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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CUBAN AND HAITIAN ENTRANT ASSISTANCE  
JUSTIFICATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS

July 22, 1980

Office of the U.S. Coordinator  
for Refugee Affairs

## JUSTIFICATION FOR APPROPRIATION REQUEST FOR CUBAN AND HAITIAN ENTRANTS

### SUMMARY

The Department of State hereby requests a total of \$65 million to finance assistance to Cuban and Haitian Entrants. Such assistance will be authorized by a proposed amendment to the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1980 and 1981.

The first item in this budget request is \$35 million to finance the resettlement of these persons from federal processing facilities to areas of permanent resettlement. Included in this request is funding to provide reception and placement grants to voluntary agencies (VOLAGS) which will provide resettlement assistance to these individuals. Also included is funding to finance the secondary migrations of certain Cubans and Haitians away from the Miami, Florida area and other similarly impacted areas to other sections of the United States. It is believed essential in order to minimize the adverse effects of this recent wave of migrants on the South Florida area that such financing be provided to resettle these persons in areas as geographically disparate as possible.

The second item included in this budget request is \$30 million to finance the continued operation of the federal processing centers which have been established to house, process and prepare for resettlement these Cuban and Haitian arrivals. It is anticipated that by October 1 the population of these facilities will be reduced to approximately 15,000 and that the facilities should be closed by the end of December, 1980. However, in those intervening three months it is estimated that the cost of housing these people, feeding them, providing security services, possibly centralizing camp populations in different

facilities and winterizing various structures will amount to approximately \$30 million.

Details of Budget Request

The \$35 million requested for the resettlement of these persons will largely be used to pay grants to voluntary agencies which are responsible for the reception and placement of these individuals. These voluntary agencies will be paid grants of \$100 per person for Cubans or Haitians who were released prior to June 19, 1980 and who remain in South Florida. Grants of \$300 per person will be paid for the resettlement of Cubans who are released from the federal processing facilities after June 19, 1980. Similar grants will be paid for Haitians who relocate away from the South Florida area. Finally, grants of \$200 per person will be paid to voluntary agencies for the secondary resettlement of Cubans who were released prior to June 19, but who subsequently resettle away from the South Florida area. Also included in this \$35 million are additional funds for the transportation of these persons, either from South Florida, or another impacted area, to an area of secondary resettlement or from the federal processing center to their area of resettlement, and other expenses associated with this operation.

The \$30 million requested for camp operation reflects an estimate that on October 1, 1980 the camp populations will be approximately 15,000 divided among facilities in Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, Camp McCoy in Wisconsin and other similar facilities. We estimate that during the October through December period the major cost incurred will be for the care and maintenance for these persons while they are in the processing facilities.

Additional costs are possible for centralization of these persons into processing facilities where greater economies of operations can be obtained and reimbursable charges to the General Services Administration and other federal agencies which are responsible for providing space, security and utilities at the facilities . It may also be necessary during this period to provide winter clothing to these persons and engage in various winterization projects to allow these facilities to remain open through the autumn.

Finally, while this budget justification has often referred to persons in "South Florida", use of this geographic designation has been for indicative purposes only. Other Cuban or Haitian entrants in other areas of the United States will be eligible for the same types of assistance provided to entrants who have been resettled in the South Florida area.

Drafted:S/R:FMoss:lm  
7/22/80