

To Time Magazine
From Lionel Martin -Havana

1988
TIME
June
WR 312

MEMO - The greatest number of Cuban refugees since the Mariel boatlift eight years ago are expected to enter the United States this year. According to a U.S. Consular official in Havana the number could reach 12,000, 9000 immigrants under the normal Cuban immigration quota and an additional 3000 under the Refugee Act. Few Cubans have entered the United States since the resumption of the U.S-Cuban immigration agreement last November. Most of the refugees who had arrived since then were allowed to leave after an appeal by the U.S. Catholic Council of Bishops to Fidel Castro. The consular official was optimistic that bureaucratic problems on both sides which have delayed the implementation have been overcome. The new round of stepped up emigration began on May 3 eight political prisoners were taken straight from the Combinado del Este to the Havana airport where they were joined by their families and put on a plane for Miami. Hopefully, the consular official said some 400 current or former political prisoners and their families will be flying to the United States in May.

Wave 4
On Cuban Refugees in 1988