

## SENATE PANEL VOTES TO END CUBA AIRLIFT

JUN 26 1971

WASHINGTON, June 25 (UPI)—The Senate Appropriations Committee voted unanimously today to stop at the end of this month an airlift that has brought 240,000 refugees from Cuba to the United States.

Senator Allen J. Ellender, Louisiana Democrat who is the committee chairman, said that Cubans would still be permitted to enter the United States under normal immigration procedures. But he said they would have to "find their way in" at their own expense.

He predicted that the committee's action, if sustained by Congress, would sharply curtail the flow of Cubans entering this country. The current funding for the airlift to Miami ends Wednesday.

The airlift was started in May, 1966, with the cooperation of the Cuban Government. It has carried an average of 3,600 persons a month to this country.

In all, about 650,000 Cubans have entered the United States since Fidel Castro came to power. The airlift has been costing \$5-million a year.