

SMITH URGES MIAMI BUSINESSMEN AS HEAD OF IMMIGRATION SERVICE

The New York Times

June 13, 1981, Saturday, Late City Final Edition

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Section: Section 1; Page 10, Column 1; National Desk

Length: 681 words

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Dateline: WASHINGTON, June 12

Body

Attorney General William French **Smith** has asked President Reagan to nominate Norman Braman, a 48-year-old **Miami businessman**, to be Commissioner of **Immigration** and Naturalization.

Justice Department officials said today that the choice of Mr. Braman reflected the Administration's conclusion that management expertise was the quality most needed in the person who would direct the **Immigration** and Naturalization **Service**. Members of Congress, Government auditors and **immigration** attorneys had complained for years that the agency was mismanaged.

Mr. Braman started a chain of discount drug stores in Pennsylvania before moving to Florida, where he is the **head** of an automobile sales and leasing organization. He owns Braman Cadillac, which he has described as the largest Cadillac retail dealership in the country.

Attorney General requests nomination of Norman Braman for Commissioner of **Immigration** and Naturalization post

Meanwhile, Justice Department officials said that President Reagan intended to replace Peter B. Bensinger, the **head** of the Drug Enforcement Administration. Mr. Bensinger was appointed by President Ford in 1975 and retained by President Carter.

Budget Opposition Cited

A Reagan Administration official said that Mr. Bensinger was regarded as a poor "team player" because he had lobbied against budget cuts that the White House had proposed for his agency.

John H. Langer, a spokesman for the drug agency, said that Mr. Bensinger was on a brief vacation, on a sailboat in the Chesapeake Bay, and could not be reached for comment. Mr. Bensinger had apparently not been formally notified of the President's plans to replace him.

At a meeting with reporters on May 14, Associate Attorney General Rudolph W. Giuliani sharply criticized the drug enforcement agency, saying that the Federal effort against narcotics had had "abysmal" results in the last four years. Attorney General **Smith** said recently that "drug enforcement simply was not a priority of the previous Administration." However, neither Mr. Giuliani nor Mr. **Smith** has publicly criticized Mr. Bensinger by name.

Mr. **Smith** has emphasized the control of illicit drug traffic as a means of combating violent crime.

Interim Leadership Possible

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Mr. Bensinger's deputy, Frederick A. Rody Jr., is scheduled to leave Washington for another assignment at the end of next week. The agency may be run by interim appointees for several months because no one has been selected to succeed either Mr. Bensinger or Mr. Rody.

The immigration service has been under the direction of temporary appointees for 20 months, since Leonel J. Castillo left office at the end of September 1979. David W. Crosland, the general counsel of the agency, served as acting commissioner until last month, when the Attorney General named Doris M. Meissner to serve in that capacity.

Mr. Braman described himself as "the product of a good, sane immigration policy," noting that his mother had come from Rumania and his father from Poland.

Mr. Braman was a fund raiser for Mr. Reagan in last year's Presidential campaign. He is vice president of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and chairman of the local United Jewish Appeal campaign.

Hearing on Haitians Postponed

Special to the New York Times

MIAMI, June 12 - A hearing to determine the legality and fairness of deportation proceedings against undocumented Haitians was postponed today by a United States District Court judge here.

Judge Alcee Hastings instructed the Immigration and Naturalization Service to make transcripts of its June 1-5 Miami deportation hearings at which 76 Haitians were ordered deported to their country. He indicated he might begin taking testimony next Wednesday.

The judge ruled on a petition filed on behalf of the Haitians by the Haitian Refugee Center Inc. and the American Civil Liberties Union. The disposition of the case could affect more than 6,000 Haitians who might be deported as undocumented aliens.

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Subject: IMMIGRATION (91%); IMMIGRATION LAW (90%); US PRESIDENTS (90%); NATURALIZATION (90%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (89%); LAWYERS (89%); ATTORNEYS GENERAL (89%); CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES CRIME (89%); APPOINTMENTS (89%); SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FORCES (89%); JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS (79%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (78%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (78%); PUBLIC POLICY (77%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (76%); GOVERNMENT CONTROLLERS & AUDITORS (76%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (76%); AUTOMOTIVE SALES (75%); CORPORATE COUNSEL (74%); NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT (73%); LOBBYING (71%); ILLEGAL DRUGS (70%)

Company: REAGAN ADMINISTRATION (65%); REAGAN ADMINISTRATION (65%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (57%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (57%)

Organization: IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (57%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (57%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (57%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (57%)

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Industry: LAWYERS (89%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (76%); GOVERNMENT CONTROLLERS & AUDITORS (76%); MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS (75%); AUTOMOTIVE SALES (75%); CORPORATE COUNSEL (74%); RETAIL PHARMACEUTICALS (71%); BUDGET CUTS (67%); BUDGETS (67%)

Person: RONALD REAGAN (92%); NORMAN BRAMAN (90%); RUDY GIULIANI (59%); JIMMY CARTER (58%)

Geographic: MIAMI, FL, USA (58%); PENNSYLVANIA, USA (79%); FLORIDA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (79%)

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