

FOIA MARKER

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Series/Staff Member: Suzanna Valdez

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 5948

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Folder Title:

Cuba 1994 [Folder 1] [2]

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. note	re: Cuban rafter [Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (1 page)	11/15/1994	b(6)
002. note	re: [Personally Identifiable Information] (1 page)	00/00/0000	b(6)
003. memo	Dennis Hays to Alexander Watson re: Memorandum of Conversation on Cuba (4 pages)	11/17/1994	P1/b(1)

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RESTRICTION CODES

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- 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]
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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

FROM THE DESK OF

Guarione M. Diaz

November 15, 1994

TO: Richard Nuccio

Please find below the original ⁺translation of a
note handed to me by Mr. Obregon, the balsero
who sent the binoculars to President Clinton.



Post-it™ Fax Note	7671	Date	11/15/94	# of pages	3
To	Richard Nuccio	From	Guarione M. Diaz		
Co./Dept.	State Dept.	Co.	CNC		
Phone #	(202) 647-7024	Phone #	(305) 642-3484		
Fax #	(202) 647-0791	Fax #	(305) 642-7463		

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NAME OF RAFTER WHO SENT BINOCULARS TO PRESIDENT CLINTON

HUMBERTO OBREGON RODRIGUEZ

[001]

I.D. No. (b)(6)

CAMP TANGO

This present is on behalf of thirty (30) "Rafters" living in Guantanamo U.S.A. military Base, and also in the name of those lost at sea.

This old binoculars are part of an old family tradition. They were very useful to us as we crossed the straights of Florida, and also through them I can see the freedom that all Cubans dream of.

(Signed)

A 28-year old young man that has never known freedom.

GMD/j1a/34/#20

Clinton Presidential Records

Foreign Language Marker

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Document Title re: Cuban rafter

Language: Spanish

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CHARLES B. RANGEL18th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
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15

✓

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December 2, 1994

Hon. William Clinton
 The White House
 Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

The upcoming Summit of the Americas promises to be an important step in the promotion of your goal of achieving economic growth and prosperity throughout the region. However, I understand that the conference as currently organized will pass up this rare opportunity to discuss the economic and political reintegration of Cuba, without which your ideal cannot be fully realized.

With a population of 11 million people, Cuba is the largest potential market in the Caribbean. Because of its failed political system, it also represents the most urgent and disruptive foreign policy issue faced by the region. I share your goal of democracy and free enterprise in Cuba, and believe it would be advanced by addressing the issue in the company of our hemispheric allies.

Because of its current dire economic condition, Cuba is more receptive now than at any time since its revolution to economic and political incentives for change. Financial difficulties have forced the government to allow limited free enterprise in the agricultural and small business sectors and to legalize the use of the dollar. Dozens of foreign companies have been invited to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in joint ventures. While still resisting pressures for political reforms, the government recently welcomed a long-awaited visit by the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Hon. William Clinton
December 2, 1994
Page 2

As you know, most of the countries participating in the Summit enjoy friendly relations with Cuba--including trade--in the conviction that promotion of economic, political and cultural ties is the best way to encourage democratic and economic reforms. For similar political reasons, but also out of eagerness to exploit economic openings on the island, many of our European and Asian allies are dealing with Cuba as well, following the lead of Canada, Mexico and Spain, Cuba's largest foreign investors.

In the U.S. a growing number of influential business and religious leaders, former high-ranking State Department officials, as well as moderate Cuban American figures are appealing for a change in U.S. policy. Leading Members of Congress from both sides of the aisles have argued that contact rather than confrontation will promote change while mitigating the risk to regional stability and our own national interests.

Last summer's exodus of more than 30,000 Cuban rafters was the most recent example of the danger posed by maintaining our 34-year-old embargo policy. Castro's heartless exploitation of his people's suffering by unleashing a flood of asylum seekers has resulted in the U.S., once again, being made out as the villain. Once again last month, the embargo was overwhelmingly condemned by the U.N. And our detention of more than 20,000 Cubans--coincident with an anti-immigrant mood in the country--posed a moral and political dilemma.

Castro quickly blamed the U.S. embargo for last summer's exodus, instead of the failure of Cuba's communist economic system. I am joined by many others in the belief that by flooding Cuba with American visitors, food, medicine, and ideals we would not only put an end to the scapegoating but speed up the process of democratic and economic reforms. A similar policy of engagement, which was successful in taming the former Soviet Union, has been adopted by your administration in China and North Vietnam.

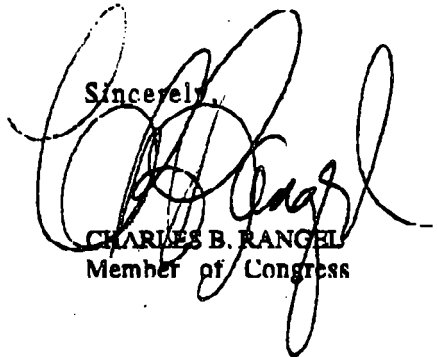
I applaud your decision to negotiate with the Cuban government to resolve the immigration crisis. But the continued--and legally questionable--detention of thousands of Cubans on Guantanamo and in Panama, proves that limiting the scope of the talks did nothing to resolve the longer-term problem.

Hon. William Clinton
December 2, 1994
Page 3

Mr. President, you have earned an important place in history by brokering the peace between Arafat and Rabin. In Cuba, you can play an even more central role. But unless our governments are willing to put everything on the table, there is nothing on the horizon to prevent future refugee crises or an explosion inside Cuba

I share your interest in this matter, and am greatly concerned about its potential for domestic political damage if allowed to fester. At your invitation, I am planning to attend the Summit, and would be willing to assist in any way possible your efforts to address this issue.

Sincerely,



CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

CBR/em

CC: Hon. Thomas F. McLarty
Hon. Leon Panetta
Hon. Alexander Watson
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facsimile

TRANSMITTAL

to: Suzanna A. Valdez
fax #: 202-456-6218
re: Guantanamo
date: December 12, 1994
pages: page(s) total, including this cover sheet

Attached is copy of Dr. Cabada Rubirosa's memorandum of November 27, 1994. We know him for many years, and trust his advise. We are enclosing a copy of his resume, a former U.S. army major, who was ask to assist the Contras, he is very sensitive to political issues and the media. He has promised to give us a copy of this week's visit. He feels that there is a potential for the manipulation of the mentally ill, to stage a tragic act. His criticism are of constructive nature, he repeated several time that the cooperation he has received was excellent.

Regards

Jorge

From the desk of...

Jorge L. Bolanos
President, CEO
Nova Home Health Corp.,
5870 SW 8th, St. Suite 7
Miami, Florida 33144

305-261-2600
Fax: 305-262-0080

facsimile

TRANSMITTAL

to: Suzanna A. Valdez
fax #: 202-456-6218
re: Guantanamo
date: December 15, 1994
pages: page(s) total, including this cover sheet

Attached are copies of the latest reports from Dr. Cabada Rubirosa and Dr Alzugaray. Both doctors have highly praised the efforts being made at the base by the military, their basic concern is related to the rapid psychological deterioration of the population, and the potential for a tragic explosion.

Regards

From the desk of...

Jorge L. Bolanos
President, CEO
Nova Home Health Corp..
5870 SW 8th. St. Suite 7
Miami, Florida 33144

305-261-2600
Fax: 305-262-0080



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December 11, 1994

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To: Dr. Manuel Alzugaray, M.D.
President, Miami Medical Team.

From: Dr. Heriberto Cabada-Rovirosa
Director Psychiatry Services,
Miami Medical Team.

Subject: Report on Psychiatric Conditions
of Cuban Refugees at GTMO Naval
Base during trip of Dec. 9, 10 &
11, 1994.

The following situations and concerns were identified on this trip:

1-) Psychological Condition of Children- This problem remains a critical area of concern, the children's psychological well being continues to be severely traumatized by the overall experience, their inability to comprehend the situation and process it adequately remains a growing problem. There seems to be an escalating evidence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder within the children population particularly noted by their frequent manifestation of their traumatic experiences suffered both in the trip and by their confinement in the base. Malnourishment in the children population as a consequence of their unwillingness to eat was evident in many children that were seen, even though plenty of food was available to them, many have lost their willingness to eat, many would seem to be "slow motion suicides".

- Recommendations:
- a-) Remove the children and their families from GTMO and into CONUS as soon as possible-this is being implemented as expeditiously as possible and the US Medical Military authorities have been very sensitive to this.
 - b-) Encourage process groups in the schools-in order to allow the children to verbalize their frustrations and comprehend the current situation of confinement.
 - c-) Create and develop a children's Mental Health Service, this is very important to address the psychological needs of the children until they are transferred to CONUS.
 - d-) Prioritize the children with the worst psychological and health conditions for earlier removal-this is already being done and a classification system was developed.

2-) Psychological Condition of the Adult Population in the base - The situation of hopelessness seems to be taking a considerable emotional toll in the psychological well being of the adults in the camps, many actively suicidal patients are noted to remain free at large within the camps, in spite of the fact that a close observation plan



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90-95% of actively suicidal patients remain under the care of their friends and relatives. It was noted that 2 patients who were seriously ill during our last trip which needed hospitalization and air evacuation were again released to camp, and one of them had reattempted suicide for the 3rd. time while in GTMO. A Crisis Unit is being built at present but we remain grossly understaffed to render the minimal level of Psychiatric care needed by the refugee population in the base.

Recommendations:

- a-) Remove the sicker psychiatric population to places in CONUS where adequate care can be rendered to them and where their presence would not be disruptive to the camp population nor would they be consuming so much time from the Mental Health Professionals in GTMO, which are already severely understaffed.
- b-) Expedite the creation of a long term Psychiatric care facility to treat chronic patients if their removal to the CONUS is not being contemplated at present or in the immediate future in order to treat them with a minimum of safety.
- c-) Appropriate staffing of Licensed Spanish Speaking Personnel - I estimate that in order to adequately serve the psychiatric need of the population in GTMO the following levels of staffing are recommended:
 - Psychiatrists - Five to seven spanish-speaking and culturally attuned Psychiatrists should be working full time in order to service the following areas: outpatient clinics, crisis unit, long term care facility.
 - Psychiatric Nurses - Seven to eight full time psychiatric nurses, some of these need to be licensed nurses (US Civilian/Military) and others can be identified from the Cuban Refugee sources.
 - Psychologists - Seven to eight licensed Psychologists in order to provide clinical services to the refugees and supervise the therapy work of the Cuban Refugee Psychologists.
 - Social Workers - Optimally a group of 15 - 20 should be employed in order to provide Psychological evaluations of the population, render counseling services and coordinate the management of Mental Health Services in the camps and the hospitals. I understand that some of them are already in the base from the various agencies.



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3-) Suicide Potential in the Camp Population - This remains a serious consideration, particularly in children, already various suicide attempts have been identified by us and the Pediatricians in the children population; I do fear it's just a matter of time before we encounter the first successful children suicides and when this happens the psychological impact in the camp population and the Medical Personnel will be devastating. In the adult population while we have encountered many suicide gestures, some manipulative gestures, the suicide potential seems to be escalating and frequent bona fide suicide attempts are taking place in the camp.
Recommendations: Already referred in the general issues.

4-) Mentally Retarded Patients - There are various cases of both children and adults mentally retarded cases in the general population; particularly the adults can be subjected to abusive behaviors by their peers, they are frequently the object of ridicule and abuse by their peers.
Recommendations: Identify the mentally retarded population and ensure protective measures are implemented to keep them in a secure atmosphere.

5-) Fatigue of the Cuban Refugee Psychiatrists and Psychologists - There is a marked level of fatigue and burn out amongst them, these professionals are seeing large amount of patients during the daytime, are subjected to very emotionally draining situations all day long; at nights when they return to their camps they are constantly being visited by depressed and anxious people requesting counseling from them. In essence they have no rest, at times they feel that they are working 24hrs/day with no mental rest!
Recommendation: Structure regularly scheduled rest activities for them and try to place them in a living area that is more comfortable and where they can be sequestered from the patients during their off hours. I fear if we do not accomplish this, the quality of their judgement will continue to deteriorate further and jeopardize the very nature of the work they do. As I write this report I have already seen signs of burn out, irritability and affected judgement on their part.

6-) Availability of Psychiatric Medicines - This is a very critical area, because no mechanism currently exists that identifies and keeps stock levels of frequently used antidepressants, antipsychotics, anxiolytics and mood stabilizers. While we have provided some of these medicines from our stock and supplies, the amount of psychiatric medicines needed is enormous; for example on this trip the most widely available antidepressant was Zilavil which is very lethal in cases of suicide attempts by overdose, not to mention its cardiotoxic potential secondary to the severe



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Recommendation: Develop a list of the four most frequently used antidepressants, antipsychotics, anxiolytics and mood stabilizers.

7-) Monitoring Medication Levels - Various medications used as mood stabilizers in psychiatry require monitoring of their blood levels this is particularly true of: 1. Lithium, 2. Tegretol and 3. Depakote. - Currently these medications are being utilized at sub-therapeutic dosages and basically with no monitoring of blood levels, kidney function or liver functions.

Recommendations: Patients with severe mood disorders requiring monitoring of potentially toxic blood levels should be monitored closely if these levels cannot be obtained in GTMO then a consideration for transfer to CONUS should be undertaken if we are to treat these patients appropriately.

8-) US Medical Personnel - I want to commend the high degree of professionalism and kindness of the US Medical Personnel at every level that I witnessed. Their level of dedication, professionalism and kindness goes far above of what could be reasonably expected and well beyond the call of duty.

Summary:

It's hard to appropriately summarize the current mental condition of the Cuban Refugees in GTMO but I fear that there is a Pressure Cooker Phenomenon that will soon reach the point of explosion.

The people are becoming progressively more frustrated with the existing conditions, many do not care anymore what happens, parents who have children progressively losing weight not because of lack of food, but for lack of willingness to continue living deprived of freedom; this constitutes a very volatile condition that is likely to explode at any moment. If the precipitant (God forbids that this occurs) happens, to be the death of a child the degree of sentiment and indignation would become the detonant for an explosion, the proportion of which I fear to even think of! It would probably result in the deaths of hundreds of the refugees in the camps in order to reestablish control. Understanding the psychological make up of the Cuban Refugees is of paramount importance to the proper handling of this situation.

Respectfully yours,

J. Cabada

Dr. Heriberto Cabada-Rovirosa
Director Psychiatric Services,
Miami Medical Team



HEALTH AND FREEDOM
Non-Profit Organization

Miami Medical Team Foundation

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December 12, 1994

REPORT OF VISIT OF THE MIAMI MEDICAL TEAM TO GUANTANAMO DECEMBER 8-11.

Captain (Dr.) Jerry Rose
Guantanamo Naval Base

Dear Dr. Rose:

This is a preliminary report of our visit, which took place between December 8 and 11, 1994.

On Thursday, December 8, Dr. Olga Ferrer, Ophthalmologist, Horace Sklar, Optometrist and Dr. Armando Zaldivar, Cardiologist, accompanied by Echocardiogram technician, Javier Andriel, arrived with an Echocardiogram machine. Said apparatus was loaned to our team by Dr. Armando Zaldivar. An eye refractory machine was also taken on this trip, loaned by Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami. They remained at the base until Saturday, December 10, performing tests.

The second team arrived on Friday, as usual, remaining at the base until Sunday, December 11. This team was composed of Internists, Pediatricians, Neurologists, Psychiatrists, Ophthalmologists and General and Orthopedic Surgeons. Altogether, they treated 503 patients in their different specialties. By this time, the Miami Medical Team, in just three visits to the base, has seen over 1,200 patients, and we have an overview of the health conditions of these people.

It is very important to move all the children out of the base, because they are affected by all types of pathologies, and worst of all, psychological imbalance, sometimes driving them to consider suicide. The children's situation is a serious one, and should be addressed for full evacuation, and be brought to their families in the States, and into normal living conditions.

There are hundreds of cases with severe respiratory, cardiovascular, nephrological, gastrointestinal, ophthalmological and neurological problems, which will turn into complications from the original disease from which they suffer.

On the Miami Medical Team visit of December 2, 3 and 4, a pulmonary specialist was requested, and we invited Dr. Manuel Hernandez to partake in evaluating the situation. The results of his evaluation are dramatic, for there are a great number of patients with upper respiratory conditions. The asthmatic (of all ages) are suffering severely because of the environment they are surrounded by.



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The Miami Medical Team offered, and has obtained several compressors and aerosol machines with medications in order to establish a pulmonary department at A.T.H. 6, and probably a second unit for A.T.H. 59. Said department will be placed under the supervision of the hospital administration, or staffed by the Cuban anesthesiologists. On this week's report, which we have just received, no mention was made of the respiratory program.

We have also located more than 10 amputees who lost their artificial limbs in the trip. Our group has offered to bring in a prosthetist, who will make the molds of these patients' stumps and deliver the prosthesis within four to six weeks.

The orthopedics and neurologists examining the refugees have found many dozens of patients suffering from low back pain, disc herniations in the cervical and lumbosacral spine, and many other orthopedic conditions, which can be treated with some physical therapy.

In the area of A.T.H. 59 there is a Cuban physiatrist who is trying to run a physical therapy unit with very little equipment. There is a need for a physical therapy unit in which all these patients can be treated and alleviated, because physical therapy is a must in these cases. The only treatment these people are receiving is oral anti-inflammatory medications for pain. There is sufficient personnel in the rafters medical group to work in the physical therapy department. The Miami Medical Team can supply several pieces of equipment to start undertaking this task.

There have been problems with the appointments of the patients to be seen. There have been occasions in which Haitian patients have not been seen because our consultants have not been notified until the end of the working day. We would like to arrange for the patient appointment list to be faxed to my office, so that copies can be distributed to the consultants who will arrive at the base. We do not want to start a problem between the Haitian and Cuban refugees, but do want to smooth out the general conditions at the base.

Comments: The Miami Medical Team believes that the situation of the children is an emergent one, and that they need to be evacuated, but cannot also neglect the cardiac, asthmatic and ulcer patients, as well as those with orthopedic and rehabilitation problems. We think that we can focus on the most needy fields, such as pediatrics, neurology, and psychiatry, and with a minimum input of other specialists help in the care of all the other different medical conditions.

Very truly yours,

Manuel A. Alzugaray
Manuel A. Alzugaray, M.D.

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: November 30, 1994
TO: Mack McLarty
FROM: Luis Laureda *LL*
RE: REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON

Following is the translation of a letter addressed to me by the Organizing Committee of the March for the Liberty of Cuba, in which they formally request a meeting with President Clinton during the Summit.

I am prepared to discuss this with you at your convenience.

Regards.

LL/en

Attachment

cc: Rick Jasculca
Suzanna Valdez

Summit of the Americas 1994

175 NW First Avenue, Suite 2600 • Miami, Florida 33128-1843 • Phone (305) 372-1894 • Fax (305) 372-1993

(No Date)

Mr. Luis Lauredo
President of the Organizing Committee
of the Summit of the Presidents

Dear Fellow Countryman:

The Organizing Committee of the March for the Liberty of Cuba, during a meeting that took place several days ago, agreed to contact you, as the president of the Organizing Committee of the Summit of the Presidents, to request, through you, a meeting with President Bill Clinton, with the objective of delivering the message of the exiled Cuban community to the heads of state who will be participating in this historic event.

We are appealing to you taking into account that, in past meetings, held in conjunction with the Organizing Committee of the March, you have offered the services that your high hierarchy allows and the fact that we all know that you share with all of us the sacred desire of seeing our Motherland free. Awaiting your positive reply.

Respectfully yours,

(SIGNATURE)

Dr. Andrés Vargas Gómez

(SIGNATURE)

Dr. José Miró

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003. memo	Dennis Hays to Alexander Watson re: Memorandum of Conversation on Cuba (4 pages)	11/17/1994	P1/b(1)

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OCTOBER 10, 1994

MEMORANDUM TO:

**MORT HALPERIN
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

**ALEXIS HERMAN
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON**

FROM:

SUZANNA VALDEZ

RE:

CUBAN COMMUNITY

The issue of the Cuban Constituency in the United States and their relationship with our administration (or lack thereof) is a challenging and complex one. Although I basically agree with the concerns and recommendations of the Miami Core Group (memo of September 16th), we must undertake a broader long term strategy to deal with this very strong and politically active constituency. In spite of the fact that the majority of the Cuban American community resides in South Florida (It includes about 200,000 very active registered voters- this figure includes children born of Cuban parents but not identified in election rosters as Cubans), there are pockets of Cubans in California, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, and Texas (see attached chart). These constituents must also be included in any long term strategy when addressing the issue of Cuba.

THE CUBAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Cuban Americans are a fairly monolithic community regardless of geographic location. They seem to be concerned mostly about three issues: U.S. Foreign Policy towards Cuba, U.S immigration policies towards Cuba, and the economy. Although there is a very small but growing group that support the lifting of the embargo and the normalization of US/Cuban relations, this group has only a small following made up of academics and business people without a well designed or politically active constituency.

In addressing their concerns on the following three issues, I will start with easiest:

(1) The Economy--This is the Administration's biggest source of pride yet we have failed to capitalize on this within the Cuban community of the United States. I have set out to identify a list of twenty five non-political business and economic leaders within each of these Cuban communities. These names will be added to our mailing list of economic issues for on going communication. Once these names have been identified, I would like to send a letter to each person explaining our accomplishments and the positive economic forecast. This list will be forwarded to the Commerce Department as well as to the Office of the Trade Representative.

These business leaders will be invited to participate in the Summit of the Americas (December 9th--11th) and will be included in every activity at the White House that relates to the economy.

(2) United States/Cuba Immigration Policy--Although we have no raw data to substantiate this claim, our sources insist that the majority of Cuban Americans approve of the way the President handled the potential influx of illegal aliens. Despite a feeling of uneasiness about change of policy of the Cuban Adjustment Act, they were generally pleased that another massive influx of Cubans was averted.

It is difficult to explain to the Cuban community (INS and Justice have not been very clear on this) that the Cuban Adjustment Act was not rescinded and that the interdiction policy was an emergency measure taken by the President during a crisis. In addition, during the New York talks, there was an enormous lack of information. The Office of Public Liaison was not able to brief the community ahead of time in order to minimize speculations and rumors.

This could have been perceived as an outstanding victory for the President but was turned into a tornado of rumors and misinformation that has negatively affected relations with the Cuban American communities. I have proposed in the past, and continue to believe that we should invite to Washington a group of opinion makers (non-political) from all the Cuban American communities for a day of briefings. This should be well coordinated with our office to cover all the issues and concerns that are important to the President. There has been a significant number of contacts with community leaders and officials at INS, Justice and State. Information has resulted in rumors, speculations, and the beliefs that A) We are negotiating with Cuba behind the scenes, B) The administration is lying to the community, and C) Different departments are acting independent of each other without guidance from the White House.

A briefing could be used to explain the Administration's Cuba/INS policy and increase support for the President. I will address the issue of detention camps later in this memo.

The Cuban American community is convinced that despite initial tough sanctions during the influx crisis "demanded" by Jorge Mas Canosa, the President and his advisors at NSC and State have plans to allow Castro to get away with cosmetic changes to justify the normalization of relations and the lifting of the embargo.

I believe that we must immediately unveil a well articulated policy towards Cuba. This is extremely important because it will affect everything else we try to do with the Cuban American community. In order to make this acceptable to the Cuban American community, the following issues must be included and appropriately highlighted:

1. Our foreign policy statement should include a pledge that the Administration will undertake an effort to mobilize international support against human rights abuses in Cuba.

We could name a special non-partisan group (that could include Ambassador Jeanne Kirkpatrick, Ambassador Armando Valladares, Paul Cejas, and Colin Powell) to visit foreign governments, and accurately expose them to the reality of the Human Rights situation in Cuba (most important Spain, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, and Colombia--due to their increasing economic support of Cuba).

2. Lay the groundwork for tougher sanctions if Castro continues to threaten U.S. National Security by encouraging and organizing illegal entries of Cubans into the U.S.

3. Encourage and support those who favor a democratic transition in Cuba, including dissidents and exile groups (Poland's Solidarity, for example, surged as a powerful opposition force due to the massive help it received from the U.S. private citizens).

4. Pledge significant U.S. aid and trade to accelerate the establishment of a multi-party, free market democracy based on the rule of law and validated by free elections under international supervision.

5. Continue to verbalize our support for the office of Cuba Broadcasting and intensify within our authority and budget constraints, broadcasts to Cuba and any other channels of communication available to us.

These recommendations are being sent to the President by a group called "Citizens for a Free Cuba" headed by the former President of Costa Rica Luis Alberto Monjes and Elliot Abrams. These recommendations are very popular within the Cuban American community.

Once our foreign policy has been articulated and clarified to the Cuban American community we will continue to keep the community informed to harness support of the President's efforts. They were very pleased with the President's stand on Cuba during the campaign and subsequent actions including the press address to the people of Cuba via T.V. on May 20. This support, however, has been drastically eroded by misunderstandings of our handling of the recent crisis.

ROLE OF THE CORE GROUP IN FLORIDA

The core group is composed of eight early supporters.

Alfie Fanjul, Paul Cejas, Jorge Perez, Maria Elena Toraño, Simon Ferro, Jorge Bolaños, Willie Braceras and Herminio San Roman. From the outset, there was dissent within the group and with White House staffers. Mr. Fanjul, Mr. Cejas and Mrs. Toraño were supporters of expanding the core group and letting Jorge Mas Canosa and the Cuban American National Foundation play a more visible role within the new administration. The rest of the group was concerned about diluting their power and contacts. They wanted the Cuban American National Foundation to play a slowly calibrated role which would benefit the President more at election time.

The White House staff tried early in July, 1993 to bring the core group together (Craig Smith, Joe Velasquez, Rita Lewis, Joan Baggett and I organized the first meeting) but the effort ended up in an unproductive session. Although we have tried on several occasions to heal the gap, it has been to no avail. As a result, however, of the recent missteps taken in addressing the Cuban exodus crisis, the group has regained their initial vigor and has been working closer together for the last few weeks.

We should not waste this opportunity. We should name one person (Public Liaison) to be their point of contact. A major part of their original frustration was the lack of a coordinated effort between the community and the White House. They perceived this as a lack of respect and a lack of acknowledgement for the importance of their role.

cc: Mike Longoria
Steve Hilton

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1994

STATEMENT BY DAVID JOHNSON, ACTING SPOKESMAN

CUBAN MIGRATION TALKS

The United States and Cuba have reached an agreement that will allow a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate legally to the U.S. every year. This agreement will make migration to the United States possible for many Cubans previously not eligible to migrate and speed the departure of those currently on the U.S. immigrant visa waiting list to enter the United States.

Information on how to apply for migration to the United States under this agreement will be announced shortly. This information will be distributed widely both in Cuba and in the United States.

Please do not contact the Department of State, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, or the United States Interests Section in Havana about migrating under this agreement. An announcement on how to apply will be made as soon as possible.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(New Orleans, LA)

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1994

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The United States and Cuba have reached agreement in the migration talks in New York. This agreement requires the Government of Cuba to take effective measures to prevent unsafe departure of Cuban citizens. In addition, the Cuban government agreed that arrangements for those Cubans who have recently left and wish to return can be made through diplomatic channels.

The United States has agreed to admit at least 20,000 Cubans from Cuba per year under existing authorities. Additionally, the U.S. estimates that approximately 6,000 Cubans currently on the visa waiting list will be admitted into the U.S.

The President, who directed that these talks on migration issues take place, is pleased at their outcome. "This agreement, when carried out, will help insure that the massive flow of dangerous and illegal migration will be replaced by a safer, legal and more orderly process," the President said.

#

Joint Communiqué

Representatives of the United States of America and the Republic of Cuba today concluded talks concerning their mutual interest in normalizing migration procedures and agreed to take measures to ensure that migration between the two countries is safe, legal, and orderly.

Safety of Life at Sea

The United States and the Republic of Cuba recognize their common interest in preventing unsafe departures from Cuba which risk loss of human life. The United States underscored its recent decisions to discourage unsafe voyages. Pursuant to those decisions, migrants rescued at sea attempting to enter the United States will not be permitted to enter the United States, but instead will be taken to safe haven facilities outside the United States. Further, the United States has discontinued its practice of granting parole to all Cuban migrants who reach U.S. territory in irregular ways. The Republic of Cuba will take effective measures in every way it possibly can to prevent unsafe departures using mainly persuasive methods.

Alien Smuggling

The United States and the Republic of Cuba reaffirm their support for the recently adopted United Nations General Assembly resolution on alien smuggling. They pledged their cooperation to take prompt and effective action to prevent the transport of persons to the United States illegally. The two governments will take effective measures in every way they possibly can to oppose and prevent the use of violence by any persons seeking to reach, or who arrive in, the United States from Cuba by forcible diversions of aircraft and vessels.

Legal Migration

The United States and the Republic of Cuba are committed to directing Cuban migration into safe, legal and orderly channels consistent with strict implementation of the 1984 joint communiqué. Accordingly, the United States will continue to issue, in conformity with United States law, immediate relative and preference immigrant visas to Cuban nationals who apply at the U.S. Interests Section and are eligible to immigrate to the United States. The United States also commits, through other provisions of United States law, to authorize and facilitate additional lawful migration to the United States from Cuba. The United States ensures that total legal migration to the United States from Cuba will be a minimum of 20,000 Cubans each year, not including immediate relatives of United States citizens. As an additional, extraordinary measure, the United States will facilitate in a one year period the issuance of documentation to permit the migration to the United States of those qualified Cuban nationals in Cuba currently on the immigrant visa waiting

- 2 -

list. To that end, both parties will work together to facilitate the procedures necessary to implement this measure. The two governments agree to authorize the necessary personnel to allow their respective interests sections to implement the provisions of this communique effectively.

Voluntary Return

The United States and the Republic of Cuba agreed that the voluntary return of Cuban nationals who arrived in the United States or in safe havens outside the United States on or after August 19, 1994 will continue to be arranged through diplomatic channels.

Excludables

The United States and the Republic of Cuba agreed to continue to discuss the return of Cuban nationals excludable from the United States.

Review of Agreement

The representatives of the United States and the Republic of Cuba agree to meet no later than 45 days from today's announcement to review implementation of this Joint Communique. Future meetings will be scheduled by mutual agreement.

For the Government of
The United States of America:

For the Government of
the Republic of Cuba:

New York, September 9, 1994

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 14, 1994

Statement by the Press Secretary

The President today announced a series of immediate humanitarian steps relating to Cubans in safehavens in Guantanamo and Panama.

First, the Attorney General will parole into the United States chronically ill persons and their caregivers who cannot be adequately cared for in the camps.

Second, she will parole into the United States unaccompanied young children now in the safe havens.

Third, she will parole into the United States migrants over 70.

In each case, we will ensure that those paroled in have appropriate sponsors.

Fourth, the Administration will conduct a review of the status of all children in the camps.

Fifth, we have launched a major effort to persuade other countries to accept some of the Cuban migrants.

Sixth, although much remains to be done, significant improvements have been made in the camps including providing better food, inaugurating mail and telephone service, and improving sanitary conditions. Attached is a fact sheet showing the time table for improvements.

The administration shares the deep concern of the Cuban-American community for the well-being of all the Cubans in safehavens. The root cause of these problems is in Cuba. The administration is dedicated to pursuing policies which will lead to a rapid and peaceful movement to democracy in Cuba.

#

FACT SHEET

IMPROVEMENTS AT GUANTANAMO

There are five tiers of improvement categories:

- I. **Infrastructure/facilities**
- II. **Food/clothing/medicine**
- III. **Personal communications**
- IV. **Education/recreation**
- V. **Other/administrative**

INFRASTRUCTURE/FACILITIES

Water: Running water is now available in all Haitian and Cuban camps. Water has always been available for consumption, but construction of the last piping system for running water was completed on 9 October. Each migrant is provided safe drinking water and sufficient water for daily hygiene.

Tents: All migrants have shelter, but dust is still a problem in the Cuban camps. As some migrants leave, camp officials can close some camps and build hard stands for other tents going up. The Haitian camps are located on hard surfaces (runways) and dust is not as bad in this location. Many steps have been taken to reduce dust. One measure that has had some success is the spreading of a soil stabilizer, another measure has been to plant surrounding ground cover. These are temporary measures until all tents are hardened to include concrete or wooden flooring. Projected completion of the hardening project is 15 November.

Sanitation facilities: There is currently one latrine for every 30 migrants. Cleaning is now done once every three days; by October 24 cleaning will be done once every day. Plans are now being developed to have permanent latrine facilities. The construction of sewer piping systems is slowed by the small geographic area and by

limited treatment capacity. Follow-on plans include expanding existing treatment facilities.

Camp areas: Each camp has an area for recreation. Half-court basketball and volleyball courts are being constructed, projected completion 24 October. Additionally, baseball diamonds and soccer fields are being built for common use.

FOOD/CLOTHING/MEDICINE

Milk: A preliminary supply of milk has been provided along with specialized milk for babies with digestive problems (*Infamil* with Iron, *Similac*). Follow-on supplies will be provided and sustained.

Food: Every effort is being made to develop a varied menu. There are now enough food stocks to allow the announcement of 2-day menus. Two new kitchens have been built. Each migrant receives 2 hot meals and one MRE (Meal Ready to Eat) per day. Migrants take part in food preparation and as a result of greater food stocks the resulting menu has become more Cuban and Haitian friendly. Examples include the Haitian fare *Paella* and a Cuban recipe for *Arroz con Pollo* on Sundays.

Clothing: Thanks to the efforts of many government and non-government organizations each migrant has spare clothing and shoes and ball-type caps for those that need sun-protection during the day. Over 35,000 pairs of shoes were purchased for the migrants and all have been distributed.

Medicine: There have been no outbreaks/illnesses of any serious nature within the last month. Hygiene is improving daily and preventive care is being developed by camp doctors. There are estimates of up to 250 pregnant women in the camps. Pre-natal and post-natal facilities are being built to assist new and expectant mothers with the care and feeding of their children. Special milk/formula and other infant needs are being stocked.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mail: Limited postcard service has been available through the American Red Cross. A DoD/US Postal Service team traveled to Guantanamo last week to arrange regular letter service to begin in October. Initial service will include only

letter/post card mail. By early November details of package delivery will be announced.

Phones: 95 phone lines have been established solely for use by Cuban and Haitian migrants. All phones are operational.

EDUCATION/RECREATION

Educational facilities/supplies: Primary education is currently provided through the 6th grade level. Supplies for crayons, notebooks and school books in Spanish and Creole were provided with DoD funds.

Newspaper Deliveries: Daily newspaper delivery service should begin on 20 Oct.

Radio Service: There were over 1000 radios supplied to the migrants in September and more are being scheduled for delivery. Additionally, the radios are able to pick up *Radio Marti* during the evening hours and DoD has been producing additional broadcasts through a temporary station called *Radio Esperanza*.

Other Media: Camp leaders are also given the opportunity to produce their own print media for the camps.

Recreation: The Cubans have asked for basketball areas and 6 are now being constructed, expected completion is 20 October 94. Each camp will have a recreation tent by 12 Oct. Other facilities are being planned and constructed that include baseball diamonds and soccer fields, as previously mentioned. Special activities for children are also being implemented. Currently, there is a program to transport children and their parents or their caregivers to playground areas around the base. More playground facilities are being built within the family camps for greater access. Recreation tents are being stocked with supplies of games, cards, dominos and other related materials.

OTHER

Administrative: Mr. Guarione Diaz, a Cuban-American and President of the Cuban American National Council, was appointed Ombudsman to help assist in the U.S. Government's effort to improve camp conditions. He has been instrumental in coordinating relief activities and supplies from the Cuban-American population.

Camp Leadership for the Migrants: Each camp has selected a small group of camp leaders and representatives to voice their concerns over the conditions in the camps. The leaders' recommendations are followed as much as practical. Camp leaders hold regular meetings with migrants in their areas and during these forums give updates from governmental agencies.

Cigarettes: Small shipments of cigarettes have been arriving in Guantanamo during the last two weeks. Other priority items such as milk for babies, clothes, shoes and other food stocks were delivered first. The Administration is working with the Cuban-American community in Miami for a large donation of cigarettes which DOD will arrange to have transported and distributed in the camps.

Camp Visits: Guantanamo has been visited by the Archdiocese of Miami, scores of press, US government officials, non-governmental organizations, and many others in an effort to assist migrants. Information will be released in November about how private citizens can arrange visits to Guantanamo. The first priority is to get those assigned duty to help the migrants.

Donated Goods/Services: The US Government welcomes all donations of goods and services for the migrants in Guantanamo. The State Department has contracted the services of World Relief to accept and distribute donated goods to the migrants.

To Donate Goods, contact: Peggy Gilbert, World Relief, (914) 268-4135.

To Donate Services, contact: Mr. Guarione Diaz, Ombudsman for Cubans at the Camps, (305) 642-3484.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 14, 1994

Statement by the Press Secretary

The President today announced a series of immediate humanitarian steps relating to Cubans in safehavens in Guantanamo and Panama.

First, the Attorney General will parole into the United States chronically ill persons and their caregivers who cannot be adequately cared for in the camps.

Second, she will parole into the United States unaccompanied young children now in the safe havens.

Third, she will parole into the United States migrants over 70.

In each case, we will ensure that those paroled in have appropriate sponsors.

Fourth, the Administration will conduct a review of the status of all children in the camps.

Fifth, we have launched a major effort to persuade other countries to accept some of the Cuban migrants.

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ANNOUNCEMENT (FOR CUBA AND US)

The U.S. is announcing today steps being taken to implement the September 9 migration agreement with Cuba.

Pursuant to the agreement, the US will allow a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate legally to the US each year. This goal will be met through expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing and the use of the Attorney General's parole authority.

The U.S. will accelerate the immigrant visa issuance process at USINT, consistent with U.S. law. The accelerated scheduling of immigrant visa interviews has already begun. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will intensify outreach to the Cuban-American community to explain opportunities to bring family members from Cuba to the U.S. USINT will intensify its efforts to inform the Cuban public of possible immigration benefits through family members in the U.S.

The United States also will increase the number of refugee admission slots available to Cubans through the U.S. Interests Section (USINT) in Havana to at least 6,000 this year. While eligibility for the in-country program in Havana originally was limited to former political prisoners, application criteria have been expanded significantly. The US will review pending and previously denied refugee cases in order to identify those qualifying under the expanded criteria.

In addition, public interest parole may be offered immediately to unmarried sons and daughters of Cubans issued immigrant visas or granted refugee status, as well as to family members who reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit as these immigrants or refugees. USINT is in the process of informing those receiving immigrant visas and refugee travel documents of this program.

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 FY 95 (September 30, 1995). Individuals on this list will be contacted by the USINT in Havana.

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. 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 strong reasons to migrate and who can become

self-sufficient. Details of the lottery will be announced in Cuba and the U.S. by November 1st.

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 five 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. On October 7, a group of 17 Cubans who requested voluntary return were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana. 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.

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 and in the delivery of medical, communications, and recreational services. Mail and newspaper delivery soon will be available. The attached fact sheet describes in detail the steps we have taken and those we plan to take in the near future to improve conditions for Cubans under U.S. government protection.

Cuba Legal Migration Program
Qs and A's

I. LOTTERY

Q.: How does one apply for the lottery?

A.: All details of the lottery - how to apply, when to apply, etc. - will be well advertised in the US, Cuba proper, and the safehavens by November 1st. The lottery is designed to offer Cubans who might not qualify under previously existing programs an opportunity to come to the US. We will be looking for people who can be self-sufficient and have manifested an interest in coming to the US.

Q.: Will having family ties be a requirement for selection in the lottery?

No. Legal migration will be available to people with no direct family ties in the United States.

Q.: Will Cubans in safehavens be able to participate in the lottery?

Yes. Cubans in safehavens will have to return home to participate in the lottery, but we will make sure that they do not suffer any disadvantage if they cannot return in a timely fashion. We anticipate that many Cubans in safehavens will meet some of the criteria we are looking for.

II. Refugee Processing

Q.: Who is eligible to qualify for refugee status?

A.: 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.

Q.: In what way have the interview criteria been expanded?

A.: Eligibility for the in-country program in Havana originally was limited to former political prisoners. The program now gives 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.

Q.: If a Cuban already has applied for refugee status and did not qualify, can (s)he apply again?

A.: Any person denied refugee status can ask to have his or her case reconsidered on the basis of new information. A Cuban who was denied a refugee interview under the old criteria might be eligible under the new criteria. The USG will review pending and previously denied refugee cases to identify those qualifying under the expanded criteria.

Q.: What about Cubans in safehavens?

A.: If a Cuban chooses to return home and believes that (s)he qualifies for the refugee program, (s)he should contact USINT in Havana for a determination of eligibility. US government representatives in the safehavens will provide general information on the program.

Q.: What about Cubans in safehavens who fear persecution in Cuba if they return?

A.: Our policy is clear: Nobody will be forced or encouraged to return. Persons who fear persecution, like all other Cubans in safehavens, can remain in a safehaven if they so choose. Efforts are continuing to be made to improve quality of life in Guantanamo and Panama. We share the desire to find durable solutions for bona fide refugees in safehavens who fear returning home. For this reason, we also will be exploring with UNHCR alternatives for such people as the situation develops, including voluntary resettlement in third countries.

III. Parole of Additional Family of Refugees and Visa Beneficiaries.

Q.: What is new about the additional family parole?

Typically, immigrants are only allowed to bring in their spouse and minor unmarried children. Under this new program, we are extending the group of family members who can accompany a Cuban issued an immigrant visa or granted refugee status to include: (1) family members who reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit as the immigrant or refugee; (2) unmarried sons and daughters of the immigrant or refugee regardless of age or place of residence.

Q.: How will this program work?

Cubans to whom it is possible to issue immigrant visas in fiscal year 1995 are being informed by USINT of their new opportunity to bring additional family members with them. The USG will make other efforts to identify and contact possible beneficiaries of this program.

Q.: Can Cubans in safehavens benefit from this program?

Yes, if they choose to return home. Cubans in Guantanamo and Panama will be provided information about this program by US representatives. The USG will try to assist Cubans in safehavens with this program. If a Cuban in a safehaven believes he or she might be eligible under this program, (s)he should contact a USG representative.

IV. Immigrant Visas and Visa Waiting List

Q.: How does one get an immigrant visa?

A.: The U.S. is continuing to issue immigrant visas to qualified Cubans, and relatives in the US are encouraged to file visa petitions on behalf of their family members in Cuba. Visa petition forms (I-130's) are available by calling the INS toll-free number, 1-800-755-0777. They also can be picked up in the US Federal Building in Miami, located at 51 SW 1st Avenue, Room 630, or at any INS office in the United States.

Q.: What is being done with the backlog?

A.: USINT has received names and addresses of all those on the immigrant visa waiting list. Efforts have begun to notify Cubans who are eligible.

Q.: Can Cubans in safehavens benefit from this program?

Yes, if they choose to return home. Cubans in Guantanamo and Panama will be provided information about this program by US representatives. If a Cuban in a safehaven believes that a relative has filed a petition for him or her, and that (s)he might be on the waiting list, (s)he should contact a USG representative.

V. Voluntary Return

Q.: How many Cubans who requested to return have been able to do so?

A.: An initial group of 17 Cubans who chose to go home were returned on October 7. They were flown from Guantanamo to Havana. We are anticipating the return of Cubans who have made the request to proceed on a regular basis.

Q.: How many Cubans have requested to return?

A.: Several hundred

Q.: Will Cubans in safehavens be forced to return?

A.: No. They can remain in the safehavens indefinitely.

Q.: Is the US government encouraging Cubans to return?

A.: No. We have provided Cubans in safehavens full information about their options, including the possibility of going back home or of remaining in the safehavens.

Q.: How can we be sure that Cubans who choose to return will not be persecuted when they do?

A.: As part of the Cuba/US talks, we made clear that people who wish to return should not be subject to negative treatment. These migration talks will be ongoing, and will next be resumed at the end of the month. This is a subject that can and will be monitored.

Q.: If individuals are not cleared for return by the Cuban authorities, what will be their eligibility for migration to the US?

A.: We will do our very best to ensure that individuals who wish to return are able to go home. We also will ensure that all individuals who are eligible to migrate legally to the US will have an opportunity to do so.

VI. Parole (in general)

Q.: Will any conditions be placed on paroled Cubans? Will there be any time limit?

A.: No. They will be paroled into the US for a two-year period. After one year, they will be eligible to apply for permanent residence.

Q.: How many Cubans do you anticipate will be receiving parole?

We will be using a combination of our programs to reach the 20,000 figure in the agreement.

VII. Legal Authority

Q.: What legal authority does the Attorney General have to exercise her parole authority in this way?

A.: Under section 212(d) (5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the Attorney General is given the authority, at her discretion, to parole aliens into the US "for reasons deemed strictly in the public interest." Normalizing the immigration flow between Cuba and the US is "strictly in the public interest." The parole program is part of an overall effort to redirect an abnormal flow into a legal one.

Q.: Doesn't such a parole program intrude upon Congress' law-making authority?

A.: No. The purpose of the program is to facilitate a normalization of migration between the two countries. It is perfectly consistent with overall congressional goals to stem irregular migration and promote legal migration.

Q.: Isn't the parole program inconsistent with the 1980 Refugee Act which provides that the AG "may not parole into the US an alien who is a refugee . . . except in compelling, individual circumstances"?

A.: No. People admitted as refugees will not be paroled. The US has operated for a number of years - and will continue to operate - an in-country refugee program in Havana under which several thousand Cubans are admitted into the US each year.

Q.: Why isn't a similar program being established for Haitians?

Historically we have had a special migration relationship with Cuba. We did not regularly parole in and legalize virtually every Haitian who reached our shores. The Cuban Adjustment Act is unique to Cubans. Moreover, we expect conditions that have produced large irregular migration from Haiti to change with the restoration of democratic government.

VIII. Cubans at Krome and Port Isabel

Q.: What are the plans for Cubans in Florida and Texas?

A.: Cubans at Krome and Port Isabel have been placed in normal immigration proceedings.

Q. How many Cubans have been paroled in from Krome and Port Isabelle?

A.: Children and their caregivers have been paroled in.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(New Orleans, LA.)

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1994

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The United States and Cuba have reached agreement in the migration talks in New York. This agreement requires the Government of Cuba to take effective measures to prevent unsafe departure of Cuban citizens. In addition, the Cuban government agreed that arrangements for those Cubans who have recently left and wish to return can be made through diplomatic channels.

The United States has agreed to admit at least 20,000 Cubans from Cuba per year under existing authorities. Additionally, the U.S. estimates that approximately 6,000 Cubans currently on the visa waiting list will be admitted into the U.S.

The President, who directed that that these talks on migration issues take place, is pleased at their outcome. "This agreement, when carried out, will help insure that the massive flow of dangerous and illegal migration will be replaced by a safer, legal and more orderly process," the President said.

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DRAFTU.S.-Cuba Migration Agreement Implementation Plan

The U.S. announces today plans to fulfill its commitment under the September 9 migration agreement with Cuba to permit a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate to the U.S. each year. The United States Interest Section in Havana will immediately begin expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing; public interest parole will be considered for unmarried sons and daughters of immigrant visa principal applicants and for those economically dependent on immigrant visa principal applicants; a lottery will be conducted to select candidates in Cuba for public interest parole.

Additionally, as a one-time, extraordinary measure, those persons on the immigrant visa waiting list as of September 9, 1994 to whom it would not be possible to issue an immigrant visa by the end of FY 95 (September 30, 1995) will be eligible for public interest parole.

The lottery program, details of which will be available shortly, will substantially broaden avenues of immigration for those Cubans without direct family ties in the U.S. We envision a random selection process for Cubans resident in Cuba. Successful candidates will be entitled to bring their spouse and minor children with them to the U.S.

All candidates for parole selected through the lottery or as part of expanded immigrant visa processing must be found otherwise admissible under U.S. immigrant law. ✓✓

In order to speed implementation of this plan, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of State will each have in place five new officers at the United States Interest Section in Havana on or about October 17.

Expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing, and the lottery program, address the migration concerns of many Cubans including those for whom migration to the U.S. has not previously been possible. These initiatives enable us to meet our goal of making migration from Cuba to the U.S. "safe, orderly and legal".

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages 8

To: <u>Phyllis Coven</u>	From: <u>Sean Murphy</u>
Dept./Agency: <u>NS</u>	Phone #: <u>647-5561</u>
Fax #: <u>514 9077</u>	Fax #: _____

NSN 7540-01-317-7368 5099-101 GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Fax 633-3782

State + Justice:

Fr legal migration

3rd country resettler

Cubans repatriat,

medical parole

improve condition

DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT (FOR GTMO AND PANAMA)

The U.S. is announcing today a series of measures affecting 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 were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana on October 7, 1994. The USINT in Havana is working with Cuban authorities to arrange the return home of other Cubans who have chosen to be repatriated. Those of you who wish to remain in safehavens can do so. If you wish to return to Cuba you should make this known, and proper arrangements will be made.

We also are expanding our legal migration program pursuant to the September 9 agreement with Cuba. A minimum of 20,000 Cubans will be allowed to migrate legally to the U.S. each year. Cubans currently in safehavens are eligible for the various programs but they must return to Cuba to benefit from them:

If you have a parent, spouse or adult son or daughter who is a US citizen, you may be eligible immediately for an immigrant visa. If you have a brother or sister who is a US citizen or if you have a spouse or, if you are unmarried, a parent who is a lawful permanent resident of the US, you may be eligible to immigrate to the US in the future. You should encourage your relative to file a visa petition on your behalf immediately. Petition forms are available by mail from INS offices throughout the US.

Refugee status in the US is 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. The US has operated an in-country refugee processing program in Havana continuously since 1987. While originally limited to political prisoners, application criteria have been expanded significantly. The program now gives 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 review pending and previously denied

refugee cases in order to identify those qualifying under the expanded criteria.

If you choose to return to Cuba voluntarily and later find that you have reason to fear persecution, you should contact USINT in Havana for a determination of your eligibility for refugee processing. The United States has decided to increase the number of Cuban refugees it will admit this year to at least 6,000.

In addition, you may be eligible for public interest parole if you are an unmarried son or daughter of a Cuban who is issued an immigrant visa or who is granted refugee status. You also may be eligible for parole if you belong to the family of, reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit as someone who gets an immigrant visa or qualifies as a refugee. US government representatives will be available to counsel you as to your eligibility under these programs. *adult*

You also may be eligible for public interest parole if you were on the USG's immigrant waiting list as of September 9, 1994, and you otherwise would not have been able to receive an immigrant visa by September 30, 1995. You should contact a USG representative if you believe you qualify under this program. Officials will be available to counsel you as to your eligibility.

Finally, you may be paroled into the US if you are selected under the new lottery operated by the US government. The lottery will substantially broaden avenues of immigration for Cubans without direct family ties to the U.S., who have a strong desire to migrate, and who can quickly become self-sufficient. Selected candidates will be screened for medical, criminal, and public charge requirement of US immigration law. All Cubans offered parole under the lottery will be entitled to bring their spouse and minor children to the U.S. Application forms will be available in Guantanamo and Panama, and will be considered should you choose to return to Cuba. If your return is delayed through no fault of your own, you will not suffer any disadvantage in the lottery. Officials will be available to assist you with the lottery forms. Details of the program will be available in early November.

Candidates for these programs 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 parole under the various programs and for expanded refugee processing. USINT has received the names

and addresses of all those on the immigrant visa waiting list. Efforts will be made to notify you if you are eligible for parole and the expanded refugee processing, along with those who are on immigrant visa waiting list. All parole, refugee, and immigrant visa cases will be handled on an accelerated basis using new streamlined procedures.

In order to speed implementation of this plan, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of State will each have in place five new officers at the USINT in Havana on or about October 17. Additional local staff has already been hired as part of the implementation process. A State Department team will arrive in Havana on October 15 to begin identifying new facilities to accommodate the expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release

October 7, 1994

STATEMENT BY MICHAEL MCCURRY, SPOKESMAN

CUBA: FIRST VOLUNTARY RETURN OF CUBAN MIGRANTS
FROM GUANTANAMO TO CUBA

A first group of 17 Cuban migrants who requested voluntary return were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana this morning aboard an Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) plane.

Their return was arranged through diplomatic channels, as stipulated in the migration agreement concluded between the United States and the Republic of Cuba in New York on September 19.

Several hundred Cubans at Guantanamo have requested voluntary return to Cuba. The U.S. Interests Section in Havana is working with the Cuban authorities concerning the arrangements for their return home.

Tratado Inmigratorio Entre Estados Unidos Y Cuba

Los Estados Unidos está anunciando hoy los pasos que se llevarán a cabo para implementar el acuerdo migratorio con Cuba del 9 de septiembre.

Conforme con el acuerdo establecido, los Estados Unidos permitirá a un mínimo de 20,000 Cubanos a inmigrar legalmente cada año. Este objetivo se llevará a cabo por medio del aumento de visas de inmigrantes, categoría de refugiados y el uso de la autoridad de parole que tiene la Fiscal General.

Especialmente, los Estados Unidos continuará emitiendo visas de inmigrante a los Cubanos que esten calificados. Insistimos a los parientes en los Estados Unidos a que hagan sus peticiones lo mas pronto posible para reclamar a sus familiares en Cuba. Los formularios para reclamar a familiares estan a la desposición en todos las oficinas de Inmigración de los Estados Unidos y se pueden solicitar por correo.

Estados Unidos ademas continua operando el proceso de refugiados dentro de Cuba por medio de la Sección de Intereses de Estados Unidos y ha aumentado sustancialmente el numero de visas de refugiados autorizados para entrar en los Estados Unidos este año. Mientras que anteriormente el proceso de refugiados dentro de Cuba se limitaba solamente a ex-prisioneros políticos, ahora el criterio se ha extendido significativamente. Además, los casos pendientes y que se hayan negado anteriormente para identificar a aquellos que ahora califiquen bajo el criterio mas flexible.

Por otra parte, parole por interes público va a ser ofrecido inmediatamente a hijos; a solteros de Cubanos que sean otorgado visas de inmigrante y que se les otorgue categoría de refugiados; a sí mismo como a miembros de familia que residan en la misma residencia y forman parte del mismo nucleo económico que las personas que han sido otorgadas las visas de inmigrante o refugiados.

Ademas, como una medida extraordinaria de una sola vez, parole por el interes público va a ser ofrecido a beneficiarios de personas que ya están en lista de espera para visas de inmigrante hasta el 9 de septiembre de 1994 y que de otra forma no hubieran sido elegible para haber recibido visa de inmigrante para el año 95 (30 de septiembre, 1995). Las personas cuyos nombres aparezcan en esta lista, la Sección de Intereses en la Habana se pondrá en contacto con ellos.

Finalmente, el gobierno de los Estados Unidos va a efectuar un tipo de loteria que ampliará sustancialmente los métodos legales para inmigrar a los Estados Unidos de Cubanos que no tengan necesariamente familiares en los Estados Unidos.

A los candidatos que sean seleccionados por medio de esta lotería se les permitirá traer a sus esposos-a e hijos menores con ellos a los Estados Unidos. Este proceso ha sido diseñado para beneficiar a los Cubanos que tengan razones sustanciales para inmigrar a los Estados Unidos y que sean autosuficiente y no carga publica. Los detalles precisos de esta loteria, serán anunciados en la primera semana del mes entrante de Noviembre.

Todos estos programas estarán a la desposición de los Cubanos dentro de Cuba. Para poder tener derecho a participar en estos programas, los Cubanos en "safehaven" tendrían que regresar a Cuba voluntariamente. El gobierno de los Estados Unidos y sus oficiales estan disponibles para proveer cualquier tipo de información a cerca de estos programas. Todas las personas que sean elegible y que apliquen para estos programas, tendrán que ser procesados segun las leyes de los Estados Unidos. Esto requerirá un examen medico, investigacion de antepasado criminal o posibilidad de convertirse en carga pública en nuestro país.

Todas las peticiones para visas de parole, refugiado e inmigración serán aceleradas bajo el nuevo proceso simplificado. Para poder acelerar la implementacion de este plan, el Departamento de Inmigracion tanto como el Departamentp de Estado de los Estados Unidos en la Havana alrededor del 17 de octubre. Ademas, ya se ha contratado localmente a empleados adicionales para implementar el proceso.

Un equipo de empleados del Departamento de Estado llegaria a la Habana el 15 de octubre para empezar a identificar las instalaciones necesarias para acomodar a el equipo que va procesar la expansion de las visas.

En cuanto a los Cubanos que estan en "safehavens" en Guantanamo y Panama, importantes medidas se estan llevando acabo para mejorar las condiciones de vida y salubridad en los campamentos. El senor Guarione Dias que ha sido contratado como mediador del gobierno de los Estados Unidos en los campamentos esta implementando grandes mejoras en la higiene y nutricion y ademas en el servicio de atencion medica y medios de comunicaciones y servicios de recreacion. La entregades de correo y sus periodicos pronto estaran disponibles en los campamentos. El reporte adjunto detalles los pasos que ya se han tomado en este esfuerzo y se continuaran llevando a cabo.

Por otra parte, el primer grupo de 17 Cubanos que pidio regresar a Cuba voluntariamente, fue transportado desde la base naval de Guantanamo a la Havana el 7 de octubre de 1994. La seccion de intereses de los Estados Unidos en la Havana esta trabajando con las autoridades Cubanas para continiar tomando las medidas necesarias para asegurar el regreso de los Cubanos que quieran regresar a Cuba voluntariamente.

DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT (FOR CUBA AND US)

The U.S. is announcing today steps that are being taken to implement the September 9 migration agreement with Cuba.

Pursuant to the agreement, the US will allow a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate legally to the US each year. This goal will be met through expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing and the use of the Attorney General's parole authority.

Specifically, the U.S. will continue to issue immigrant visas to qualified Cubans. Parents, spouses, and unmarried sons and daughters of US citizens may be eligible immediately for immigrant visas. Spouses and unmarried sons and daughters of lawful permanent residents of the US, married sons and daughters and brothers and sisters of US citizens also may be eligible for future immigration. Qualifying relatives in the US are encouraged to file visa petitions on behalf of their family members in Cuba. Visa petition forms are available by mail from INS offices throughout the United States.

The United States also will continue to process refugees for resettlement through USINT in Havana. 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 eligibility for the in-country program in Havana originally was limited to political prisoners, application criteria have been expanded significantly. The program now gives 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 United States has increased the number of Cuban refugees it will admit this year to at least 6,000. The US also will review pending and previously denied refugee cases in order to identify those qualifying under the expanded criteria.

Moreover, public interest parole may be offered to unmarried sons and daughters of Cubans issued immigrant visas or granted refugee status, as well as to family members who reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit as immigrants or refugees.

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 FY 95 (September 30, 1995).

Finally, the USG will operate a new lottery that will substantially broaden avenues of legal migration for those Cubans who do not necessarily have direct family ties in 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 strong reasons to migrate and who can become self-sufficient. Precise details of the lottery will be announced in early November.

These programs will be available to Cubans in Cuba. In order to benefit from the programs, Cubans in safehavens must return to Cuba. Personnel from the Departments of State and Justice will be available to advise Cubans in safehavens as to their eligibility for immigrant, refugee and parole status and to assist them with the lottery forms. All applicants for these programs will be screened for medical, criminal, and public charge requirements of U.S. immigration law.

USINT is already in the process of identifying potential candidates for parole under the various programs and for expanded refugee processing. USINT has received the names and addresses of all those on the immigrant visa waiting list. Candidates for parole and expanded refugee processing, along with those Cubans on the waiting list, will be contacted directly by USINT. Cubans to whom it is possible to issue immigrant visas in FY 95 already are being informed by USINT of their new opportunity to bring their attached family with them to the United States. All parole, refugee, and immigrant visa cases will be handled on an accelerated basis using new streamlined procedures.

In order to speed implementation of this plan, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of State will each have in place five new officers at the USINT in Havana on or about October 17. Additional local staff has already been hired as part of the implementation process. A State Department team will arrive in Havana on October 15 to begin identifying new facilities to accommodate the expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing.

Also in fulfillment of the September 9 agreement, a first group of 17 Cuban migrants who requested voluntary return were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana on October 7, 1994. The USINT in Havana is working with Cuban authorities to arrange the return home of other Cubans who have chosen to be repatriated.

At the same time, significant efforts are under way to upgrade the facilities at the safehavens and to improve the migrants' quality of life. While more needs to be done, we have made substantial progress in the areas of food, hygiene, and medical services. Mail and newspaper delivery, phone services, and recreational activities soon will be available in the safehavens. The attached fact sheet describes in detail the steps we have taken and those we plan to take in the near future.

DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT (FOR GTMO AND PANAMA)

The U.S. is announcing today a series of measures affecting 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 were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana on October 7, 1994. The USINT in Havana is working with Cuban authorities to arrange the return home of other Cubans who have chosen to be repatriated. Those of you who wish to remain in safehavens can do so. If you wish to return to Cuba you should make this known, and proper arrangements will be made.

We also are expanding our legal migration program pursuant to the September 9 agreement with Cuba. A minimum of 20,000 Cubans will be allowed to migrate legally to the U.S. each year. Cubans currently in safehavens are eligible for the various programs but they must return to Cuba to benefit from them:

If you have a parent, spouse or adult son or daughter who is a US citizen, you may be eligible immediately for an immigrant visa. If you have a brother or sister who is a US citizen or if you have a spouse or, if you are unmarried, a parent who is a lawful permanent resident of the US, you may be eligible to immigrate to the US in the future. You should encourage your relative to file a visa petition on your behalf immediately. Petition forms are available by mail from INS offices throughout the US.

Refugee status in the US is 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. The US has operated an in-country refugee processing program in Havana continuously since 1987. While originally limited to political prisoners, application criteria have been expanded significantly. The program now gives 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 review pending and previously denied

refugee cases in order to identify those qualifying under the expanded criteria.

If you choose to return to Cuba voluntarily and later find that you have reason to fear persecution, you should contact USINT in Havana for a determination of your eligibility for refugee processing. The United States has decided to increase the number of Cuban refugees it will admit this year to at least 6,000.

In addition, you may be eligible for public interest parole if you are an unmarried son or daughter of a Cuban who is issued an immigrant visa or who is granted refugee status. You also may be eligible for parole if you belong to the family of, reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit as, someone who gets an immigrant visa or qualifies as a refugee. US government representatives will be available to counsel you as to your eligibility under these programs.

You also may be eligible for public interest parole if you were on the USG's immigrant waiting list as of September 9, 1994, and you otherwise would not have been able to receive an immigrant visa by September 30, 1995. You should contact a USG representative if you believe you qualify under this program. Officials will be available to counsel you as to your eligibility.

Finally, you may be paroled into the US if you are selected under the new lottery operated by the US government. The lottery will substantially broaden avenues of immigration for Cubans without direct family ties to the U.S., who have a strong desire to migrate, and who can quickly become self-sufficient. Selected candidates will be screened for medical, criminal, and public charge requirement of US immigration law. All Cubans offered parole under the lottery will be entitled to bring their spouse and minor children to the U.S. Application forms will be available in Guantanamo and Panama, and will be considered should you choose to return to Cuba. If your return is delayed through no fault of your own, you will not suffer any disadvantage in the lottery. Officials will be available to assist you with the lottery forms. Details of the program will be available in early November.

Candidates for these programs 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 parole under the various programs and for expanded refugee processing. USINT has received the names

and addresses of all those on the immigrant visa waiting list. Efforts will be made to notify you if you are eligible for parole and the expanded refugee processing, along with those who are on immigrant visa waiting list. All parole, refugee, and immigrant visa cases will be handled on an accelerated basis using new streamlined procedures.

In order to speed implementation of this plan, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of State will each have in place five new officers at the USINT in Havana on or about October 17. Additional local staff has already been hired as part of the implementation process. A State Department team will arrive in Havana on October 15 to begin identifying new facilities to accommodate the expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing.

Old version

DRAFTU.S.-Cuba Migration Agreement Implementation Plan

The U.S. announces today plans to fulfill its commitment under the September 9 migration agreement with Cuba to ~~permit~~ ^{issue} a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate to the U.S. each year. The United States Interest Section in Havana will immediately begin expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing; public interest parole will be considered for unmarried sons and daughters of immigrant visa principal applicants and for those economically dependent on immigrant visa principal applicants; a lottery will be conducted to select candidates in Cuba for public interest parole. ^{clarify}

Additionally, as a one-time, extraordinary measure, those persons on the immigrant visa waiting list as of September 9, 1994 to whom it would not be possible to issue an immigrant visa by the end of FY 95 (September 30, 1995) will be eligible for public interest parole. ^{clarify}

^{also} The lottery program, details of which will be available shortly, will substantially broaden avenues of immigration for those Cubans without direct family ties in the U.S. We envision a random selection process for Cubans resident in Cuba. Successful candidates will be entitled to bring their spouse and minor children with them to the U.S.

All candidates for parole selected through the lottery or as part of expanded immigrant visa processing must be found otherwise admissible under U.S. immigrant law. [✓]

In order to speed implementation of this plan, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of State will each have in place five new officers at the United States Interest Section in Havana on or about October 17. [✓]

Expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing, and the lottery program, address the migration concerns of many Cubans ^{AND THEIR RELATIVES IN THE U.S.} ~~including those for whom migration to the U.S. has not previously been possible.~~ These initiatives enable us to meet our goal of making migration from Cuba to the U.S. "safe, orderly and legal".

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages = 8

To: <u>Thyllis Coven</u>	From: <u>Sean Murphy</u>
Dept./Agency: <u>INS</u>	Phone #: <u>647-5561</u>
Fax #: <u>514 9077</u>	Fax #: <u></u>
NSN 7540-01-317-7368 5099-101 GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION	

Fax 6333782

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(New Orleans, LA.)

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1994

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The United States and Cuba have reached agreement in the migration talks in New York. This agreement requires the Government of Cuba to take effective measures to prevent unsafe departure of Cuban citizens. In addition, the Cuban government agreed that arrangements for those Cubans who have recently left and wish to return can be made through diplomatic channels.

The United States has agreed to admit at least 20,000 Cubans from Cuba per year under existing authorities. Additionally, the U.S. estimates that approximately 6,000 Cubans currently on the visa waiting list will be admitted into the U.S.

The President, who directed that that these talks on migration issues take place, is pleased at their outcome. "This agreement, when carried out, will help insure that the massive flow of dangerous and illegal migration will be replaced by a safer, legal and more orderly process," the President said.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 14, 1994

Statement by the Press Secretary

The President today announced a series of immediate humanitarian steps relating to Cubans in safehavens in Guantanamo and Panama.

First, the Attorney General will parole into the United States chronically ill persons and their caregivers who cannot be adequately cared for in the camps.

Second, she will parole into the United States unaccompanied young children now in the safe havens.

Third, she will parole into the United States migrants over 70.

In each case, we will ensure that those paroled in have appropriate sponsors.

Fourth, the Administration will conduct a review of the status of all children in the camps.

Fifth, we have launched a major effort to persuade other countries to accept some of the Cuban migrants.

Sixth, although much remains to be done, significant improvements have been made in the camps including providing better food, inaugurating mail and telephone service, and improving sanitary conditions. Attached is a fact sheet showing the time table for improvements.

The administration shares the deep concern of the Cuban-American community for the well-being of all the Cubans in safehavens. The root cause of these problems is in Cuba. The administration is dedicated to pursuing policies which will lead to a rapid and peaceful movement to democracy in Cuba.

#

FACT SHEET IMPROVEMENTS AT GUANTANAMO

There are five tiers of improvement categories:

- I. Infrastructure/facilities
- II. Food/clothing/medicine
- III. Personal communications
- IV. Education/recreation
- V. Other/administrative

INFRASTRUCTURE/FACILITIES

Water: Running water is now available in all Haitian and Cuban camps. Water has always been available for consumption, but construction of the last piping system for running water was completed on 9 October. Each migrant is provided safe drinking water and sufficient water for daily hygiene.

Tents: All migrants have shelter, but dust is still a problem in the Cuban camps. As some migrants leave, camp officials can close some camps and build hard stands for other tents going up. The Haitian camps are located on hard surfaces (runways) and dust is not as bad in this location. Many steps have been taken to reduce dust. One measure that has had some success is the spreading of a soil stabilizer, another measure has been to plant surrounding ground cover. These are temporary measures until all tents are hardened to include concrete or wooden flooring. Projected completion of the hardening project is 15 November.

Sanitation facilities: There is currently one latrine for every 30 migrants. Cleaning is now done once every three days; by October 24 cleaning will be done once every day. Plans are now being developed to have permanent latrine facilities. The construction of sewer piping systems is slowed by the small geographic area and by

limited treatment capacity. Follow-on plans include expanding existing treatment facilities.

Camp areas: Each camp has an area for recreation. Half-court basketball and volleyball courts are being constructed, projected completion 24 October. Additionally, baseball diamonds and soccer fields are being built for common use.

FOOD/CLOTHING/MEDICINE

Milk: A preliminary supply of milk has been provided along with specialized milk for babies with digestive problems (*Infamil* with Iron, *Similac*). Follow-on supplies will be provided and sustained.

Food: Every effort is being made to develop a varied menu. There are now enough food stocks to allow the announcement of 2-day menus. Two new kitchens have been built. Each migrant receives 2 hot meals and one MRE (Meal Ready to Eat) per day. Migrants take part in food preparation and as a result of greater food stocks the resulting menu has become more Cuban and Haitian friendly. Examples include the Haitian fare *Paella* and a Cuban recipe for *Arroz con Pollo* on Sundays.

Clothing: Thanks to the efforts of many government and non-government organizations each migrant has spare clothing and shoes and ball-type caps for those that need sun-protection during the day. Over 35,000 pairs of shoes were purchased for the migrants and all have been distributed.

Medicine: There have been no outbreaks/illnesses of any serious nature within the last month. Hygiene is improving daily and preventive care is being developed by camp doctors. There are estimates of up to 250 pregnant women in the camps. Pre-natal and post-natal facilities are being built to assist new and expectant mothers with the care and feeding of their children. Special milk/formula and other infant needs are being stocked.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mail: Limited postcard service has been available through the American Red Cross. A DoD/US Postal Service team traveled to Guantanamo last week to arrange regular letter service to begin in October. Initial service will include only

letter/post card mail. By early November details of package delivery will be announced.

Phones: 95 phone lines have been established solely for use by Cuban and Haitian migrants. All phones are operational.

EDUCATION/RECREATION

Educational facilities/supplies: Primary education is currently provided through the 6th grade level. Supplies for crayons, notebooks and school books in Spanish and Creole were provided with DoD funds.

Newspaper Deliveries: Daily newspaper delivery service should begin on 20 Oct.

Radio Service: There were over 1000 radios supplied to the migrants in September and more are being scheduled for delivery. Additionally, the radios are able to pick up *Radio Marti* during the evening hours and DoD has been producing additional broadcasts through a temporary station called *Radio Esperanza*.

Other Media: Camp leaders are also given the opportunity to produce their own print media for the camps.

Recreation: The Cubans have asked for basketball areas and 6 are now being constructed, expected completion is 20 October 94. Each camp will have a recreation tent by 12 Oct. Other facilities are being planned and constructed that include baseball diamonds and soccer fields, as previously mentioned. Special activities for children are also being implemented. Currently, there is a program to transport children and their parents or their caregivers to playground areas around the base. More playground facilities are being built within the family camps for greater access. Recreation tents are being stocked with supplies of games, cards, dominos and other related materials.

OTHER

Administrative: Mr. Guarione Diaz, a Cuban-American and President of the Cuban American National Council, was appointed Ombudsman to help assist in the U.S. Government's effort to improve camp conditions. He has been instrumental in coordinating relief activities and supplies from the Cuban-American population.

Camp Leadership for the Migrants: Each camp has selected a small group of camp leaders and representatives to voice their concerns over the conditions in the camps. The leaders' recommendations are followed as much as practical. Camp leaders hold regular meetings with migrants in their areas and during these forums give updates from governmental agencies.

Cigarettes: Small shipments of cigarettes have been arriving in Guantanamo during the last two weeks. Other priority items such as milk for babies, clothes, shoes and other food stocks were delivered first. The Administration is working with the Cuban-American community in Miami for a large donation of cigarettes which DOD will arrange to have transported and distributed in the camps.

Camp Visits: Guantanamo has been visited by the Archdiocese of Miami, scores of press, US government officials, non-governmental organizations, and many others in an effort to assist migrants. Information will be released in November about how private citizens can arrange visits to Guantanamo. The first priority is to get those assigned duty to help the migrants.

Donated Goods/Services: The US Government welcomes all donations of goods and services for the migrants in Guantanamo. The State Department has contracted the services of World Relief to accept and distribute donated goods to the migrants.

To Donate Goods, contact: Peggy Gilbert, World Relief, (914) 268-4135.

To Donate Services, contact: Mr. Guarione Diaz, Ombudsman for Cubans at the Camps, (305) 642-3484.

THE WHITE HOUSE

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For Immediate Release

October 14, 1994

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Fifth, we have launched a major effort to persuade other countries to accept some of the Cuban migrants.

Sixth, although much remains to be done, significant improvements have been made in the camps including providing better food, inaugurating mail and telephone service, and improving sanitary conditions. Attached is a fact sheet showing the time table for improvements.

The administration shares the deep concern of the Cuban-American community for the well-being of all the Cubans in safehavens. The root cause of these problems is in Cuba. The administration is dedicated to pursuing policies which will lead to a rapid and peaceful movement to democracy in Cuba.

#

FACT SHEET

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- III. **Personal communications**
- IV. **Education/recreation**
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Food: Every effort is being made to develop a varied menu. There are now enough food stocks to allow the announcement of 2-day menus. Two new kitchens have been built. Each migrant receives 2 hot meals and one MRE (Meal Ready to Eat) per day. Migrants take part in food preparation and as a result of greater food stocks the resulting menu has become more Cuban and Haitian friendly. Examples include the Haitian fare *Paella* and a Cuban recipe for *Arroz con Pollo* on Sundays.

Clothing: Thanks to the efforts of many government and non-government organizations each migrant has spare clothing and shoes and ball-type caps for those that need sun-protection during the day. Over 35,000 pairs of shoes were purchased for the migrants and all have been distributed.

Medicine: There have been no outbreaks/illnesses of any serious nature within the last month. Hygiene is improving daily and preventive care is being developed by camp doctors. There are estimates of up to 250 pregnant women in the camps. Pre-natal and post-natal facilities are being built to assist new and expectant mothers with the care and feeding of their children. Special milk/formula and other infant needs are being stocked.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mail: Limited postcard service has been available through the American Red Cross. A DoD/US Postal Service team traveled to Guantanamo last week to arrange regular letter service to begin in October. Initial service will include only

letter/post card mail. By early November details of package delivery will be announced.

Phones: 95 phone lines have been established solely for use by Cuban and Haitian migrants. All phones are operational.

EDUCATION/RECREATION

Educational facilities/supplies: Primary education is currently provided through the 6th grade level. Supplies for crayons, notebooks and school books in Spanish and Creole were provided with DoD funds.

Newspaper Deliveries: Daily newspaper delivery service should begin on 20 Oct.

Radio Service: There were over 1000 radios supplied to the migrants in September and more are being scheduled for delivery. Additionally, the radios are able to pick up *Radio Marti* during the evening hours and DoD has been producing additional broadcasts through a temporary station called *Radio Esperanza*.

Other Media: Camp leaders are also given the opportunity to produce their own print media for the camps.

Recreation: The Cubans have asked for basketball areas and 6 are now being constructed, expected completion is 20 October 94. Each camp will have a recreation tent by 12 Oct. Other facilities are being planned and constructed that include baseball diamonds and soccer fields, as previously mentioned. Special activities for children are also being implemented. Currently, there is a program to transport children and their parents or their caregivers to playground areas around the base. More playground facilities are being built within the family camps for greater access. Recreation tents are being stocked with supplies of games, cards, dominos and other related materials.

OTHER

Administrative: Mr. Guarione Diaz, a Cuban-American and President of the Cuban American National Council, was appointed Ombudsman to help assist in the U.S. Government's effort to improve camp conditions. He has been instrumental in coordinating relief activities and supplies from the Cuban-American population.

Camp Leadership for the Migrants: Each camp has selected a small group of camp leaders and representatives to voice their concerns over the conditions in the camps. The leaders' recommendations are followed as much as practical. Camp leaders hold regular meetings with migrants in their areas and during these forums give updates from governmental agencies.

Cigarettes: Small shipments of cigarettes have been arriving in Guantanamo during the last two weeks. Other priority items such as milk for babies, clothes, shoes and other food stocks were delivered first. The Administration is working with the Cuban-American community in Miami for a large donation of cigarettes which DOD will arrange to have transported and distributed in the camps.

Camp Visits: Guantanamo has been visited by the Archdiocese of Miami, scores of press, US government officials, non-governmental organizations, and many others in an effort to assist migrants. Information will be released in November about how private citizens can arrange visits to Guantanamo. The first priority is to get those assigned duty to help the migrants.

Donated Goods/Services: The US Government welcomes all donations of goods and services for the migrants in Guantanamo. The State Department has contracted the services of World Relief to accept and distribute donated goods to the migrants.

To Donate Goods, contact: Peggy Gilbert, World Relief, (914) 268-4135.

To Donate Services, contact: Mr. Guarione Diaz, Ombudsman for Cubans at the Camps, (305) 642-3484.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release

October 7, 1994

STATEMENT BY MICHAEL MCCURRY, SPOKESMAN

CUBA: FIRST VOLUNTARY RETURN OF CUBAN MIGRANTS
FROM GUANTANAMO TO CUBA

A first group of 17 Cuban migrants who requested voluntary return were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana this morning aboard an Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) plane.

Their return was arranged through diplomatic channels, as stipulated in the migration agreement concluded between the United States and the Republic of Cuba in New York on September 19.

Several hundred Cubans at Guantanamo have requested voluntary return to Cuba. The U.S. Interests Section in Havana is working with the Cuban authorities concerning the arrangements for their return home.

Att. Gen. Thank you
I have forwarded your
letter w/ my rec..

These will be coming -- no.

Javier

*This is not
final.*

JOINT TASK FORCE 160
GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 10-7.1

October 7, 1994

Contact: 011-5399-4003 or 4502

JOSE CANSECO TO VISIT GUANTANAMO BAY

In an effort to improve the quality of life in the Cuban and Haitian migrant camps in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Jose Canseco, Texas Ranger baseball player, will visit Guantanamo Bay on Sunday, Oct. 9. While in Guantanamo, Canseco will hand out baseball equipment and toys he bought and collected recently in Florida.

Canseco's visit was arranged by Mr. Guarione M. Diaz, the civilian ombudsman for the Cuban migrant camps in Guantanamo Bay. As ombudsman, Mr. Diaz is the civilian liaison to the task force commander, the Cuban migrant camps and the Cuban-American community. Canseco's visit is an example of Mr. Diaz's efforts to improve the quality of life here in the Cuban migrant camps.

While in Guantanamo Naval Base, Canseco will visit a number of the Cuban and Haitian migrant camps and visit with the military forces supporting those camps. He will arrive at the Naval Base around 9:30 a.m. and depart around 4:30 p.m.

- END -

ANNOUNCEMENT (FOR CUBA AND US)

The U.S. is announcing today steps being taken to implement the September 9 migration agreement with Cuba.

Pursuant to the agreement, the US will allow a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate legally to the US each year. This goal will be met through expanded immigrant visa and refugee processing and the use of the Attorney General's parole authority.

The U.S. will accelerate the immigrant visa issuance process at USINT, consistent with U.S. law. The accelerated scheduling of immigrant visa interviews has already begun. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will intensify outreach to the Cuban-American community to explain opportunities to bring family members from Cuba to the U.S. USINT will intensify its efforts to inform the Cuban public of possible immigration benefits through family members in the U.S.

The United States also will increase the number of refugee admission slots available to Cubans through the U.S. Interests Section (USINT) in Havana to at least 6,000 this year. While eligibility for the in-country program in Havana originally was limited to former political prisoners, application criteria have been expanded significantly. The US will review pending and previously denied refugee cases in order to identify those qualifying under the expanded criteria.

In addition, public interest parole may be offered immediately to unmarried sons and daughters of Cubans issued immigrant visas or granted refugee status, as well as to family members who reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit as these immigrants or refugees. USINT is in the process of informing those receiving immigrant visas and refugee travel documents of this program.

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 FY 95 (September 30, 1995). Individuals on this list will be contacted by the USINT in Havana.

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. 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 strong reasons to migrate and who can become

self-sufficient. Details of the lottery will be announced in Cuba and the U.S. by November 1st.

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 five 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. On October 7, a group of 17 Cubans who requested voluntary return were flown from Guantanamo Naval Base to Havana. 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.

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 and in the delivery of medical, communications, and recreational services. Mail and newspaper delivery soon will be available. The attached fact sheet describes in detail the steps we have taken and those we plan to take in the near future to improve conditions for Cubans under U.S. government protection.

Cuba Legal Migration Program

Qs and A's

I. LOTTERY

Q.: How does one apply for the lottery?

A.: All details of the lottery - how to apply, when to apply, etc. - will be well advertised in the US, Cuba proper, and the safehavens by November 1st. The lottery is designed to offer Cubans who might not qualify under previously existing programs an opportunity to come to the US. We will be looking for people who can be self-sufficient and have manifested an interest in coming to the US.

Q.: Will having family ties be a requirement for selection in the lottery?

No. Legal migration will be available to people with no direct family ties in the United States.

Q.: Will Cubans in safehavens be able to participate in the lottery?

Yes. Cubans in safehavens will have to return home to participate in the lottery, but we will make sure that they do not suffer any disadvantage if they cannot return in a timely fashion. We anticipate that many Cubans in safehavens will meet some of the criteria we are looking for.

II. Refugee Processing

Q.: Who is eligible to qualify for refugee status?

A.: 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.

Q.: In what way have the interview criteria been expanded?

A.: Eligibility for the in-country program in Havana originally was limited to former political prisoners. The program now gives 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.

Q.: If a Cuban already has applied for refugee status and did not qualify, can (s)he apply again?

A.: Any person denied refugee status can ask to have his or her case reconsidered on the basis of new information. A Cuban who was denied a refugee interview under the old criteria might be eligible under the new criteria. The USG will review pending and previously denied refugee cases to identify those qualifying under the expanded criteria.

Q.: What about Cubans in safehavens?

A.: If a Cuban chooses to return home and believes that (s)he qualifies for the refugee program, (s)he should contact USINT in Havana for a determination of eligibility. US government representatives in the safehavens will provide general information on the program.

Q.: What about Cubans in safehavens who fear persecution in Cuba if they return?

A.: Our policy is clear: Nobody will be forced or encouraged to return. Persons who fear persecution, like all other Cubans in safehavens, can remain in a safehaven if they so choose. Efforts are continuing to be made to improve quality of life in Guantanamo and Panama. We share the desire to find durable solutions for bona fide refugees in safehavens who fear returning home. For this reason, we also will be exploring with UNHCR alternatives for such people as the situation develops, including voluntary resettlement in third countries.

III. Parole of Additional Family of Refugees and Visa Beneficiaries.

Q.: What is new about the additional family parole?

Typically, immigrants are only allowed to bring in their spouse and minor unmarried children. Under this new program, we are extending the group of family members who can accompany a Cuban issued an immigrant visa or granted refugee status to include: (1) family members who reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit as the immigrant or refugee; (2) unmarried sons and daughters of the immigrant or refugee regardless of age or place of residence.

Q.: How will this program work?

Cubans to whom it is possible to issue immigrant visas in fiscal year 1995 are being informed by USINT of their new opportunity to bring additional family members with them. The USG will make other efforts to identify and contact possible beneficiaries of this program.

Q.: Can Cubans in safehavens benefit from this program?

Yes, if they choose to return home. Cubans in Guantanamo and Panama will be provided information about this program by US representatives. The USG will try to assist Cubans in safehavens with this program. If a Cuban in a safehaven believes he or she might be eligible under this program, (s)he should contact a USG representative.

IV. Immigrant Visas and Visa Waiting List

Q.: How does one get an immigrant visa?

A.: The U.S. is continuing to issue immigrant visas to qualified Cubans, and relatives in the US are encouraged to file visa petitions on behalf of their family members in Cuba. Visa petition forms (I-130's) are available by calling the INS toll-free number, 1-800-755-0777. They also can be picked up in the US Federal Building in Miami, located at 51 SW 1st Avenue, Room 630, or at any INS office in the United States.

Q.: What is being done with the backlog?

A.: USINT has received names and addresses of all those on the immigrant visa waiting list. Efforts have begun to notify Cubans who are eligible.

Q.: Can Cubans in safehavens benefit from this program?

Yes, if they choose to return home. Cubans in Guantanamo and Panama will be provided information about this program by US representatives. If a Cuban in a safehaven believes that a relative has filed a petition for him or her, and that (s)he might be on the waiting list, (s)he should contact a USG representative.

V. Voluntary Return

Q.: How many Cubans who requested to return have been able to do so?

A.: An initial group of 17 Cubans who chose to go home were returned on October 7. They were flown from Guantanamo to Havana. We are anticipating the return of Cubans who have made the request to proceed on a regular basis.

Q.: How many Cubans have requested to return?

A.: Several hundred

Q.: Will Cubans in safehavens be forced to return?

A.: No. They can remain in the safehavens indefinitely.

Q.: Is the US government encouraging Cubans to return?

A.: No. We have provided Cubans in safehavens full information about their options, including the possibility of going back home or of remaining in the safehavens.

Q.: How can we be sure that Cubans who choose to return will not be persecuted when they do?

A.: As part of the Cuba/US talks, we made clear that people who wish to return should not be subject to negative treatment. These migration talks will be ongoing, and will next be resumed at the end of the month. This is a subject that can and will be monitored.

Q.: If individuals are not cleared for return by the Cuban authorities, what will be their eligibility for migration to the US?

A.: We will do our very best to ensure that individuals who wish to return are able to go home. We also will ensure that all individuals who are eligible to migrate legally to the US will have an opportunity to do so.

VI. Parole (in general)

Q.: Will any conditions be placed on paroled Cubans? Will there be any time limit?

A.: No. They will be paroled into the US for a two-year period. After one year, they will be eligible to apply for permanent residence.

Q.: How many Cubans do you anticipate will be receiving parole?

We will be using a combination of our programs to reach the 20,000 figure in the agreement.

VII. Legal Authority

Q.: What legal authority does the Attorney General have to exercise her parole authority in this way?

A.: Under section 212(d) (5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the Attorney General is given the authority, at her discretion, to parole aliens into the US "for reasons deemed strictly in the public interest." Normalizing the immigration flow between Cuba and the US is "strictly in the public interest." The parole program is part of an overall effort to redirect an abnormal flow into a legal one.

Q.: Doesn't such a parole program intrude upon Congress' law-making authority?

A.: No. The purpose of the program is to facilitate a normalization of migration between the two countries. It is perfectly consistent with overall congressional goals to stem irregular migration and promote legal migration.

Q.: Isn't the parole program inconsistent with the 1980 Refugee Act which provides that the AG "may not parole into the US an alien who is a refugee . . . except in compelling, individual circumstances"?

A.: No. People admitted as refugees will not be paroled. The US has operated for a number of years - and will continue to operate - an in-country refugee program in Havana under which several thousand Cubans are admitted into the US each year.

Q.: Why isn't a similar program being established for Haitians?

Historically we have had a special migration relationship with Cuba. We did not regularly parole in and legalize virtually every Haitian who reached our shores. The Cuban Adjustment Act is unique to Cubans. Moreover, we expect conditions that have produced large irregular migration from Haiti to change with the restoration of democratic government.

VIII. Cubans at Krome and Port Isabel

Q.: What are the plans for Cubans in Florida and Texas?

A.: Cubans at Krome and Port Isabel have been placed in normal immigration proceedings.

Q. How many Cubans have been paroled in from Krome and Port Isabelle?

A.: Children and their caregivers have been paroled in.

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

files. USINT has received the names and addresses of all those on the immigrant visa waiting list. Efforts will be made to notify you if you are eligible under any of these programs.

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 five 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.

DRAFT

NOT FINAL

DRAFT STATEMENT

For over three decades, the regime in Cuba has sought to divert attention from its repressive system by allowing, at times forcing, its own citizens to flee the island. In recent weeks, the Cuban people have again pressed the government for basic human rights and a more democratic system. The regime's response, as always, has been to try to create a safety valve for itself through uncontrolled emigration. In so doing, the regime willingly risks the lives of thousands of Cubans, and we must all regret that in recent days several individuals have lost their lives in the treacherous waters off Cuba.

The regime's actions are a desperate attempt to maintain a grip on power and to shift attention from its failed policies. The Cuban government is trying to export to the United States the crisis it has created and refuses to address.

Let me be clear: the United States will do everything in its power to ensure that Cuban lives are safeguarded and the current dangerous outflow is stopped.

To accomplish this, the Attorney General has announced that we will ***** JUSTICE ADD LANGUAGE ***** (If necessary) we will detain Cuban refugees rescued at sea at Guantanamo Naval Base or other possible safe havens in the region.

they
fish it
with a
decision

To enforce this policy, I have directed the Coast Guard to continue its efforts to stop any boat leaving the U.S. to bring Cubans to our shores. The U.S. will detain, investigate, and, if necessary, prosecute anyone who takes to the seas to pick up Cubans. Vessels used in such activities will be seized.

I have also directed the State Department and the INS to take new steps to ensure that every possible avenue be made available for legal, orderly, and safe migration to the United States. + we are looking ways to resettle these people

I want to compliment the Coast Guard, INS and Florida officials for their cooperation in protection and saving the lives of Cubans who seek to escape the Castro regime. We are resolved to continue safeguarding the lives of those Cubans put callously in harms way by the Cuban regime.

1-20-94
the process
of the process

make effort
to resettle
outside of
the state
of FL
throughout U.S.
(for chicks)

DRAFT**DRAFT**

Draft - unclear by anyone but me!

Remin

P. Cijas:

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Jorge Mas:

Fauzul:

Eco Blockade

grave mistake