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Colombian + Ecuadorian  
citizens released  
from Cuban jails

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havana, aug 12, reuter -- thirty colombian citizens and one ecuadorian flew to panama today after being released from cuban jails where they were serving time on charges of illegally entering cuba and of drug trafficking, prensa latina reported today.

the 30 men were released following an appeal to the cuban government by colombian writer gabriel garcia marquez.

the majority of the liberated prisoners were arrested when their boats or planes entered cuban territorial waters or air space.

over the past years 31 colombian citizens were captured and imprisoned by cuban authorities. garcia marquez told prensa latina that 15 colombians still remain in cuban jails.

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