
News in Brief

Quebec's French Language Training Program in Thailand

The program of French language training for Quebec-bound refugees in Thailand, run by the Ministère de l'Immigration of the Government of Quebec, has been extended until 1983. Quebec's program is the only Canadian program of language training or orientation for Canada-bound refugees operated abroad.

Under the Thai government's "humane deterrent" policy, only one refugee camp, Phanat Nikom, is open to third country resettlement officials. Refugees seeking resettlement abroad must first be transferred there. Those refugees who are selected for resettlement in Canada may still have a three to four month wait at Phanat Nikom before their departure for Canada. Quebec's language training program at Phanat Nikom has enabled around 470 Indochinese refugees to use this time to learn French. Quebec government officials feel this has been of benefit not only to the refugees' integration into Quebec society but also to the morale in the refugee camp.

The program is operated in conjunction with the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, and also received some initial financial assistance from the Canadian Foundation for Refugees.

New Representative of UNHCR in Canada

Mr. Itshaq Brown is the new representative in Canada of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). An Israeli national, Mr. Brown has worked for UNHCR since 1957, most recently as Acting Chief of the Europe Regional Section at UNHCR Headquarters in Geneva. Mr. Brown succeeds Mr. Raymond Terrillon who retired in July 1982.

Humanitarian Measures for Lebanese Nationals

Lebanese nationals in Canada who do not wish to return to Lebanon at the present time may remain and work in Canada for one year under Minister's Permits, under special measures announced by Employment and Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy in June 1982. At the end of one year their position will be reviewed. Those who have relatives in Canada eligible to sponsor them may, if they wish, apply for permanent residence without leaving the country. Also, immigration applications from people in Lebanon who are affected by the war and who have relatives in Canada are being dealt with under relaxed criteria.

The measures are identical to those introduced to assist Poles in October 1981. "The situation has not improved; if anything, Poland's political and economic life has further deteriorated," Mr. Axworthy stated recently. He announced that Poles who had been here on Minister's Permits would be allowed to apply for permanent resident status.

The measures are also similar to those announced for Salvadorans in 1981. Salvadorans arriving in Canada are still being given Minister's Permits, and those whose permits are expiring after the one year are being permitted to have them extended or to apply for landing.

Self-Sufficient Refugees

Refugees and members of designated classes who have enough money and enough knowledge of English or French to be able to settle in Canada without government assistance have been enabled to come to Canada relatively expeditiously, through the creation of a new category of designated class entrants, called DC-4's. DC-4's do not receive government assistance and are not counted against the annual refugee plan levels. So far, mostly Poles have come to Canada under this category.

Resource Exchange

Book Review

Canada and the Indochinese Refugees, by Howard Adelman. L.A. Weigl Educational Associates Ltd., Regina, 1982, 186 pp., \$6.75.

by Harold Troper

Canada and the Indochinese Refugees is an important book. It is not only the first published study of the Canadian response to the 1979 Indochinese refugee crisis; it is also a book written by one who was exceptionally close to the centre of policy formation during the period of the narrative. Howard Adelman, who was among the founders and guiding lights of Operation Lifeline in Toronto, steers his readers through a short but interesting review of the refugee phenomenon in the

modern world-and, separating need from law, briefly touches on the thorny issue of whether or not the Boat People can be considered refugees under the definitions of Canadian or international law. He recalls for us the building crisis to which so many Canadians would respond, and carefully links the unfolding of events in the Far East with the mounting pressure on the Canadian government to increase its commitment to refugee resettlement. From the federal commitment he moves to the role of the provinces, especially Quebec and Ontario, in the refugee field; the complementary activities of voluntary agencies such as Operation Lifeline; and the support for refugee admission and settlement from religious and ethnic groups. Finally Adelman weighs the negative impact of anti-refugee sentiment in Canada, the nature of the

anti-refugee campaign and the measure to which this campaign influenced the direction or commitment of Canadian refugee relief and resettlement.

Perhaps any book which details Canadian involvement in the Indochinese refugee crisis would cover this ground, but Adelman offers us something more: his own experience. Since he was so involved in the key events of the day, at both the private and government levels, Adelman is able to pepper his narrative with incidents in which he was involved and insights which only he can offer. Thus in a hybrid style — somewhere in the middle ground between historical detachment and personal memoirs — Adelman recalls both events as they passed and the impression he had of those events at the time. He is thus able to impose order on

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what others caught up in the Indochinese refugee movement might recall as an exhausting, confusing and exhilarating period — a period of emotional involvement perhaps not readily reduced to historical analysis.

Herein lies the book's great appeal and, perhaps, its greatest weakness. On the one hand Adelman plucks from memory and from the historical record as he researched it, those factors which seemingly stand out as critical in accounting for the shape and direction of the Canadian response. He orders the steps, one after another, which led to the government's decision to expand its Indochinese refugee program, led to the explosion of public involvement with these refugees and led provincial and private institutions into the refugee arena. From his telling, the Indochinese crisis has a logical and, if not smooth, at least an ordered chronology and policy direction. As one who was but a minor actor on the Operation Lifeline stage, I have no doubt that Adelman's analysis is substantially correct.

But there is a problem at least for me. I recall many of the same events from the early days of Operation Lifeline as does Adelman — the same meetings, the same telephones ringing off the wall, the same parade of volunteers requesting assistance, the same efforts to shape organization out of good will. What I don't remember is order. Adelman's efforts — largely successful — to press order out of the chaos of my memories leave me feeling a little bit robbed. As an historian I acknowledge a structure to historical events, even events we live and cannot fully understand as we live them. Adelman has performed a service by offering a retrospective path through the tumult of the period, especially the early stages of mass voluntary involvement. But I cherish my memories of the frenzied activity, spontaneous sacrifice and emotional response to human suffering which marked those days — a loving chaos with its own momentum and a momentum that seemed to feed off itself. It is that spirit of which Adelman was so much a part, even a symbol, and which his book, important as it is, has not quite captured.

Adelman's work is a pioneering one. He is the first to tackle this important topic and rightly so. After all, he also pioneered in channeling the mass outpouring of Canadian public concern on behalf of these Indochinese refugees. If he imposes some order on my memories of a boundless good will in confusion, it hardly matters.

Harold Troper is a professor of history at the

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education in Toronto and co-author of the recently published book, None is Too Many, which documents Canada's response to the plight to European Jewry between 1933 and 1948. None is Too Many will be reviewed in the next issue of REFUGE.

1983 UNHCR Calendar

UNHCR Branch Office for Canada
280 Albert Street, Suite 401
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G8

Transnational Legal Problems of Refugees

The Michigan Yearbook of International Legal Studies, 1981

Contents include:

- Refugees in International Law and Organization
- National Law and Policy on Refugee Entry and Resettlement
- Legal Remedies for Refugees
- Review of United States Laws
- Review of Foreign Laws

Published by Clark Boardman Company, Ltd. 435 Hudson Street, New York, N.Y. 10014 U.S. \$55.00

Refugees from Sovereignty-Association

Two Vietnamese refugees had violent and traumatic dreams in the weeks before the sovereignty-association referendum in Quebec in 1980, a study found. The refugees were extremely apprehensive about the possibility of yet another political independence movement in Quebec which might mean that they could well become refugees for a second time within a span of some twelve months.

Fear of political instability, prosecution and imprisonment by the party in power in the Quebec government was a real and widespread fear among many Indochinese refugees who came to Montreal in 1979 and 1980, according to findings of sociologists Kwok B. Chan of Concordia University and Lawrence Lam of York University. Mr. Chan and Mr. Lam are engaged in a longitudinal study of the social and economic adaptation of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees who have come to Quebec since 1975. They undertook an analysis of the refugees' dreams, to provide data on the refugees' socio-psychological state.

Refugee Documentation Project

York University

A Refugee Documentation Project has been established at York University. The Project was launched to fulfill three functions:

- to ensure the preservation of archival material related to refugees. The Project has documents, published and unpublished papers, periodicals, books, press clippings, conference papers and audio-visual materials pertaining to refugees from all parts of the world. The collection is presently particularly strong in the area of Indochinese refugees. A catalogue will be available in the spring of 1983.
- to create an index of Canadian personnel and organizations concerned with refugees. The index will include those who can provide information about refugees and those who work directly in refugee resettlement or overseas assistance.
- to assemble information on current refugee problems through scholarly research including field work.

If you have any archival refugee-related material that you no longer need but that you wish to have preserved and made available to others, we would encourage you to consider donating it to the Project. Also, if you are currently doing research on refugees, we would be interested in hearing about your work so that others can know what projects are underway.

The Refugee Documentation Project's library is open to the public on weekdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you cannot make a personal visit but wish to obtain access to materials, please write or phone and we will do our best to make arrangements to assist you. If there are materials or information that you want that are not in our collection we will try to help you obtain them.

The Project is funded by a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. It is directed by Professor Howard Adelman and administered by Caroline Stephens.

For more information, please contact:

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Statistical Survey

Counting the World's Refugees, 1982

Africa

Country of Asylum	Number
ALGERIA	65,000
Western Sahara, various	
ANGOLA	73,000
Zaire, Namibia, South Africa	
BOTSWANA	1,500
Angola, Namibia, South Africa	
BURUNDI	55,000
Rwanda	
CAMEROON	20,000
Chad	
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	5,000
Chad	
DJIBOUTI	30,000
Ethiopia	
EGYPT	5,500
Various	
ETHIOPIA	11,000
Sudan	
KENYA	3,900
Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, various	
LESOTHO	11,000
South Africa, various	
NIGERIA	40,000
Chad	
RWANDA	10,000
Burundi, Uganda	
SENEGAL	4,000
Various	
SOMALIA	700,000
Ethiopia	
SUDAN	500,000
Ethiopia, Uganda, Chad, Zaire	
SWAZILAND	5,700
South Africa	
TANZANIA	156,000
Burundi, Zaire	
UGANDA	113,000
Rwanda, Zaire	
ZAIRE	370,000
Angola, Uganda, Zambia	
ZAMBIA	42,000
Angola, Namibia, various	
OTHER COUNTRIES	30,000
Africa TOTAL	2,251,600

Middle East

Country of Asylum	Number
IRAN	110,000
Afghanistan, Kurds, Iraq	
LEBANON	3,200
PAKISTAN	2,600,000
Afghanistan	
PALESTINIAN REFUGEES	1,884,000
Jordan	733,000
West Bank	334,000
Gaza Strip	370,000
Lebanon	232,000
Syria	215,000
OTHER COUNTRIES	40,000
Middle East TOTAL	4,637,200

Europe

Country of Asylum	Number
AUSTRIA	43,000
Eastern Europe	
BELGIUM	33,000
Various	
DENMARK	1,800
Various	
FRANCE	150,000
Various	
GERMANY (FRG)	94,000
Various	
GREECE	3,800
Various	
ITALY	14,000
Various	
NETHERLANDS	12,000
Various	
NORWAY	6,000
Various	
PORTUGAL	7,600
Africa, Latin America	
ROMANIA	1,000
Chile	
SPAIN	40,000
Latin America, Southeast Asia	
SWEDEN	20,000
Various	
SWITZERLAND	37,000
Various	

UNITED KINGDOM	148,000
Various	
YUGOSLAVIA	2,000
Various	

Europe TOTAL 613,200

North America

Country of Asylum	Number
CANADA	338,000
Various	
U.S.	849,000
Various	

North America TOTAL 1,187,000

Latin America

Country of Asylum	Number
ARGENTINA	26,000
Europe, Latin America, Southeast Asia	
BELIZE	7,000
El Salvador	
BOLIVIA	500
Europe, Latin America	
BRAZIL	24,000
Europe, Latin America	
CHILE	1,500
Europe	
COLOMBIA	2,000
Latin America	
COSTA RICA	13,000
El Salvador, Latin America	
CUBA	3,000
Latin America	
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	3,800
Haiti	
ECUADOR	700
Various	
GUATEMALA	50-100,000
El Salvador	
HONDURAS	25,000
El Salvador, Nicaragua (Miskito Indians), Guatemala	
MEXICO	70-140,000
El Salvador	
NICARAGUA	20,000
El Salvador	

PANAMA	1,000
El Salvador	
PERU	1,500
Europe, Latin America	
URUGUAY	1,700
Europe, Latin America	
VENEZUELA	18,000
Europe, Latin America	

Latin America TOTAL 268,700-388,700

Asia

Country of Asylum	Number
AUSTRALIA	304,000
Various	
BHUTAN	1,500
Tibet	
CHINA	265,000
Southeast Asia	
HONG KONG	14,000
Vietnam	
INDIA	3,300
Afghanistan, various	
INDONESIA	6,000
Vietnam	
JAPAN	1,800
Vietnam	
LAOS	3,800
Cambodia	
MACAO	1,200
Vietnam	
MALAYSIA	99,000
Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia	
NEPAL	11,000
Tibet	
NEW ZEALAND	10,000
Various	
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	1,000
Indonesia	
PHILIPPINES	6,600
Vietnam	
SINGAPORE	500
Vietnam	
THAILAND	193,000
Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia	
VIETNAM	33,000
Cambodia	
Asia TOTAL	954,700

NB:

Reports of refugees in countries include both those who are settled and those who still require a durable solution because precise figure on refugees who have been resettled are not readily available... Virtually all refugees reported in North America and Australia are resettled. Many reported in western Europe and Latin America have been accepted for permanent residence. In some African countries, for example Sudan and Tanzania, substantial numbers of the refugees reported are "settled in place." The 265,000 reported in China are resettled there.

Of the 10 million refugees reported, then, perhaps one-quarter have found a durable solution in a country of asylum.

SOURCE: Reprinted from *World Refugee Survey*, 1982, U.S. Committee for Refugees.

A Note on the Politics of Counting the World's Refugees

In a mammoth and commendable job, the U.S. Committee for Refugees has compiled these statistics from various intergovernmental bodies and from the United States Government. However, they have not screened out some of the political biases deriving from these sources. One fundamental principle of statistics, that the same principles of counting should be used in relationship to all the figures, is not observed. For example, the number of refugees listed for Canada does not include the children of refugees. The number of Palestinian refugees listed does not include children of refugees and must also include all those who are long ago dead and buried. Also, the statistics for Canada simply describe a portion of its population. Another country in which resettled refugees (including almost 800 refugees from Indochina) make up an even greater proportion of its population is not even listed: Israel. It should be noted that according to the 1981 World Refugee Survey Israel ranks number one with the highest ratio of refugees to population - 1:37 (Canada and Australia's ratios are 1:285 and they are third and fourth in the ranking.)

CANADA'S NEWSLETTER ON REFUGEES

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