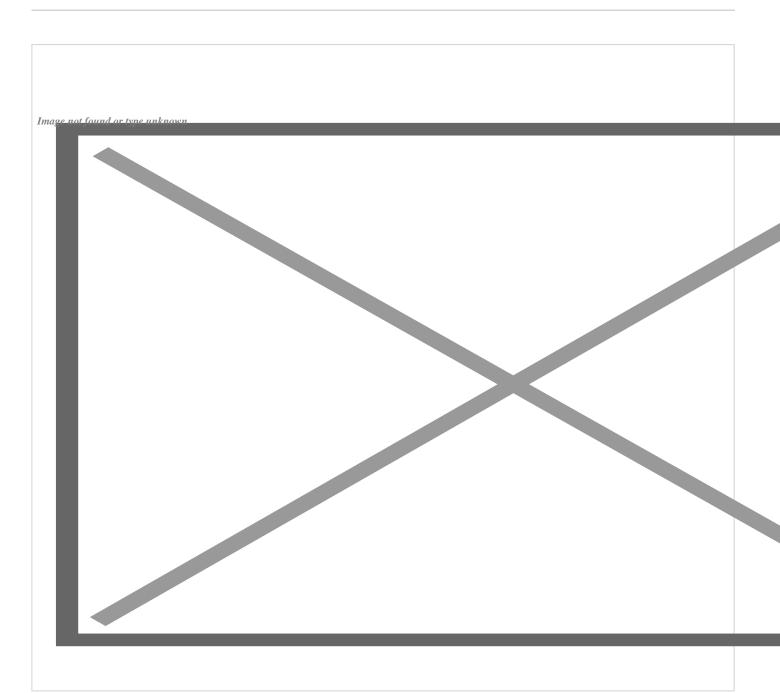
U.S. federal judges temporarily block deportations of some immigrants under 1798 wartime law



New York, April 11 (RHC)-- U.S. federal judges in Texas and New York have temporarily blocked the removal of U.S. residents under the Alien Enemies Act, an 18th-century wartime law invoked by Trump to fast-track the expulsion of immigrants he's accused of being gang members. Both judges said any targets for removal must be able to have their cases heard in court.

Trump expelled 238 people from the U.S. without due process in March, the vast majority from Venezuela. They've effectively disappeared into El Salvador's notorious mega-prison CECOT. Despite the Trump administration's claims it's targeting so-called violent criminals, data shows 90% of those removed in last month's flights had no criminal record.

In Venezuela, families of the removed individuals rallied outside a U.N. office in Caracas to call for the release of their loved ones.

One father, Mirelis Cacique López, told reporters in Caracas: "I want to ask, with my heart in my hands, for them to give us back our children. We Venezuelans are very united. Our priority is our family. If we are missing one, we are missing everything. That is the only thing we need. Please give us back our children."

The Trump administration on Wednesday said it's looking into a possible "legal pathway" to transfer U.S. citizens to El Salvador's CECOT prison.

[SOURCE: DEMOCRACY NOW]

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