REFUGE
3/o Refugee Documentation Project,
York University, 4700 Keele Street,
Downsview, Ontario M3J 1P6

Editor:
Howard Adelman
Managing Editor:
Caroline Stephens

Editorial Board:
Douglas Cohen, Montreal
Claudio Duran, Toronto
Arie van Eek, Burlington
Donald Ferguson, Toronto
James Hathaway, Moncton
Michael Pitman, Toronto
Linda Weigl, Regina

Typesetting and Layout:
Publications Department,
York University

Refuge is dedicated to encouraging assistance to
refugees, by providing a forum for sharing
information and opinion on Canadian and
international issues pertaining to refugees. It is
published five times a year, in October, December,
February, April and June. It is a non-profit,
independent periodical supported by grants
from the Canadian Foundation for Refugees,
Operation Lifeline, and the Canada Employ-
ment and Immigration Commission; by private
donations; and by subscription payments of $10
a year. It is a forum for discussion, and the views
expressed do not necessarily reflect those of its
founders, staff or Editorial Board.

All material in Refuge may be reproduced
without permission unless copyrighted or
otherwise indicated. Credit should be given to
the author or source if named.

Logo design:
Dreadnaught Cooperative Inc.,
Toronto

Second Class Mail Registration No. 5512
ISSN0229-5113

* * *

Letters

To the Editor:
I was pleased that The Honourable
Charles Lapointe, Minister of State (Ex-
ternal Relations) announced that Canada
believes that it is important that the in-
ternational community provide itself
with the legal instruments necessary for
the effective suppression of the practice
of torture in the world. ("Canada Makes
Unilateral Declaration Against Torture"
Refuge, Volume 2, No. 3, February,
1983) The Minister further announced
that Canada has made a unilateral
declaration against torture in the United
Nations which constitutes a moral com-
munity.

The Canadian Jesuit Missions have an-
ounced the donation of Rs. 10,000 for
relief work among Bengali refugees in
Assam, India. * * *

New special measures will allow Iranian
visitors and Minister's Permit Holders in
Canada to apply for permanent
residence without leaving the country.

About half of the 2,000 Iranians expected
to benefit from these measures are
students whose funding has been cancell-
ed by the Iranian government. Many of
these students have had their passport
renewals denied, and fear reprisals or
even death if they return to their
homeland," Canada's Employment and
Immigration minister said.

Iranian visitors, students and Minister's
Permit Holders, will be allowed to apply
for landing if they have relatives here
who will assist them or if they have been
here twelve months and can demonstrate
their ability to settle in Canada suc-
sessfully.

Landing would be granted by Order in
Council from within Canada. As perma-

ent residents, these Iranians could apply
to sponsor their dependants in Iran, and
thus meet the goal of reuniting families.

Resettlement:
Indochinese in Transition
A symposium on aspects of refugee
resettlement will be held at the Universi-
ty of British Columbia, July 15 - 18,
1983. The symposium is being co-
sponsored by the Refugee Resettlement
Project (UBC), the World Federation for
Mental Health and the Canadian Mental
Health Association. For further infor-
mation please contact Morton Beiser, M.D.,
Room 2C7, 2255 Wesbrook Mall,
University of British Columbia, Van-
couver, B.C., V6T 2A1

Employment and Immigration Minister
Lloyd Axworthy announced on
February 2, 1983 that persons receiving
Unemployment Insurance Benefits will
be allowed to take full-time language
training if the training is required to
obtain employment. The new policy ap-
plies equally to all unemployed Cana-
dians who need language training to find
work. Benefits will be provided during
training and for up to six weeks following
courses while employment is
sought.

It is expected that about 15,000 Cana-
dians could qualify under the new policy
and that about 5,000 persons a year will
take advantage of the change, which will
cost about $2 million annually.

Language training under the National
Training Act is provided to immigrants,
refugees and Native persons who are not
fluent in either official language. Cana-
dians moving from one province to
another are also eligible when lack of
fluency in one of the official languages
prevents them from finding employ-
ment. Prior to this announcement,
however, Canadians who did not move
from one province to another were not
entitled to collect unemployment in-
surance while attending full-time
language training classes.

About half of the 2,000 Iranians expected
to benefit from these measures are
students whose funding has been cancell-
ed by the Iranian government. Many of
these students have had their passport
renewals denied, and fear reprisals or
even death if they return to their
homeland," Canada's Employment and
Immigration minister said.

Canadian News

The Canadian Jesuit Missions have an-
ounced the donation of Rs. 10,000 for
relief work among Bengali refugees in
Assam, India. * * *

New special measures will allow Iranian
visitors and Minister's Permit Holders in
Canada to apply for permanent
residence without leaving the country.

About half of the 2,000 Iranians expected
to benefit from these measures are
students whose funding has been cancell-
ed by the Iranian government. Many of
these students have had their passport
renewals denied, and fear reprisals or
even death if they return to their
homeland," Canada's Employment and
Immigration minister said.

Iranian visitors, students and Minister's
Permit Holders, will be allowed to apply
for landing if they have relatives here
who will assist them or if they have been
here twelve months and can demonstrate
their ability to settle in Canada suc-
sessfully.

Landing would be granted by Order in
Council from within Canada. As perma-
ent residents, these Iranians could apply
to sponsor their dependants in Iran, and
thus meet the goal of reuniting families.

* * *

Letters

To the Editor:
I was pleased that The Honourable
Charles Lapointe, Minister of State (Ex-
ternal Relations) announced that Canada
believes that it is important that the in-
ternational community provide itself
with the legal instruments necessary for
the effective suppression of the practice
of torture in the world. ("Canada Makes
Unilateral Declaration Against Torture"
Refuge, Volume 2, No. 3, February,
1983) The Minister further announced
that Canada has made a unilateral
declaration against torture in the United
Nations which constitutes a moral com-
munity.

The United Nations has also created the
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.
A General Assembly resolution was
passed urging members of the United
Nations to contribute generously to the
Fund. Canada has voted in favour of this
resolution but has not yet contributed
any money to the Fund. Denmark, Nor-
way, The Netherlands, Sweden, Finland
and Cyprus have contributed to date.
A moral commitment by the Canadian
government against torture is important
but a financial commitment is even more
important. I would ask the Honourable
Minister to use his good offices to en-
courage the Canadian government to
contribute financially to the United Na-
tions Voluntary Fund for Victims of Tor-
ture. Canada's contribution to the Fund
might encourage other members of the
United Nations to contribute. This
would be consistent with the policy
against torture of the Government of
Canada and with the resolution in the
General Assembly calling for financial
contributions which the Canadian
government supported. The effective
suppression of the practice of torture in
the world needs more than a moral com-
mmitment from the Canadian govern-
ment.

Michael S. Schelew
Vice-president
Canadian Section (Anglophone)
Amnesty International

Centre for Refugee Studies, York University
is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to
Refuge: Canada's Journal on Refugees / Refuge: Revue canadienne sur les réfugiés
www.jstor.org