

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**  
**Bureau of Customs and Border Protection**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 24, 2003

## **Two Separate Sea Interdictions Result in 93 Arrest**

*AGUADILLA, Puerto Rico* – Ninety-three Dominican Nationals were intercepted at sea by the U.S. Border Patrol and officers of Aguadilla Fuerzas de Rapida Accion (FURA) in two separate events over the weekend.

The first event took place Saturday morning, March 22, 2003, approximately ½ of a mile off the coast of Espinal, Aguada. An Aguadilla FURA maritime unit intercepted a vessel containing Dominican Nationals and contacted the U.S. Border Patrol for assistance. Border Patrol Agents responded and assumed custody of 42 undocumented aliens from the Dominican Republic. One undocumented alien, who had swum ashore, was later arrested. The U.S. Coast Guard repatriated the 46 undocumented aliens, 38 males and 8 females, directly to the Dominican Republic.

The second event took place Sunday morning, March 23, approximately ½ of a mile off the coast of Corcega, Rincon. A Rincon FURA maritime unit, with the assistance of the U.S. Border Patrol, intercepted a vessel containing 46 undocumented aliens. The U.S. Coast Guard repatriated the undocumented migrants, 37 males and 9 females, to the Dominican Republic.

All 93 undocumented migrants were in good health.

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