

Canada provides aid for refugees and war victims

Canada will provide funds to assist refugees in Chad, cyclone victims in Tonga, human relief efforts in Africa and victims of conflicts including the Iran-Iraq war and civil strife in El Salvador and Lebanon.

The funds for the grants will be supplied by the Canadian International Development Agency through its international humanitarian assistance program.

Repatriation for refugees in Chad

Canada is making \$750 000 available for the repatriation program of Chadian refugees in response to an appeal by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In the spring of 1981 the UNHCR announced a limited repatriation program, but in August, an agreement was reached with Chad to repatriate 150 000 of its citizens who had taken refuge in surrounding countries, and to provide support to 50 000 displaced persons in the city of N'Djamena.

Relief to Tonga and Africa

Cyclone victims on the Tonga Islands

are being assisted by a Canadian grant of \$100 000. During the cyclone last March, approximately 95 per cent of the livestock was lost, many houses were destroyed and major crop damage was sustained, particularly in the Ha'apai and Vava'u groups.

The League of Red Cross Societies, working in concert with the Tonga Red Cross and other national societies in the South Pacific is providing the emergency relief, concentrating on basic food and medical supplies for four to six months as well as prefabricated shelters and warehouses.

Canada is also granting \$450 000 to the League of Red Cross Societies in support of its humanitarian relief efforts in Africa. This money will be devoted to the League's program to aid refugees of natural disasters such as drought and famine which plague the area.

War and civil strife victims assisted

Grants totalling \$880 000 are being made by Canada to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in response to appeals early this year in aid of victims

of the Iran-Iraq conflict and civil strife in El Salvador and Lebanon.

Funds amounting to \$350 000 are being provided for ICRC's program to assist victims of the war in both Iran and Iraq and to act as neutral intermediary in all humanitarian matters there.

In El Salvador, \$350 000 has been allotted by Canada for an expanded relief program, bringing the Canadian contribution to the area to \$858 000. In 1981, over 10 000 prisoners and detainees were visited and the Central Tracing Agency was asked to act on more than 2 800 requests for news of missing persons. In addition medical assistance was given to displaced persons, mostly women, children and the elderly living in hazardous health conditions. Food, clothing, blankets and cooking utensils were supplied to over 40 000 displaced persons in remote areas.

Canada's contribution of \$180 000 to Lebanon, brings to \$2.58 million the total Canadian contribution to the ICRC's humanitarian assistance programs there since 1975. It is estimated that more than 80 per cent of the casualties of the Lebanese six-day civil war were civilians.

Trade minister Lumley leads mission to Japan for talks



Left photo: Trade Minister Ed Lumley (right) greets Japanese Minister of Industry and Trade Shintaro Abe during his four-day trip to Japan (see Canada Weekly dated May 5). The two discussed Canada-Japanese investment during their talks.
Right photo: Mr. Lumley (left) along with Canadian Ambassador to Japan Barry Steers (centre) and Dale Tulloch (right) of the National Dairy Council of Canada sample cheese at the Canadian exhibit at Foodex 82 held in Tokyo.