

Crisis at the Border as 15,000 Haitians Try to Migrate at Del Rio, Texas

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15,000 Haitians waited at an encampment under a bridge as they tried to migrate to the US at the Texas border town of Del Rio beginning last week. The state of Texas took action last Saturday to deploy Department of Public Safety and National Guard officers to secure the border in Del Rio. About 1,000 state troopers and National Guardsmen were deployed to the area. Migrants said they had traveled to the U.S. fleeing natural disasters in Haiti and a lack of job opportunities in South and Central America. The US Border Patrol has been accused of “cruelty” toward Haitian immigrants crossing into Texas, as an activist claimed its agents used “whips” against them, but they were using reins to control their horses. Democrats are accusing the border officers of cruelty and racism. Thousands of illegal alien Haitian “family units” under the Del Rio International Bridge are being releasing into the US with a simple notice to return for further questioning. The notices are often ignored. The Biden administration is sending expulsion flights to Haiti this week. An estimated 4,400 migrants are still waiting under the bridge and over 2,000 migrants are on the other side of the Mexican border. Border officials have apprehended over 1.5-million migrants in fiscal year 2021, compared to 500,000 last year when Trump was in office. GEG

In response to the migrant crisis in Del Rio, Texas, the Biden administration has begun a large-scale deportation effort to fly Haitians, who crossed the U.S.-Mexico border, back to their home country.

In what [the Associated Press is calling](#) “one of America’s swiftest, large-scale expulsions of migrants or refugees in decades,” Haitian migrants are being given \$100 and free COVID-19 test upon their return to Haiti, according to Marie-Lourde Jean-Charles of the Office of National Migration. More than 320 migrants were taken back to Port-au-Prince in three separate flights Sunday and Haiti said six more flights were expected Tuesday, the AP reported.

An estimated 12,600 migrants are **camped under a bridge** in Del Rio, where authorities have described the situation as “out of control.” The Biden administration will begin sending seven expulsion flights to Haiti daily beginning Wednesday, with four going to Port-au-Prince and three to Cap-Haitien. The flights will depart from San Antonio, but administration officials are also considering sending flights from El Paso, an official told the AP.

Border Patrol Chief Raul L. Ortiz reported Sunday that 3,300 migrants had been removed from the Del Rio camp to planes or detention centers. Another 3,000 migrants were expected to be moved within a day, with Ortiz predicting that rest would be removed from the area within a week.

“We are working around the clock to expeditiously move migrants out of the heat, elements and from underneath this bridge to our processing facilities in order to quickly process and remove individuals from the United States consistent with our laws and our policies,” Ortiz said during a press conference at the Del Rio bridge.

The migrants are being expelled under a pandemic-related order enacted by President Donald Trump in March 2020 that allows for removal without an opportunity to seek asylum in the U.S. Under President Joe Biden’s administration, the order is still in effect for all migrants except unaccompanied minors.

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