

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Statement by Mrs. M. Konantz, M.P.
Canadian Representative on the Third Committee
in the General Debate

Mr. Chairman,

The Canadian Delegation would like to commend the High Commissioner for Refugees and his staff for the report which is evidence of the very excellent work they have done over the past year. Canada has always been appreciative of the dedication the High Commissioner has shown to his responsibilities in dealing not only with the refugee problems which arose as a result of World War II, but with new refugee situations which have continued to occur. By extending his "good offices" to new problems, the High Commissioner has often been able to provide assistance before the situation has become acute.

It is particularly heartening to note in this year's report of the High Commissioner that the major aid programmes for assistance to European refugees will be completed by 1965. My delegation was also gratified to note that greater responsibility for assistance to these refugees is being assumed by national authorities. The considerable assistance which the High Commissioner has also made available to refugees in various parts of Africa is also gratifying.

The Canadian Government has endeavoured to show its appreciation for the High Commissioner's work by giving generously over the years to the High Commissioner's programmes, by playing an active role in the High Commissioners Executive Committee, and by settling in Canada over 300,000 refugees since the end of World War II. Since World Refugee Year alone Canada has admitted well over 9,000 refugees.