

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: [Migrants] (3 pages)	12/31/1994	P1/b(1) KC 9/19/2016

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1995 - Dec 1996 ([Operation Safe Haven])
OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

[12/31/1994 - 02/06/1995]

2011-1045-F
ke1576

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]

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: ~~SECRET~~
LINE1: PATSZFDY RHLBAAQ0546 0181604-SSSS--RHEHWSR.
LINE2: ZNY SSSSS
LINE3: P 312021Z DEC 94
LINE4: FM USCINCSO SCJ2 QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ2//
OSRI: RHLBAAQ
DTG: 312021Z DEC 94
ORIG: USCINCSO SCJ2 QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ2//
TO: RUEKJCS/NMIC WASHINGTON DC
INFO: RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHINGTON DC//DJS//
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J2/J3/J5//
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP-IA//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//DR/J2M/CH-5/PAN-3D/PGT//
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//ALA//
RHEHWSR/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM//WASH DC//
RUERJFA/NSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD//B3//
RUEHC/DEPT OF STATE WASHINGTON DC//ARA-WATSON/PATTERSON//
RUEAHQA/HQ USAF WASHINGTON DC//IN//
RUEADWD/DA WASHINGTON DC//DAMI-ZA//
RUDMONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC//DIRINT//
RUVMBBC/USSOUTHAF DAVIS MONTHAN AFB AZ//DONI//
RUCBLFA/COMMARFORLANT//G2//
RUERFCP/CDRJTF-PM FT CLAYTON PM
RHLBAAB/CDRUSARSO MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//DSCINT//
RHLBAAB/COMJTF-PM MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//J2//
SUBJ: INCREASING THREAT OF SUICIDE BY CUBAN MIGRANTS IN PANAMA
~~(S)~~

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2014-0835-M
05126/116 KOE

TEXT:
~~SECRET~~ NOFORN
QQQQ

SUBJECT: INCREASING THREAT OF SUICIDE BY CUBAN MIGRANTS IN PANAMA
~~(S)~~

A. 291727Z DEC 94, SUBJECT PANAMA: ACTING PAPAL NUNCIO VISIT TO CUBAN SAFE HAVEN CAMPS. ~~(S)~~
1. ~~(S)~~ PURPOSE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO CALL ATTENTION TO WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN INCREASING TREND TOWARD SUICIDE ATTEMPTS BY

CUBAN MIGRANTS AT THE JTF SAFE HAVEN CAMP SITES IN PANAMA.
2. ~~(S/NF)~~ BACKGROUND. A. (S/NF) THIS MESSAGE IS PROMPTED IN PART BY THE VISIT OF PAPAL NUNCIO (AD INTERIM) PASCAL N' KOUE TO JTF SAFE HAVEN ON 28 DECEMBER (REF A). DURING THE VISIT, CUBAN MIGRANTS EXPRESSED THE INTENT TO COMMIT SUICIDE WHEN CONFRONTED WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING TO GTMO.
B. ~~(S)~~ WHILE THE SCALE OF FUTURE SUICIDE ATTEMPTS IS UNKNOWN, WE

EXPECT THAT THE INCIDENCE OF INDIVIDUAL SUICIDE ATTEMPTS WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL AS THE RETURN DATE APPROACHES. SINCE SEPTEMBER, THERE HAVE BEEN 39 SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AT THE OPERATION SAFE HAVEN CAMP SITES; 20 OF THESE HAVE OCCURRED SINCE 1 DECEMBER. AS A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE OF THIS UPWARD TREND, ONE OF THE FOUR CAMPS REPORTED SIX SUICIDE ATTEMPTS IN THE LAST 15 DAYS WITH FOUR OF THE SIX ATTEMPTS OCCURRING ON 29 DECEMBER ALONE. TO UNDERScore THEIR DESPERATION, TWO OF THE FOUR 29 DECEMBER ATTEMPTS INVOLVED MIGRANTS DRIVING FOUR TO FIVE INCH LENGTHS OF CYCLONE FENCE RETAINER INTO THEIR ABDOMENS, AND A THIRD SWALLOWED THE RETAINER. WHILE THE ASSESSMENT OF A SUICIDE ATTEMPT VERSUS A GESTURE IS SUBJECTIVE, CLEARLY, THE TREND IN BOTH NUMBERS AND SEVERITY IS INCREASING.

3. ~~(S/NE)~~ ASSESSMENT. AS LONG AS THE MIGRANTS' FATE REMAINS

UNCERTAIN, FRUSTRATION WILL PERSIST, MOOD SWINGS WILL ACCOMPANY EVEN SMALL EVENTS AND RUMORS, AND WE ASSESS THAT THE CURRENT TREND OF INCREASED MIGRANT SUICIDE ATTEMPTS WILL ALSO CONTINUE. PAROLE TO THE U.S. WOULD REVERSE THIS TREND, BUT OTHER POSSIBLE OUTCOMES, SUCH AS A RETURN OF CUBAN MIGRANTS TO GTMO WILL LIKELY INCREASE THIS SELF DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR. IT IS PROBABLE THAT SOME OF THE REPORTED SUICIDE ATTEMPTS WERE NOT LEGITIMATE, BUT RATHER GESTURES AIMED AT FOCUSING ATTENTION ON THE CUBANS' PLIGHT. NONETHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT THE TREND IN SUICIDE ATTEMPTS WILL INCREASE WHEN THE MIGRANTS ARE CONFRONTED WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF A RETURN TO GTMO. IN THAT SITUATION, THEIR COLLECTIVE SENSE WILL RANGE FROM DESPAIR TO RAGE AND PROMPT A WIDE VARIETY OF POTENTIAL REACTIONS, FROM VIOLENCE TO ATTEMPTED ESCAPE, TO VARIOUS FORMS OF RESISTANCE, TO SUICIDE. THE PAPAL NUNCIO VISIT HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED FOR CONCERN ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR MULTIPLE MIGRANT SUICIDES IF THEY ARE FACED WITH A RETURN TO GTMO. THIS MESSAGE ECHOES THAT CONCERN. THE POSSIBILITY OF A RETURN TO GTMO REPRESENTS AN IN EXTREMIS SITUATION FOR THE MIGRANTS, AND WE MUST ALL BE ALERT TO THE POSSIBILITY OF A SIGNIFICANT SUICIDE THREAT AND TO TAKING TIMELY, FORCEFUL ACTION TO PRECLUDE SUCH ACTIONS.

4. (U) POC FOR THIS MESSAGE IS SCJ2, BG J.W. SMITH, DSN 313-282-6980/1.

DECLASS OADR
BT
#0546

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0546

TOR: 950118110807 M1464783

DIST:

SIT: BLAKEMAN FEINBERG NSC ROCHA

☐

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUESPFA3159 0041320-UUUU--RHEHOND.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZYN

LINE3: P 041320Z JAN 95

LINE4: FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM

OSRI: RUESPF

DTG: 041320Z JAN 95

ORIG: FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM

TO: AIG 4550

AIG 4674

RUERFCP/CDR SCN FT CLAYTON PM//SFCA-SCN//

RUESDH/FBIS KEY WEST FL

XMT NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH//TAI//

ACCT FBPA-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: Possible Deportation of Cuban Agitators to Guantanamo Noted

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6J

SERIAL: PA0401132095

COUNTRY: Panama

SUBJ: Possible Deportation of Cuban Agitators to Guantanamo Noted

SOURCE: Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 4 Jan 95 p A1

TEXT:

(((Report by Esperanza Navarro Francois)))

((FBIS Translated Text)) Approximately 316 Cuban rafters might be deported to Cuba or Guantanamo if their leadership in the 7 and 8 December 1994 brawls is confirmed, it was revealed yesterday by the Cubans' spokesman.

Arbert Cruz Perez, representative of Camp No. 3, said to LA ESTRELLA that Cubans whose culpability is confirmed "will not reach the United States or third countries."

Cruz indicated that the U.S. authorities involved in Operation "Safe Haven" notified him that the cases of Cuban escapees or instigators are being individually studied and they will or will not qualify to travel to the United States, Spain, or other countries based on their participation in the conflicts.

Captain John Legget, information officer, said "they do not know" the destination of Cubans involved in the December incidents -- in which 221 troops and 28 others were injured -- because the decision will be adopted at higher levels.

He explained that, for the time being, none of the Cubans who are currently under preventive arrest are being processed for travel.

Cruz reported that the food they are being provided on a daily basis has dropped "in quality and quantity" and, given the existence

of a signed contract, the situation has not been overcome.

"The meat is becoming harder every day and rations are smaller," Cruz said.

The Cubans also said they are being treated as "drug traffickers" because dogs are released among them to detect drugs and weapons." ((quotation marks as published))

One of the instigators and escapees from Camps 1 and 2, located at Empire Range, Arraijan, has yet to be captured by the U.S. military.

Out of the 8,597 Cubans who arrived in Panama from Guantanamo Base, 396 have gone to the United States and 72 to Spain.

More Cubans are expected to travel to Venezuela, Belize, Spain, and the United States before March, when the period established by the Panamanian Government expires.

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(endall) 4 Jan mgv/papadimitriou/cn PPPA0401.01E 04/1317z jan

BT

#3159

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 3159

TOR: 950104082848 M1443963

DIST:

SIT: NSC

□

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUESPFA3167 0041546-UUUU--RHEHOND.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZYN

LINE3: R 041546Z JAN 95

LINE4: FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM

OSRI: RUESPF

DTG: 041546Z JAN 95

ORIG: FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM

TO: AIG 4550

AIG 4674

RUERFCP/CDR SCN FT CLAYTON PM//SFCA-SCN//

RUESDH/FBIS KEY WEST FL

XMT NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH//TAI//

ACCT FBPA-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: Rafters Criticize Use of Drug-Sniffing Dogs in Camps

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6J

SERIAL: PA0401154695

COUNTRY: Panama

SUBJ: Rafters Criticize Use of Drug-Sniffing Dogs in Camps

SOURCE: Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Jan 95 p 4

TEXT:

(((Report by Lastenia Murillo Munoz)))

((FBIS Translated Text)) Cuban rafters in Panama yesterday reported that the Southern Command is using drug-sniffing dogs in the camps, something they consider "an abuse of authority."

"We are now convinced we are not refugees but prisoners. We believe that in these camps we are living the same as in Cuba, without any rights," one of the rafters in Camp No. 3 said.

They added that they are willing to leave those camps with rafts if necessary and travel by their own means to the United States.

The Southern Command recently detected a Panamanian woman trying to smuggle drugs into the camps to sell to the Cubans, so it decided to adopt these measures.

Captain John Legget, in charge of public relations of Operation Safe Haven, indicated that the use of drug detecting dogs in the camps is considered a "routine" measure.

He explained these are "health inspections" and they are normal in any camp in the world.

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(endall) 4 Jan ma/papadimitriou/cn PPPA0401.03E 04/1543z jan

BT
#3167

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 3167

TOR: 950104105109 M1444210

DIST: SIT: NSC

☐

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHPOA0048 0061909-UUUU--RUEADWW.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 061909Z JAN 95

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

OSRI: RUEHPO

DTG: 061909Z JAN 95

ORIG: AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

TO: RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCCC/SCJ5// IMMEDIATE

RHLBAK/COMJTF-PM MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//J4// IMMEDIATE

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3991

INFO: RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DHO-5//

SUBJ: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES

- TO SURINAME

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARAMARIBO 000048

STATE FOR ARA/CAR AND DAS PATTERSON; PRM FOR

AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY; L/ARA and L/ERR

NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR GAMBLE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREP, PREL, HA, NS

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES

- TO SURINAME

REPS: A. 94 STATE 339408 B. 94 STATE 341536

C. 94 PARAMARIBO 2686

D. WEINER/VAN HEUVEN TELCON JANUARY 5

1. SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION: I AM IN THE PROCESS OF ARRANGING THE TRANSFER OF THE HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN CAMP AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME. MY PROPOSAL FOR THE MEANS TO CARRY OUT THIS TRANSFER IS DETAILED BELOW. I FIND IT STRANGE THAT, AS PROPOSED BY SOUTHCOM, A SIGNATURE ON A SIMPLE HAND RECEIPT FOR THE TURNOVER OF INSTALLATIONS WHICH HAVE AN IDENTIFIED COST OF WELL OVER TWO MILLION DOLLARS SUFFICES TO SATISFY REGULATORY AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS TO PERMIT DOD TO DROP THAT PROPERTY FROM ITS ROLLS. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY MEANS TO PERMIT US TO HAND OVER TO THE GOS A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF ACCOUNTABLE OFFICE EQUIPMENT USED IN THE HAITIAN CAMP OPERATIONS, AND A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS WORTH OF LEFT OVER MEDICINES, EVEN THOUGH OUR FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH THE GOS STATES THAT QUOTE

THE UNITED STATES UNDERTAKES THE FOLLOWING OBLIGATIONS - DONATION OF EQUIPMENT USED IN THIS OPERATION TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE (AND) AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY SOURCES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES WHICH COULD BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE GOS. END QUOTE. THESE ARCHAIC PROCEDURES WARRANT A REVIEW BY VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S REINVENTING GOVERNMENT GROUP. THE COSTS NOTED ON THE DOD HAND RECEIPT, FORM 1354, IN NO WAY REFLECT THE CURRENT VALUE OF THE PROPERTY. THE CAMP ITSELF, WITH A COST BASIS OF ABOUT TWO MILLION DOLLARS, NOW CONSISTS OF LITTLE MORE THAN 263 CONCRETE SLABS IN THE MIDDLE OF A SAVANNA; THERE SIMPLY IS NO ALTERNATIVE USE FOR IT BY THE GOS. I ESTIMATE IT WOULD BRING ONLY A VERY FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS AT A FIRE/SALVAGE SALE. I CERTAINLY HOPE WHEN A REPORT ON THIS IS MADE TO CONGRESS THAT IT DOES NOT INDICATE THE USG DONATED TO SURINAME INSTALLATIONS VALUED AT OVER TWO MILLION DOLLARS.

IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO WRAP THIS UP IN A MANNER WHICH LEAVES THE GOS FEELING GOOD ABOUT ITS FIRST IMPORTANT BILATERAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE U.S. CONSEQUENTLY, LET'S END OPERATION SAFE HAVEN WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE HASSLE AND UNPLEASANTNESS. MY PROPOSAL FOR THE TURNOVER OF THE FACILITIES MEETS THAT CRITERIA. I REQUEST WASHINGTON'S (STATE, POD) AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED ON THAT BASIS. END SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION.

2. REFTELS A AND B DIRECTED THE EMBASSY TO ADVISE THE GOS OF NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF THE MOU ESTABLISHING THE HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN AND OF OUR PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER THE SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES AT AN EARLIER DATE, IF THAT IS AGREEABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME. THE GOS HAS BEEN ADVISED ACCORDINGLY AND I HAD PROPOSED THAT THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF THE IMMOVABLE STRUCTURES AND SUCH PERMANENT FIXTURES AS CONSTITUTE ELEMENTS OF AGREED UPGRADE AND IMMOVABLE PROJECTS TAKE PLACE TODAY FRIDAY, JANUARY 6. HOWEVER, FOREIGN MINISTER MUNGRA DEPARTS TODAY FOR THE U.S. AND WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL FRIDAY, JANUARY 13TH.

3. SOUTHCOM HAS PREPARED DD FORM 1354, TRANSFER AND ACCEPTANCE OF MILITARY REAL PROPERTY, FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE AYOKO MIGRANT CAMP, INCLUDING ITS SECURITY LIGHTING, WATER MAIN, EXTERIOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AND SECURITY FENCING. ADDITIONALLY, SOUTHCOM HAS PREPARED DD FORM 3161, REQUEST FOR ISSUE OR TURN-IN, LISTING EXPENDABLE REPAIR SUPPLIES OF LIMITED VALUE, E.G., LUMBER, NAILS, FUSES, LIGHT BULBS, SPIGOTS, ETC., WHICH WILL ALSO BE TRANSFERRED. SOUTHCOM HAS ADVISED US THAT, FROM THEIR VANTAGE POINT, EITHER THE EMBASSY OR THE GOS MAY SIGN FOR AND ACCEPT THIS TRANSFER.

4. IT HAS BEEN OUR POSITION THAT THE TURNOVER OF THE SAFE HAVEN CAMP SHOULD BE MADE ON A SIMPLE

EXCHANGE OF NOTES, WITH AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER CONTROL/OWNERSHIP BASED ON AN INTERAGENCY CLEARED INSTRUCTION CABLE FROM WASHINGTON. ACCORDING TO REF D TELCON, REF B CONSTITUTED SUCH AN INSTRUCTION.

5. PRIOR TO EXECUTING THE TRANSFER OF THIS PROPERTY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME, I REQUEST ADDRESSEES UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARAMARIBO 000048

STATE FOR ARA/CAR AND DAS PATTERSON; PRM FOR AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY; L/ARA and L/ERR
NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR GAMBLE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREP, PREL, HA, NS

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES
- TO SURINAME

CONCURRENCE WITH THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES:

AT THE FORMAL HANDOVER CEREMONY (FOR PLANNING PURPOSES JANUARY 17) COL BOERENVEEN, AS SURINAME'S JTF COMMANDER, OR ANOTHER OFFICIAL DESIGNATED BY THE SG, SIGNS FORMS 1354 AND 1361. SIMULTANEOUSLY, I EXCHANGE DIPLOMATIC NOTES WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. FOLLOWING IS OUR PROPOSED NOTE:

"THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF SURINAME OF FACILITIES TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY PROTECTION FOR NATIONALS OF HAITI FLEEING THEIR COUNTRY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, SIGNED BY MINISTER MUNGRA FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME AND BY AMBASSADOR GAMBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ON AUGUST 1, 1994.

THE EMBASSY REFERS FURTHER TO ITS NOTES NO. 258 OF DECEMBER 23, 1994, AND NO. 263 OF DECEMBER 30, 1994, IN WHICH IT PROVIDED NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF THE ABOVE NAMED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, AND PROPOSED TO TRANSFER THE SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES AND BELATED IMMOVABLE ELEMENTS AND PERMANENT FIXTURES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 17(7) OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO THE CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME ACCEPTS THIS TRANSFER OF PROPERTY.

ENCLOSED IS A LISTING OF THE FACILITIES AND

EQUIPMENT TO BE TRANSFERRED BY THIS MEANS.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WISHES TO ASSURE THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME OF ITS HIGHEST REGARDS AND TO EXPRESS ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME IN THIS UNDERTAKING.

1. AYOKO MIGRANT CAMP, ZANDERIJ, COMPLETE WITH ROAD NETWORK, SITE DRAINAGE, CONCRETE TENT PADS, SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY FACILITIES, LIGHTING AND WATER DISTRIBUTION;
2. SECURITY LIGHTING, WATER MAIN, EXTERIOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION;
3. SECURITY FENCING;
4. ASSORTED MATERIALS."

6. ONCE THE CAMP ITSELF IS TRANSFERRED TO THE GOS, AND THE ONE REMAINING UPGRADE COMMITMENT, I.E., GENERATOR, IS COMPLETED, THAT WILL LEAVE THE DISPOSITION OF THE USED OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND THE FEW BOXES OF MEDICINES TO BE ADDRESSED. I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ENVISION THAT THE COMBINED GOODWILL AND CAPABILITIES OF DOD, STATE AND SOUTHCOM, WITH AN ASSIST BY THE NSC, CANNOT ALSO FIND AN EARLY AND EFFECTIVE WAY TO CUT THAT GORDIAN KNOT. LET US PERMIT JTF SURINAME TO LEAVE SURINAME WITH ALL THE ACCOLADES IT DESERVES FOR HAVING CARRIED OUT SO EFFECTIVELY AND PROFESSIONALLY THIS MISSION IMPOSSIBLE.

7. WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP DEPARTMENT'S AND DOD/SOUTHCOM'S CONCURRENCE AND/OR ALTERNATE SUGGESTIONS TO THIS PROPOSAL. ALSO, A RAPID DECISION/AUTHORIZATION TO TURN OVER THE OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND MEDICINES WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED. IF THE ABOVE PROCEDURE FOR DISPOSAL OF FIXED PROPERTY IS ACCEPTABLE, CAN IT NOT ALSO BE USED FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE ACCOUNTABLE OFFICE EQUIPMENT PROPERTY? IF ALL THE ABOVE IS FORTHCOMING BEFORE JANUARY 22, THE FIVE REMAINING JTF MEMBERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO LEAVE EARLIER, WITH ONE PERSON TASKED TO RETURN TO SUPERVISE THE GENERATOR INSTALLATION LATE FEBRUARY/EARLY MARCH.

GAMBLE
BT
#0048

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

SSN: 0048

<^SSN>0048

TOR: 950106141102 M1448364

<^TOR>950106141203 M1448365

DIST:

PRT: BRANSCUM

SIT: BEERS BROWN CLARKER FEINBERG HALPERIN MALLEY NSC RICE ROCHA

SCHWARTZ SIMON

□

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OTTUZYUW RUEKJCS9955 0061910-UUUU--RHEHAAA.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU
LINE3: O 061910Z JAN 95
LINE4: FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
OSRI: RUEKJCS
DTG: 061910Z JAN 95
ORIG: DIA WASHINGTON DC
TO: ////
INFO: RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUEATAC/CDRUSAITAC WASHINGTON DC//KT//
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RUDMGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASHINGTON DC//DI//
RUEALGX/SAFE
O 061909Z JAN 95
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCCC/SCJ5// IMMEDIATE
RHLBAAK/COMJTF-PM MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//J4// IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3991
INFO RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DHO-5//
SUBJ: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES
- TO SURINAME
TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARAMARIBO 000048

STATE FOR ARA/CAR AND DAS PATTERSON; PRM FOR
AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY; L/ARA AND L/ERR
NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR GAMBLE

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREP, PREL, HA, NS
SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES
- TO SURINAME

REPS: A. 94 STATE 339408 B. 94 STATE 341536
C. 94 PARAMARIBO 2686
D. WEINER/VAN HEUVEN TELCON JANUARY 5

1. SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION: I AM IN THE PROCESS
OF ARRANGING THE TRANSFER OF THE HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN
CAMP AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
SURINAME. MY PROPOSAL FOR THE MEANS TO CARRY OUT
THIS TRANSFER IS DETAILED BELOW. I FIND IT STRANGE
THAT, AS PROPOSED BY SOUTHCOM, A SIGNATURE ON A
SIMPLE HAND RECEIPT FOR THE TURNOVER OF

INSTALLATIONS WHICH HAVE AN IDENTIFIED COST OF WELL OVER TWO MILLION DOLLARS SUFFICES TO SATISFY REGULATORY AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS TO PERMIT DOD TO DROP THAT PROPERTY FROM ITS ROLLS. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY MEANS TO PERMIT US TO HAND OVER TO THE GOS A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF ACCOUNTABLE OFFICE EQUIPMENT USED IN THE HAITIAN CAMP OPERATIONS, AND A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS WORTH OF LEFT OVER MEDICINES, EVEN THOUGH OUR FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH THE GOS STATES THAT QUOTE THE UNITED STATES UNDERTAKES THE FOLLOWING OBLIGATIONS - DONATION OF EQUIPMENT USED IN THIS OPERATION TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE (AND) AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY SOURCES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES WHICH COULD BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE GOS. END QUOTE. THESE ARCHAIC PROCEDURES WARRANT A REVIEW BY VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S REINVENTING GOVERNMENT GROUP. THE COSTS NOTED ON THE DOD HAND RECEIPT, FORM 1354, IN NO WAY REFLECT THE CURRENT VALUE OF THE PROPERTY. THE CAMP ITSELF, WITH A COST BASIS OF ABOUT TWO MILLION DOLLARS, NOW CONSISTS OF LITTLE MORE THAN 263 CONCRETE SLABS IN THE MIDDLE OF A SAVANNA; THERE SIMPLY IS NO ALTERNATIVE USE FOR IT BY THE GOS. I ESTIMATE IT WOULD BRING ONLY A VERY FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS AT A FIRE/SALVAGE SALE. I CERTAINLY HOPE WHEN A REPORT ON THIS IS MADE TO CONGRESS THAT IT DOES NOT INDICATE THE USG DONATED TO SURINAME INSTALLATIONS VALUED AT OVER TWO MILLION DOLLARS.

IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO WRAP THIS UP IN A MANNER WHICH LEAVES THE GOS FEELING GOOD ABOUT ITS FIRST IMPORTANT BILATERAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE U.S. CONSEQUENTLY, LET'S END OPERATION SAFE HAVEN WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE HASSLE AND UNPLEASANTNESS. MY PROPOSAL FOR THE TURNOVER OF THE FACILITIES MEETS THAT CRITERIA. I REQUEST WASHINGTON'S (STATE, POD) AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED ON THAT BASIS. END SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION.

2. REFTELS A AND B DIRECTED THE EMBASSY TO ADVISE THE GOS OF NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF THE MOU ESTABLISHING THE HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN AND OF OUR PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER THE SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES AT AN EARLIER DATE, IF THAT IS AGREEABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME. THE GOS HAS BEEN ADVISED ACCORDINGLY AND I HAD PROPOSED THAT THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF THE IMMOVABLE STRUCTURES AND SUCH PERMANENT FIXTURES AS CONSTITUTE ELEMENTS OF AGREED UPGRADE AND IMMOVABLE PROJECTS TAKE PLACE TODAY FRIDAY, JANUARY 6. HOWEVER, FOREIGN MINISTER MUNGRA DEPARTS TODAY FOR THE U.S. AND WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL FRIDAY, JANUARY 13TH.

3. SOUTHCOM HAS PREPARED DD FORM 1354, TRANSFER AND ACCEPTANCE OF MILITARY REAL PROPERTY, FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE AYOKO MIGRANT CAMP, INCLUDING ITS SECURITY LIGHTING, WATER MAIN, EXTERIOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AND SECURITY FENCING.

ADDITIONALLY, SOUTHCOM HAS PREPARED DD FORM 3161, REQUEST FOR ISSUE OR TURN-IN, LISTING EXPENDABLE REPAIR SUPPLIES OF LIMITED VALUE, E.G., LUMBER, NAILS, FUSES, LIGHT BULBS, SPIGOTS, ETC., WHICH WILL ALSO BE TRANSFERRED. SOUTHCOM HAS ADVISED US THAT, FROM THEIR VANTAGE POINT, EITHER THE EMBASSY OR THE GOS MAY SIGN FOR AND ACCEPT THIS TRANSFER.

4. IT HAS BEEN OUR POSITION THAT THE TURNOVER OF THE SAFE HAVEN CAMP SHOULD BE MADE ON A SIMPLE EXCHANGE OF NOTES, WITH AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER CONTROL/OWNERSHIP BASED ON AN INTERAGENCY CLEARED INSTRUCTION CABLE FROM WASHINGTON. ACCORDING TO REF D TELCON, REF B CONSTITUTED SUCH AN INSTRUCTION.

5. PRIOR TO EXECUTING THE TRANSFER OF THIS PROPERTY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME, I REQUEST ADDRESSEES UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARAMARIBO 000048

STATE FOR ARA/CAR AND DAS PATTERSON; PRM FOR AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY; L/ARA AND L/ERR
NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR GAMBLE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREP, PREL, HA, NS

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES
- TO SURINAME

CONCURRENCE WITH THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES:

AT THE FORMAL HANDOVER CEREMONY (FOR PLANNING PURPOSES JANUARY 17) COL BOERENVEEN, AS SURINAME'S JTF COMMANDER, OR ANOTHER OFFICIAL DESIGNATED BY THE SG, SIGNS FORMS 1354 AND 1361. SIMULTANEOUSLY, I EXCHANGE DIPLOMATIC NOTES WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. FOLLOWING IS OUR PROPOSED NOTE:

"THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF SURINAME OF FACILITIES TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY PROTECTION FOR NATIONALS OF HAITI FLEEING THEIR COUNTRY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, SIGNED BY MINISTER MUNGRA FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME AND BY AMBASSADOR GAMBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ON AUGUST 1, 1994.

THE EMBASSY REFERS FURTHER TO ITS NOTES NO. 258 OF DECEMBER 23, 1994, AND NO. 263 OF DECEMBER 30, 1994, IN WHICH IT PROVIDED NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF THE ABOVE NAMED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, AND PROPOSED TO TRANSFER THE SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES AND BELATED IMMOVABLE ELEMENTS AND PERMANENT FIXTURES

WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 17(7) OF THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO THE CONTROL OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD
APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE THAT THE
GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME ACCEPTS THIS TRANSFER OF
PROPERTY.

ENCLOSED IS A LISTING OF THE FACILITIES AND
EQUIPMENT TO BE TRANSFERRED BY THIS MEANS.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WISHES TO ASSURE
THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME OF ITS HIGHEST REGARDS
AND TO EXPRESS ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME IN THIS UNDERTAKING.

1. AYOKO MIGRANT CAMP, ZANDERIJ, COMPLETE WITH ROAD
NETWORK, SITE DRAINAGE, CONCRETE TENT PADS, SHOWERS
AND LAUNDRY FACILITIES, LIGHTING AND WATER
DISTRIBUTION;
2. SECURITY LIGHTING, WATER MAIN, EXTERIOR ELECTRIC
DISTRIBUTION;
3. SECURITY FENCING;
4. ASSORTED MATERIALS."

6. ONCE THE CAMP ITSELF IS TRANSFERRED TO THE GOS,
AND THE ONE REMAINING UPGRADE COMMITMENT, I.E.,
GENERATOR, IS COMPLETED, THAT WILL LEAVE THE
DISPOSITION OF THE USED OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND THE FEW
BOXES OF MEDICINES TO BE ADDRESSED. I FIND IT
DIFFICULT TO ENVISION THAT THE COMBINED GOODWILL AND
CAPABILITIES OF DOD, STATE AND SOUTHCOM, WITH AN
ASSIST BY THE NSC, CANNOT ALSO FIND AN EARLY AND
EFFECTIVE WAY TO CUT THAT GORDIAN KNOT. LET US
PERMIT JTF SURINAME TO LEAVE SURINAME WITH ALL THE
ACCOLADES IT DESERVES FOR HAVING CARRIED OUT SO
EFFECTIVELY AND PROFESSIONALLY THIS MISSION
IMPOSSIBLE.

7. WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP DEPARTMENT'S AND
DOD/SOUTHCOM'S CONCURRENCE AND/OR ALTERNATE
SUGGESTIONS TO THIS PROPOSAL. ALSO, A RAPID
DECISION/AUTHORIZATION TO TURN OVER THE OFFICE
EQUIPMENT AND MEDICINES WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED.
IF THE ABOVE PROCEDURE FOR DISPOSAL OF FIXED
PROPERTY IS ACCEPTABLE, CAN IT NOT ALSO BE USED FOR
THE TRANSFER OF THE ACCOUNTABLE OFFICE EQUIPMENT
PROPERTY? IF ALL THE ABOVE IS FORTHCOMING BEFORE
JANUARY 22, THE FIVE REMAINING JTF MEMBERS SHOULD BE
ABLE TO LEAVE EARLIER, WITH ONE PERSON TASKED TO
RETURN TO SUPERVISE THE GENERATOR INSTALLATION LATE
FEBRUARY/EARLY MARCH.

GAMBLE
BT
#9956

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

SSN: 9955
<^SSN>9956

TOR: 950106141309 M1448369
<^TOR>950106141206 M1448367

DIST:
PRT: BRANSCUM
SIT: NODIST NSC
☐

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OTTUZYUW RUEKJCS9989 0061916-UUUU--RHEHAAA.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU

LINE3: O 061916Z JAN 95

LINE4: FM DIA WASHINGTON DC

OSRI: RUEKJCS

DTG: 061916Z JAN 95

ORIG: DIA WASHINGTON DC

TO: ////

INFO: RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE

RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//

RUEATAC/CDRUSAITAC WASHINGTON DC//KT//

RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//

RUDMGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC

RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASHINGTON DC//DI//

RUEALGX/SAFE

O 061909Z JAN 95

FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

TO RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCCC/SCJ5// IMMEDIATE

RHLBAAK/COMJTF-PM MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//J4// IMMEDIATE

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3991

INFO RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DHO-5//

SUBJ: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES

- TO SURINAME

TEXT:

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 000048

STATE FOR ARA/CAR AND DAS PATTERSON; PRM FOR

AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY; L/ARA AND L/ERR

NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR GAMBLE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREP, PREL, HA, NS

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES

- TO SURINAME

REPS: A. 94 STATE 339408 B. 94 STATE 341536

C. 94 PARAMARIBO 2686

D. WEINER/VAN HEUVEN TELCON JANUARY 5

1. SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION: I AM IN THE PROCESS OF ARRANGING THE TRANSFER OF THE HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN CAMP AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME. MY PROPOSAL FOR THE MEANS TO CARRY OUT THIS TRANSFER IS DETAILED BELOW. I FIND IT STRANGE THAT, AS PROPOSED BY SOUTHCOM, A SIGNATURE ON A SIMPLE HAND RECEIPT FOR THE TURNOVER OF

INSTALLATIONS WHICH HAVE AN IDENTIFIED COST OF WELL OVER TWO MILLION DOLLARS SUFFICES TO SATISFY REGULATORY AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS TO PERMIT DOD TO DROP THAT PROPERTY FROM ITS ROLLS. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY MEANS TO PERMIT US TO HAND OVER TO THE GOS A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF ACCOUNTABLE OFFICE EQUIPMENT USED IN THE HAITIAN CAMP OPERATIONS, AND A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS WORTH OF LEFT OVER MEDICINES, EVEN THOUGH OUR FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH THE GOS STATES THAT QUOTE THE UNITED STATES UNDERTAKES THE FOLLOWING OBLIGATIONS - DONATION OF EQUIPMENT USED IN THIS OPERATION TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE (AND) AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY SOURCES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES WHICH COULD BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE GOS. END QUOTE. THESE ARCHAIC PROCEDURES WARRANT A REVIEW BY VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S REINVENTING GOVERNMENT GROUP. THE COSTS NOTED ON THE DOD HAND RECEIPT, FORM 1354, IN NO WAY REFLECT THE CURRENT VALUE OF THE PROPERTY. THE CAMP ITSELF, WITH A COST BASIS OF ABOUT TWO MILLION DOLLARS, NOW CONSISTS OF LITTLE MORE THAN 263 CONCRETE SLABS IN THE MIDDLE OF A SAVANNA; THERE SIMPLY IS NO ALTERNATIVE USE FOR IT BY THE GOS. I ESTIMATE IT WOULD BRING ONLY A VERY FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS AT A FIRE/SALVAGE SALE. I CERTAINLY HOPE WHEN A REPORT ON THIS IS MADE TO CONGRESS THAT IT DOES NOT INDICATE THE USG DONATED TO SURINAME INSTALLATIONS VALUED AT OVER TWO MILLION DOLLARS.

IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO WRAP THIS UP IN A MANNER WHICH LEAVES THE GOS FEELING GOOD ABOUT ITS FIRST IMPORTANT BILATERAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE U.S. CONSEQUENTLY, LET'S END OPERATION SAFE HAVEN WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE HASSLE AND UNPLEASANTNESS. MY PROPOSAL FOR THE TURNOVER OF THE FACILITIES MEETS THAT CRITERIA. I REQUEST WASHINGTON'S (STATE, POD) AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED ON THAT BASIS. END SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION.

2. REFTELS A AND B DIRECTED THE EMBASSY TO ADVISE THE GOS OF NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF THE MOU ESTABLISHING THE HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN AND OF OUR PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER THE SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES AT AN EARLIER DATE, IF THAT IS AGREEABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME. THE GOS HAS BEEN ADVISED ACCORDINGLY AND I HAD PROPOSED THAT THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF THE IMMOVABLE STRUCTURES AND SUCH PERMANENT FIXTURES AS CONSTITUTE ELEMENTS OF AGREED UPGRADE AND IMMOVABLE PROJECTS TAKE PLACE TODAY FRIDAY, JANUARY 6. HOWEVER, FOREIGN MINISTER MUNGRA DEPARTS TODAY FOR THE U.S. AND WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL FRIDAY, JANUARY 13TH.

3. SOUTHCOM HAS PREPARED DD FORM 1354, TRANSFER AND ACCEPTANCE OF MILITARY REAL PROPERTY, FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE AYOKO MIGRANT CAMP, INCLUDING ITS SECURITY LIGHTING, WATER MAIN, EXTERIOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AND SECURITY FENCING.

ADDITIONALLY, SOUTHCOM HAS PREPARED DD FORM 3161, REQUEST FOR ISSUE OR TURN-IN, LISTING EXPENDABLE REPAIR SUPPLIES OF LIMITED VALUE, E.G., LUMBER, NAILS, FUSES, LIGHT BULBS, SPIGOTS, ETC., WHICH WILL ALSO BE TRANSFERRED. SOUTHCOM HAS ADVISED US THAT, FROM THEIR VANTAGE POINT, EITHER THE EMBASSY OR THE GOS MAY SIGN FOR AND ACCEPT THIS TRANSFER.

4. IT HAS BEEN OUR POSITION THAT THE TURNOVER OF THE SAFE HAVEN CAMP SHOULD BE MADE ON A SIMPLE EXCHANGE OF NOTES, WITH AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER CONTROL/OWNERSHIP BASED ON AN INTERAGENCY CLEARED INSTRUCTION CABLE FROM WASHINGTON. ACCORDING TO REF D TELCON, REF B CONSTITUTED SUCH AN INSTRUCTION.

5. PRIOR TO EXECUTING THE TRANSFER OF THIS PROPERTY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME, I REQUEST ADDRESSEES

CONCURRENCE WITH THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES:

AT THE FORMAL HANDOVER CEREMONY (FOR PLANNING PURPOSES JANUARY 17) COL BOERENVEEN, AS SURINAME'S JTF COMMANDER, OR ANOTHER OFFICIAL DESIGNATED BY THE SG, SIGNS FORMS 1354 AND 1361. SIMULTANEOUSLY, I EXCHANGE DIPLOMATIC NOTES WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. FOLLOWING IS OUR PROPOSED NOTE:

"THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF SURINAME OF FACILITIES TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY PROTECTION FOR NATIONALS OF HAITI FLEEING THEIR COUNTRY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, SIGNED BY MINISTER MUNGRA FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME AND BY AMBASSADOR GAMBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ON AUGUST 1, 1994.

THE EMBASSY REFERS FURTHER TO ITS NOTES NO. 258 OF DECEMBER 23, 1994, AND NO. 263 OF DECEMBER 30, 1994, IN WHICH IT PROVIDED NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF THE ABOVE NAMED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, AND PROPOSED TO TRANSFER THE SAFE HAVEN FACILITIES AND BELATED IMMOVABLE ELEMENTS AND PERMANENT FIXTURES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 17(7) OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO THE CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME ACCEPTS THIS TRANSFER OF PROPERTY.

ENCLOSED IS A LISTING OF THE FACILITIES AND

EQUIPMENT TO BE TRANSFERRED BY THIS MEANS.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WISHES TO ASSURE THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME OF ITS HIGHEST REGARDS AND TO EXPRESS ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME IN THIS UNDERTAKING.

1. AYOKO MIGRANT CAMP, ZANDERIJ, COMPLETE WITH ROAD NETWORK, SITE DRAINAGE, CONCRETE TENT PADS, SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY FACILITIES, LIGHTING AND WATER DISTRIBUTION;

2. SECURITY LIGHTING, WATER MAIN, EXTERIOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION;

3. SECURITY FENCING;

4. ASSORTED MATERIALS."

6. ONCE THE CAMP ITSELF IS TRANSFERRED TO THE GOS, AND THE ONE REMAINING UPGRADE COMMITMENT, I.E., GENERATOR, IS COMPLETED, THAT WILL LEAVE THE DISPOSITION OF THE USED OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND THE FEW BOXES OF MEDICINES TO BE ADDRESSED. I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ENVISION THAT THE COMBINED GOODWILL AND CAPABILITIES OF DOD, STATE AND SOUTHCOM, WITH AN ASSIST BY THE NSC, CANNOT ALSO FIND AN EARLY AND EFFECTIVE WAY TO CUT THAT GORDIAN KNOT. LET US PERMIT JTF SURINAME TO LEAVE SURINAME WITH ALL THE ACCOLADES IT DESERVES FOR HAVING CARRIED OUT SO EFFECTIVELY AND PROFESSIONALLY THIS MISSION IMPOSSIBLE.

7. WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP DEPARTMENT'S AND DOD/SOUTHCOM'S CONCURRENCE AND/OR ALTERNATE SUGGESTIONS TO THIS PROPOSAL. ALSO, A RAPID DECISION/AUTHORIZATION TO TURN OVER THE OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND MEDICINES WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED. IF THE ABOVE PROCEDURE FOR DISPOSAL OF FIXED PROPERTY IS ACCEPTABLE, CAN IT NOT ALSO BE USED FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE ACCOUNTABLE OFFICE EQUIPMENT PROPERTY? IF ALL THE ABOVE IS FORTHCOMING BEFORE JANUARY 22, THE FIVE REMAINING JTF MEMBERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO LEAVE EARLIER, WITH ONE PERSON TASKED TO RETURN TO SUPERVISE THE GENERATOR INSTALLATION LATE FEBRUARY/EARLY MARCH.

GAMBLE

BT

#9989

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 9989

TOR: 950106141830 M1448384

DIST:

PRT: BRANSCUM

SIT: BEERS BROWN CLARKER FEINBERG HALPERIN MALLEY NSC RICE ROCHA

SCHWARTZ SIMON

☐

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUESPFA3967 0240207-UUUU--RHEHOND.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZYN

LINE3: P 240207Z JAN 95

LINE4: FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM

OSRI: RUESPF

DTG: 240207Z JAN 95

ORIG: FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM

TO: AIG 4550

AIG 4674

RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA//POLCH//

RUEHGVF/USMISSION GENEVA//UNHRC//

RUERFCP/CDR SCN FT CLAYTON PM//SFCA-SCN//

RUESDH/FBIS KEY WEST FL

ACCT FBPA-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: Human Rights Official Claims Rafter 'Brutally Beaten'

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6J

SERIAL: PA2401020795

PASS: ATTN WIRE SELECT

COUNTRY: Panama

SUBJ: Human Rights Official Claims Rafter 'Brutally Beaten'

REF: pa1701233995 panama city el siglo spanish 17 jan--human rights head accuses un of apathy toward cuban rafters

SOURCE: Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT
23 Jan 95

TEXT:

(((Report by Mara Rivera; from the "RPC Television News" newscast)))

((FBIS Translated Excerpt)) Authorities of the U.S. Southern Command's Operation Safe Haven have denied that the rights of Cuban rafters have been violated within the camps. A number of measures were adopted after disturbances in the refugee camps in December including the limiting of visits, locking up instigators, and searching them for any kinds of weapons.

Sources close to the refugees, however, told RPC that retaliatory measures went way beyond this and included the suspension of telephone calls and a ban on receipts of anything from outside the camps, among other privileges. In fact, there is even talk about a beating in one of the camps at 0400 hours ((date not given)) perpetrated by hooded persons, who hit men and women with sticks. A complaint was filed with the Panamanian Human Rights Committee

((CPDH)), and this organization has reported it:

((Begin CPDH President Osvaldo Velasquez recording, identified by caption)) We have pictures of persons who suffered hematomas, fractures, and some of them on crutches were brutally beaten. When we asked why this was done we were told it was done to search for makeshift weapons. I asked them: You, as professional soldiers, had to beat up persons who were asleep to seize makeshift weapons? We received no answer. ((end recording))

Dr. Velasquez stated that these pictures are only of a few of those who were injured on that day. ((passage omitted on statement by Operation Safe Haven officer))

The CPDH president said that Panama is currently under the watchful eye of all nations, because it is openly violating international rules on the treatment of refugees, for example, the Geneva Treaty. He added that Panama could be punished should these charges be fully confirmed, and this is not at all a difficult task.

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(endall) 232300 jl/papadimitriou/lar PPPA2301.08E 24/0204z jan

BT

#3967

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 3967

TOR: 950123211351 M1473775

DIST:

SIT: NSC

□

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHPOA0170 0311502-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 311502Z JAN 95
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
OSRI: RUEHPO
DTG: 311502Z JAN 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO: RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUERPMN/CDRUSARSO FT CLAYTON PM
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4074
INFO: RUEHSP/AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN 1323
RUEHPU/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE 0027
RUEHWN/AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN 1255
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1350
SUBJ: HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN IN SURINAME: IN
RETROSPECT AND IN APPRECIATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARAMARIBO 000170

STATE FOR ARA/CAR, L/ARA AND PRM: AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY
SOUTHCOM FOR GENERAL MCCAFFREY AND COLONEL HUDDLESTON
USARSO FOR GENERAL CROCKER
STATE PASS NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR
SECDEF PLEASE PASS PARTICIPATING COMMANDS

E.O.12356: NA
TAGS: MARR, NS
SUBJECT: HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN IN SURINAME: IN
RETROSPECT AND IN APPRECIATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE

1. THE JANUARY 27 EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY MARKED THE FORMAL END OF AN EXTRAORDINARY JOINT U.S./SURINAME UNDERTAKING DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A HUMANITARIAN SAFE HAVEN FOR HAITIAN REFUGEES. WE AND THE SURINAMERS LEARNED A GREAT DEAL ABOUT EACH OTHER, AND ABOUT OURSELVS, DURING THE SIX MONTH DURATION OF THAT OPERATION. BOTH THE U.S. AND SURINAME BENEFITTED FROM THAT INTERACTION, WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY WILL HELP PAVE THE WAY FOR OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE. EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS ENDEAVOR, AMERICANS AND SURINAMERS ALIKE, WARRANTS OUR APPRECIATION AND THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

2. BEGINNING WITH THE JULY 8 VISIT OF NSC RANDY BEERS, THROUGH THE AUGUST 1 NEGOTIATIONS OF AMBASSADOR

BRUNSON MCKINLEY, THE AUGUST 22 ARRIVAL OF USARSCO GENERAL CROCKER AND JTF COMMANDER COLONEL LOUIS HUDDLESTON, THE SUBSEQUENT ARRIVAL OF OVER 500 U.S. MILITARY JTF MEMBERS, THE ENTIRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE, THE BEGINNING OF THE STANDBY STATUS AND SUBSEQUENT DRAWDOWN OF JTF PERSONNEL, TO THE JANUARY 20 DEPARTURE OF INTERIM JTF COMMANDER MAJOR ED SWEENEY AND THE REMAINING FIVE-MEMBER JTF CONTINGENT, EVERY U.S. CIVILIAN AND MILITARY OFFICE, AGENCY AND DEPARTMENT INVOLVED IN THIS UNDERTAKING MADE AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO ENSURE ITS SUCCESS. WHILE WE WERE NOT ALWAYS IN FULL AGREEMENT ON MANY OF THE DETAILS, AND CERTAINLY HAD OUR MOMENTS OF DISAGREEMENT ON CERTAIN ASPECTS, I CONSIDER THOSE TO BE PART AND PARCEL OF ANY COMPLICATED EFFORT. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS U.S. INTERESTS WERE WELL SERVED, OUR GOALS WERE MET, AND OUR OBJECTIVES WERE ACCOMPLISHED.

3. MY ADMIRATION AND RESPECT FOR THE PROFESSIONALISM AND ESPRIT DE CORPS OF THE FINEST MILITARY IN THE WORLD WAS RECONFIRMED ON A DAILY BASIS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE SIX MONTHS OF OPERATION SAFE HAVEN. JTF COMMANDER COLONEL LOUIS HUDDLESTON WAS A MODEL MILITARY COMMANDING OFFICER, AND PROVED HIMSELF TO BE AN ACCOMPLISHED DIPLOMAT AS WELL. HE TOOK THAT MISSION IMPOSSIBLE AND MADE IT A REALITY. IN DOING SO HE GAINED THE RESPECT OF EVERYONE WHO HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE TO BE PART OF THIS OPERATION. THE 500 PLUS SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN AND MARINES WHO COMPOSED THE JTF DISPLAYED THE BEST OF AMERICA, IN THEIR DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS IN THEIR WORK ETHIC. THEY WERE TRULY AMBASSADORS OF GOOD WILL. FOLLOWING THE CAMP STANDDOWN AND THE DEPARTURE OF COLONEL HUDDLESTON, INTERIM COMMANDER MAJOR EDWARD SWEENEY, A RESERVE ENGINEER RECALLED TO DUTY FOR OPERATION SAFE HAVEN, CARRIED OUT THE DRAWDOWN AND CLOSURE OF THE CAMP IN EXEMPLARY FASHION. EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF JTF SURINAME DESERVE OUR HEARTFELT THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

4. OUR CIVILIAN COLLEAGUES FROM WASHINGTON, FROM PRM, L/ARA AND ARA/CAR, WERE UNFAILINGLY SUPPORTIVE AND UNSTINTINGLY GAVE US THEIR TIME AND BEST THOUGHTS AS WE WRESTLED WITH THE LEGAL AND OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS AND OTHER INTERACTIONS. OUR EMBASSY STAFF, SURINAMERS AND AMERICANS ALIKE, WORKED TIRELESSLY TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE OPERATION AND THE WELFARE AND MORALE OF THE VISITING JTF TROOPS. THEY ALL DESERVE HIGH PRAISE FOR THEIR PROFESSIONALISM, DEDICATION AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE UNREMITTING STRESS AND EXTRAORDINARY DEMANDS.

5. THERE WERE MANY FRUSTRATIONS DEALING WITH THE METHODICAL, AND AT TIMES EXCRUCIATINGLY SLOW DECISION MAKING PROCESSES OF THE SURINAMERS. LAST MINUTE REQUIREMENTS AND THE LACK OF A CLEAR COMMAND/DECISION

MAKING APPARATUS FOR SAFE HAVEN OPERATIONS LEFT US AT TIMES LITERALLY TEARING OUT OUR HAIR. THE SURINAMERS WERE NOT ACCUSTOMED TO WORKING AT THE PACE WE DEMANDED, NOR WERE THEY ACCUSTOMED TO REACTING TO THE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS WE IMPOSED ON THEM. NEVERTHELESS, WHEN PUSH CAME TO SHOVE, WE WERE ALWAYS UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARAMARIBO 000170

STATE FOR ARA/CAR, L/ARA AND PRM: AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY SOUTHCOM FOR GENERAL MCCAFFREY AND COLONEL HUDDLESTON USARSO FOR GENERAL CROCKER
STATE PASS NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR SECDEF PLEASE PASS PARTICIPATING COMMANDS

E.O.12356: NA
TAGS: MARR, NS
SUBJECT: HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN IN SURINAME: IN RETROSPECT AND IN APPRECIATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE

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6. THIS HAS BEEN A VERY REWARDING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL OF US IN THIS OFT OVERLOOKED SPOT ON THE MAP. THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES. GAMBLE
BT
#0170

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02
SSN: 0170
<^SSN>0170
TOR: 950131115600 M1488161
<^TOR>950131115618 M1488163

DIST: SIT: BEERS BROWN CLARKER FEINBERG HALPERIN MALLEY NSC RICE ROCHA
SCHWARTZ SIMON

□

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU
LINE3: R 010348Z FEB 95
LINE4: FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
OSRI: RUEKJCS
DTG: 010348Z FEB 95
ORIG: DIA WASHINGTON DC
TO: ////
INFO: RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE
RUCIAEA/NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH//DXLA//
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUEATAC/CDRUSAITAC WASHINGTON DC//KT//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RUDMGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASHINGTON DC//DI//
RUEALGX/SAFE
R 311502Z JAN 95
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUERPMN/CDRUSARSO FT CLAYTON PM
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4074
INFO RUEHSP/AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN 1323
RUEHPU/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE 0027
RUEHWN/AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN 1255
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1350
SUBJ: HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN IN SURINAME: IN
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TEXT:
UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 000170

STATE FOR ARA/CAR, L/ARA AND PRM: AMBASSADOR MCKINLEY
SOUTHCOM FOR GENERAL MCCAFFREY AND COLONEL HUDDLESTON
USARSO FOR GENERAL CROCKER
STATE PASS NSC FOR RANDY BEERS FROM AMBASSADOR
SECDEF PLEASE PASS PARTICIPATING COMMANDS

E.O.12356: NA
TAGS: MARR, NS
SUBJECT: HAITIAN SAFE HAVEN IN SURINAME: IN
RETROSPECT AND IN APPRECIATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE

1. THE JANUARY 27 EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES AT THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY MARKED THE FORMAL END OF AN

EXTRAORDINARY JOINT U.S./SURINAME UNDERTAKING DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A HUMANITARIAN SAFE HAVEN FOR HAITIAN REFUGEES. WE AND THE SURINAMERS LEARNED A GREAT DEAL ABOUT EACH OTHER, AND ABOUT OURSELVES, DURING THE SIX MONTH DURATION OF THAT OPERATION. BOTH THE U.S. AND SURINAME BENEFITTED FROM THAT INTERACTION, WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY WILL HELP PAVE THE WAY FOR OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE. EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS ENDEAVOR, AMERICANS AND SURINAMERS ALIKE, WARRANTS OUR APPRECIATION AND THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

2. BEGINNING WITH THE JULY 8 VISIT OF NSC RANDY BEERS, THROUGH THE AUGUST 1 NEGOTIATIONS OF AMBASSADOR BRUNSON MCKINLEY, THE AUGUST 22 ARRIVAL OF USARSCO GENERAL CROCKER AND JTF COMMANDER COLONEL LOUIS HUDDLESTON, THE SUBSEQUENT ARRIVAL OF OVER 500 U.S. MILITARY JTF MEMBERS, THE ENTIRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE, THE BEGINNING OF THE STANDBY STATUS AND SUBSEQUENT DRAWDOWN OF JTF PERSONNEL, TO THE JANUARY 20 DEPARTURE OF INTERIM JTF COMMANDER MAJOR ED SWEENEY AND THE REMAINING FIVE-MEMBER JTF CONTINGENT, EVERY U.S. CIVILIAN AND MILITARY OFFICE, AGENCY AND DEPARTMENT INVOLVED IN THIS UNDERTAKING MADE AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO ENSURE ITS SUCCESS. WHILE WE WERE NOT ALWAYS IN FULL AGREEMENT ON MANY OF THE DETAILS, AND CERTAINLY HAD OUR MOMENTS OF DISAGREEMENT ON CERTAIN ASPECTS, I CONSIDER THOSE TO BE PART AND PARCEL OF ANY COMPLICATED EFFORT. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS U.S. INTERESTS WERE WELL SERVED, OUR GOALS WERE MET, AND OUR OBJECTIVES WERE ACCOMPLISHED.

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BT

#4768

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 4768

TOR: 950201003554 M1489676

DIST:

SIT: BEERS BROWN CLARKER FEINBERG HALPERIN MALLEY NSC RICE ROCHA
SCHWARTZ SIMON

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Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

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AIG 4674

RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA//POLCH//

RUESDH/FBIS KEY WEST FL

ACCT FBPA-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: First Group of Cuban Rrafters Begins Leaving for Guantanamo

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6J

SERIAL: PA0102204995

COUNTRY: Panama

SUBJ: First Group of Cuban Rrafters Begins Leaving for Guantanamo

SOURCE: Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1747 GMT 1 Feb 95

TEXT:

(((By Fabio Agrana)))

((FBIS Translated Text)) Panama City, 1 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The first 500 rafters, of more than 7,000 who are in the camps along the Panama Canal, began leaving on 1 February, crestfallen and under strict security measures, en route to the U.S. military base in Guantanamo (Cuba).

The transfer operation, dubbed "Safe Passage," will be carried out through an air bridge that will last approximately 14 days, with the daily transfer of a contingent of 500 Cubans distributed in five flights of 100 rafters each.

The first flight of the U.S. airline American Trans Air left Howard Air Force Base at 0700 with 100 Cubans, mostly men, from Camp No. 4 (there are three other camps), the first to be evacuated.

Four additional flights scheduled for today were "dispatched" without incident at approximately one-hour intervals.

Two commercial Boeing 727 airplanes and three C-141B military airplanes were used by the U.S. Southern Command, which has its headquarters in Panama, to transfer them.

The Cubans were taken early this morning to Howard, which is located close to the camps, in chartered Panamanian urban service buses known as "roadrunners." Wire mesh was fixed to the bus windows to prevent a possible escape.

Each of the buses, driven by soldiers, carried approximately 25 Cubans accompanied by more than a dozen military members who were, in turn, escorted by the Military Police and an all-terrain vehicle carrying military armed with antiriot gear.

While riding the buses, which passed close to the area occupied by the media at Howard Air Force Base, certain Cubans shouted: "Good-bye Panama! Thank you for everything!"

Meanwhile, large loudspeakers were used, as was done when they arrived in Panama on 6 September, to broadcast Cuban artist Gloria Estefan's music, particularly the song "My Land," in an unsuccessful attempt to make their departure less sad.

More than 50 soldiers armed with batons and lined up in two rows watched while the rafters boarded the airplane one by one.

They boarded the airplanes crestfallen, without a gesture and without looking at the sign placed by the U.S. military members wishing them "good luck."

One of the most symbolic gestures came from a tall young man who kissed the ground at the airport's landing strip before climbing the airplane steps and facing his return to Guantanamo.

Colonel David Holland, spokesman of "Operation Safe Haven," as the rafters' stay in Panama was called, told the media the security measures are "necessary so there will be no violence."

A total of 1,250 military members have arrived in Panama from the United States to help the 3,500 military personnel assigned to the camps to escort the rafters.

The rafters have been classified in three different categories for their transfer to Guantanamo: those who cause no problems, those who are "undisciplined" and provoke riots, and those who are sick, mostly as a result of suicide attempts.

The recalcitrant ones will travel within the general transfer operation, but they will go in a separate flight, with their hands and feet tied up to their waist, and escorted by U.S. federal agents.

Benjamin Ziff, U.S. Embassy spokesman in Panama, denied the rafters' return to Guantanamo is a failure of President Bill Clinton's foreign policy, and he recalled the U.S. Coast Guard rescued and saved "thousands and thousands" of rafters who jumped into the sea. He added the U.S. Government will continue to process visas for Cubans wishing to enter the United States, provided they return to Cuba.

The U.S. Southern Command has explained the Cubans' return to Guantanamo is a result of the agreement signed between the United States and Panama, which establishes the Cubans must depart before 6 March.

Panama signed an agreement with the U.S. Government on 6 September to receive up to 10,000 rafters for approximately 6 months, and the Panamanians refused to extend the deadline.

Approximately 1,171 Cubans have been able to enter the United States under the program implemented by the U.S. Department of Justice for people who are 70 years of age or older, children, and chronic patients, while another group of 72 have traveled to Spain.

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(endall) 011747 mgv/manning/ejl mmpa0102.24e 01/2046z feb

BT

#4526

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 4526

TOR: 950201155730 M1491401

DIST:

SIT: NSC

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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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AIG 4674
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ACCT FBPA-EWDK
INFO: ////
SUBJ: Immigrations Director Cited on Receiving Cuban Rafterers
TEXT:
UNCLAS 6J
SERIAL: PA0602183695
COUNTRY: Panama
SUBJ: Immigrations Director Cited on Receiving Cuban Rafterers
SOURCE: Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Feb 95 p A-1
TEXT:

//((Report by Orlando Mendieta C.))

((FBIS Translated Text)) Immigrations Director German Gil Sanchez has announced Panama is willing to receive a group of Cuban rafters as long as they return to Guantanamo and fill out the necessary documents requesting their transfer to our country.

Gil Sanchez has made the announcement while a plan for the return of the Cuban rafters is being implemented. Approximately 2,000 of them have been returned to Guantanamo.

Gil Sanchez has said he will not accept any request from the Cuban rafters to stay in the country but has clarified they can file the necessary documents to return to Panama once they arrive in Guantanamo. We have learned from other sources that some Cubans have wives and children in Panama and other relatives in Panama.

Gil Sanchez has said the Panamanian Government is willing to receive a group of Cubans, but he did not specify how many or when. He added this receiving of Cubans must be done through controlled immigrations procedures and as long as it will not affect employment opportunities in Panama.

He has said one of the requirements to receive Cubans will be that they must have an economic means to meet their expenses while in Panama.

Gil Sanchez has admitted he has received calls from hundreds of Cubans who would like to stay in the country but has said the government is firm in its position of not permitting any rafters to remain in Panama.

Meanwhile, a bulletin issued by the Operation Safe Haven Press Center has stated 500 Cubans returned to Guantanamo yesterday in five planes, military and civilian. The bulletin added that there would be no flights to Cuba today but that another group of rafters will be transferred to that country from Howard Air Force Base on 6 February.

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(endall) 5 feb se/manning/cn mmpa0602.13e 06/1833z feb

BT

#4801

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 4801

TOR: 950206150751 M1499468

DIST:

SIT: NSC

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