exoduses and report his conclusions and recommendations to the next commission session in early 1982.

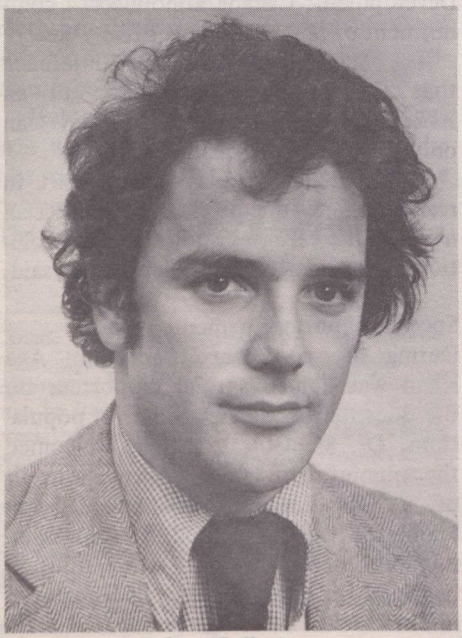
The commission's decision culminated three years of efforts by the Canadian government to focus international attention on the causes of the massive movements of population witnessed in recent years, particularly in Southeast Asia, Afghanistan and parts of Africa and Latin America. Dr. MacGuigan said that the appointment of a special rapporteur was a first and important step towards finding a solution to the problems underlying refugee questions.

Reporter wins award for Iran hostage escape story

Jean Pelletier, the Washington correspondent of Montreal's *La Presse* who held back the story of the escape from Iran of six U.S. diplomats until they were safely out of the country, has won the 1980 National Newspaper Award for spot news reporting, reports the *Canadian Press.*

Mr. Pelletier discovered through careful study of various reports that some people had escaped when diplomats were seized by Iranian militants in the November 4, 1979 raid on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

But he and *La Presse* editors decided to withhold publication of his story until the six had been smuggled to freedom by Canadian embassy officials in late January 1980.



Jean Pelletier

Five of the ten categories in the thirty-second annual Toronto Press Club awards for excellence in Canadian journalism were won by staff of the *Toronto Star,* two others went to the *Vancouver Sun* and one each to the *London Free Press* and to a freelance photographer whose winning picture was distributed by United Press Canada.

The winners were: spot news reporting – Jean Pelletier, Montreal *La Presse;* feature writing – Richard Gwyn, *Toronto Star;* enterprise reporting – Tim Padmore and Chris Gainer, *Vancouver Sun;* editorial writing – George Radwanski, *Toronto Star;* critical writing – William Littler, *Toronto Star;* column writing – Michele Landsberg, *Toronto Star;* sports writing – Archie McDonald, *Vancouver Sun;* spot news photography – Dick Wallace, *London Free Press;* feature photography – Peter Martin, *United Press Canada;* and cartooning – Victor Roschkov, *Toronto Star.*

Competition policy examined

The effectiveness of the federal government's competition policy in Canada falls well short of its potential and requires changes in a number of areas, according to a report released by federal Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister André Ouellet.

Entitled *The Administration and Enforcement of Competition Policy in Canada: 1960/61-1974/75, an application of performance measurement,* the report includes recommendations for higher fines for contraventions of the Combines Investigation Act, certain shifts in responsibilities for administration of the act, a revision of arrangements with respect to criminal prosecutions, and changes in the administration and enforcement of the act.

According to the report implementation of its recommendations would increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the administration and enforcement of competition policy in Canada, and would thus increase over-all competition in Canadian business.

The report examined performance and effectiveness of the four bodies responsible for administering the Combines Investigation Act: the Director of Investigation and Research, the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission, the Attorney General of Canada and the judiciary.

Acid-rain control hope

The federal government has announced a major coal utilization project which is expected to be beneficial in controlling acid rain.

Under the program, funded jointly by the Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources, and National Defence, heating boilers will be installed at the Canadian Forces Base at Summerside, Prince Edward Island.

The $13.1-million project will replace two obsolete heating boilers at the base with modern boilers that use a pioneer fluidized bed combustion process. In addition to providing a more efficient heating system for the base, the conversion will allow the system to burn a low-quality, high-sulphur coal, while suppressing emissions of pollutants that cause acid rain. In a demonstration of their flexibility in using a variety of energy sources, the boilers will also use wood chips from Prince Edward Island.

The program will demonstrate that fluidized bed combustion technology can be used in an efficient, reliable, and economical manner in large industrial projects. The information garnered from the project will be freely available to industry and the general public. It will also serve as Canada's contribution to the International Energy Agency's information exchange agreement on atmospheric fluidized bed combustion.

In fluidized bed combustion, air is blasted through the bottom of a furnace chamber filled with inert, granular material such as sand or limestone. The air, which is pre-heated, lifts the granular material from the bed into a continuous churning motion, commonly called a fluidized state. The fuel (in this case coal or wood) is fed into the bed. Heated by contact with the inert material, the fuel burns, releasing heat that is extracted to raise steam.

The major advantage of fluidized bed combustion is that a wide variety of fuels can be used in an environmentally-acceptable manner. If limestone is added as a granular material, it reacts with the sulphur dioxide emission, a major source of acid rain.

Because combustion in these new boilers occurs at much lower temperatures than in conventional boilers, nitrogen oxide emissions (another major source of acid rain) are reduced.