CIDA GRANTS FOR REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN, SUDAN, CHAD

In recent months the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has made the following allocations to assist refugees:

- $3,000,000 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for assistance to the more than 2,000,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and $5,000,000 worth of wheat to Pakistan to help feed the refugees;
- $1,600,000 to the UNHCR to provide food, shelter, clothing and support for resettlement activities for refugees from Ethiopia, Uganda, Chad and Zaire in Sudan, and $3,000,000 to Sudan for the purchase and transportation of Canadian wheat flour to aid refugees in Sudan; and
- $80,000 to the Canadian Red Cross Society to support a Canadian medical team as part of a Red Cross relief program which is, among other things, providing shelter and water to returning Chadian refugees suffering from leprosy. Many of the hundreds of thousands of Chadians who had fled the recent civil war and the devastation it caused are currently being repatriated under a UNHCR program.

CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR REFUGEES

At their annual meeting held December 7, 1981, the members of the Canadian Foundation for Refugees resolved that the Foundation would stop operations as of December 31, 1981, and created an ad hoc Trust Committee to study the future of the Foundation and to recommend, if possible, an operational plan for the future. The committee consists of Dr. Joseph Kage, Chairman, Dr. Joseph Du, and Father Mario Paquette. If a solution acceptable to the Board of Directors is not developed by May 1, 1982, the Foundation’s funds on hand will be distributed to other refugee-supporting charities and the charter will be surrendered.

The resolution followed the refusal of Employment and Immigration Canada to provide the Foundation with the resources it felt were required to meet its objectives.

ANTI-PIRACY TASK FORCE

The government of Canada has contributed $150,000 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)’s efforts to raise U.S.$3.6 million to fund a Thai navy task force to suppress pirates preying on refugees and on local fishermen. Several pirates were apprehended and convicted.

But the program was terminated in September, 1982, when the Thai government requested U.S.$1.4 million to continue the program but the U.S. offered only $600,000. Following negotiations among international aid agencies in Geneva in October, 1981, the UNHCR agreed to fund a new $3.6 million program.

PIRACY STATISTICS FOR ONE REFUGEE CAMP

In recent months the Canadian government has published a summary of the Indochinese refugee resettlement movement in Canada, focusing on the federal government’s involvement. The report is most valuable for its statistical summary of the movement from January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1980, with breakdowns by age, sex, area of settlement, educational level, occupation, government expenditures, etc. Available from:

- Distribution Unit
  Public Affairs Division
  Employment & Immigration
  Canada
  12th Floor, Phase IV
  Place du Portage
  Hull, Quebec K1A 0J9

AFGHANISTAN: A PORTRAIT

A Guide for Resettling Afghan Refugees

Of the 2,387,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan alone, a few educated, urban or politically high-profile refugees with ties to the West have settled in the United States. A few have come to Canada as well: six have settled in British Columbia, five in Alberta, five in Saskatchewan, and nine in Ontario. For a guide to the history and culture of Afghanistan, designed to assist sponsors or other individuals involved with the resettlement of Afghan refugees, contact:

- Refugee Information Office
  Church World Service
  Room 5281, 475 Riverside Drive
  New York, N.Y. 10115
  U.S.A.

A donation of $2.50 is requested.