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## **Panama: First Contingent Of Cuban Refugees Departs For U.S.**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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On July 31, 150 of a contingent of 2,000 Cubans left Panama for Miami, Florida, after a three-year struggle with the US Immigration and Naturalization Service. They have been living in Panama under a provisional residency status. According to Panamanian officials, over the past five years, some 15,000 Cubans have arrived in Panama, many paying between \$5,000 and \$10,000 for visas and documents. (Basic data from AFP, 07/31/90)

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