

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(EIGHTEENTH SESSION)

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CANADIAN PLEDGE OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE
PROGRAMMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES.
DELIVERED BY MRS. M. KONANTZ IN THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NOVEMBER 29, 1963.

Chairman,

The Canadian Government wishes to pay tribute to Dr. Felix Schnyder for the leadership that he has given on behalf of refugees. His remarkable achievements were acknowledged quite rightly when the General Assembly unanimously re-elected him as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for a two-year mandate. We are convinced that under Dr. Schnyder's competent direction the High Commissioner's office will continue to successfully carry on this great humanitarian work.

My Government has always been most appreciative of the valuable contribution the High Commissioner and his staff have made towards alleviating the unfortunate plight of refugees. Canada has expressed its appreciation of this work by contributing financially to the High Commissioner's programme, by taking an active part in the functions of the High Commissioner's Executive Committee and by cooperating closely with the High Commissioner in resettlement plans for refugees. Canada has admitted over 300,000 refugees since the end of World War II. The majority of these people have now become Canadian citizens. The contribution they are making to the development of our country is outstanding.

We know that great progress has been made in solving the problems of the refugee as a result of the High Commissioner's constant efforts on their behalf. Canada is proud to pledge 290,000 Canadian dollars to the High Commissioner's programme in 1964, subject to approval by the Canadian Parliament.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.