

(A) extra-budgetary contributions to special programmes of assistance designed to overcome particularly acute problems and serious deficiencies existing in various areas of the world. Examples of such special programmes include the FAO "Freedom-from-Hunger" campaign, the WHO Malaria Eradication Programme (which is now part of the WHO regular budget) and the World Food Programme (WFP) organized in 1963 as a joint UN-FAO programme. Canada has made substantial contributions to each of these programmes. Since the inception of the WFP, of which Canada was co-author, Canada has been among the leading contributors to its multi-lateral food-aid operations. Canada's pledged contribution of \$2.7 million in cash and \$8.1 million in food aid in 1969 is 17% of the actual contribution and second only to that of the United States. The activities of the WFP include the provision of food as a means of supporting specific economic and social development projects in developing countries and the supply of emergency food aid in cases of national disaster.

The Canadian Government's contributions and assessments to the United Nations and its related bodies do not, of course, include the generous donations made by individual citizens and private groups in Canada. Canadian citizens have played an active and humanitarian role by assisting, through donations, children, refugees, victims of national disasters and less-fortunate people in other lands. Furthermore, the above data do not include the Canadian Government's gifts of emergency relief (food, clothing, medical supplies) or the over \$1 billion the Government has given in bilateral foreign aid to the developing areas of the world.

RELIEF FUNDS

UNHCR and Refugees

A "refugee" is defined by the United Nations as a person who has left the country of his normal residence because of fear of persecution. At the end of the Second World War, the number of refugees in Europe was close to 2,200,000. Immediately after the War, Canada and other countries formed the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees in order to assist refugees in their emigration, re-establishment in their country of present asylum or voluntary return to their original homes. In 1946, a United Nations Specialized Agency, the International Refugee Organization, was established to continue this work. Canada became a member of the IRO in 1947, and, from 1946 to 1951, contributed about \$18.8 million to the organization and accepted 123,479 refugees and displaced persons for resettlement.

At its fourth session in 1949, the General Assembly decided to appoint a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for a three-year term to continue to protect the interests of refugees after the termination of the IRO. In 1953, the Assembly extended the term of the High Commissioner's Office for another three-year period, and in 1957 the term was extended for a further five-year period, from January 1, 1959 to December 31, 1963. The seventeenth session voted in favour of a further renewal to December 31, 1968, and the twenty-second session again renewed this to December 31, 1973.