

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Political Affairs

Series/Staff Member: Reta Lewis

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 5176

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Cuba [4]

Stack:

S

Row:

28

Section:

5

Shelf:

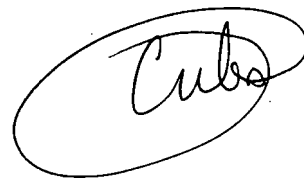
6

Position:

1



US Policy toward Cuba Speaking Points



Background

The current situation in Cuba is a direct result of and a testament to the failed policies of Castro. The large number of people willing to flee Cuba reflects the growing frustration of the Cuban people; the encouragement given by the Castro regime for people to flee in unsafe rafts is an indication of Castro's weakening grip and his desire to divert attention from Cuba's internal problems.

Main Themes

1. The President has made it clear: the answer to Cuba's internal problems are economic and political reform and Castro will not be allowed to export Cuba's problems to the United States. Undocumented migrants from Cuba will not be allowed to enter the United States.
2. Castro's safety valve of encouraging Cubans to risk their lives at sea is despicable and unacceptable. The U.S. will do everything within its power to ensure that Cuban lives are saved and that people stop risking their lives. Several people have already died and several are still unaccounted for as some rafts are found empty.

Secondary Themes

1. The best hope for democracy in Cuba is for the Cuban people to stop risking their lives and to stay in Cuba and work toward a democratic future.
2. Cubans who desire to reach the United States should not risk their lives at sea but rather take advantage of the legal immigration available through the US Interest Section in Havana.
3. There has been no change to the economic embargo placed on Cuba. The President's actions to stop remittances and reduce charter flights are increasing pressure.

For Press Interviews: Call Tara at 456-7291 w/questions.

Messages for 26 August:

1. IS THE POLICY WORKING: Since the President's announcement over 11,000 migrants headed for US shores have been picked up from sea by the Coast Guard and Navy and on their way to or already at Guantanamo. The Coast Guard and Navy have enough resources to deal with the flow of migrants in a safe and orderly fashion. With Navy support the Coast Guard will soon begin diverting cutters back to other routine missions.

2. WHY ARE FLOWS STILL SO HIGH: We anticipated it would take time for Cubans to fully understand, through our message and more importantly our actions, they would not reach the US by setting out in rafts. Cubans in Guantanamo have already said on news reports that if they'd fully understood where they would end up they would not have risked their lives.

3. BUT WILL CUBANS ULTIMATELY BE ALLOWED ENTRY TO THE US: No they will not. The pictures speak for themselves. We are expanding the capacity at Guantanamo and finalizing plans for safe havens in other countries. We are acting quickly to back up our words.

4. WON'T CUBANS DETAINED IN THE US BE RELEASED INTO THE COMMUNITY: The Cubans will be accorded their rights under US law. We have no plans to release them and that is why they are still in detention. They have the opportunity to apply for asylum.

5. ARE WE NEGOTIATING WITH CASTRO TO CUT A DEAL: No we are not. Since *being* established by President Reagan in 1984 there have been continuing talks with Cuba regarding migration issues, these may be the talks some people are misinterpreting as negotiations.

6. ARE WE GOING TO REPATRIATE CUBANS: We are not planning nor discussing forcibly returning Cubans to Cuba. It has always been US policy that if a Cuban comes to America and then decides he or she wants to return, we would allow them to return. There has been no change to that policy.

To Discuss on Call:

Cubans taken to Texas (method of transport).

Cuba

Text of Remarks

**Cuban Independence Day
Presidential Remarks to the People of Cuba**

**Cuban American National Foundation
May 20th Anniversary**

I am pleased to join my colleagues Senator Bob Graham, Governor Lawton Chiles and the other members of Congress that are participating in this historic commemoration of Cuba's Independence Day. I congratulate the Cuban American National Foundation and its Chairman, Jorge Mas Canosa, for your commitment to the cause of a free and democratic Cuba. Thirteen years ago, you faced long odds in bringing this cause before an apathetic -- and in many cases, unsupportive world community.

I share your passionate desire for Cuba to join the community of democratic nations in our hemisphere. The Cuban American National Foundation has played an important role in keeping the cause of a free Cuba before the American people. You have rightfully made use of your democratic freedom in the United States to advance the cause of freedom in your native Cuba.

To the Cuban American community in the United States, and to the Cuban American National Foundation, I thank you for helping us all to remember the suffering of the people of Cuba. You have never forgotten the tragedy of your native land. I am entirely confident your work and sacrifice will soon achieve the ultimate goal: Cuba will be free. Thank you and may God bless you.

The centerpiece of my Administration's foreign policy toward Latin America and the Caribbean has been a commitment to democracy, human rights and accountable government. A welcome tide of democratic government has swept throughout the hemisphere. The will of the people is being expressed through democratic elections and the strengthening of rule of law.

Only two countries in the hemisphere remain outside of this democratic community of nations -- Cuba and Haiti -- and we are working hard for the restoration of the freely and fairly elected constitutional government of President Aristide. Cuba's time has come.

We wish for the people of Cuba what we wish for all the people of the Americas: freedom of the press and speech, protection from arbitrary arrest and respect for due process and the rule of law. We wish for the people of Cuba what we strive for ourselves: prosperity, an environment where our basic needs are met and where our children can grow and develop spiritually and in safety. We wish, on this historic anniversary, for a prosperous, vibrant, flourishing democracy that frees the creativeness of the people of Cuba.

Let me be clear: we maintain the trade embargo against the Castro regime because the United States does not want to do anything that could strengthen the dictatorship. At the same time, the Cuban Democracy Act encourages humanitarian assistance and the free flow of communications and ideas that can help to alleviate the suffering and the isolation of the Cuban people. It is for this reason that I will continue to support Radio and TV Marti, knowing that they are an important window to the world.

The United States has no quarrel with the Cuban people. There is a long history of mutual cooperation and admiration between our two peoples. Only the Castro dictatorship stands between our two nations. The United States will continue to encourage the dream of a free, and democratic Cuba. As Jose Marti, hero of Cuba and of the Americas said, "We love liberty, because in it we see the truth." The whole world has now seen the truth of the failure of the Castro dictatorship. I pray that very soon, the Cuban people will enjoy the freedoms, rights and privileges that they deserve as human beings and that democracy so vigorously guarantees.

Summit

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON A FREE CUBA

Mr. Stephen Albee
Suite 105
4500 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33238
Phone (305) 573-9440

✓ Mr. Teo A. Babun *Venture Capital*
Suite 208 *Shipping*
13815 S.W. 67th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33158
Phone (305) 372-0014

Mr. Paul L. Cejas
3rd Floor
7950 NW 53rd Street
Miami, Florida 33166
Phone (305) 470-1950

✓ Mr. Bruce J. Colan
~~35th Floor, Suite 3600~~ *701 Brickell Ave*
~~100 SE 2nd Street~~ *Suite 3000*
Miami, Florida 33131
Phone (305) ~~577-4105~~ *789-7774*

Mr. Francisco J. De Varona
Region I Office
733 East 57th Street
Hialeah, Florida 33013
Phone (305) 687-6565

✓ Ms. Maria *B.* Dominguez
Apartment #C1705
~~1541 Brickell Avenue~~
Miami, Florida 33129
Phone (305) ~~576-0000~~ *628-6737*

Mr. Ralph E. Fernandez
109 South Moody Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33609
Phone (813) 251-5991

Mr. Julio Gonzalez-Rebull
5090 NW 7th Street, # 590
Miami, Florida 33126
Phone (305) 446-9234

Mr. Joaquin G. Avino
Suite 2910
111 N.W. 1st Street
Miami, Florida 33128
Phone (305) 375-1032

✓ Dra. Moravia Capo
Apartment # 106
925 N.W. 37th Street
Miami, Florida 33125
Phone (305) 649-0302 *223-4004*

Dr. Manuel R. Cereijo *643-4477*
9605 S.W. 19th Street
Miami, Florida 33165
Phone (305) 348-3710

Mr. Jose J. Collado
3021 Southwest 102 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33010
Phone (305) 884-9905

Mr. Norman Diaz
2301 Collins Avenue
Miami Beach, FL 33139
Phone (305) 532-3131

Ms. Gisella Elgarresta
8325 Grand Canal Drive
Miami, FL 33144
Phone (305) 579-3336

Dr. Denio O. Fonseca
Suite 201
2000 SW 27th Avenue
Miami, FL 33139
Phone (305) 466-6331

Commissioner Wilfredo Gort
2660 NW 14th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33142
Phone (305) 372-8000

July 5, 1994

Dr. Guillermo J. Grenier
14991 SW 112 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33196
Phone (305) 348-2242

Mr. Luis J. Lauredo
Suite 206
1775 NW 70th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33126
Phone (305) 592-6974

Mr. J. C. Lorenzo
901 Ponce De Leon Boulevard
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Phone (305) 520-3050

Ms. Mercedes F. McCall
1601 So. Orange Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32806
Phone (407) 894-4327

Mr. Erelío F. Pena
5821 SW 17th Street
Miami, Florida 33155
Phone (305) 264-8688

Mr. Carlos M. Perez
3232 Coral Way
Miami, Florida 33145
Phone (305) 441-1651

Mr. Luis Sabines
1417 West Flagler
Miami, Florida 33135
Phone (305) 642-3870

Ms. Maria Elena Torano
4th Floor
✓ 1000 Brickell Avenue
Miami, Florida 33131
Phone (305) 579-2180

Mr. Luis Andres Vargas-Gomez
836 Paradiso Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33146
Phone (305) 350-7877

Ms. Georgina Q. Hartmann
2701 Le Jeune Road # 330
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Phone (305) 442-6926

Ms. Aida Levitan
Suite 504
1800 SW 27th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33149
Phone (305) 442-1586

Mr. John Macho
Suite 330
2701 LeJeune Road
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Phone (305) 442-6921

Mr. Cesar H. Odio
3500 Pan American Drive
Miami, Florida 33133
Phone (305) 579-6366

Ms. Lucy Pereda
1435 Mercado
Miami, Florida 33146
Phone (305) 633-3204

Dr. Manolo J. Reyes
3663 South Miami Avenue
Miami, Florida 33129
Phone (305) 285-2121

Ms. Belen S. Saborido
8253 SW 40 Street
Miami, Florida 33155
Phone (305) 554-0066

Mr. H. James Towey
1317 Winewood Blvd.
Building E, Rm 222
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Phone (904) 488-9410

✓ Mr. Jorge S. Villalba
8933 Grand Canal Drive
Miami, Florida 33174
Phone (305) 663-2032

Bobby Bernal - State of Florida HRS

JOE PENA 305-237-3713
Coordinador South Florida Office

July 5, 1994

Highwestbank

(305)

668-0444

305

374-4143

Cuba
File

MEMORANDUM TO: ALEXIS HERMAN
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

FROM: SUZANNA VALDEZ
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

SUBJECT: INS TALKS IN NY / GUANTANAMO CAMP

DATE: SEPTEMBER 7, 1994

I. INS TALKS

The current INS bilateral talks have created a lot of speculation and rumors in south Florida. Regardless of their outcome, we should immediately devise a plan of action to inform our friends in south Florida and the Cuban-American media. This is an opportunity to reiterate to the Cuban American community that the President stands by his commitment of not re-negotiating the lifting of the embargo until there are free and fair elections in Cuba.

I suggest that we prepare a media campaign with only ten community leaders in south Florida who have supported us thus far. Once we receive information from the State Department on the outcome of the talks, we will prepare a list of talking points, from our perspective, and contact our supporters in south Florida. They will then be prepared to participate in local radio, television and newspaper interviews with accurate information from the administration. If immigration talks result in substantive immigration agreements, then this campaign will be imperative to clarify the community's concerns. In either case, the key to handling the situation will be to disseminate accurate and extensive information in an expedient manner.

II. Guantanamo Camp

As of today, we have received a dozen calls from community leaders in South Florida alleging that there are rumors that the human rights of the detainees in Guantanamo are being violated. We have heard rumors such as sick children not receiving medical care, sexual assaults, etc. When the callers are pressed for names, they have stated that it's only gossip and cannot provide details. The handling of detainees in the Guantanamo camp is going to play a key role in reducing the amount of misinformation that is being circulated. By now, the south Florida community is informed that Cubans in the Guantanamo camp will be detained indefinitely. The issue at hand is now focused on the quality of life in the camps.

Although the Cuban American community would prefer to have the detainees resettled with their families, they have been supportive of the President's policies. The community will continue to be supportive as long as the detainees are not deported back to Cuba, and as long as the detainees live under tolerable circumstances.

We will continue to receive requests from Congress, media and the Cuban American community

to visit the camps. We must ensure that the living conditions are acceptable by American standards. (Note: It is extremely important that every step we take to improve the living conditions for Cubans be done for Haitians as well. The Congressional Black Caucus, the African-American community and the media have emphasized this concern.)

The Community Relations Service is the agency under the Department of Justice that is responsible for the handling of detention camps for Cubans and Haitians. They are currently monitoring and handling the hotline for family information as well as dealing with the media and public relations in south Florida and Guantanamo.

Last week, Joe Velasquez made a recommendation to establish a community-based task force to monitor the living conditions at Guantanamo. I would like to expand on this idea.

I see two possible options :

1. The CRS sub-contracts with a well established civic/social services organization in south Florida to oversee the camps. This agency should not be a voluntary agency (VOLAG) that is normally involved in the resettlement of refugees. This could be misconstrued as the beginnings of the resettlement effort which we have so vehemently denied. I suggest if this is the option that we choose, that we contact Doctor Guarione Diaz, Executive Director of the Cuban American National Council. This organization is a well respected civic/educational organization, well-equipped to handle these types of efforts. They have in the past administered and run half-way houses for Cuban detainees throughout the United States.
2. The idea of a community task force has very strong possibilities. I suggest that we name a task force of civic leaders in south Florida that will consist of no more than eight people. This group would serve for a period of three months, to be extended if necessary. They would serve as an advisory board to the Executive Director, who would be hired and supervised by the Director of CRS.

The Executive Director would operate out of Guantanamo and act as the Social Services director, i.e., direct liaison and oversee all of the needs of the alien population. The director would fly to south Florida on a weekly basis and report directly to the task force on the living conditions and special needs of the population. The task force would then prepare a list of recommendations for the Attorney General to be shared with the President. This task force will be named by the Attorney General.

It is important that those named to this task force be recognized and responsible in south Florida for their civic involvement and contribution and not for their political profile. This would lend credibility to the social and humanitarian role they would play as part of the task force. Their role should be defined to oversee only the living conditions and social needs of the detainees, not to be confused with advocacy efforts on behalf of resettlement and changes in policy.

III. Communications

We are presently granting access to the Guantanamo camp based only on a first-come, first-serve basis. The administration should ensure that in every visit, well-balanced views are represented. This is necessary to give the American public the best opportunity for an objective account of the activities in the camps. This effort to balance the visits should also apply to members of Congress, the media and civic and social groups. To avoid misinformation, we must have a well-coordinated media strategy that takes care of our major

It is important to note that Cuban radio stations in south Florida have a fervent following, with the understanding that Cuban opinion in south Florida is formed primarily by what is reported on the radio. Due to lack of access, these radio stations are currently reporting inaccurate information. An example of this occurred last week when a Cuban American journalist who has been blatantly against the Administration, went to Guantanamo and taped over a dozen detainees who sounded desperate and highly emotional. Radio stations in south Florida have played these interviews repeatedly on the radio over the weekend. If more accurate information had been available, a more balanced report would have been given.

There should be a daily communications meeting headed by Calvin Mitchell at the NSC that would include top level media staff from DOJ, INS, CRS, State, DOD and USIA to coordinate the daily spin and message to project a well coordinated effort on behalf of the administration. Additionally, CRS would give a daily update on campsite activities.

IV. Civic Outreach

We have received highly favorable comments on the Administration's initial visit to Miami, followed by Rick Nuccio's (State Department) weekly visits. The Cuban American community appreciates our efforts in seeking their participation. This support has led to an expansion of our outreach in south Florida. Within two weeks, I would like to bring to D.C. a group of 25 top civic leaders from the Cuban American community, working in conjunction with the office of Governor Chiles. This meeting will reinforce our outreach efforts and will include an in-depth briefing with officials from State, Treasury, USIA, DOD, NSC. If there are major changes in policy to be announced, we urge a brief meeting with the President before such announcement.

cc: Steve Hilton

Cuba

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

August 28, 1994

TO: Charles Stack, Esquire

FR: Dr. Manolo Reyes

RE: Cuban Crisis

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
INITIALS: JAN DATE: 6/15/17
206 - 0920 - F

CHRONOLOGY

The Cuban exodus started in January of 1959. There existed normal flights between the United States and Cuba up until the Missile Crisis of October 1962 when the flights were cut off and Cuba was left practically isolated. From 1962 to 1965 Cubans were not able to leave the island. At that time the pressure cooker was building up steam because of the inability of the people to leave the island. On September 28, 1965 Fidel Castro, in a public speech, said that Cubans who wanted to leave could do so and opened the port of Camarioca in Matanzas province so the Cuban Americans in Miami could go and pick up their relatives. During one month, October, 1965, the Coast Guard vessels picked up approximately 5,000 Cubans in the Florida straits. Then President Lyndon B. Johnson called for an orderly exodus. Negotiations were established with Havana and the so-called Freedom Flights were established on December 1, 1965. The flights were conducted twice a day Monday through Friday, and brought approximately 1,000 Cubans per week into exile. The steam was let out of the pressure cooker.

The Freedom Flights lasted up until the Spring of 1973 when Fidel Castro decided to cut off the flights. Since 1973 up until 1980 the pressure cooker again started to build up steam. The climax came in one day when over 10,000 Cubans asked for political asylum in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana. To diffuse the pressure cooker, Castro opened the Mariel Bay initiating the Mariel exodus. This brought 125,000 Cubans into Miami in a period of one month.

From 1980 to 1994 the pressure cooker again started building up steam. The climax came when groups of Cubans asked for political asylum in three different embassies in Havana. This situation brought about a civil disturbance on August 5 for the first time during Castro's regime. We are now facing the same strategy Castro always uses to let out the steam that has been building up. Castro is the provocator of this situation and through an "emotional blackmail" wants to dictate the immigration policy of the United States and get the commercial embargo lifted so he can claim victory over the United States.

SUGGESTIONS TO DISCOURAGE THE EXODUS

1. A strong appeal should be made by well-known Cuban-American personalities through Radio Marti and TV Marti. These personalities have to present a united front and the appeal could start with a joint visit to the President of the United States in the Rose Garden. The appeal will be based in telling the Cubans on the island not to launch themselves into the dangerous waters of the Florida straits. It is estimated that only one Cuban out of four makes it a successful journey.
2. The radio stations in Miami should be used for the same purpose. Radio is a very strong medium among the Cuban people. These radio stations are: Radio Mambi, WQBA, WCMQ, WRHC, and Radio Fe.
3. With the same purpose, to use the Voice of America (USIA) to be beamed directly into Cuba.
4. The first-ever direct television broadcast into Cuba from the United States was in the 1950s when a World Series game was transmitted. A plane was positioned between Key West and Havana acting as a relay station into CMQ TV in the Cuban capital. This same procedure can be used to broadcast urgent appeals to the Cuban people to stop the exodus by sea.
5. The idea of placing US vessels 12 miles from the Cuban coast seems to be a good one. This will discourage the exodus by sea. This has to be widely announced through the media to the Cuban people to avoid a blame put on the US in case any Cubans get lost at sea. This is a good measure although I do not think it will stop the exodus.
6. The voluntary option of having Cubans make the decision of going back into Cuba from the Guantanamo Naval Base could maybe bring the possibility of some Cubans going back. This has to be on a voluntary basis and the US has to be given assurance that these people will not be persecuted by Cuban authorities and by civilian brigades of the Castro regime. I also do not believe that this measure will discourage the mass exodus.

CUBAN EXILE COMPLAINTS

The Cubans resent that in their search for freedom, they have been treated as detainees and concentrated them into Texas and GITMO. On October 3, 1965 President Johnson signed into law an immigration bill for Cubans in front of the Statue of Liberty. In his closing speech he extended an official invitation to the Cuban people to come to the United States as political refugees. The complaint now is that this invitation has been cancelled. Nine United States Presidents have been dealing with Castro since 1959, however, President Clinton remains in the mind of many Cubans as the one who will liberate Cubans from Fidel Castro. This is why the Cubans are asking for an aerial and naval blockade like the one imposed on Haiti.

In the comparison, Haiti has had, for the last five years a military dictatorship. Cuba has had it for 35 years.

The Haitian exodus started less than five years ago. The Cuban exodus was initiated in 1959--35 years ago--with thousands of Cubans losing their lives in the Florida straits, killed by the elements or by the bullets of the Castro gunboats.

CONCLUSION

Fidel Castro, through emotional blackmail, wants to force the United States to sit at the negotiating table to lift the embargo. In return, he will stop the mini-Mariel.

The lifting of the so-called embargo is just a symbolic victory for Castro because he is actually trading with Mexico, Colombia, Canada, Spain, and many other nations. However, in the conversations between lower level officials of the US and Cuba, the US should not give in to the lifting of the embargo. This will send a strong message from the United States to the world that democracy has to be restored in Cuba.

Be aware that Castro will also try to negotiate the Guantanamo Naval Base--the United States should not give in to this tactic.

The most the United States can do is to restore an orderly exodus with the resuming of the Freedom Flights between Havana and Miami--one flight per day. If Castro opposes these flights, Castro will again look bad in the eyes of the world. One flight per day will not release steam from the pressure cooker.

Buy into
(Absolute)
-No Embargo
-No Talk
Sht. Guo

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
INITIALS: JAM DATE: 6/15/18
2016-0920-F
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Cuba
Summit

MEMORANDUM TO JOAN BAGGETT AND ALEXIS HERMAN

FROM: RETA LEWIS
SUZANNA VALDEZ (unsigned)

RE: POLITICAL AND PUBLIC OUTREACH -- SOUTH FLORIDA

DATE: AUGUST 25, 1994

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

There is a great lack of information and communication between the Administration and the Cuban American community. This is generating confusion and unhealthy speculation about what the next steps will be. Radio talk shows are filled with rumors that a complete naval blockade will be set up in a matter of weeks and a government in exile will be established in Guantanamo Naval Base. Additionally, the humanitarian issues are very central to the stability in the detention center and for the emotional stability of the Cuban-American South Florida residents.

In addition, the community believes that we are going to begin talks/negotiations with Castro. Community leaders believe that at some level within the State Department talks have occurred. POLITICAL RED FLAG!!! If we precede with any talks -- even if centered on the migration issue only, this will be a political disaster for Chiles and for the POTUS in the state of Florida. The POTUS will never be trusted in that state again. We will in effect have broken a major campaign promise.

The Administration's actions would have been better received had the community been consulted, primed and prepared for them. Due to the nature of the situation as it unfolded there was very little advance work done to insure a positive reception by a larger/broader group of the more important elected and community opinion-makers.

The Administration representatives sent to Florida yesterday, helped tremendously towards dispelling rumors and opened deeper lines of communication with a broader group of community leaders and opinion-makers. I am convinced that given the results of yesterday, if we had been able to prime the community, the Administrations' position would have been overwhelmingly endorsed.

WHAT ARE OUR NEXT STEPS?

* We should continue to work with and keep the Governor and Lt. Gov. and their staff as our lead in Florida regarding how the Administration is implementing the Cuba initiatives. (We must remember it is their political future that is at stake in November). Currently, the Governor is looking very strong on this issue. This crisis has in effect pushed the political campaign on the back burner. The Republicans have not been able to get much air space.

* We need more messengers spreading the positive words. The Public and Political Affairs staff will recommend a very broad bipartisan array of individuals that we will stay in touch with regularly. These individuals will be selected from representatives of the Governor's Free Cuba Commission, the elected leadership, Miami's civic organizations, President Clinton Democrats and from representatives of Cuban-American civic groups.

We believe this communication should be channeled through the public and political affairs department and must be included as a part of a well thought out plan of action for the hispanic, civic and political community in South Florida.

* If any representatives of the Administration continue to go to Miami to brief/consult key constituent groups -- it should be coordinated out of the political and public affairs department. A media representative should be included in that group.

* We should in the next two-three weeks invite to Washington a representative group of leaders from the people we briefed yesterday. This briefing should be conducted by Cabinet level officials and conclude with a meeting with the POTUS.

* Since the balance of political power is shifting in the Florida Cuban-American community -- the Administration should take this opportunity to empower our democratic supporters and then to forge a closer bi-partisan leadership group.

It was interesting to learn first hand the history of the Cuban-American community, its leadership and its perceived relationship to the Washington power structure. We must not forget that there has been a close ideological and political alignment of the Cuban-American community with the Republican party. The former Republican Administrations were able to identify that alignment and to take maximum advantage of it early. NOTE: Republican Gubernatorial candidate Jeb Bush was a major player in that reality.

page 3

Prior to the POTUS, there has been a void of a major democratic Presidential player that has identified with the needs and truly understands the concerns of the Cuban-American community. President Clinton has the potential to fill that void. The President speaks their language. His philosophy towards Cuba is exactly in tune with that community. What this Administration needs to do is to ensure that the Cabinet and senior officials continue to tow only the President's line. (NOTE: NO NEGOTIATIONS WITH CASTRO AND THAT THE EMBARGO WILL NOT BE LIFTED).

* Within the next two months, the VPOTUS and the POTUS are planning campaign stops in Florida -- we must begin to take a look at how they will respond to the community during those visits. Additionally, several Cabinet Secretaries have scheduled campaign visits to Florida. We should capitalize on this opportunity to do some additional community outreach.

* The Cuban-American community is responding very positively to the face of Under Secretary of State, Peter Tarnoff. In conversations today, people think he is political, close to the POTUS, passionate and believable.

* We should remember to always assess our policy not only from the Cuban-American perspectives, but also how it is being viewed by the overall community and particularly by the African-American community. The briefings yesterday, because it included all segments of the Florida community, was appreciated and complimented.

* We must remember that the Summit of the Americas is only three months away.

⊗ NO CODEL

cc: Eric Schwartz (points to be included in a draft memorandum to POTUS)

Mont Halperin

Colden Mitchell

Crone - case by case basis (release)

MEMORANDUM**VIA FAX**

DATE: August 26, 1994

TO: Joe Geller - Chair, Dade County Democratic Party

FROM: Luis Lauredo *LL*

RE: CUBA TASK FORCE

I am in receipt of today's press release announcing the creation of the Cuba Task Force by the Dade County Democratic Party. I know this is a result of the Party's Monday night meeting, in which I had the opportunity to address over 75 Cuban-American Democrats to explain the President's Cuba policies and soliciting these activists' support for President Clinton.

I see from the press release that the Cuba Task Force is seeking to arrange a series of meetings with congressional delegations and administrative officials in Washington D.C. While I think this is an important endeavor, at present it is much more urgent for us to channel our energies into being more vocally supportive of President Clinton in the Spanish media, particularly in the Cuban radio.

As I highlighted in my presentation, President Clinton's policies/measures towards Cuba are the most anti-Castro since President Kennedy's, including those of Republican Presidents Nixon, Reagan and Bush. Therefore, we have a very good message to deliver and we need to get all Cuban-American Democrats working to reverse the disinformation campaign which is being carried by the Cuban media.

Regards.

LL/en

bcc: Reta Lewis
Suzanna Valdez
Joe Velasquez

Post-It* Fax Note	7671	Date	8/26/94	# of pages	1
To	JOE VELASQUEZ		From	L. LAUREDO	
Co./Dept.			Co.		
Phone #			Phone #	305/529-7241	
Fax #	202/456-7929		Fax #		

ANNOUNCEMENT (FOR GTMO AND PANAMA)

The U.S. is announcing today a series of measures of interest to Cubans in safehavens at Guantanamo and in Panama.

As you are aware, Cubans with medical emergencies that cannot be adequately treated at Guantanamo have been brought into the United States. We will continue to bring medical emergencies to the US. as necessary.

As you also know, an initial group of 17 Cuban migrants who requested voluntary return was flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana on October 7, 1994. The US Interests Section in Havana (USINT) is working with Cuban authorities to arrange the return of other Cubans who have chosen to go home. Those of you who wish to remain in safehavens can do so. If you wish to return, you should make this known, and arrangements will be made.

Pursuant to the September 9 agreement with Cuba, we are expanding legal migration opportunities for Cubans. A minimum of 20,000 Cubans will be allowed to migrate legally to the U.S. each year through a variety of programs. Cubans currently in safehavens may be eligible for these programs but they must return home to participate in them:

1. VISA PROCESSING

If you have close relatives in the US -- parent, spouse, adult son or daughter - who are either US citizens or permanent legal residents, you may be eligible for an immigrant visa immediately or in the future. If you have a sibling in the US who is a US citizen, you also may be eligible for an immigrant visa in the future. However, your relative must file a petition (I-130) for you. Encourage your relatives to do so.

2. REFUGEE PROCESSING

The US operates an in-country refugee program through the USINT in Havana and has substantially increased the number of Cuban refugees authorized to be admitted this year. Refugee status in the US may be granted to persons who have a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. While originally limited to former political prisoners, application criteria have been expanded significantly. The program now gives interview priority to Cubans who are (1) former political prisoners; (2) members of persecuted religious minorities; (3) human rights activists; (4) forced labor conscripts during the period 1965-1968; (5) persons deprived of their professional credentials or subjected to other disproportionately harsh or

discriminatory treatment resulting from their perceived or actual political or religious beliefs; and (6) others who appear to have a credible claim that they will face persecution as defined in the United Nations Refugee Convention. The US will be reviewing pending and previously denied refugee cases to identify individuals qualifying under the expanded criteria. Persons who believe they might qualify for the refugee program should address a letter to USINT and turn it over to camp authorities who will forward it to Havana.

3. PAROLE OF ADDITIONAL FAMILY OF REFUGEES AND VISA BENEFICIARIES

As a special measure, Cubans who are issued immigrant visas or granted refugee status may be allowed to bring additional family members with them to the US. If you are an unmarried adult son or daughter of, or are a relative residing in the same household and part of the same economic unit as, someone who is issued an immigrant visa or qualifies as a refugee, you may be paroled into the US.

4. IMMIGRANT VISA WAITING LIST

You also may be eligible for public interest parole if you were on the USG's immigrant visa waiting list as of September 9, 1994, and you otherwise would not have been able to receive an immigrant visa by September 30, 1995. If you believe that a relative has filed a petition for you and that you might be on this list, you should contact a USG representative.

5. LOTTERY

Finally, the USG will operate a lottery that will substantially broaden avenues of legal migration for all Cubans, including those without direct family ties to the U.S. The U.S. will be looking for people who have a strong desire to migrate and who can quickly become self-sufficient. All Cubans selected under the lottery will be able to bring their spouse and unmarried minor children to the U.S. Details of the program will be available by November 1st.

6. PROCEDURES AND TIMETABLE

All Cubans in safehavens will be fully informed about these programs. Cubans eligible for migration benefits will be screened for medical, criminal, and public charge requirements of US immigration law as applicable.

USINT in Havana is already in the process of identifying potential candidates for the various programs from existing

Also, as a one-time, extraordinary measure, public interest parole will be offered to preference visa petition beneficiaries on the immigrant visa waiting list as of September 9, 1994, and who would not have been eligible to receive an immigrant visa by the end of Fiscal Year 1995 (September 30, 1995). Individuals on this list will be contacted by USINT in Havana.

Finally, the U.S. government will operate a lottery that will substantially broaden avenues of legal migration for all Cubans, including those without direct family ties to the U.S. Candidates selected through the lottery will be allowed to bring their spouses and minor children with them to the U.S. This process is designed to benefit Cubans with a strong desire to migrate and who can become self-sufficient. Details of the lottery will be announced in Cuba and the U.S. by November 1.

The U.S. will devote sufficient personnel and other resources to conduct all refugee, immigrant visa, and parole processing on an accelerated basis. The Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of State will each have in place additional officers at USINT on or about October 17; additional local staff already has been hired. A State Department team will arrive in Havana on October 17 to identify new facilities to accommodate the expanded processing.

All Cubans eligible for migration benefits will be screened for medical, criminal, and public charge requirements under U.S. immigration law as applicable.

These programs will be available to Cubans in Cuba proper. All Cubans in safehavens will be fully informed about the programs; in order to participate in them, they must return home. USINT and the State Department will continue to work with the Cuban government to facilitate the travel of all Cubans under U.S. government protection who wish to go home; no one will be compelled or encouraged to return. Appropriate steps will be taken to ensure that no Cuban wishing to return is disadvantaged in any of these programs if unable to do so in a timely fashion. On October 7, a group of 17 Cubans who requested voluntary return were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana.

With regard to Cubans in Guantanamo and Panama, significant efforts are under way to upgrade the facilities and to improve quality of life. We are making substantial progress in hygiene and nutrition, in upgrading the basic infrastructure, and in the delivery of medical, communications, and recreational services. Mail and newspaper delivery soon will be available. A fact sheet concerning improvements at Guantanamo and demographics of the camp population follows.

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

[74 pages]

Newsweek

Affirmative Action
Playing the Gender Card

THE NEW SCIENCE OF THE BRAIN

Why
Men and
Women
Think
Differently

