

STATEMENT ON IMMIGRATION

Mr. E.D. Fulton, Acting Minister of citizenship and Immigration, made the following announcement July 25:

"A review of the movement of Hungarian refugees shows that as at July 19, Canada had received a total of 33,070 refugees. It is anticipated that this total will have risen by mid-August to more than 34,000 admitted since the fall of 1956. Of this total, 5,000 will have been taken by arrangement from the United Kingdom, 3,000 from France, 2,000 from The Netherlands, 1,500 from Italy and 1,000 from Yugoslavia. The remainder, more than 20,000 will have been taken direct from Austria.

"The Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration reports for the period to July 15, 1957, show that a total of 142,054 Hungarian refugees had been moved from Austria to 36 countries. Canada's total given above compares with 33,205 admitted to the United States. According to these statistics there were about 28,000 Hungarian refugees remaining in Austria at the end of June 1957. Other information indicates that the rate of border-crossings into that country from Hungary had dropped to an average of 19 per week at the beginning of July.

"The Canadian Government has recently reviewed the whole situation with regard to the movement of Hungarian refugees in the course of a general survey of immigration statistics. Recognizing the tremendous assistance given by Austria to the refugees, and the continuing difficulties which are faced by those remaining in Austria, it has been decided to continue the refugee programme on a somewhat modified basis for the balance of 1957. This modification takes into account both the winter accommodation situation in Canada and the effective rate of absorption of new population, in the light of the very heavy intake of immigrants through the normal channels, which reached a high of 175,000 in the first six months of this year.

"It has been decided accordingly that for the balance of 1957 Canada will continue to

accept only those Hungarian refugees who are sponsored by close relatives residing in Canada in a position to receive and care for them, or by responsible persons, firms or organizations in Canada prepared to provide employment to such refugees immediately upon their arrival. With regard to the latter category, Immigration officials, before approving applications, will have to be satisfied that such employers can and will fulfill their undertaking, that the sponsored refugee will not fill employment vacancies for which Canadians, immigrants or refugees already in Canada are qualified, and that they will be paid at prevailing wage rates.

"This decision applies for the balance of 1957. The policy will be reviewed again prior to the commencement of the new immigration season next year.

"It is significant to note that, of the approximately 32,000 Hungarian refugees who had been admitted to Canada to the end of June 6, 208 were receiving emergency assistance from the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. This figure includes those who arrived during the last week of June.

"In connection with immigration generally, Mr. Fulton also pointed out that, judging by the large number of immigrants admitted to Canada during the first six months of this year (approximately 175,000), it is estimated that the total number admitted in 1957 will be the greatest since 1913, when 400,870 immigrants were received in Canada.

"In order to keep the total flow of immigrants within the absorptive capacity of our economy and the availability of housing accommodation, immigrants coming for open placement, i.e., those with no pre-arranged contract, in most occupations have been issued visas valid only for arrival in Canada before July 31, 1957. However, a large number of close relatives of immigrants who arrived earlier are expected to come to Canada between August 1 and December 31."

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AIR DEFENCE No. 419 All-Weather Fighter Squadron, the RCAF's fourth CF-100 squadron to leave Canada for NATO duty with No. 1 Air Division in Europe, made its overseas move last week.

When No. 419 arrived at its overseas base, No. 4 Fighter Wing at Baden-Soellingen, Germany, Canada's programme of moving four CF-100 squadrons overseas for duty with NATO will be complete.

Based at RCAF Station North Bay, Ontario, No. 419 Squadron flew its jet interceptors across the Atlantic in Operation Nimble Bat IV.

Following the pattern laid by the three previous "Nimble Bats" carried out last Nov-

ember, February, and May, the aircraft crossed the North Atlantic by way of Goose Bay in Labrador, Keflavik in Iceland, and from there to Baden-Soellingen.

Air Transport Command, providing support for Nimble Bat IV, carried half the squadron's ground crew from North Bay to Baden-Soellingen. The other half was drawn from Air Division personnel.

As No. 419 Squadron took off from North Bay on its flight to Germany, No. 414 Squadron, a Sabre unit based at Baden-Soellingen, disbanded. Simultaneously, a new CF-100 squadron was formed at North Bay and was designated No. 414 All-Weather Fighter Squadron.