

REFUGEES ADMITTED TO CANADA

Question No. 249—**Mr. Herbert:**

1. In the past five years, how many refugees have been admitted to Canada from (a) Ethiopia (b) Zimbabwe Rhodesia (c) Vietnam (d) Bangladesh (e) the Gaza Strip, the West Bank of the Jordan River, Lebanon and Syria (f) Sudan (g) Cyprus (h) Somalia?

2. Is there a quota or any limit on the number of refugees that can be admitted to Canada from these countries in the current fiscal year?

Mr. Dennis Dawson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration):

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979 (prelim.)	Total
1.						
(a) Ethiopia	1	1		24	27	53
(b) Zimbabwe Rhodesia						
(c) Vietnam (i)	3258	2311	765	1755	24,815	32,904
(d) Bangladesh						
(e) Gaza Strip (ii)	4	1	20	6		31
Egypt (iii)		2	4	1	2	9
Jordan (iii)		5	3			8
Lebanon (iv)	8	6034	3580	1122	384	11,128
Syria		9	3			13
(f) Sudan			1	1	2	4
(g) Cyprus		4				4
(h) Somalia				1	1	2

Notes

- (i) includes all Indo-Chinese designated class (i.e.) persons from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.
- (ii) Israel and North Sinai included.
- (iii) There are no separate data for the West Bank of the Jordan River.
- (iv) includes special measures Lebanese Humanitarian Program (discontinued August 15, 1979).

Figures above: (a) include both persons meeting the UN Convention definition of a refugee and others selected for humanitarian reasons; (b) reflect country of last permanent residence rather than country of nationality of the refugees.

2. At the beginning of 1979 Canada established for the first time an annual refugee settlement plan, projecting the source and number of refugees which Canada would have the absorptive capacity to resettle in this time period. The refugee plan is an estimate of the appropriate level of Canadian involvement in international refugee resettlement efforts, taking into account existing commitments, international developments, the absorptive capacity of Canada and the provinces, and the availability of federal, provincial and non-governmental resettlement services. The plan will be developed on an annual basis in consultation with the province and non-governmental resettlement provinces. The plan will be developed on an annual basis in consultation with the provinces and voluntary agencies as part of the annual immigration level exercise.

The annual refugee plan incorporated a target of 10,000 refugees for 1979, comprising 5,000 Indo-Chinese, 2,300 Eastern Europeans, 500 South Americans, and 200 convention refugees from other parts of the world, as well as contingency reserve of 2,000.

Order Paper Questions

On June 21, 1979, the federal government announced that the 1979 refugee intake of Indo-Chinese refugees would be increased by 3,000, using the 2,000 contingency reserve in the plan and adding an additional 1,000. This brought the total government commitment to 11,000 refugee landings in 1979. A further 1,000 family reunification landings were expected to come direct from Vietnam. On July 18, 1979, Canada expanded the previous commitment to make it possible for a total of 50,000 Indo-Chinese refugees to be admitted by the end of 1980. Then on March 19, 1980, a federal cabinet decision was made to modify the program to admit an additional 10,000 government-sponsored refugees before the end of 1980, bringing the total for 1979-80 to 60,000.

The refugee plan for 1980 calls for the admission of 5,000 refugees apart from those from Indo-China. The targets are for 3,000 from Eastern Europe, 500 from Latin America, 500 from other world areas, and a contingency reserve of 1,000. Up to 300 of this contingency reserve was recently committed to assist with Cubans who have sought asylum in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana.

NATIONAL LIBRARY PURCHASE ACCOUNT

Question No. 276—**Mr. Herbert:**

In each of the past five years, what amount was transferred to the National Library purchase account?

Mr. Peter Stollery (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State and Minister of Communications): I am informed by the National Library as follows:

The following amounts were approved in an appropriation bill by parliament for the National Library book purchase account for the years indicated below.

Fiscal Year	Amount
1974-75	\$639,000
1975-76	650,000
1976-77	650,000
1977-78	650,000
1978-79	650,000
1979-80	900,000

RAILWAY GRADE CROSSING FUND

Question No. 278—**Mr. Herbert:**

In each of the past five years, what amount was transferred to the Railway Grade Crossing fund?

Mr. Robert Bockstael (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport):

As at	Outstanding Commitments
1975-76	\$25,000,000
1976-77	None
1977-78	25,000,000
1978-79	20,000,000
1979-80	10,000,000