AROUND THE NATION;

Lawsuit on Detention Of Haitians to Be Tried

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Body

A <u>lawsuit</u> challenging the Federal policy of holding Haitian refugees in compounds while considering their status as immigrants is to come to trial Monday.

The plaintiffs in the class-action suit represent more than 2,100 <u>Haitians</u> held in seven compounds in the United States and Puerto Rico.

A <u>lawsuit</u> challenging the Federal policy of holding Haitian refugees in compounds while considering their status as immigrants is to come to trial Monday. Most of the refugees entered the country illegally.

The suit was filed by the Haitian Refugee Center Inc. on behalf of several <u>Haitians</u> held at the Krome Avenue <u>Detention</u> Center near here. More than 580 <u>Haitians</u> have been at the Krome center. Other detainees from Haiti are in compounds in New York, Arizona and Puerto Rico.

In a case last week, a Federal judge in New York ruled that the Government illegally <u>detained</u> eight <u>Haitians</u> at a Brooklyn center. He termed discriminatory the refusal by the Government to parole the eight before their requests for political asylum were settled.

Meanwhile, 225 lawyers in Miami have indicated that they would volunteer to assist the Krome *Haitians*.

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