

**The Nation in Summary;**  
**Freedom Delayed For Haitians**

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## **Body**

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Had they come at another time or perhaps from another place, the thousands of Haitian immigrants now detained in the United States and Puerto Rico might have been welcomed at the country's "golden door." Instead they are perceived as having climbed through a what one Government lawyer called "a window of vulnerability" that a Federal court in Miami may have opened a bit wider last week.

Federal District Judge orders Government to parole detained **Haitians** pending hearings to determine political or economic refugee status

Federal District Judge Eugene P. Spellman ordered the Government to parole 1,900 **Haitians**, most of whom have been locked up more than a year, pending hearings on whether they are political or economic refugees. The former would be granted asylum; the latter sent back to Haiti.

Lawyers for the **Haitians** said Judge Spellman's decision was a "major victory" and expressed hope that it would lead to "a reasonable and orderly release process to remedy this awful detention." But it may be a while before celebrations are in order. Judge Spellman refused to stay his order and the Justice Department filed an appeal with the United States Court of Appeals in Atlanta. The appeal could take as long as a year and the Justice Department said the **Haitians** would continue to be detained in the meantime.

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