

Canadian humanitarian and emergency relief for 1979-1980

Canadians contributed more than \$28 million in humanitarian and emergency relief last year in response to earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, a volcanic eruption and most of all political unrest in various parts of the world, according to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

CIDA contributed \$2 million to the Pan African Appeal of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); \$600,000 to the Zimbabwean-Rhodesian Repatriation Appeal of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); \$300,000 to the United Nations Educational Program for Training Southern Africans; and \$150,000 to the United Nations fund for Namibia.

Indochinese refugees

The plight of Indochinese refugees captured the attention of the world. Canada's original pledge of \$5 million was increased by \$10 million following a pledge for emergency assistance to the people of Kampuchea by the Secretary of State for External Affairs at the United Nations during November.

The \$5 million was disbursed through the ICRC and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) and the additional \$10 million was allocated as follows: UNHCR, \$1.8 million; ICRC/UNICEF, \$7 million; Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, \$300,000; World Vision, \$300,000; Canadian University Service Overseas, \$300,000; and the Mennonite Central Committee, \$300,000.

An additional \$750,000 was contributed to the special appeal of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for Indochinese Refugees, and a similar appeal of the League of Red Cross Societies (LRCS) was granted \$100,000 last July.

ASEAN countries are continuing to provide asylum to 258,000 individuals still without offers of permanent settlement elsewhere and are concerned how to meet the costs of subsistence, medical attention and other expenses during an extended period of time.

Another 375,000 Vietnamese refugees are being resettled in the People's Republic of China, where they have sought refuge during the past two years. Following a special meeting of the Red Cross in February to discuss these problems, Canada

contributed \$58,265 towards an \$8.4 million appeal to alleviate these situations (30 per cent of the appeal will go towards the resettlement of refugees in China).

In El Salvador, political unrest has led to numerous injuries and deaths. CIDA contributed \$57,500 to help establish a series of emergency clinics and an ambulance service to be run jointly by the International Red Cross and the El Salvador Red Cross Society.

A similar situation of civil strife in Nicaragua led to a \$67,000 grant to the Red Cross for protection of prisoners of war, political detainees and their families.

Natural disasters which prompted CIDA aid included earthquakes in the Azores, Colombia and Yugoslavia, hurricanes in Dominica, the Dominican Republic and Fiji, a volcanic eruption in St. Vincent and floods in Algeria, Colombia, Egypt, Honduras, Jamaica, Morocco and Paraguay.

Fish purchased for food aid

The Canadian Government will purchase \$2-million worth of canned mackerel from Canadian fishermen to help meet the requirements of Canadian food aid and development programs administered by the Canadian International Development Agency and the World Food Program.

The purchase, under the provisions of the Fisheries Prices Support Act, was announced recently by Fisheries and Oceans Minister Roméo LeBlanc. In line with a similar program last year, the canned mackerel will be purchased from producers in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec.

In addition to providing a high-protein food for people in developing countries, the purchase will ensure Canadian mackerel fishermen a continuing market for their catch, as well as increasing employment opportunities for Canadian plant workers.

New reconnaissance and surveillance plane arrives



Defence Minister Gilles Lamontagne recently accepted the first of 18 CP-140 Aurora Long Range Patrol Aircraft in a ceremony at CFB Greenwood, Nova Scotia. Replacing the aging Argus fleet, the Aurora's advanced avionics allows for unmatched reconnaissance and surveillance capabilities. Included in its many roles are anti-submarine defence, maritime and arctic surveillance and search and rescue missions. The total program cost of the program is \$1.03 billion. Pictured here are crew members of the first Aurora standing in front of the aircraft.