

FOIA MARKER

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

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Public Liaison

Series/Staff Member: Suzanna Valdez

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 5948

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Cuba 1994 [Folder 1] [3]

Stack:

S

Row:

30

Section:

1

Shelf:

4

Position:

3

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	Peter Coats to Mike Longeria re: Religious leaders visiting Cuba [Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (1 page)	09/26/1994	b(6)
002. calendar	re: November 1994 (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	11/00/1994	b(6)
003. schedule	re: November 1994 (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	11/00/1994	b(6)
004. memo	Roberto Suarez to Jorge Bolanos (Medical) [partial] (1 page)	10/26/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Public Liaison
Suzanna Valdez
OA/Box Number: 5948

FOLDER TITLE:

Cuba 1994 [Folder 1] [3]

2016-0920-F

jm1903

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

2.

DRAFT

As I have noted, the cause of the outflow of Cuban migrants is a repressive government which denies its citizens freedom, economic security, and most especially hope. We have a long standing policy toward Cuba which we believe will promote a peaceful transition to democracy. There will be no change to this policy. We will continue to enforce a comprehensive trade embargo against Cuba. We will increase our efforts to get timely, objective news to information starved Cuban citizens through Radio and TV Marti. We will continue to bring the facts about the Cuban regime to international organizations and press for collective action to bring respect for human rights to the Cuban people. The democratic tide which has been sweeping through our hemisphere ~~has~~ can and will reach Cuba.

DRAFT

- Hurricane

Frank -

Statewide - less than 10%

Marilyn Holfield

Joaquin Arizao

60% - 70% Republican

Neutralized

600

Green

stop the crisis

efforts w/ winning crisis

charter

Stop Flights to Cuba

leave some for legal immigr
cut back to bare minimum

no foreign policy
→ stop

stop \$ going into Cuba

non-amounts to go in (like Haiti)

→ no way

(3) C-130 plane

(not to leave) → no way
okay

(4)

Blockade like Haiti

→ no way
consider if Castro continues to move

Issues

positive media

Mavis Luisa

~~MTA~~

Luis

~~Joan~~

~~Hartman~~

~~Tebe~~

~~Reverend~~

~~Jorge Farley~~

Draft Cuba statement

In recent weeks, the ^{Cuban} ~~Castro~~ regime has come under increasing pressure from the Cuban people. In response to that pressure, ^{the regime} ~~Castro~~ has encouraged Cubans to take to the sea in unsafe vessels to escape their nation's internal problems. In so doing, he willingly risks the lives of thousands of Cubans; ^{many} ~~several~~ have already died during their attempts to flee.

Castro's action is nothing less than a desperate attempt to maintain his weakening grip on Cuba and to divert attention from his failed policies. He is trying to export to the United States the political and economic crises he has created.

Let me be clear: Castro will not succeed in his attempt to dictate American immigration policy. The United States will do everything within its power to ensure that Cuban lives are saved and that the current outflow of refugees be stopped.

run away to
in
I have today ordered that ~~illegal~~ ^{Cuban} refugees from Cuba will not be allowed to enter the United States. Refugees rescued at sea will be taken to our naval base at Guantanamo, while we explore the possibility of other safe havens in the region. *Detaining to process under our law to determine*

To enforce this policy, I have directed the Coast Guard to continue its expanded effort to stop any ^{US flagged} ~~boat~~ attempting to bring Cubans to our shores through the Florida straits. The United States will detain, investigate and, if necessary, prosecute ^{anyone} ~~Americans~~ who take to the sea to pick up Cubans. Vessels used in such activities will be seized.

I have also directed the State Department and the Immigration and Naturalization Service to take new steps to ensure that every possible avenue be made available for ~~legitimate~~ ^{legal, orderly, and safe migration to} Cuban political refugees to seek asylum in the United States.

I want to compliment the Coast Guard, INS and Florida officials for their cooperation in protecting and saving the lives of Cubans who seek to escape the Castro regime. We are resolved to continue safeguarding the lives of those Cubans that Castro has knowingly put at risk on the seas. We will not allow him to imperil the lives of Cuban citizens for the sake of his own defiance of the democratic tide flowing throughout this hemisphere.

Not A Cuban Adj. Act
No A to embargo

Emergency Measures for Cuba Immigration Situation

As it is obvious from the press clips attached, President Clinton's initial position to the Cuban threat of unleashing another massive exodus has been well received by both media and the residents of the State of Florida (including the Cuban-American community in South Florida)

In order to keep this momentum and not be perceived as equivocating on this potential crisis situation, it is imperative that a number of emergency measures be taken to reiterate that we take these threats seriously and any such actions would endanger our sovereignty and national interest.

A set of recommended emergency measures are included. These should be reviewed by the Deputy's Committee and the National Security Council. If approved, this will underline a coordinated approach throughout the United States Government with President Clinton's Administration in taking swift and decisive action to avert a potential crisis.

The presentation of these measures should be done immediately via a press conference. Radio Marti can play a very important role in the dissemination of this information inside of Cuba to continue to discourage illegal migration. This press conference should be held in Washington D.C. to convey the commitment of the highest levels of the administration. The conference should be held at the State Department and be attended by the Deputies of DOD, DOJ, DOS, US Coast Guard and Governor Lawton Chiles.

Soon after the initial announcement, Governor Chiles could hold another press conference for the Florida media. This should be attended by Florida's legislative delegation and other community leaders from South Florida. A bi-partisan, multi-ethnic group should include, Mayor Steve Clark, Commissioner Arthur Teele, District Attorney Kathy Fernandez Rundel, Monsignor Walsh, Jorge Mas Canosa, Andres Varga-Gomez and Roberto Rodriguez-Aragon.

NOTE: THESE RECOMMENDATIONS MUST BE RELEASED WITHIN THE APPROPRIATE POLITICAL CONTEXT. AT THE OPENING OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESPERSON MUST CLARIFY THAT THESE ARE EMERGENCY MEASURES AND DO NOT CONSTITUTE A CHANGE OF POLICY TOWARDS CUBA ON THE PART OF THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION.

1. Although it has already been announced that we have increased this, we must include specific numbers or be ready to increase by an identified amount the coastal security effort. This is seen as a national security threat. Although the arrival of large numbers of refugees in our coasts does not in and of itself present a threat to national security; the premeditation of a foreign government to dump its citizens into the U.S., with an intent to destabilize and disrupt our national interest, constitute an act of aggression.

Therefore, we must reassure the citizens of the United States, and in this particular case, moreover, the citizens of Florida, that the US government will not allow the governments of foreign countries to disrupt the sovereignty of our country.

2. The history of this particular issue stems from the fact that many boats that have been seen in photographs, taken by our intelligence, demonstrate that they are old fishing vessels that were used during the Mariel boatlift. Our current policy is to contact the Cuban government immediately after such vessel docks in a U.S. port and return it to Cuban authorities. Keeping these vessels impounded would incite the Cuban government to increase the patrolling of the coast. The laws of even a few of these vessels will result in further straining of the Cuban fishing trade and their faltering economy.

3. There has been a very positive reaction from the Cuban American community in the state of Florida about this intention. Consequently, there has only been one incident of this nature. We must continue to explain that these are violations of U.S. laws and elicits law abiding citizens to uphold them. There has not been any criticism of this measure.

4. Although there might be opposition to this measure from a very small vocal group of current supporters of belligerence towards Cuba, the majority of the Cuban American community would support this; if given within the larger context of averting an immediate massive refugee influx. It is necessary to stress at every step of the way that this is an emergency measure fitting within established laws of the U.S; and not a hastily decided change in policy. There is a precedent against Cuban nationals on this issue. Until now, such cases have been isolated incidents and not an everyday occurrence.

5. During the past 5 years the incidents of purchasing illegal visas in the U.S. in order to exit Cuba and enter the US illegally has increased as rapidly as the number of rafters. During the previous administration there was a reluctance to raise this issue for fear of political backlash in the Cuban American community. However, that same community has been increasingly critical of such undertakings. It is believed in the Cuban American community that the going price for a family of 5 is 30,000 dollars; a large part of which is paid to corrupt

Cuban officials for issuance of the visa. These Cuban citizens are then given tourist visas to travel to countries such as the Dominican Republic and Mexico. Immediately after their arrival, they are either transported across the border, (Mexico) or taken by boat to Puerto Rico.

6. The Attorney General has the authority to issue up to 3,000 visas for humanitarian reasons. One of Castro's claims for encouraging Cubans to leave en masse is the inability of the U.S. interest section to process enough visas as stipulated in their 1984 bilateral immigration agreement. Although there might be some opposition in the Cuban American community to this measure, (some will criticize this as a capitulation to Castro's demands) this measure could be reinforced by clarifying that this is part of a 1984 agreement to force Cuba to accept the Mariel criminals currently detained in U.S. federal prisons. The immigration guidelines will be clear and strictly adhered to. This will ensure that only those who are acceptable to the U.S. will be allowed to enter. An intense effort could be undertaken with voluntary agencies and NGO's to resettle these visa recipients outside the state of Florida.

7. The points made must be stressed. These bilateral immigration talks have been ongoing since 1984 with only two interruptions. The last such meetings took place in Havana in October 1993. This continuation does not constitute the renegotiation of any agreement, but simply ongoing efforts to return criminal aliens, currently held in U.S., prisons to pressure the Cuban government into refraining from using immigration threats to force a change in U.S. policy towards the government of Castro.

** We should encourage Gov. Chiles and all the agencies involved to recommend other emergency measures that could be included without compromising plan B should a massive exodus occur. All agencies that would participate in this press conference must coordinate and develop a list of talking points to ensure that the administration's message and policy are articulated in a clear and consistent language.



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1994

AG
(202) 514-2007
TDD (202) 514-1888

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S STATEMENT ON CUBAN INFLUX

To divert the Cuban people from seeking democratic change, the government of Cuba has resorted to an unconscionable tactic of letting people risk their lives by leaving in flimsy vessels through the treacherous waters of the Florida Straits.

Many people have lost their lives in such crossings. We urge the people of Cuba to remain home and not to fall for this callous maneuver.

I want to work with all concerned including the Cuban American community to make sure the message goes out to Cubans that putting a boat or raft to sea means putting life and limb at risk.

The Cuban government is not acting this way because of U.S. immigration policy. It is a desperate attempt to salvage a communist regime which has fallen victim to its own inherent rigidity and repression. An uncontrolled exodus from Cuba will do nothing to address Cuba's internal problems. The solution to Cuba's problems is rapid, fundamental and far reaching political and economic reform.

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-93)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages **3**

To Vicki	From Caroline Aboltna
Dept./Agency White House	Phone #
Fax # 456-2380	Fax #

Cuban Americans have recognized Castro's ploy and the word has gone out that the U.S. will not tolerate boats leaving from South Florida as they did in Mariel -- in which 90% of the influx was a result of Floridians traveling to Cuba to get their relatives. To prevent this from happening again, the Coast Guard has mounted an aggressive public information campaign so people know that vessels that appear to be bound to Cuba may be stopped and boarded and may be seized. Individuals who violate U.S. law will be prosecuted in appropriate circumstances. As you know, one boat was seized last week and the boat crew is in detention.

We have been able to manage the increased flow arriving from Cuba during the last several days in an orderly way and without disruption to the community. We have increased our Immigration and Naturalization Service and Community Relations Service personnel. 26 INS agents have been reassigned to Key West. More are on their way -- and within 24 hours a total of 86 agents will be specially assigned to manage these cases.

We have been ably assisted by voluntary agencies including United States Catholic Conference Migration Service and Church World Service and state and local officials.

Of the people who have arrived, 90% of the individuals have been settled with relatives in the United States. 75% in Florida -- and 15% in primarily New York and New Jersey. The 10% with no

(MORE)

- 3 -

relatives in the United States are being placed outside of Florida.

We will continue to monitor and assess the situation and have intensified our work with other federal agencies to be able to respond to all circumstances.

###

94-474

UNCLASSIFIED
FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET
THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ROB MALLEY X

FROM: Morton H. Halperin
Kathy Cooper

PHONE: 202-456-9241

FAX: 202-456-9240

TO:

SUZANNA VALDEZ

FAX:

66218

PHONE:

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET 3

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

UNCLASSIFIED

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR GUANTANAMO AND PANAMA

As you were told on October 12, we are announcing today details of a lottery which is designed to give Cubans a chance to come to the United States legally, even if they do not have family ties in the U.S.

HOW YOU CAN APPLY

All Cubans 18 years or older who reside in Cuba proper are eligible to apply for the lottery. Applications can be made by mailing or delivering to the US Interests Section in Havana an empty envelope with the following information printed on the outside left hand corner:

Your name
Address
Cuban Identification Number
Marital Status
Number of unmarried children under 21

If you choose to return home and want to apply for the lottery, we are prepared to assist you. Upon your departure for Cuba proper you can complete an envelope that we will provide to you and we will make sure that it is delivered to the Interests Section upon your return.

The United States will do its best to ensure that you are not disadvantaged with respect to this program because of any delays in honoring your wish to go home.

THE DECEMBER 31 DEADLINE FOR APPLYING FOR THE LOTTERY THAT APPLIES TO CUBANS CURRENTLY IN CUBA PROPER WILL NOT APPLY TO YOU

You should only apply once. Multiple submissions will be disqualified.

Four times during 1995 the applications will be randomly selected in a drawing. Those applicants whose envelopes are selected will be notified for the first drawing in February, 1995, and invited to come to the United States Interests Section in Havana to be interviewed for the program. At the interview, the applicants will be expected to be able to answer affirmatively to 2 of the following 5 questions:

1. Have you completed secondary school or higher level of education?
2. Do you have at least 3 years of work experience?
3. Do you have any job skills?
4. Do you have any relatives in the U.S.?

5. Did you manifest an interest in immigrating to the United States prior to October 1, 1994?

At the time of your interview, you also will be required to present the results of a medical examination, establish that you will not become a public charge, and that you are not otherwise inadmissible under U.S. law.

If you are accepted for migration into the United States, you will be able to bring your spouse and unmarried minor children.

There is no fee for applying to the lottery.

Press Release *Citizens*

The United States Government is announcing a Special Cuban Migration Program that will give ~~any~~ Cuban in Cuba, including those who do not have direct family ties in the U.S., an opportunity to apply for legal migration.

The program is part of the United States Government's effort to fulfill its commitment ~~under the September 21st US/Cuba Migration Agreement~~ to admit a minimum of 20,000 legal migrants this year. ~~It is designed to benefit Cubans with a strong desire to migrate and who stand the best chance of quickly becoming self-sufficient.~~ Persons selected through the program will be allowed to bring their spouses and minor children with them.

Cuba and the U.S.
"This special program will ~~allow us to work toward normalizing migration between the U.S. and Cuba~~ and ensure that migration between ~~our two countries~~ is safe, legal and orderly," stated INS Commissioner Doris Meissner.

All Cubans in Cuba who are at least 18 years of age will be eligible to apply. All Cubans in Safe havens will be fully informed about the program, but must return home in order to participate.

To apply, an individual should mail or deliver to the United States Interests Section (USINT) in Havana, at P.O. Box 6831, Havana 2, Havana, Cuba an empty envelope. On the outside of the envelope, in the upper left hand corner, applicants must print their name, address, Cuban identification number, marital status and number of unmarried children under 21. Only envelopes delivered to U.S. Interests Section or postmarked in Cuba between November 15 and December 31, 1994 will be accepted. Persons submitting multiple entries will be disqualified.

Envelope entries will be selected by random drawing 4 times a year. Individuals selected will be notified by the USINTS and will be interviewed for eligibility under two out of the following five criteria.

1. Have they completed secondary school or a higher level of education?
2. Do they have 3 years work experience?
3. Do they have job skills relevant to the U.S. job market?
4. Do they have family ties in the United States?
5. Did they show interest in migrating to the United States before October 1, 1994?

Applicants will also be screened for the medical, criminal and public charge requirements of U.S. immigration law.

Applications from Cubans at Guantanamo or Panama safe havens will be accepted only if they choose to return home. The December 31 cut-off date will not apply if they are unable to return voluntarily by that date. Their applications will be entered in the candidate pool upon their return.

Press Release

The United States Government is announcing a Special Cuban Migration Program that will give any Cuban in Cuba, including those who do not have direct family ties in the U.S., an opportunity to apply for legal migration.

The program is part of the United States Government's effort to fulfill its commitment under the September 9th US/Cuba Migration Agreement to admit a minimum of 20,000 legal migrants this year. It is designed to benefit Cubans with a strong desire to migrate and who stand the best chance of quickly becoming self-sufficient. Persons selected through the program will be allowed to bring their spouses and minor children with them.

"This special program will allow us to work toward normalizing migration between the U.S. and Cuba and ensure that migration between our two countries is safe, legal and orderly," stated INS Commissioner Doris Meissner.

All Cubans in Cuba who are at least 18 years of age will be eligible to apply. All Cubans in Safe havens will be fully informed about the program, but must return home in order to participate.

To apply, an individual should mail or deliver to the United States Interests Section (USINT) in Havana, at P.O. Box 6831, Havana 2, Havana, Cuba an empty envelope. On the outside of the envelope, in the upper left hand corner, applicants must print their name, address, Cuban identification number, marital status and number of unmarried children under 21. Only envelopes delivered to U.S. Interests Section or postmarked in Cuba between November 15 and December 31, 1994 will be accepted. Persons submitting multiple entries will be disqualified.

Envelope entries will be selected by random drawing 4 times a year. Individuals selected will be notified by the USINTS and will be interviewed for eligibility under two out of the following five criteria.

1. Have they completed secondary school or a higher level of education?
2. Do they have 3 years work experience?
3. Do they have job skills relevant to the U.S. job market?
4. Do they have family ties in the United States?
5. Did they show interest in migrating to the United States before October 1, 1994?

Applicants will also be screened for the medical, criminal and public charge requirements of U.S. immigration law.

Applications from Cubans at Guantanamo or Panama safe havens will be accepted only if they choose to return home. The December 31 cut-off date will not apply if they are unable to return voluntarily by that date. Their applications will be entered in the candidate pool upon their return.

The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

CON EL RUEGO DE SU PUBLICACION

23 Agosto, 1994

A petición del Gobernador Lawton Chiles, la administración del Presidente Bill Clinton está enviando una delegación de altos funcionarios al Sur de la Florida mañana Miércoles, 24 Agosto para consultar con miembros de la comunidad sobre la actual situación de los Cubanos que estan abandonando la isla de Cuba en balsas.

Esta delegación incluye oficiales de la Casa Blanca, el Departamento de Estado, el Consejo de Seguridad Nacional y el Departamento de Defensa. Estas reuniones son parte de nuestro continuo esfuerzo de consultar con los oficiales electos, líderes cívicos y políticos de la Florida.

Como informara el Presidente Clinton la semana pasada cuando anunció medidas para enfrentar la actual situación, nosotros haremos todo lo que esté en nuestro poder para asegurar que las vidas de estos Cubanos no peligran. Los Cubanos que sean recogidos en altamar no seran admitidos a los EE UU, pero van a ser llevados a un area de refugio seguro fuera de los Estados Unidos.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

August 23, 1994

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

At the request of Governor Lawton Chiles, the Administration is sending a delegation of senior officials to south Florida tomorrow to consult with the community on the current outflow Cuban/migrants. The delegation includes officials from the White House, the Department of State, the National Security Council staff and the Department of Defense. These meetings continue our close consultations with elected State and local officials and community, civic and political groups in Florida.

As the President said when he announced these actions last week, the United States will do everything within its power to ensure that Cuban lives are saved, that migrants picked up at sea are given safe haven outside the US, but that they will not be admitted to the U.S.

#

DRAFT.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release

October 12, 1994

STATEMENT BY CHRISTINE SHELLY, ACTING SPOKESMAN

CUBA: IMPLEMENTATION OF MIGRATION AGREEMENT

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

Pursuant to the agreement, the U.S. will allow a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate legally to the U.S. 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 the U.S. Interests Section (USINT) in Havana, 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 increased opportunities to bring family members from Cuba to the U.S. Additionally, USINT will intensify its efforts to inform the Cuban public of new immigration opportunities.

The United States also will increase the number of refugee admission slots available to Cubans through the U.S. Interests Section 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 U.S. 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. USINT is in the process of informing those persons receiving immigrant visas and refugee travel documents about 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 Fiscal Year 1995 (September 30, 1995). Individuals on this list will be contacted by USINT in Havana.

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

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

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

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ON-THE-RECORD BRIEFING
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MICHAEL SKOL
AND DORIS MEISSNER, COMMISSIONER, INS
ON THE
CUBAN MIGRATION AGREEMENT

October 12, 1994

MS. SHELLY: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I'm very pleased to welcome you here to this special briefing at the Department of State on the implementation of the Cuban migration agreement.

As you know, on September 9, the U.S. and Cuba reached an agreement that will allow a minimum of 20,000 Cubans to migrate legally to the U.S. every year. What we're doing today is announcing the steps being taken to implement the September 9 migration agreement.

I would also like to draw your attention to the press release, which we have made available to you, which includes some of the details of these implementing announcements.

Our briefers today are Senior Deputy Assistant Secretary Michael Skol from the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs, and Doris Meissner, the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization Service. I'd like to note the presence of Dennis Hayes, the Director of the Cuban Affairs Office.

We'll follow our usual format. We'll begin with some remarks after which our briefers will be happy to take your questions.

Mike, would you like to begin?

MR. SKOL: It's a pleasure to be here to follow up what we did in New York on the 9th of September. There's been a lot of work in this building and in INS and the Department of Justice and other buildings to make sure that we, in fact, are implementing this agreement, basically, to move from illegal and unsafe migration -- the rafting -- to legal, safe, reliable methods of migration. I think we've done our job.

When a team goes to Havana on the 24th of this month, headed by Dennis Hayes, the Coordinator for Cuban Affairs,

-2-

we will be able to talk seriously with the Cubans about just how we are, and have already begun to implement our part of the agreement.

You have the press release. Let me go through some of the highlights for you. Again, there is a guaranteed minimum of 20,000 Cubans who will be allowed to migrate each year to the U.S., using various authorities within the U.S. Government. We're going to accelerate the immigrant visa issuance process. We've already begun to do that.

We're going to reach out to the Cuban-American community in the United States to make sure that they know how to reach out to their own relatives inside Cuba, to make sure that they know their rights, know how to proceed, and help bring these people legally to the United States.

We are going to have at least 6,000 refugee admission slots this first year. We are expanding the application criteria for refugees beyond the old definition of "just political prisoners."

We're doing something new with regard to who can accompany someone who gets an immigrant visa. We're talking about unmarried sons and daughters of Cubans as well as family members who reside in the same household and are part of the same economic unit. We're already doing this for people who are in the process of receiving immigrant visas.

As you know, part of the agreement was to go through the entire immigrant visa waiting list, as a one-time measure, and admit everyone who qualifies and still wants to enter the U.S., no matter where their numbers would normally have come up.

A new feature of this program is a lottery program that will substantially broaden the opportunities for Cubans, particularly all those Cubans who don't have family ties in the U.S. We want to give everyone the opportunity through this lottery mechanism to have some possibility of coming to the U.S. More details on that will be emitted by November 1.

I want to emphasize that we have made certain that we have the people -- the INS people, the State Department people -- who will be going down this coming Monday, the 17th, to actively start the process. Havana will become one of the largest immigrant visa-issuing posts the State Department has anywhere in the world.

Finally, you have with you a Fact Sheet on one of the most important aspects of what the United States is doing to fulfill its commitment to Cubans; not part of the

-3-

immigration agreement, the migration agreement signed in New York on the 9th of September, but very, very important, and that is, to make life livable, more durable, more open for those Cubans who are presently in the safehavens in Guantanamo and in Panama.

With that, I will open up to questions.

Q About how many visas will be given out under the lottery program?

MR. SKOL: We are thinking of around 6,000 -- 5,000 to 6,000. There's no exact figure, because what we're doing is using the lottery to reach the 20,000 limit. But that is a reasonable estimate.

Q I understand the Cubans are not very unhappy -- the Cuban Government is not very unhappy with the lottery idea. Could you characterize that?

MR. SKOL: We have had no expressions of unhappiness. It is very important for everyone concerned that that type of Cuban who was desperate -- desperate enough to take to unsafe rafts and boats to travel to the United States, possibly because he or she didn't have any other hope, legal hope, to get to the United States; no close family relations, no professional credentials -- we want to give hope for that specific kind of person that he or she, too, will have an opportunity to legally migrate to the U.S.

That is the reason for the lottery. I don't know why the Cuban Government would object to the logic for what we agreed to in New York.

Q They will be provided for, particularly health care and schooling once they arrive here?

MR. SKOL: You mean the people who legally migrate to the U.S.?

Q Yes.

MR. SKOL: It will be the normal procedures that have been successfully applied over the years -- the integration programs. Mainly, the private programs of the Cuban-American communities around the U.S., particularly, in places like New Jersey and south Florida. It has been enormously successful. They have provided the kind of integration programs which have produced vibrant, powerful communities.

-4-

There's increased numbers, but I see no reason why they can't handle it as before.

Q You can guarantee that there would be no special burden on local or state taxpayers as a result of this?

MR. SKOL: I cannot personally guarantee that there will be no increased burden.

MS. MEISSNER: Let me just step in and say that each of the people coming in in the lottery will have a sponsor, so it is the sponsorship connection that will take care of that. Moreover, the lottery will seek to choose people that can show they will be self-sufficient. That will be one of the criteria in the lottery.

Q Is there a number for how many people would come in on the lottery this first year?

MR. SKOL: As I said, 5,000 is a good, solid estimate. What we have guaranteed is that there will be a minimum of 20,000, so we will reach 20,000 through use of the lottery.

Q Would you do me a favor and just attach numbers with each of the different ways that people have of coming in? Is that possible?

MR. SKOL: Doris, you are a good number-attacher.

MS. MEISSNER: We'll do it a little together here. Starting with the most specific number, which is the refugees, that is at this point 6,000. That is a doubling of the level of the number of refugees that have been coming in Cuba in previous years.

So if you start with a refugee number of 6,000, then the immigrant visa number in the last several years has been running in the range of 2,500 to 3,000. So let's say 3,000 on immigrant visas. But because of the fact that we're now allowing some larger number of family members to come with the immigrant visas -- but, of course, we don't know how much that will increase -- let's just say that the immigrant visas become about 4,000.

Then you have the waiting list, the people who have approved visa petitions but they are under a special parole because they're on the waiting list but their numbers have not yet become available. The total pool there is 19,000. But we believe that only somewhere in the range of 3,000 to 5,000 of those 19,000 are actually active cases. We really have no way of knowing. Those are letters that are going

-5-

out and we'll now see how many people actually still are in Cuba and come and show up for interviews.

That gets you to about 15,000 for which then the difference to 20,000 is the lottery program.

Q How long have these people been on this waiting list? This is the reference here to a one-time extraordinary measure of public interest parole?

MS. MEISSNER: Right. The waiting list people -- the minimum that people have been on the waiting list -- well, the minimum is actually a month. But generally -- they're generally on the waiting list in the neighborhood of two years or more.

Q The refugee number is over and above the 20,000.

MS. MEISSNER: No, no. The refugee number is within the 20,000.

Q It is within the 20,000?

MS. MEISSNER: Right. That's why I started with the 6,000 as a base.

Q Can you explain for me, if there are Cubans in this country who have immigrant status who were in the past not allowed to bring their children or other members of the household, will they be able to do that now? Will this apply to Cubans who are already here?

MS. MEISSNER: I'm sorry. I was reading a note. Excuse me. Could you ask again?

Q Yes. For Cubans who are already here under regular Green Card holders, will they be allowed to bring people that they weren't previously allowed to bring now under these new rules, or will this only apply to people who are still in Cuba?

MS. MEISSNER: It applies to people in Cuba.

Q Household members and the unmarried sons and daughters are only accompanying people who you are now going to --

MS. MEISSNER: Accompanying people that are coming, right. On the other hand -- or at the same time, I should

-6-

say, we are encouraging people in the United States who have the right to petition for people in Cuba, to petition for them. I mean, in other words, there definitely are people in the United States who can generate immigrant visas on behalf of their relatives, and we want that petition process to be flowing, and there will be a lot of publicity in Miami as well as opportunities; and we'll encourage people to pick up applications, and so forth, and file in behalf of their relatives, which will bring them into this process.

Q Normally, they would have had to have become citizens in order to qualify for that, would they not?

MS. MEISSNER: There are different levels of eligibility. There is eligibility for people that are permanent residents as well as for people who are citizens. It's a question of whether they're numerically counted, and so forth.

MR. SKOL: Let me make one clarification. Those who we are admitting through the immigrant visa waiting list, who would not qualify in this first year, that number is in addition to the 20,000.

Q That's the one-time only people?

MR. SKOL: That's the one-time only going through the immigrant visa waiting list. Hard number to predict, but, as I recall predicting in New York, it was around 4,500 to 5,000, 5,500. As I recall telling you then, 24,500 to 26,500 is a pretty good estimate of what is going to happen in the first year.

Q So that means a lottery would need to not be 6,000 -- I mean, basically if you don't count those, the lottery could be at 10,000.

MR. SKOL: No. The lottery is likely to be 5,000 to 6,000. If you add everybody up, that's what happens.

Q You said that you were going to broaden the category or criteria for refugees. Would you expand on that?

MR. SKOL: Yes. Former political prisoners, for example; members of persecuted religious minorities; human rights activists; forced labor conscripts; persons deprived of their professional credentials or subjected to other disproportionately harsh or discriminatory treatment; others who appear to have a credible claim that they will face persecution, as defined in the United Nations Refugee Convention.

-7-

The original concept was political prisoners only. We are expanding that definition of refugees for purposes of admitting Cubans under that category.

Q You said in this that a small number of Cubans had in fact gone home from Guantanamo.

MR. SKOL: Yes.

Q Are there others who are interested or was that just the first tranche, or are there others interested?

MR. SKOL: What has happened, the process as defined in the September 9 agreement is that we will do this in the ordinary diplomatic consular process. We are not forcing people. We will never force people to return to Cuba. We are not encouraging people to return to Cuba.

But we are asking, among many questions that we ask of the people in Guantanamo, what are you intentions? What do you want to do? And those who say they want to return voluntarily to Cuba, the procedure is that we provide the names and some other data to the Cuban Government. The Cuban Government takes some time and then says, "Yes, these people can come back."

Last week, there were 17 Cubans who decided to go back voluntarily, were accepted according to the procedures by the Cuban Government, and were flown directly in an INS plane from Guantanamo to Havana. This is the procedure that has been set up and the procedure that will continue to be used for those -- and I repeat the key word -- voluntarily want to return to Cuba.

We understand that in that category there are at least a couple hundred more. We have submitted almost 200 names now additionally to the Cuban Government. We haven't received an answer to that request.

Q What is the total now in Guantanamo and Panama?

MR. SKOL: The total in Guantanamo is 28,000-plus. In Panama is three to four thousand -- nearly 4,000.

Q Do you anticipate that a lot of people were still waiting for this document in the extreme hope that there was going to be some special category of dispensation for them, and now that there isn't, there will be some increase in the people who want to go back?

MR. SKOL: That is entirely up to them. The availability -- and this is aimed at just the kind of person that is in Guantanamo -- that the availability of the

-8-

possibility of legally migrating to the States has been opened up really for the first time to that kind of person. And the processing is open to all Cubans in Cuba.

How Cubans in Guantanamo or in Panama react to this is entirely their business. They are under the protection of the United States Government. We will respect their wishes.

Q Are you going to give them preference if they leave Guantanamo and get back to Havana or wherever?

MR. SKOL: There is no general preference for these people. The important thing is that the new procedures, particularly the lottery procedures, opens it up to all Cubans and therefore includes the kind of person who is in Guantanamo and gives them a much expanded opportunity from anything they had ever had before, particularly at the time that they took the extraordinary risk of rafting toward the United States.

Q Mike, the President spoke the other day about special consideration perhaps being given to children and other vulnerable people in Guantanamo and Panama. Can you say anything about that?

MR. SKOL: There have been some, and there are always the humanitarian considerations which must and are taken into consideration by our agencies, and we will obviously look at these cases on a case-by-case basis. There have been decisions along these lines, yes.

Q Have some been moved out of Guantanamo?

MR. SKOL: I believe so, yes.

Q Children?

MR. SKOL: I believe in the cases that have already been moved out, these are sick people -- humanitarian parole.

MS. MEISSNER: Not as a general category, but in extreme medical circumstances, yes.

Q Is it under consideration that that would change, and that a general category would be minors?

MR. SKOL: The policy is that we always look at humanitarian exceptions to the general rule. The policy has not changed and is not changing. But any policy that rejects the extreme humanitarian situations that we have already looked at and that we will be continuing to look at,

-9-

that kind of policy is an inhuman policy, and we don't like that kind of policy.

MS. SHELLY: Last question.

MS. MEISSNER: Let me clarify something. I'm sorry to have to walk you back on this. We all know this very well, but it's complicated. In terms of the 20,000 and how the 20,000 is made up, just where I started, 6,000 refugees -- or that is 6,000-somewhat-plus as refugees as the starting base.

Then we're calculating that of the immigrant visa holders and their now attached family which would be brought in for the first time, that that might go as high as 8,000-9,000.

So that brings you to 15,000. The remainder up to 20,000 would be this new lottery. What I mentioned before about the waiting list, the one-time parole of people on the waiting list, that is not part of the 20,000. That is in addition to the 20,000. So I apologize for that mistake.

Q If you have a lottery, which is kind of to fill in the difference in those numbers, aren't you really saying that while 20,000 is your base number, it's probably close to being your ceiling as well, once you go through this first year of the special preference visas?

MR. SKOL: After this year, essentially we're talking about a minimum of 20,000, but essentially 20,000, yes. It's not a ceiling. I will not use the word "ceiling" ever again with regard to Cuban migration.

Q But as you don't have a specific number for the lottery and you plan to use that kind of as an accordion, you're still aiming at, roughly speaking, 20,000 per year.

MR. SKOL: Correct, but it is not a ceiling.

Q One last number question: If everybody who was on the one-time -- the waiting list -- I know that many of those cases may not be active, but if all 19,000 of them showed up, plus the 20,000, you could potentially have almost 40,000. You don't expect to have that happen, but --

MR. SKOL: Potentially, yes. But our experience with immigrant visa waiting lists leads us to the smaller figure.

Q I believe you answered this, but, if you could just clarify, how the definition of refugees has precisely been expanded. What additional -- is that all?

-10-

MR. SKOL: Everything but former political prisoners was new. Political prisoners. Now it includes former political prisoners and a number of other categories.

Q Thank you.

MS. SHELLY: Thank you very much.

#

ARA PRESS GUIDANCE
October 12, 1994

Cuba Legal Migration Program
Q's 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 strong interest in coming to the U.S.

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

A.: 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?

A.: 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 the criteria we have described.

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

2

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 has already 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?

A.: 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.

3

Q.: How will this program work?

A: 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?

A: 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 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?

A.: 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 Cubans have expressed interest in returning.

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 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?

A.: 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 Isabel?

A.: Children and their caregivers have been paroled in.
(Refer to INS).

FROM : FRED M RAWICZ FAX

PHONE NO. 1 305

NOV-21-94 MON 1:52 PM JEWIS

Post-it™ Fax Note 7671

Date	11/23/94	# of pages	1
To	Suzanna Valdez		
Co./Dept.	The White House		
Phone #	(202) 456-2930		
Fax #	(202) 456-6218		
From	Guarione M. Diaz		
Co.	CNC		
Phone #	(305) 642-3484		
Fax #	(305) 642-7463		



The American Jewish Committee

MIAMI CHAPTER 141 N.E. Third Avenue, Suite 406, Miami, FL 33132 (305) 377-1121 Fax: (305) 377-1484

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joan Garner, Miami Area Director (305) 377-1121

Miami, Florida, November 21, 1994...The Miami chapter of The American Jewish Committee issues the following statement on the continuing developments in Cuba:

1. The American Jewish Committee condemns the systematic practice of human rights abuses by the Cuban government. These violations have been continuous throughout the years since Fidel Castro came into power. The failure of the government of Cuba to hold free and open elections is deplorable. AJC strongly denounces the use of intimidation, force and imprisonment for voicing legitimate opposition to the Cuban government and its policies, contrary to the basic values of free people.
2. Today, some 30,000 Cuban refugees who fled the country are detained in Guantánamo and Panama. These individuals merit the attention of the U.S. government because they are housed in facilities not designed for long-term residence. The health and welfare of these individuals is in great jeopardy. AJC implores the U.S. government to take immediate steps to give these freedom-seeking individuals the chance to join family, friends and fellow Cubans in the United States.
3. The situation in Cuba is intolerable. The economy of Cuba is disintegrating. The Cuban people are malnourished, hungry and demoralized. In order to address these human concerns, the American Jewish Committee welcomes the delivery of humanitarian aid through private, religious and world health organizations directly to the people of Cuba.

AJC is concerned about immigration and human rights issues relating to Cuba and advocates for the orderly immigration of Cubans into the U.S. by due process.

#

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	Peter Coats to Mike Longeria re: Religious leaders visiting Cuba [Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (1 page)	09/26/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Public Liaison
Suzanna Valdez
OA/Box Number: 5948

FOLDER TITLE:

Cuba 1994 [Folder 1] [3]

2016-0920-F
jm1903

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTRAL OFFICE

9401 Biscayne Boulevard

Miami Shores, Florida 33138-2998

Telephone: (305) 754-2444

Telefax: (305) 754-6649

Coats:

do you plan to
hold press conf
upon return
are you speak to papers



September 26, 1994

Mr. Mike Longoria
Special Assistant to Mr. Halperin
National Security Council
The White House
FAX: 202-456-9240

Dear Mike:

Per our conversations, following is the list of individuals to
visit Guantanamo Naval Base, Cuba, from the Archdiocese of Miami.
The target date for the visit is Thursday, October 6, 1994.

The Most Reverend Edward A. McCarthy
Archbishop of Miami

SS# (b)(6)

Denis Hayes
Guarane

The Most Reverend Augustin Roman
Auxiliary Bishop of Miami

SS# (b)(6)

[001]

The Very Reverend Gerard T. LaCerra
Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Miami

SS# (b)(6)

The Very Reverend Tomas Manuel Marin
Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Miami

SS# (b)(6)

The Reverend Monsignor Bryan O. Walsh
Executive Director, Catholic Community Services, Miami

SS# (b)(6)

The Reverend Thomas Wenski
Pastor, Notre Dame d'Haiti Mission, Miami

SS# (b)(6)

pro Anside
Head of Haitian
refugees
CATHOLIC SERVICE
ON THURSDAY

The Reverend Patrick O'Neal
Office of the Chancellery

SS# (b)(6)

Mr. Peter D. Coats
Special Assistant to the Executive Director,
Catholic Community Services, Miami

SS# (b)(6)

Mr. Thomas L. Bantles
Community Relations Service, US Dept. of Justice, Miami

SS# (b)(6)



Member: Catholic Charities USA
Child Welfare League of America
An Equal Opportunity Employer



We will make arrangements here for a private jet to take the group down. The visit will be one day only with tentative schedule:

departure from Miami: 7:30am
arrive Guantanamo: 9:00am
departure Guantanamo: 5:00pm
arrive Miami: 6:30 pm.

*Signature Air
5100 NW 36 St.*

We do not look for any special arrangements for services while at the camps. We only ask to be able to visit both the Cuban and the Haitian camps and be briefed by the base administration.

Thank you very much for your help. I look forward to hearing from you soon to confirm the date and make final arrangements for the agenda and flight instructions.

Sincerely,



Peter D. Coats
Special Assistant

Quarone

needs to have plans
when he talks to
this group.

Pick Nuccio

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Thomas McLarty, Counselor to the President
FROM: Simon Ferro, Member of the Cuban American Core Group
RE: Cuba Policy
DATE: November 17, 1994

As you might recall, the Cuban American Core Group met with President Clinton in the White House this past October 18. The President asked us to work with members of the Administration to develop and implement responsible, sustainable and humane policies to deal with the immediate issue of the Guantanamo and Panama refugee camps, as well as with broader issues relating to a longer term policy towards Cuba.

One of the major concerns we had was the President's inability to take credit for the positive actions he has taken regarding the release of children and medical cases from the camps, as well as his prohibition of visits to Cuba and the curtailment of dollar transfers to the island. This was occurring because other ad hoc groups in Miami, composed of individuals with little or no relationships to the President, were interacting with and receiving unofficial information from White House or State Department personnel which was then "officially" disseminated by these groups in South Florida, effectively upstaging the President.

It was my understanding from the meeting with the President that these unauthorized interactions would cease.

In reliance on this we have been working and coordinating with Susana Valdes, Lula Rodriguez (both of whom have been doing an exceptional job) and Mort Halperin to develop the agenda and calendar of events which is currently awaiting your final approval. This includes an official decision on the release of all children and their families and the appointment of the special task force to advise the President on conditions in the camps.

As you can see from the attached newspaper clips, the President has again been upstaged by the so-called Ad hoc Committee, chaired by Cesar Odio, which claims to be in continuing "negotiations" with the White House regarding Guantanamo and Cuba.

It is very disconcerting to realize that either we got the wrong message from the meeting with the President or that someone within the Administration is intentionally sabotaging the President's Cuba policy, the Summit and his friends in Miami.

It is useless to name a task force to advise the President on the refugee camps when the Ad Hoc Committee will still be in our informational loop. Who would want to serve in the task force while the Committee continues to claim a negotiating status with the White House and dominates public opinion in Miami? And they can rightly do so because they can consistently disseminate accurate information obtained from unnamed Administration sources before it is made official. With its current access to information the Ad hoc Committee will undermine the actions of the task force and will become a public watchdog over all its actions and recommendations.

To prevent further upstagings by the Ad Hoc Committee, I urge you to accelerate the approval and implementation of the plan that is currently before you.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience. This memo has not been disseminated nor approved by any other Core Group member and reflects my personal feelings and not necessarily those of the Core Group. Thank you for your consideration.

cc: President William J. Clinton
Honorable Leon Panetta



FINAL EDITION

The Miami Herald

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1994

CONTENTS COPYRIGHT © 1994 THE MIAMI HERALD

Elated exiles prepare to greet their loved ones

First of 10,000 detainees could arrive next week

By LIZETTE ALVAREZ
Herald Staff Writer

Thousands of Cuban rafters will complete their long journeys to South Florida beginning next week, this time arriving in planes sponsored by the U.S. government or the Miami exile community.

The Clinton administration is expected as early as today to lay out details of planned releases from Guantanamo and Panama of up to 10,000 Cubans — about 3,000 children and their relatives.

U.S.-CUBA PACT CALLED ILLEGAL

■ A conservative immigration reform group says U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno has no authority to parole Cubans into the United States, 13A.

Two planes a week are scheduled to fly to Miami on a regular basis until all children and their immediate relatives — parents, siblings or guardians — are out of Guantanamo and Panama, said Miami City Manager Cesar Odio, who was briefed Wednesday.

Flights could begin as early as next week if all goes as expected and many refugees will be here by Christmas.

"We expect the children with the families right away," Odio said.

Odio said he wants to defray taxpayer costs for refugee flights by raising money in the exile community in Miami. Family members here may also be asked to pay for their relatives' air fares.

The refugees will live — at least temporarily —

Elated exiles awaiting loved ones

CUBANS, FROM 1A

with family or sponsors in the United States.

Thinking ahead

In South Florida, relatives of the Guantanamo Cubans were elated. After three months of waiting and worrying about conditions in the camp, they can now turn their attention to their relatives' homecoming. They are already thinking ahead: more mattresses, more food and, somehow, more space.

"I always had hope," said Marina Diaz, who has a stepson and grandson in the camp. "We will take care of them. The little that we have we will share with them. I have a small house. But we will make room. We will all fit here, at least for a while."

Diaz said her grandson — 4-year-old Yasel Navarro Diaz — was born with a weak liver and glandular problems, a condition doctors had closely monitored in Cuba. But at the base, Yasel never got the medical treatment he needed. Just this week, a gland in his throat swelled up.

"The child doesn't eat anything," Diaz said. "He is very thin. And he cries. It's really bad. What they are going through there with their kids can't be good."

"For me, this is the best thing they could do," Diaz added.

Some Miami exiles are just happy to know they did not mislead relatives when they told them to stay put and not give up.

"They were waiting and waiting to see what would happen to them," said Eloisa Mendigutia, 41, who has a 6-month-old niece at the base. "We kept telling them to hold on. We had hope in this president."

Some 20,000 Cuban rafters will remain in the Guantanamo and Panama camps, set up this summer after Fidel Castro unleashed a massive exodus in retaliation for U.S. policies. Though U.S. authorities, citing concerns about encouraging another exodus, insist the remaining refugees won't be

paroled into the United States, powerful Cuban Americans are pressing for their freedom as well.

Anger in Little Haiti

In Little Haiti, news of the decision to begin releasing more thousands of Cubans from the base stirred confusion and anger, underscoring once again the disparity in treatment between Haitian and Cubans.

For Lucienne Aristide, children are children — regardless of their birthplace. Her son Ronald, 12, has been at the base since July. He arrived alone.

"I don't feel good," said Aristide, who left Haiti on a boat in April. "I miss him. I cry every time I talk to him."

"All children are the same," she added. "I would like all of the kids to be let out of the base, not just the Cubans."

Haitian refugee activists say that Haitian children are stuck on the base for only one reason: The Haitian-American community lacks the political muscle of its Cuban counterpart.

"I think ultimately what's going on is that if you have political clout you are able to persuade officials in Washington to do the right thing, and if you don't have clout, you're not able to," said Cheryl Little, an immigration attorney for Florida Rural Legal Services. "The Haitians shouldn't be punished simply because they don't have the kind of clout the Cubans do."

The Haitian Refugee Center is suing the federal government, demanding the release of 230 unaccompanied minors at the Haitian camps and access to Guantanamo, among other things.

Steve Forester, an attorney at the refugee center, said the Haitian community does not begrudge the Cubans their success. Haitian simply feel they have a legal right to benefit from the same policy.

"We think it's wonderful that Cubans are being paroled into the United States," he said. "Our gripe is with the the Clinton administration that thinks the white color of the Statue of Liberty doesn't apply to black Haitians."

MIAMI HERALD
NOV. 16
WEDNESDAY

U.S. to let in more rafters from camps 10,000 Cubans may be eligible

By CHRISTOPHER MARQUIS
And ANDRES VIGLUCCI
Herald Staff Writers

WASHINGTON — More Cuban refugees than previously expected — 7,000-10,000 — could be admitted to the United States under an administration decision to let children and their relatives leave camps at Guantanamo and Panama, officials and refugee advocates said Tuesday.

Admitting the refugees — up to one-third of the population of camps at the Guantanamo naval base and in Panama — is being portrayed by U.S. officials as a humanitarian exception to President Clinton's dictate in August that no Cuban rafter be granted U.S. entry.

But with the administration eager to see the Summit of the Americas go smoothly in Miami next month, and under intense lobbying from Cuban-American groups, the move appeared to be part of a strategy to gradually empty the refugee camps by making more and more groups eligible for admission to U.S. terri-

PLEASE SEE GUANTANAMO, 13A

New U.S. policy may let in up to 10,000 Cuban detainees

GUANTANAMO, FROM 1A

tory.

"You can see what direction we're going in," said one U.S. official.

The administration has already approved admitting more than 300 Cuban refugees, starting out with the aged, the chronically ill and unaccompanied children under age 13 and later adding unaccompanied children under 17 and some not-so-chronically ill.

A White House official insisted, however, that the paroles now under consideration would be the last humanitarian exemption for Cubans in U.S. custody. Some 30,000 Cuban rafters remain in the Guantanamo and Panama safe haven camps.

The new plan to admit the accompanied children, which still requires Clinton's approval, was immediately hailed by Cuban Americans distressed by what U.S. officials had once called "indefinite detention" of the Cuban rafters.

"I'm pleased. I'm very pleased," said Miami City Manager Cesar Odio, who has been meeting regularly with White House officials to discuss the plight of the refugees. "This is what we have been working for. The children don't belong in those camps."

Haitian kids in camps

But the move dismayed some U.S. diplomats, concerned that it might jeopardize the U.S.-Cuban immigration accord signed in September to halt the exodus of rafters. Under that agreement, Washington in essence committed itself to turning back Cuban rafters.

It also stirred a cry of outrage from advocates for Haitian refugee children, some 230 of whom are being held in Guantanamo.

"Our concern is equal treatment," said Cheryl Little, an attorney for Florida Rural Legal Services in Miami, who noted that despite the presence of the U.S. troops in Haiti, the security situation remains precarious.

"It just seems the Haitians never get a fair shake. ... If you're going to protect children, you should protect them regardless of nationality."

An announcement is expected some time next week that will grant U.S. visas to between 3,000 and 3,200 children, probably all those 17 or younger, and their immediate families, said administration officials familiar with the plan. The refugees would come to the United States over a period of months, depending on how quickly sponsors can be found for them in the Cuban American community.

Odio said the impact on Miami would be "minimal" because the children and the adults accompa-

CHRONOLOGY

U.S. policy on admitting Cuban refugees:

■ **Aug. 19:** President Clinton announces that Cubans intercepted at sea will be denied asylum, reversing a policy in place since 1966. Thousands of refugees are detained at U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; some are transferred later to camps in Panama.

■ **Sept. 9:** U.S.-Cuba pact calls for admission of 20,000 legal immigrants from Cuba annually. Those in refugee camps will have to return home and apply for visas through U.S. Interests Section in Havana.

■ **Oct. 14:** Administration announces Cubans held in camps who are ill or over 70 years old — and family members who care for them — and unaccompanied children under 13 will be granted rel-

uge.

■ **Oct. 29:** Thirty-two Cubans are flown to Homestead Air Reserve Base from Guantanamo — 14 sick people and their families.

■ **Nov. 3:** Justice Department says refugees flown from camps to U.S. for emergency medical treatment will be permitted to stay in the U.S. and apply for asylum.

■ **Nov. 8:** Federal officials say 166 refugees — 46 elderly Cubans and members of their families — will be released from Guantanamo soon and flown to the United States.

■ **Nov. 9:** Administration broadens policy to admit nearly 300 children — including unaccompanied children through age 17.

nving them would not be admitted without U.S. sponsors willing to absorb their costs.

"They must have families here able to support them," Odio said.

"With those conditions in place, they won't be a public charge."

Jose Hernandez, president of the Cuban American National Foundation, said he expects significant numbers to settle in South Florida by Christmas. But, he added, "We believe it should be a gradual process. I think the community has to be given an opportunity to assimilate these people."

Administration officials were still puzzling Tuesday over how to determine which relatives or care-givers would be allowed in with the children. Depending on the definition of relatives, White House and State Department officials said the total refugees admitted would range from 7,000 to 10,000. Earlier estimates on the number of children and caretakers who would be allowed in ranged from 6,000 to 8,000.

Defining 'caretakers'

A White House official said the most likely scenario would be to automatically admit parents and older siblings. Grandparents and other relatives would be considered "on a case-by-case basis," he said.

But a private lawyer in Miami familiar with administration discussions on the issue said officials were leaning toward defining relatives "as loosely as possible" to allow flexibility in admitting children with caretakers who are not their parents.

"It would be logical to consider that you don't just pull the children out and leave the mother and father behind," said one State Department official. "But do you go to every aunt and cousin? That's an issue you have to look at."

Gov. Lawton Chiles, who

pinned his successful re-election bid on his strong stand against uncontrolled immigration into the state, reacted cautiously to the news out of Washington.

Spokesman Ron Sachs said the governor would await formal notification from the White House before discussing specifics but added that Chiles would insist on several points: that as many refugees as possible be settled outside Florida, that every immigrant have a sponsor, and that the federal government take "full fiscal responsibility" for the impact of any influx.

Herald staff writer Mimi Whitefield contributed to this report.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. calendar	re: November 1994 (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	11/00/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Public Liaison
Suzanna Valdez
OA/Box Number: 5948

FOLDER TITLE:

Cuba 1994 [Folder 1] [3]

2016-0920-F
jm1903

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

NOVEMBER 1994

		Tue. Nov. 1, 1994	Wed. Nov. 2, 1994	Thu. Nov. 3, 1994	Fri. Nov. 4, 1994	Sat. Nov. 5, 1994
		8:00a Breakfast w/Carmen 11:00a Base Voter Conference 11:00a Meeting w/Roger, Ma 1:00p Lunch w/Eva-Notte L 3:00p Meeting with Beverly 5:00p Base Voter Meeting-	11:00a Base Voter Conference Call (456-6755) 1:30p Meeting w/Alexis 2:30p Cuba IWG meeting in WH Situations Room 4:00p Meeting w/Beverly Ellerman 5:00p Base Voter Meeting-- Mike Lux	11:00a Base Voter Conference 3:00p Meeting with Linda Br 5:00p Base Voter Meeting-- TODO Write recommendatio TODO Memo on Summit Out TODO Memo to Harold Ickes TODO Phone calls--Appointe	10:30a (Joe) Tour for Clara Apodaca-Mr. Waterston 11:00a Base Voter Conference Call (456-6755) 12:30p (Joe) Lunch Appointment 3:00p Meeting w/Sid Espinoza 5:00p Base Voter Meeting-- Mike Lux	8:00p Meeting with Norma Cantu (b)(6) [002]
Sun. Nov. 6, 1994	Mon. Nov. 7, 1994	Tue. Nov. 8, 1994	Wed. Nov. 9, 1994	Thu. Nov. 10, 1994	Fri. Nov. 11, 1994	Sat. Nov. 12, 1994
	11:00a Base Voter Conference Call (456-6755) 5:00p Base Voter Meeting-- Mike Lux	11:00a Base Voter Conference Call (456-6755) 5:00p Base Voter Meeting-- Mike Lux 7:30p Meeting with Jacquie	10:00a Mexican Delegation Meeting-Liz, Suzanne, Araceli, Clarissa, Isabelle		TODO Joe leaves for Yale weekend	
Sun. Nov. 13, 1994	Mon. Nov. 14, 1994	Tue. Nov. 15, 1994	Wed. Nov. 16, 1994	Thu. Nov. 17, 1994	Fri. Nov. 18, 1994	Sat. Nov. 19, 1994
11:45a Pan American Mass-- Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception		12:00p Lunch with George Munoz at Old Ebbitt			TODO LAMA Conference--VP requested TODO NPRC Women-- Holiday Inn-- Independence mall, Philly, PA-Mrs. Gore requested	THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON
Sun. Nov. 20, 1994	Mon. Nov. 21, 1994	Tue. Nov. 22, 1994	Wed. Nov. 23, 1994	Thu. Nov. 24, 1994	Fri. Nov. 25, 1994	Sat. Nov. 26, 1994
TODO Hemispheric Summit Begins--First Lady requested	TODO Hemispheric Summit Continues	TODO Hemispheric Summit Ends		HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING		
Sun. Nov. 27, 1994	Mon. Nov. 28, 1994	Tue. Nov. 29, 1994	Wed. Nov. 30, 1994			
		9:45a Appointment with Dr. Abramson				

Task force TS

Maria De /
Simon Ferio Paul Capis
Mons. Roman
Moria Dominguez
Pepe Foundation
Carlos Arboleya
Lucia Butler Rojas
Luisa Garcia Toledo
Ex Basulto
Tam Wiley-

No govt.
officials

M E T A

1000 BRICKELL AVENUE, FOURTH FLOOR
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33131

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

TO:

FAX #:

FROM:

FAX #:

DATE:

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER PAGE):

COMMENTS:

**IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS RECEIVING PART OF THIS TRANSMITTAL
PLEASE CALL (305) 579-2180**

FAX MESSAGE

TO: *Leon Panetta, Keta Davis, Joe Velazquez,
Dennis Hays, R. Wilhelm*

FAX #: ()-

FROM:

FAX #: ()-

MESSAGE:

STATEMENT OF THE CUBAN-AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC AD-HOC GROUP ON CUBA

WE CALL THIS PRESS CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO STATE OUR POSITION REGARDING PRESIDENT CLINTON'S DECISION TO INDEFINITELY DETAIN CUBAN NATIONALS IN IMMIGRATION CAMPS IN THE US NAVAL BASE AT GUANTANAMO AND ELSEWHERE. WE, AS CUBAN-AMERICAN DEMOCRATS, HAVE SUPPORTED PRESIDENT CLINTON SINCE THE VERY BEGINNING. IT WAS THIS GROUP OF CUBAN-AMERICAN DEMOCRATS THAT ORGANIZED, FINANCED AND COORDINATED THE CLINTON-GORE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN IN THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY OF DADE COUNTY. IT WAS THE UNITED EFFORT OF THIS GROUP THAT PROVIDED THEN-CANDIDATE BILL CLINTON WITH THE NECESSARY HISPANIC VOTES TO WIN ONE OF ONLY TWO COUNTY VICTORIES IN FLORIDA. SINCE THE CUBAN-AMERICAN DEMOCRATS WHO MET WITH THE PRESIDENT HAVE ONLY EXPRESSED THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE ADMINISTRATION, WE FEEL IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BREAK OUR SILENCE AND SEND A MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON FROM THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE CUBAN-AMERICAN DEMOCRATS. THEREFORE, WE MAKE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) THAT IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT LIVING CONDITIONS BE IMMEDIATELY IMPROVED AT GUANTANAMO AND OTHER DETENTION CAMPS. WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SOME REFUGEES MAY BE PRESSURED TO RETURN TO CUBA AS A RESULT OF POOR CONDITIONS AT THE CAMPS.
- 2) THAT THE SICK, ELDERLY, PREGNANT WOMEN AND OTHER HUMANITARIAN CASES BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED.
- 3) THAT ALL MINORS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AS WELL AS MINORS WITH OR WITHOUT FAMILIES IN THE UNITED STATES, BE RELEASED TO THEIR FAMILIES OR SPONSORS. IN THE EVENT THEY DO NOT HAVE FAMILIES OR

SPONSORS IN THE UNITED STATES, WE PROPOSE THAT A TRUST FUND TO ASSIST THESE REFUGEES TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES BE CREATED.

4) THAT THOSE CUBANS WHO WERE FORCED TO LEAVE THE ISLAND BECAUSE OF THEIR POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO THE CASTRO REGIME BE GRANTED IMMEDIATE POLITICAL ASYLUM.

5) THAT A REVISED OR IMMIGRATION INSPECTION CENTER FOR REFUGEES BE REQUIRED TO RETURN TO CUBA FOR PROCESSING. WE URGE THE ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH AN IMMIGRATION PROCESSING CENTER AT THE CAMPS TO FURTHER DISPEL THE FEAR OF HAVING TO RETURN TO CUBA AND BEING SUBSEQUENTLY PERSECUTED BY THE CASTRO REGIME.

6) WE REITERATE OUR OPPOSITION TO ANY POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS TO THE TOTALITARIAN REGIME OF FIDEL CASTRO.

7) WE CALL UPON THE ADMINISTRATION TO INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF THE DENOUNCE THE CONSTANT VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND INCARCERATION OF THOSE THAT OPPOSE CASTRO'S TOTALITARIAN REGIME.

WE STRONGLY URGE PRESIDENT CLINTON TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THESE RECOMMENDATIONS SINCE THEY REPRESENT THE VIEW OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF CUBAN DEMOCRATS.

Cuban Democrats disagree about policy

A caucus of Dade Cuban Democrats, who backed President Clinton in his bid for the White House, have parted ways on the president's policy to detain Cubans in Guantanamo and elsewhere.

"We're not giving hope, we're not giving dignity, we're not giving an example," said Gustavo Marin, president of Democrats for Democracy in Cuba. "We're not doing anything on behalf of human rights, democracy and the future of Cuba."

Representatives from a dozen groups gathered Tuesday in Little Havana to voice their discontent not only with Clinton but with a handful of Cuban democrats who met with the president last month. That group included Althay Simon Ferro and former Dade School Board member Paul Celas.

Marin criticized that delegation for being cheerleaders for the administration.

He also faulted the consultation by the White House, as well as other measures being taken to alleviate the suffering of Cuban rafters now in detention camps, he said.

2B THE HERALD, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1994

Grupo de demócratas contra la detención de los balseros

Una veintena de grupos de demócratas cubanos se reunieron el martes en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.



La comunidad cubana no acepta líderes impuestos o prefabricados.

ELADIO ARMESTO
Liga Democrática de Dade

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

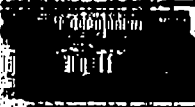
Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.



La comunidad cubana no acepta líderes impuestos o prefabricados.

ELADIO ARMESTO
Liga Democrática de Dade

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

La comunidad cubana no acepta líderes impuestos o prefabricados.

ELADIO ARMESTO
Liga Democrática de Dade

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

El grupo de demócratas se reunió en la ciudad de Miami para expresar su descontento con la política de la administración Clinton de detener a los cubanos en Guantánamo y en otros lugares.

Reunidos bajo el nombre Cuban American Democratic Ad Hoc Group on Cuba, este grupo de correligionarios de Clinton que lo apoyaron en su candidatura, se separó al decidir el futuro de los balseros.

Nosotros somos los verdaderos demócratas, hoy y mañana, dijo Gustavo Marin, miembro del grupo.

MIAMI HERALD

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003. schedule	re: November 1994 (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	11/00/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Public Liaison
Suzanna Valdez
OA/Box Number: 5948

FOLDER TITLE:

Cuba 1994 [Folder 1] [3]

2016-0920-F
jm1903

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

VALDEZ_S@WHADMIN

Nov. 4, 1994 to Nov. 7, 1994

Friday November 4, 1994

10:30a-11:30a (Joe) Tour for Clara Apodaca--Mr. Waterston

11:00a-12:00p Base Voter Conference Call (456-6755)

12:30p-1:30p (Joe) Lunch Appointment

3:00p-4:00p Meeting w/Sid Espinoza

5:00p-6:00p Base Voter Meeting--Mike Lux

Saturday November 5, 1994

8:00p-9:00p Meeting with Norma Cantu

(b)(6)

TODD (Joe) Volunteer work w/ Princeton Club--9am--4pm

Monday November 7, 1994

11:00a-12:00p Base Voter Conference Call (456-6755)

5:00p-6:00p Base Voter Meeting--Mike Lux

[003]

October	1994						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						
February	1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28					

November	1994						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

December	1994						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

January	1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

March	1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

April	1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							

May	1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

OnTime(R) Copyright Campbell Services, Inc. 1991

VALDEZ_S@WHADMIN
Tuesday November 15, 1994

Tuesday November 15, 1994

1:00p-1:00p Lunch with George Munoz at Old Ebit

2:00p-2:30p Fred Duvall--Protocol--To review Mexico delegation list

Please note this schedule addition.

3:00p-4:00p First meeting of the Federal Interagency Committee to plan the UN's Habitat II

HUD building, 7th and E. Streets SW room 8202

* 3:15 Meeting w/ Mort, Altman & Alexis

4:00p-5:00p Meeting with Mark Gearan in AMH's office

6:15p-7:15p Conference call with Core Group

TODO Call: Milan, Marla Romash, Beth Pritchard

TODO First Lady--Mary Alice--Children's Working Group

TODO Make with a deposit (SV)

TODO Memo to Harold Ickes

TODO Scheduling Request--Channels 51 & 23

* 5p.m. Summit Outreach - Steve's

October 1994						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 1994						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 1994						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 1995						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
INITIALS: JM DATE: 6/26/18
2016-0920-F

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM TO JOAN BAGGETT AND ALEXIS HERMAN

FROM: RETA LEWIS
SUZANNA VALDEZ (unsigned)

RE: POLITICAL AND PUBLIC OUTREACH -- SOUTH FLORIDA

DATE: AUGUST 25, 1994

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

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

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

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

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

WHAT ARE OUR NEXT STEPS?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

page 3

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

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

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

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

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

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

OFFICIAL USE ONLY:
PLEASE DO NOT CIRCULATE BEYOND ADDRESSEES

8/25

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

TO: Mort Halperin
Richard Clarke
Alexis Herman
Joan Baggett
Tara Sonenshine
Bill Danvers
Reta Lewis
✓ Susanna Valdez
Joe Valasquez
Tim Atkin
Rand Beers

FROM: ERIC SCHWARTZ

Subject: Visit to Miami and Follow-up

Here is a rough draft. I don't know who should be the recipient of this memo. Perhaps we can discuss tonight.

OVERVIEW OF THE VISIT

The White House/NSC/State/DOD team sent to Florida yesterday went a long way toward dispelling rumors and opening deeper lines of communication with community and opinion leaders. However, the community is disparate and we will not have unanimous support for any measures we adopt. At the same time, close and continual contact is essential if we hope to communicate our policy messages clearly to Cubans in Cuba, who rely so heavily on the Cuban-American community in Miami. It is also essential to build support among those who might be sympathetic to our approaches and to anticipate and deflect opposition.

ESSENTIAL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The need for a Presidential message

Even among more moderate members of the Cuban-American community, there is skepticism about the credibility of the messages coming from the Administration. Many doubt that we will continue to be "tough" toward Castro and there is palpable fear that we will be forced into a broad negotiation with him. On the migration issue, Cuban-Americans report that their brethren in Cuba simply

do not believe the U.S. message that Cubans will not be resettled.

In addition, we were told that the U.S. seems to lack a "gameplan" for change in Cuba. We heard strong expressions of support for a Presidential statement on Cuba which would address these issues.

RECOMMENDATION

That NSC staff prepare a draft Presidential statement to be delivered as soon as possible.

2. Migration "Talks"

We believe that any bilateral migration discussions scheduled in the near future will evoke strong protests from large segments (i.e., beyond the most dogmatic members) of the Cuban-American community. Those who might in other circumstances accept such talks argue that the symbolism at this moment would be wrong -- that we would be negotiating with Castro under threat.

Under current circumstances, we will take political hits for any migration talks. By conceiving of the talks as narrowly as possible, consulting beforehand with political allies in south Florida and traveling there for broad consultations with the community, we could effect some damage control.

RECOMMENDATION

That prior to any initiation of such discussions, NSC staff coordinate with White House offices of Public Liaison and Political Affairs.

3. STRUCTURE AND STRATEGY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH FLORIDA

We need to send periodic messages to south Florida community groups and leaders emphasizing the main components of our message on Cuba, including the need to urge Cubans in Cuba not to take to boats.

We also need to be have periodic personal contact with these groups, with the next trip including visits to Florida editorial boards and follow-up discussions with local groups to pin them down on actions they are taking to discourage Cubans in Cuba from leaving by boat.

We should continue to work through the Governor's Office as our main point of liaison with south Florida groups and public officials.

RECOMMENDATIONS

NSC staff will draft a "message of the day" for clearance at a 9 am White House/NSC staff meeting, which will then be faxed by OPL to local officials, civic groups and others in south Florida. OPL will also make this available to NSC Legislative Affairs and NSC press as well as other White House offices.

OPL and White House Political Affairs will prepare, by OOB Friday, a short list of south Florida leaders and Florida public officials who can be called to be informed of important policy initiatives, of misinformation that needs to be corrected, etc. PA, OPL, and NSC staff will coordinate when it is believed that such calls need to be made.

OPL and PA will provide to Justice (Phyllis Coven: 514 3392) a list of organizations/individuals with whom we met, so that Justice's Community Relations Service and the INS can ensure those groups are doing everything possible to discourage boat departures.

The Administration will, as soon as possible, dispatch a representative to south Florida to meet with editorial boards and follow-up liaison with the Cuban-American community. The representative, who will be accompanied by someone from White House media affairs, will speak with CRS and INS on the issue of encouraging Cubans not to take to rafts and will seek concrete information on actions being taken by Cuban-Americans to discourage boat departures. Media Affairs will provide to NSC press a list of Florida publications to be visited, and NSC Press will coordinate with Media Affairs in arranging appointments.

4. OTHER MEASURES INVOLVING AGENCY ACTION

The groups and individuals we met made a number of other suggestions, which will be raised with appropriate agencies by White House/NSC offices as indicated.

- Encouraging third countries to condemn Cuba's violations of human rights (NSC will raise with State).
- Taking a series of measures suggested by the Governor's Office (and listed at Attachment A) to promote quality of life at Krome Detention Center (NSC will raise with Justice).
- Publicizing human rights violations by the Cuban Government -- it was also suggested that we use film footage of women and

OFFICIAL USE ONLY:
PLEASE DO NOT CIRCULATE BEYOND ADDRESSEES

children being put onto rafts (NSC will raise with Coast Guard and State).

- Creating an empowerment zone in south Florida to promote development in the context of immigration (Political Affairs will raise with HUD).
- Providing additional assistance, possibly through a supplemental, for south Florida (Intergovernmental Affairs will discuss with DPC staff).

OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

PLEASE DO NOT CIRCULATE BEYOND ADDRESSEES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARK:
INITIALS: JM DATE: 6/26/18
2016-0920-F

MEMORANDUM TO JOAN BAGGETT AND ALEXIS HERMAN

FROM: RETA LEWIS
SUZANNA VALDEZ (unsigned)

RE: POLITICAL AND PUBLIC OUTREACH -- SOUTH FLORIDA

DATE: AUGUST 25, 1994

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

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

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

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

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

WHAT ARE OUR NEXT STEPS?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

September 19, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR SUZANNA VALDEZ

FROM: JOE VELASQUEZ

SUBJECT: Cuba Stuff

In light of the elections, I will not be able to participate in the Cuba project to the extent necessary. These are a few things underway that you may want to pick up:

1. Work with Ruga to get the donations to GTMO -- he's ready. The Core Group has the info on what we need. Simon and I discussed that it would be good PR if the Core Group got all the stuff and takes credit.
2. I'm checking with the Postal Service to send a team to GTMO to check out what can be done to set up some type of mail service.
3. I talked with Monsignor Roman about the need for priests. He's ready to help. Think about getting the military to fly them down every Saturday.
4. Vicki Rivas Vasquez's sister is into social workers and nurses. She can help you work out a system to rotate them in and out of GTMO. I've talked to her and she's sending me a memo outlining an idea to do a needs assessment.
5. The visitors policy is important. We need to get JMC to continue supporting us. His big deal now is to get to Guantanamo. This needs to happen, but the President's Democrats need to be the first group. We should, however, announce the approval for the trips simultaneously.
6. I have friends at the Red Cross who should brief us on what they're doing in Cuba and what else they can do. I also know the United Way network. If you want I can get you tied into them. They can do a lot.

I've put in a request for the President to meet with a select and diverse group of Cuban Americans. MAR will help me define the group.

Don't think I'm abandoning the issue. I will help you with any piece of this, particularly JMC. Let me know what you want me to do.

c: Mort Halperin

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 9, 1994

TO: Joe Velasquez
White House Office of Political Affairs

FROM: Paul Cejas on behalf of the Immigration Ad-Hoc Committee

Committee Members:

Mr. Paul Cejas - Chairman, Governor's Commission on a
Free Cuba

Ms. Maria R. Dominguez - Executive Director, St. Thomas
University Human Rights
Institute

Ms. Josefina J. Carbonell - President, Little Havana
Activities & Nutrition
Centers of Dade County,
Inc.

Mr. Jose "Pepe" Hernandez - President, Cuban American
National Foundation

Mr. Cesar Odio - City Manager, City of Miami

Mr. Andres Rivero - Assistant to Metro Dade County
Manager, Metro Dade County
Government

Mr. Roberto Rodriguez-Aragon - President, Junta
Patriotica

Ms. Virginia Sanchez - Intergovernmental Affairs, Metro
Dade County Government

Mr. Miguel Angel Tudela - President, Cuban
Municipalities in Exile

Introduction

As per my verbal report to you, the following will represent a synopsis of those comments including the committee's observations and actions to date, as well as a brief history and origin of the group.

Origin and Purpose

The Immigration Ad-Hoc Committee formed itself in the midst of the extenuating circumstances stemming from the sudden influx of Cuban refugees to South Florida. The philosophy behind the formation of the group was to join a number of community leaders who could aid the INS on an ad-hoc basis with matters related to both the ongoing condition of the Krome Detention Center and its detainees. In short, the committee's main purpose is to aid in "humanizing" the process by which the refugees are detained, and to advise the INS on any other related matters.

Implementation

Pursuant to the committee's aforementioned objective, the group met and requested an on-site visit of the Krome Detention Center. The purpose of this visit was to experience Krome firsthand while also speaking with both camp officials and detainees. With the full cooperation of Mr. Dan Cadman, Regional Director of INS, as well as the approval of Attorney General Janet Reno the committee was able to visit Krome on two separate occasions: once on September 7th and again on September 8th.

Observations

Observations were obtained through the committee's two visits to the Krome Detention Center. Day 1 observations were gathered as committee members took a firsthand tour of the facilities and spoke with various detainees. Day 2 observations were obtained through another tour of the grounds, as well as through interviews with several representatives of the detainee self-governance board. This board was formed after the Day 1 visit at the suggestion of the ad-hoc committee to solve local problems and facilitate the information flow between detainees, camp officials, and the committee. The following section will summarize several areas of identified deficiency within the Krome facility:

1. Extreme Hardship Cases:

- In two of the most serious instances, a paraplegic male and his 14 year old wife, as well as a mother with her hearing and speech impaired son were being detained amidst the general population of the camp.
- Various children less than 14 years old were observed to have disease and/or minor injuries.

2. Living Arrangements/Visitation Privileges:

- Families were generally broken apart with male children over the age of 11 years living with their fathers and being granted extremely limited, and in some cases, no visitation time with their mothers.

- Segregation of the adult population by gender leaves husbands without wives and vice versa. This was cited as a major problem because spousal support was considered by detainees to be crucial to enduring the perplexing and often frustrating Krome experience.

3. Living Conditions:

- A general lack of recreational facilities and/or areas was cited. In particular, male detainees complained of no places to read or exercise.
- Access to religious services was cited as another area of particular discontent. Most of the detainees come from a Catholic background and considered their spiritual well-being a necessary component of their daily lives.
- Detainees agreed that Krome's orange uniforms were preferable to wearing their own clothes, but that since uniform changes only occurred twice per week that the detainees be issued plain shorts and shirts for recreation purposes only. This would avoid excess soiling of the orange uniforms due to the excessive heat and humidity of South Florida, as well as sweat and dirt accumulated during, for example, sports activities.
- An overwhelming need for more telephone lines to the outside was cited. Many detainees complained about not being able to contact friends and/or family members that lived in the United States in order to report their status.
- There was a strong concern regarding the uncontrolled mosquito situation.

4. Meals:

- This was a major area of discontent. Both meal scheduling and the taste of the food were cited as unsatisfactory. At the time of the visits, the meal schedule was considered too early with breakfast being served from 6:00 AM to 7:00 AM; lunch from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM; and dinner from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. In addition, no menus were being provided and the food was called too spicy due to the fact that Haitian cooks were preparing virtually all detainee meals.

Actions

By the end of the Day 2 visit and with the full cooperation of Mr. Dan Cadman and Ms. Valorie Blake from INS, as well as Mr. Victor Risso from the Department of Treasury, discussions and meetings between the ad-hoc committee, the detainee self-governance board, and Krome officials produced the following results in the aforementioned four complaint areas:

1. Extreme Hardship Cases:

- Currently, the committee has arranged for the release of four sets of detainees, each related to a separate hardship case. Included in those four sets of releases were the two aforementioned examples. All detainees were released under the custody of the Cuban American National Foundation of Miami.

2. Living Arrangements/Visitation/Privileges:

- Efforts to increase the duration and frequency of family visitation privileges are ongoing between camp officials, the detainee self-governance board, and the ad-hoc committee. Suggestions have been made toward posting a bulletin board in a visible place which will delineate camp regulations and notices, while allowing families to locate each other more easily for visitation time. This will not only smoothen the visitation process, but will also encouraging the detainees to pursue "self-rule" within the camp in orderly and controlled manner.
- Other suggestions that are currently being implemented are increasing family visitation frequency from twice to three times weekly and visitation time to two hours per family visit.

3. Living Conditions:

- A separate recreation/educational area has been designated for detainees to listen to the radio, watch the 11:00 PM local news, and read newspapers and magazines.
- As a direct result of the efforts of the ad-hoc committee, a Catholic priest was allowed to serve mass to the entire camp population on the morning of the committee's second visit (Sept. 8th). The mass was particularly special because it celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Charity, the Patron Saint of Cuba. The mass was cited as a high point and was attended by all but a very few detainees.
- The request for shorts and t-shirts is currently being followed up by the INS Director of Operations who has a contact person that can provide each detainee with a plain pair of shorts and t-shirt for recreation.
- A plan was promptly developed to fumigate the camp grounds for mosquitoes twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays at 5:00 AM while most detainees were asleep.

4. Meals:

- With the cooperation of camp officials, meetings produced a more agreeable meal schedule with breakfast being served from 6:30 AM to 8:00 AM; lunch from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM; and dinner from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM.
- Ad-hoc committee member Ms. Josefina Carbonell offered her assistance in coordinating menus that were more favorable and tasteful to detainees. In addition, the camp director agreed to allow detainees to begin assisting in the food preparation process provided that those employed obtain full liability releases. The releases are currently being obtained.

Unresolved Issues

The committee cannot overstate the need to deal with the following conditions in a forthright and expeditious manner. We underscore the gravity of this situation with the fact that there are conditions currently existing at Krome that do not exist at other refugee detention centers. For example, at Guantanamo Bay families are housed and do live together.

The following issues represent the areas most in need of immediate attention:

1. Living Conditions of Women and Mothers

- Women and mothers are currently housed in large rooms that resemble crowded barracks, and are confined to these quarters indefinitely except for meal times. Moreover, no activities are organized for these women and/or the children. It is clear that these women and children need to be reunited with their husbands and fathers.

2. Psychological Deterioration of Children

- Committee members have observed an abnormally high degree of depression and strange behavior among the detained children. Among the observed phenomenon was unusually aggressive behavior and recurrent bed-wetting.

Closing

In closing, we express the deepest gratitude to those authorities involved in aiding the ad-hoc committee with our work. In particular, Mr. Dan Cadman and Ms. Valorie Blake of INS, and Mr. Victor Risso of the Department of Treasury deserve special mention.

MEMORANDUM FOR LEON PANETTA

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM:

ALEXIS HERMAN

**ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC LIAISON**

JOAN BAGGETT

**ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS**

MORTON HALPERIN

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
SENIOR DIRECTOR FOR DEMOCRACY**

RE:

BRIEFING OF CUBAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

DATE:

SEPTEMBER 14, 1994

opening see "Overview of visit"
The reception for Hisp Her. month will take place
~~At the Hispanic Heritage event taking place next Tuesday September 20, 1994.~~
representatives from Florida will attend. There is an urgent need to have a briefing specifically for the Florida group on the Cuban Migration and the Administration's policy. The Cuban American Community, resulting talks, and situation at Guantanamo Naval Base should be discussed with these representatives. At this briefing it is very important for participation from Vice President Gore, Secretary Perry, Attorney General Reno, and Under Secretary of State Peter Tarnoff attend. If possible a very brief meeting with the President have tremendous political benefits.

Reasons for the briefing are as follows:

- 1) Humanitarian Rights violations by Cuba and the Stability in the Detention Center are central and emotional issues for the Cuban-American Floridians.
- 2) Ensure a positive political impact of talks with Cuba in the Florida Cuban-American Community.
- 3) Help reinforce Governor Chiles bid for governor in Florida. He has been very strong on this issue. Because of the enormity of this issue the news of the gubernatorial campaign has taken second slot.
- 4) Help strengthen the lines of communication between the Administration and the Cuban-American Community. In the past, there has been a strong alliance, ideologically and politically, with the Republican Party (NOTE: Gubernatorial Candidate Jeb Bush was a major player in this fact.)

LAW OFFICES**BECKER & POLIAKOFF, P.A.**

BOCA RATON CLEARWATER DAYTONA BEACH FORT MYERS HOLLYWOOD MELBOURNE
MIAMI NAPLES ORLANDO PORT CHARLOTTE ST. PETERSBURG SARASOTA
TALLAHASSEE TAMPA WEST PALM BEACH

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
EMERALD LAKE CORPORATION PARK
3111 STIRLING ROAD
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL. 33312-6525

MAILING ADDRESS
BLUE LAGOON DRIVE, #250
MIAMI, FL 33126

DIRECT TELEPHONE LINES
FORT LAUDERDALE (305) 463-7920
MIAMI (305) 262-4433
FLORIDA TOLL FREE 1-800-593-4874

FAX COVER SHEET

OUR FAX #(305)262-4504

DATE: October 26, 1994

TOTAL # OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 2PGS

COMPANY: The White House, Office of Public Liaison

ATTN./LOCATION: Susana Valdez

CLIENT#/MATTER#: n/a FAX #: (202) 456-6218

FROM: Simon Ferro TELEPHONE #: (305) 262-4433

RE:

TIME SENT: _____ OPERATOR: _____

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS ATTORNEY PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE TO DELIVER IT TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Susana Valdes, Office of Public Liaison, The White House
FROM: Simon Ferro
RE: Request by Roberto Suarez
DATE: October 26, 1994

Roberto Suarez, the editor of El Nuevo Herald (the spanish edition of The Miami Herald) submitted the attached memo to Jorge Bolanos, who then forwarded it to me. The memo is self-explanatory.

We need to consider the following:

If we do not help out and this lady is either sent back to Guantanamo without her operation or, worse, her condition deteriorates, we will have the Miami Herald tear us apart.

If we can get her husband out under a humanitarian exemption it may get us a positive write-up and badly needed good PR.

I know I am being excessively simplistic about the situation, but I believe we must make the decision that furthers the President's interests in South Florida.

It would appear that time is of the essence in this situation, so I would really appreciate your reaction to the possible options ASAP.

As always, thanks for your help.

Simon

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
004. memo	Roberto Suarez to Jorge Bolanos (Medical) [partial] (1 page)	10/26/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Public Liaison
Suzanna Valdez
OA/Box Number: 5948

FOLDER TITLE:

Cuba 1994 [Folder 1] [3]

2016-0920-F
jm1903

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

OCT-26-1994 23:16

P.02

October 26, 1994

MEMO TO: Jorge Bolaños
FROM: Roberto Suárez

[004]

There is a situation that needs immediate attention from high level officials at the White House.

Mireya Pagan Acosta is a 24 year old rafter from Guantanamo that was transferred to the Wolford Hall Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

She has been asked to sign some documents and hesitated to do so until her husband, Franklin Diaz, who is also in Guantanamo is with her. For some reason they didn't allow him to come with her and they are not allowing him to come now. She has been threatened to be sent back to Guantanamo without surgery.

If you want to talk to her to confirm any of this or to get additional information you can call her at (210) 678-1567. The nurses' station is (210) 670-3834, the Neurologist name is Dr. Sloan and the Surgeon is Dr. Tom Cullom.

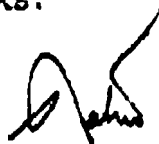
Mrs. Pagan's husband is at camp Tango, Tent C-3 in Guantanamo.

Apparently, he cannot get any information from his wife and according to some family in Miami, he is desperate.

If there is something that you can do, I would appreciate it.

Thanks.

/at

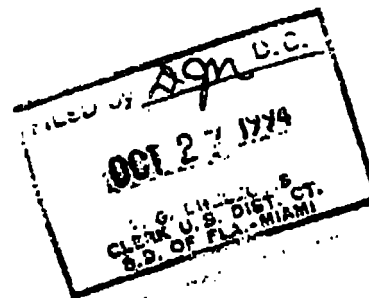


Julia Ann Bender → Statement

W. Atkins

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CUBAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION,
INC. CUBAN LEGAL ALLIANCE, INC.,
DUE PROCESS, INC., LIZBET
MARTINEZ, ARIANNA GONZALEZ NOBAEZ
and ARNIEL DEL CAMPO GONZALEZ, on
Behalf of Themselves and All
Others Similarly Situated; JOVANI
MIGUAL FIFFE PINO, NESTOR
RODRIGUEZ LABORI, NELSON TORRES
PULIDO, MARITZA EXPOSITO, DAVID
BUZZI and ALBERTO RODRIGUEZ
GARCIA, on Behalf of Themselves
and All Others Similarly Situated;
LEYDIS MILAGROS RUIZ MENDEZ, on
Behalf of Herself and All Others
Similarly Situated; and ELENA
PINO, and VIRGINIA PEREZ, on
Behalf of Themselves and All
Others Similarly Situated,
Plaintiffs,



v.

Case No. 94-2183-CIV-ATKINS

WARREN CHRISTOPHER, Secretary of
State; WILLIAM J. PERRY, Secretary
of Defense; DORIS MEISSNER,
Commissioner, Immigration and
Naturalization Service; JANET
RENO, Attorney General; IMMIGRA-
TION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE;
and BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL
WILLIAMS, Commander, Joint Task
Force,
Defendants.

NOTICE TO COUNSEL AND REQUEST FOR RESPONSE

The Court has received the attached communication, written in
Spanish and translated by an official Court interpreter. Please
respond by facsimile by noon tomorrow, October 28, 1994.

DONE AND ORDERED at Miami, Florida, this 27th day of
October, 1994 at 2:30 P.M.

W. Atkins
SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

cc: Counsel of Record

OCT 27 '94 15:22 FROM U S ATTORNEYS OFFICE

PAGE.003

OCT-26-94 WED 06:56 PM

P.0

AL Sr. Clyde Atkins
Juez Federal de Los EUA.

Por la presente queremos hacerle llegar a Ud. nuestra de
de regresar a Cuba incondicionalmente y totalmente voluntaria.
El grupo nuestro compuesto por 23 personas en el día 26-10-
teníamos programado el vuelo que nos pondría de regreso en
nuestro hogar y Ud. no comprendo por que razón y bajo que
argumento nos impidió esa posibilidad de regresar con nues-
tra familia que es nuestro mayor deseo sin estar presentes
sin haber contado con nuestra opinión.

Nosotros queremos que Ud. sepa que nuestro grupo
desea ningún tipo de estatuto político, ni deseamos tampoco
emigrar a E.U.A. de ninguna manera, solo queremos regresar
a nuestro país con nuestra familia con la cual se nos
ha imposibilitado la relación durante 2 largos meses
llevamos en la Base Naval de Guantánamo. Y ninguna
razón en este mundo nos hará cambiar de opinión.

También se ha planteado que regresamos por que
militares y el personal de inmigración nos ha obligado,
cosa que es mentira, nuestras relaciones con los militares
realmente sinceras y fraternales; ellos son encargados de cuidar
y realmente ~~de~~ ellos cumplen su misión a cabalidad
con un respeto mutuo entre ellos y nosotros.

Hay un argumento que dice que estamos forzados a
regresar a Cuba por la condición que hay en los campam-
tos. Este planteamiento no tiene sentido ya que en el
campamento de Panamá las condiciones son óptimas en
todos los aspectos (tienen pensado hasta construir una pe-
~~que vamos a ir a Panamá es decir las condiciones~~
~~en los campamentos tampoco nos afectan. Le repito solo~~
queremos regresar urgente a nuestro país.

OCT 27 '94 15:22 FROM U S ATTORNEYS OFFICE

PAGE.004

OCT-26-94 WED 06:57 PM

P.02

ESPERAMOS QUE NUESTRO DERECHO DE ELEGIR AL FUTURO-
 MENOS NOS CONVIENE SEA RESPETADO. IGUALMENTE LA DECISION
 DE REGRESAR A CUBA ES IRRENUNCIABLE.

FIRMA DE LOS 23 PERSONAS QUE REGRESA A CUBA

- 1- Vicente Gueiro Rodriguez
- 2- Manuel Iglesias Perez
- 3- Juan Luis Barralguer
- 4- Alfy Moreno Vizquy
- 5- Jose H. Jelinek
- 6- Virginia Amato Lopez
- 7- Eric Guerra Molina
- 8- Joeluis Delgado Rocio
- 9- Humberto Martinez Lozada
- 10- Orlando Gonzalez Garcia
- 11- Francisco Humberto Linares
- 12- Ruben Gonzalez Lopez
- 13- Raulando Aguilar Menocal
- 14- Fidel Garcia Marrero
- 15- Humberto Hugo Marrero Benito
- 16- Francisco Teso Oruega
- 17- Humberto Gonzalez Garcia
- 18- Gilberto Perez Vazquez
- 19- Ramon L. Ulloa Ulloa Rodriguez
- 20- Lissette Hernandez Luis
- 21- Rocio Pagan Marchante
- 22-
- 23-

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

OCT 27 '94 15:23 FROM U S ATTORNEYS OFFICE

PAGE.005

To Mr. Clyde Atkins
Federal Judge of the U.S.A.

We wish to convey to you, by means of this letter, our unconditional and totally voluntary de[illeg] to return to Cuba. Our group of 23 persons had a flight scheduled on 10-26, which would have returned us to our homes, and you, for some reason that I fail to understand, and under what allegation, thwarted that possibility of returning with our families which is our greatest desire, without us being present and without having considered our opinion.

We want you to know that our group does not wish any kind of political statute [sic], nor do we wish to emigrate to the United States under any circumstances. We only wish to go back to our country with our family with whom it has been impossible to have contact for the two long months we have been at the Guantanamo Naval Base. There is nothing on this world that will make us change our mind.

It has also been stated that we are returning because the Military and the Immigration staff have forced us, something which is a lie, our relationship with the Military are fraternal and sincere; Their mission is to take care of us and they have fulfilled this mission totally [illeg.] with mutual respect between them and us.

There is an allegation that we have been forced to return to Cuba due to the conditions that exist in the camps. This is a senseless allegation, since the Panama camp has optimum conditions in every aspect, they are even considering building a [illeg] and still we are not going to Panama either. In other words, the conditions in the camps do not affect us, either. I repeat to you, we only wish to return to our country urgently.

We hope that our right to choose the best future for us shall be respected. Likewise, the decision to return to Cuba is irrevocable.

Signature of the 23 persons who return to Cuba.

1. name	[illegible signature]
2. name	[illegible signature]
3. name	[illegible signature]
4. name	[illegible signature]
5. name	[illegible signature]
6. name	[illegible signature]
7. name	[illegible signature]
8. name	[illegible signature]
9. name	[illegible signature]
10. name	[illegible signature]
11. name	[illegible signature]
12. name	[illegible signature]
13. name	[illegible signature]
14. name	[illegible signature]
15. name	[illegible signature]
16. name	[illegible signature]
17. name	[illegible signature]
18. name	[illegible signature]

19. name [illegible signature]
20. name [illegible signature]
21. name [illegible signature]
22. _____
23. _____