

*Adjournment Debate*

States are signatory countries of the 1951 Geneva Convention on refugee status and the related 1967 Protocol. The visa officers evaluated the request of Mr. Moatamedi, but based on the individual merits of this case, it was established that his claim for refugee status was unfounded.

As you already know, the Minister of State for Immigration subsequently refused Mr. Moatamedi a ministerial permit which would have admitted him to Canada since there were not sufficient humanitarian reasons to justify such a claim as this case was under the jurisdiction of the American authorities. The United States Immigration Services have continued to pressure for the deportation of Mr. Moatamedi and had been expecting to expel him from the United States as early as January 7, 1987. However, in the meantime, there have been two major developments which could allow the American authorities to reverse their stand in favour of Mr. Moatamedi. First, the representative in Canada of the United States High Commission for Refugees advised Mr. Weiner on December 31, 1986, that his organization had decided to grant Mr. Moatamedi refugee status under the terms of the Convention because of all the publicity his case had received in Canada. The representative of this organization in the United States confirmed his agreement with this decision and so informed the lawyer of the claimant who then requested that United

States Immigration Appeal Commission defer execution of the deportation order of her client.

Mr. Moatamedi's lawyer is expected to submit to this Board an application for review in order for this applicant's case to be presented again to the U.S. Immigration and, for this purpose, she will advise the board members of the decision rendered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees that Mr. Moatamedi is now deemed by the representatives of this organization in the United States to be a refugee under the convention.

We are waiting for a final decision from the United States Immigration Appeal Board and we hope that the decision rendered by the High Commissioner will bring about a favourable solution to this matter which continues to come under the American authorities.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 9:26 p.m.