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# News in Brief

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## 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.

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# Resource Exchange

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## 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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