

# AIDES SAY THAT SEA PATROL HAS SLOWED HAITIAN ENTRIES

The New York Times

December 6, 1981, Sunday, Late City Final Edition

Copyright 1981 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section 1; Part 1; Page 30, Column 1; National Desk

**Length:** 940 words

**Byline:** By GREGORY JAYNES, Special to the New York Times

**Dateline:** MIAMI, Dec. 5

## **Body**

---

The Federal authorities **said** that the number of **Haitian** refugees headed for the United States has decreased dramatically in a year. They are crediting the Reagan Administration's decision to interdict these refugees at **sea** as well as widespread word in Haiti that coming to this country without proper documents means a loss of freedom.

Since the Government announced the interdiction policy in August, the Immigration and Naturalization Service has taken 1,960 Haitians into custody. In the same four months last year, the agency picked up 6,906. In all of 1980, the Government caught 15,093 Haitians, while in 1981, through Dec. 1, 8,023 had been detained. Last month only 47 were picked up as they reached Florida shores, as against 1,021 in November 1980.

Federal officials **said** number of Haitians seeking refuge in US has decreased dramatically this year

Though Coast Guard cutters **patrolling** the Windward Passage between Haiti and Cuba since September have interdicted only one boat, and that one sinking with 57 Haitians on board, a spokesman for the immigration service here **said**, "That's where the word 'deterrent' comes in."

The spokesman, Beverly McFarland, **said** that the presence of the Coast Guard off Haiti's coast, the Administration's "detention posture" and the attention the **Haitian** press paid the drownings of 33 refugees off a Florida beach Oct. 26 were three major reasons for the "tremendous drop-off." She added that the Government's decision to establish Fort Drum, a 107,625-acre military installation near Watertown, N.Y., as a permanent detention facility for illegal aliens may have contributed.

### The Fear of Siberia

Of Fort Drum, she **said**: "A side effect may well be that there has been so much press about it being Siberia that it may have caused people to think twice. But it was not an intentional deterrent."

A spokesman for the **Haitian** community in Miami discounted the Government's belief that the number of Haitians heading here had decreased. "They're still coming," **said** the Rev. Gerard Jean-Juste, executive director of the **Haitian** Refugee Center Inc. "They're just not caught. They drift in and I meet them every day myself."

The Federal authorities concede that as many as 50,000 Haitians have eluded officials in the last 10 years and entered the United States illegally. Hundreds still do, the immigration agency believes, but the theory is that if 1,000 were apprehended in a month a year ago, with less manpower and less attention to the situation, then, given this year's resources and local awareness, if fewer than 50 are picked up in one month, it must mean fewer are coming.

"The Mariel boatlift threw everything into high relief," **said** Miss McFarland, referring to the 1980 Cuban refugees. "There is no ignoring any boat that comes in with people who are illegal now."

## AIDES SAY THAT SEA PATROL HAS SLOWED HAITIAN ENTRIES

## Most Living in Misery

There are about 2,500 Haitians in detention in Florida, Texas, Kentucky, West Virginia and New York. Some 700 others are at Fort Allen, P.R., under an agreement with the Puerto Ricans that the number will not exceed 800. By all accounts, the detainees are miserable.

Here in Miami, at the Krome Avenue camp on the eastern edge of the Everglades, there was a small riot Sept. 3. Two weeks ago, 45 men escaped over the 12-foot chain-link fence and the two-feet of barbed wire that tops it; 15 were recaptured. The night before Thanksgiving, 15 to 20 men shoved a guard against a wall and went over the fence; two were recaptured. In the next two nights, 21 fled.

The immigration agency added 12 Border **Patrol** guards to its 26-man security detail at Krome. There have been no breakouts in a week. Immigration officials here **say** that Christmas may be a reason for tensions at Krome. The Haitians, nearly all of them Roman Catholics, have begun to realize they will be neither free nor home by the holiday, and to keep the place calm through this month the Government is allowing local clergymen to **say** mass and is negotiating with relief organizations for entertainment.

An ordinary day at Krome means standing around on the coral rock ground. There are no recreational facilities, nor at Fort Allen in Puerto Rico.

More than 100 Haitians have voluntarily left Fort Allen and been flown back to Haiti. Their places at Fort Allen have been filled by transfers of Haitians from Krome, which, at a population of 803 Friday, was filled to capacity.

Refugees at Fort Allen **said** today that they had found a 30-year-old father of five dead in his bunk, and they **said** they would refuse to let the authorities remove the body until they were allowed to see lawyers or the press, United Press International reported. The refugees **said** by telephone that they had found the body of Innocent Miclisse, a 30-year-old married man and the father of five.

The Government contends there would be no need for detention if a handful of lawyers had not taken more **Haitian** cases than they could handle and had not clogged the works with delaying tactics. The civil libertarians contend that the Haitians are political refugees, not solely economic refugees, as the Administration holds, and that their rights are being violated. There are a dozen unresolved suits in Federal courts in Miami. Another went to trial in Federal District Court in Manhattan Friday.

Next month, the Haitians are to be moved to Fort Drum, issued mittens and parkas, and taught to walk on ice and look for signs of frostbite. After that, Krome, a missile base thrown up in the 1962 Cuban crisis, is to be a processing facility, from which aliens will be shipped home or to Fort Drum.

## Graphic

---

Illustrations: map of southern Florida photo of beds in detention center photo of wire fence surrounding detention center photo of guard tower

## Classification

---

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Subject:** REFUGEES (90%); IMMIGRATION (89%); CITIZENSHIP (78%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (78%); ARMED FORCES (73%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (71%); CHRISTIANS & CHRISTIANITY (65%)

## AIDES SAY THAT SEA PATROL HAS SLOWED HAITIAN ENTRIES

**Company:** 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%)

**Industry:** MILITARY VESSELS (73%); ARMED FORCES (73%)

**Geographic:** MIAMI, FL, USA (79%); FLORIDA, USA (92%); HAITI (98%); UNITED STATES (92%); CUBA (71%)

---

End of Document