

# 53 REFUGEES MAY BE FREED / THEY'VE BEEN HELD SINCE FLEEING CHINA ABOARD THE GOLDEN VENTURE IN 1993.

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## Body

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President Clinton on Friday ordered the release of the remaining **53** Chinese **refugees held** by the Immigration and Naturalization Service **since** their freighter, the **Golden Venture**, ran aground in New York City in June **1993**.

The White House action will speed an INS review of the detainees - including 40 **held** at York County Prison - to screen out any who may have committed violent acts during detention.

All others were to be released pending an immigration judge's review of their requests for political asylum.

Ten of the **Golden Venture's** 277 passengers died trying to swim ashore, and most who were picked up have been released with green cards, sent back to **China** or to another country that granted asylum.

Clinton's decision was partly due to the persistence of U.S. Rep. Bill Goodling (R., Pa.).

## Classification

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**Language:** ENGLISH

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**Organization:** IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (90%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (84%)

**Person:** BILL CLINTON (74%)

**Geographic:** NEW YORK, NY, USA (57%); NEW YORK, USA (79%); **CHINA** (92%)

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