

HAITIANS ARRIVE IN BROOKLYN AND LAKE PLACID

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Body

Federal officials over the weekend began moving several hundred Haitians to detention centers around the country, including an immigration center in Brooklyn and a Federal prison near **Lake Placid**, N.Y., in an effort to ease serious overcrowding at a Miami camp.

The Haitians, illegal aliens who have been fleeing their country in boats for several years, are being relocated to Federal prisons and to detention centers run by the Federal Immigration and Naturalization Service, a spokesman for the Justice Department said.

Fifty men and 36 women were taken Saturday to a decrepit, five-story red brick building across from the Brooklyn Navy Yard in a rundown section of Fort Greene. Private security guards who were armed supplemented Immigration and Naturalization officers, none of whom would permit reporters to visit the Haitians.

Federal officials move several hundred Haitians to detention centers around country, including Brooklyn and **Lake Placid** (NY), from Miami (Fla) camp

"We have an emergency condition here with the overcrowding," said Michael Trominski, an immigration officer at the Krome Avenue North Refugee Camp, west of Miami. A former Army missile base, the makeshift tent and barrack encampment with a capacity for 550 people now houses nearly 1,200 refugees, Mr. Trominski said.

10 More to Lake Placid

Immigration officials transferred 90 Haitians from the overcrowded Miami camp yesterday, sending 50 refugees to a Federal facility in West Virginia and 40 more to a new Federal prison in **Lake Placid**. Twenty more Haitians will be flown out today, 10 to Texas and 10 to **Lake Placid**.

In addition to the 86 Haitians who were brought to Brooklyn on Saturday, 176 were flown to a minimum security Federal prison camp in Big Spring, Tex. Last week, 58 children who escaped to this country from Haiti without their parents were taken to Dutchess County in upstate New York for adoption.

The transfers of the Haitians, which according to Mr. Trominski were ordered by William French Smith, the United States Attorney General, came on the heels of a suit filed by Bob Graham, the Governor of Florida, who is seeking to force the Federal Government to reduce the refugee population at the Krome Avenue camp by 1,000 by Friday. The Justice Department is continuing its search for space in Federal detention facilities but there are no firm plans for future transfers, Mr. Trominski said.

Mr. Trominski also said that the Governor of Puerto Rico had endorsed a plan by Federal officials to use an empty Navy facility there to house Haitian refugees. Puerto Rican officials had been opposed to the use of the facility until now.

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Deportation Hearings Halted

Deportations of Haitians were halted last month following charges by attorneys for the refugees that the Haitians were being denied due process of law. They said deportation hearings were held in locked courtrooms, from which private lawyers and spectators were barred. The Immigration and Naturalization Service suspended deportation proceedings pending a review of its procedures.

Severe overcrowding at the Miami camp has caused serious sanitation problems, including the contamination of the camp's drinking water, Mr. Trominski said.

Between 1,000 and 1,500 Haitians arrive by boat every month, said Thomas M. Stewart, a spokesman for the Justice Department. "It's an enormous bureaucratic problem keeping tabs on all of them," Mr. Stewart said. "There are more than 15,000 who are in exclusion or deportation proceedings right now." Many of the Haitians not held at the camp have been sponsored by voluntary agencies in Miami communities, and are being taken care of by private families.

During the transfers, 50 riot-equipped Border Patrol officers flown in from Texas to Miami surrounded the buses carrying the refugees to the airport. But the Haitians filed quietly onto the chartered passenger jet.

At the Federal prison facilities in Texas, West Virginia and Lake Placid, the refugees will be segregated from the general prison population, Mr. Stewart said.

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