

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Records Management - SUBJECT FILE
Series/Staff Member: Subject Files
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 21710
Scan ID: 091252
Document Number:

Folder Title:
CO045

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	83	5	3	3

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	re: Cubans seriously ill in the Bahamian refugee camp (1 page)	12/02/1994	b(6)
002. list	re: Families with minor children in the Bahamian refugee camp [Personally Identifiable Information] (3 pages)	12/02/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
WHORM Subject File-General
CO045
OA/Box Number: 21710

FOLDER TITLE:

091252

2016-0920-F

jm1860

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]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

ID# 091252

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

CO 045

DATE RECEIVED: DECEMBER 23, 1994

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY
OF 262 CUBAN NATIONALS WHO ARE NOW IN THE
BAHAMAS BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE HOWARD AIR
FORCE BASE IN PANAMA

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
PATRICK GRIFFIN		ORG	94/12/23		C 94/12/23
WILLIAM ITOH	REFERRAL NOTE: _____	RSA	94/12/23		____/____/____
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		____/____/____		____/____/____
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		____/____/____		____/____/____
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		____/____/____		____/____/____
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		____/____/____		____/____/____

COMMENTS: ENCLOSURE

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240 _____

MAIL USER CODES: (A) R FL (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                      *                      *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL  *OF SIGNER        *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE     *C-COMPLETED        *CODE = A          *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED         *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                      *OUTGOING          *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                      *                   *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                      *                   *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                      *                   *
*****

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

SCANNED

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

18TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEES:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

December 2, 1994

091252

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

☐ 127 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0918
(202) 225-3931

DISTRICT OFFICE:

5757 BLUE LAGOON DRIVE
(NW 11TH STREET)
SUITE 240
MIAMI, FL 33126
(305) 262-1800

94 DEC 9 P5:52

The Honorable Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

RE: In reply refer to: #52972 AP

Dear Mr. President:

A constituent of my Congressional district, Ms. Rosa Fernandez, has contacted my office regarding the possibility of 262 Cuban nationals who are now in the Bahamas being transferred to the Howard Air Force Base in Panama.

These 262 Cubans nationals fled Castro's regime in Cuba but instead of being rescued at sea by the United States, they drifted into Bahamian waters and are now in a refugee camp in poor condition. Ms. Fernandez is requesting that the sick, the elderly, and children with their families be transferred to the Howard Air Force Base. I am enclosing the lists of names and a Bahamian newspaper article for your perusal.

Ms. Fernandez will appreciate any assistance that you can provide.

Sincerely,

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress

R/FI

IRL:ap

cc: Ms. Rosa Fernandez
1630 SW 17 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33145



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

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DID YOU KNOW...

that Sickness and Maternity Benefits are meant to **replace, not supplement,** income that would have been earned had it not been for the illness or child-birth?

For more information, call 322-2009 or 322-3280.

The Nassau

YEAR 150: VOL 300

NASSAU, BAHAMAS, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1994



FENCED IN — Cuban immigrants held at the government's detention centre off Carmichael Road have gone on a hunger strike to press the United Nations and the United States to give them visas.

(Staff photo by Derek Smith).

Cubans at centre quit eating

By GLADSTONE THURSTON
Senior Staff Reporter

Cubans at the government's immigration detention centre, off Carmichael Road, have gone on a hunger strike protesting their treatment by the United States government and the United Nations.

"We are on a hunger strike for freedom," said Ms Alioska Castello, a spokesperson for the 282 Cubans detained at the centre. "The problem is that we want an answer from the United Nations and the US government."

"We are not criminals so why do they keep us in here without knowing what is going to happen with us."

Ms Castello said the Cubans who have been detained for more than three months at the double fenced barbed wire former primary school, have no complaints against the Bahamas government.

But she noted that Cubans who have been detained at other sites including Guantanamo Bay and Panama have been given visas to enter the United States, but Cubans detained in The Bahamas have been left in limbo.

"We want the children out of here, we want the sick people out of here, and we want senior citizens out of here," said Ms Castello.

When a *Guardian* news team visited the camp on Monday, many of the Cubans were gathered at the main entrance receiving gifts from friends and relatives. They all seemed to be in good health. They were not allowed to leave the compound. Visitors were not allowed inside.

Immigration officials had no comments on the protest.

The Cubans were picked up in Bahamian waters fleeing their communist home land and headed for the United States. They use to be routinely turned over to friends and relatives in nearby Florida. That has stopped.

Ms Castello said a team from the United Nations interviewed each of them two months ago. It was noted then that none of the Cubans had applied for visas to enter the United States. The Cubans want to be considered political refugees. Ms Castello said they do not want to be returned to Cuba.

Of the 282 detainees, there are 33 children and 45 women. There is a woman seven months pregnant. She had to be rushed to hospital on Sunday when it

was thought she would give birth. Ms Castello said 47 men and one woman began their hunger strike at 4 p.m. Sunday. More were expected to join the strike.

The hunger strikers reclined on cots in a large tent at the northern end of the spacious grounds. Among them are doctors, engineers, teachers and musicians. Two large murals of Jesus the Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary hang outside the tent. A huge sign reading 'Hunger Strike,' and 'Take the children, senior citizens and sick people out of here' tell of their cause. Armed Defence Force and Police officers keep watch.

"We are prepared to go on until we have a solution to our problem," said Roberto Niebla, one of the hunger strikers. "We do not want to create a problem for the Bahamian people who have been so nice to us, but we want a solution to our problem."

"Many Bahamians have shown their solidarity to the Cuban people and we thank them, but we want our problem solved."

With many of the Haitian immigrants repatriated, living conditions in the detention centre is more comfortable, said Mr Niebla. They are provided with telephones and are allowed to make overseas calls.

"We want the whole world to know that we are here," said Mr Niebla. "There are children here, senior citizens and sick people who should be granted humanitarian visas."

"Cubans who were in Guantanamo Bay and Panama are getting visas. We want to know what is going to happen to us. It is not a sin to claim liberty. We are not criminals. We do not understand why we are here without any answer from anybody. We are completely at loss."

He noted that The Bahamas government "is doing their best to help us. And we have no complaint about the Bahamian military. But we are not prisoners so why are we here?"

Ms Castello said if they are returned to Cuba they would be imprisoned. She said they do not mind if they are not allowed to stay in The Bahamas.

"We want to be free," said Ms Castello. "We have plenty of problems in our country. We come here and we are in jail again. We want to go to the United States."