA HA
DENUNCIADO MULTIPLES VECES EN LAS
NACIONES UNIDAS, EN LAS QUE
REITERADAMENTE SE INCITA A IGNORAR LOS
PROCEDIMIENTOS
NORMALES DE EMIGRACION LEGAL Y SEGURA, DE CONFORMIDAD
CON LOS
CONVENIOS SUSCRITOS AL EFECTO ENTRE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS Y
CUBA.

ES INCONCEBIBLE QUE HORA SE ABUSE DE TAL MANERA DE UNA
CRIATURA
INOCENTE COMO EL NINO ELIAN GONZALEZ BROTONS, DE
SOLO 6 ANOS DE
EDAD, QUE ACABA DE SOBREVIVIR UNA ESPANTOSA
TRAGEDIA, QUE SE PROLONGA
CRIMINALMENTE AL IMPEDIRLE SE
REGRESO JUNTO A SU PADRE, ABUELOS,
AMIGOS Y VECICNOS EN LA
TIERRA QUE LO VIO NACER.

AL EXPONERLE
ESTOS HECHOS, QUE VIOLAN LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS
FUNDAMENTALIES DEL
NINO ELIAN GONZALEZ BRONTONS, Y LOSE DE SU
PADRE YS SU FAMILIA EN
CUBA, Y QUE HAN CREADO UN ENORME Y
CRECIENTE GRADO DE IRRITACION
E INDIGNACION EN NUESTRO
PUEBLO, ESTOY RECABANDO SU APOYO Y EL DE
LA COMUNIDAD
INTERNACIONAL PARA LA SOLUCION DEL CASO AS LA MENOR
BREVEDAD
UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 GENEVA 009720

DEPARTMENT FOR
IO/ESA AND WHA/CCA

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, UNHRC-1, PREL,
CVIS, US, CU
SUBJECT: ELIAN GONZALEZ CASE: INQUIRY FROM OFFICE
OF THE
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

POSIBLE Y PARA QUE
PREVALEZCA ESTE COLOSAL ABUSO Y DESPRECIO
A LAS MAS ELEMENTALES
NORMAS DE CONVIVENCIA CIVILIZADA.

EL PEQUENO ELIAN DEBE SER DEVUELTO
DE IMMEDIATO AL SENO DE SU
FAMILIA, EN CORRESPONDENCIA CON LOS MAS
ELEVADOS CONCEPTOS DE
JUSTICIA Y HUMANDIAD.

RECIBA, EXCELENCIA,
EL TESTIMONIO DE MI MAS ALTA
CONSIDERACION.

FELIPE PEREZ ROQUE

END
TEXT
MOOSE

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 01/04/2000 11:03:43 AM
FROM Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Cuban Boy [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)

CARBON_COPY
TEXT_BODY Wendy, I aded some language on the good reverend. caryn

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT Cuban Boy_.doc

Cuban Boy
January 4, 2000

Context: The Washington Post contains a front-page story today that claims that INS is very near a decision to return Elian Gonzalez to his father in Cuba. The article quotes an anonymous U.S. official as saying that the U.S. officials have asked the Government of Cuba to allow the father to travel to the United States to pick up the child. According to the U.S. official, Cuba responded that it would take the request "under advisement." The article states that both Castro and the child's father have previously rejected the idea of the father traveling to Miami to pick up the child.

Can you confirm today's Washington Post article story that the United States is planning to return Elian Gonzalez to Cuba?

* We do not comment on unattributed press speculation. The INS has not yet made its final decision in this matter. However, INS is moving as quickly as possible

toward a decision in the case.

Is a decision on Elian Gonzalez imminent?

* INS is moving as quickly as possible toward a decision in the case.

Has the father agreed to come to the United States to pick him up/has Castro agreed to let him come?

* No decision has been made in the case at this time, so it would be premature to

speculate about any decisions the father or the Cuban government might make.

However, the State Department is prepared to expedite a non-immigrant visa should

the father request it. The Cuban government would have to issue him the necessary travel documents to make such a trip.

What do you make of the comments by the National Council of Churches' Joan Brown Campbell urging the boy to be returned?

* The Reverend Campbell is in Cuba as a private citizen. Her meetings and comments-however, well intentioned-will have no bearing on the case before the INS. This is a decision for INS. INS is moving as quickly as possible toward a decision in this case.

* We have no comment on the views of others as to how this case should be decided. This is an INS matter and INS will make the decision.

Are U.S. officials afraid of the reaction of the Cuban American community as stated in the Post article?

* We are working to shield this case from political pressure from all sides so that INS may proceed with its process of making a decision in a deliberate and considered manner. We are fully aware that, whatever the decision, some people will be unhappy and will attribute political motives to a decision based on a careful analysis of the facts and governing law.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 01/04/2000 2:43:33 PM
FROM Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: Question ref statement on elian Gonzalez [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Hammer, Michael A. (PRESS)

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

Thanks, I didn't think he had but told State I would check.

-----Original

Message-----

From: Hammer, Michael A. (PRESS)

Sent: Tuesday,

January 04, 2000 2:43 PM

To: Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM); @PRESS

- Public Affairs

Cc: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI); DeRosa, Mary B.

(LEGAL); @INTERAM - Inter-American

Subject: RE: Question ref statement

on elian Gonzalez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Joe hasn't briefed yet today.

At this morning's informal gaggle with reporters Joe was asked if the decision would be made today and he replied he did not know. So unless I missed something, Lockhart has not said anything about a decision today - and I very much doubt he would have done so.

-----Original

Message-----

From: Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM)

Sent: Tuesday,

January 04, 2000 2:27 PM

To: @PRESS - Public Affairs

Cc: Patten,

Wendy L. (MULTI); DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL); @INTERAM - Inter-American

Subject: Question

ref statement on elian Gonzalez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Greetings, Just

was asked if Joe Lockhart made the statement in today's briefing that the decision on Elian's future was to be made today? Any validity to that? caryn

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 01/07/2000 9:18:04 AM
FROM Feldman, Daniel F. (MULTI)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: press on elian [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY haven't seen anything really recent, but heard various cnn/gallup type polls that indicated that at least half of americans thought he should be returned to his father (though i guess that still leaves half who would want him to stay here). however, my non-scientific anecdotal sampling of people runs about 90% in favor of his return. i realize this is not particularly helpful for your needs, though. why don't you call the law library and see if they can find something. amy bilyeau is great -- x53397.

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

From: Patten,
Wendy L. (MULTI)
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2000 9:04 AM
To: Feldman,
Daniel F. (MULTI)
Subject: press on elian [UNCLASSIFIED]

Dan

-- you mentioned good public opinion last night. Where did you find the natl poll data? I don't have non class system yet so I can't get on line. I asked Interam to look but all they are finding is Miami poll data.

thanks -- WLP