

was apprehended by U.S. immigration officials, the Consulate General in San Francisco notified the Department, who contacted the Canadian mother, and she was able to travel to San Francisco to return the children.

Canadian authorities will be in The Hague in early November to continue preparations for the 1980 Hague Conference on Private International Law where a draft convention concerning international child abduction by one parent will be tabled. The activities of the Council of Europe and the work of the English and Scottish Law Reform Commissions in this area of the law are also being monitored.

The Canada-Mexico Treaty on the Execution of Penal Sentences which had been signed in November 1977 was ratified and came into force March 29, 1979. To date five Canadians have been returned to Canada to serve the remainder of their sentences, but no Mexican prisoners have requested transfer. The Canada-U.S.A. Treaty which was ratified in July 1978 has resulted in the transfer of 34 Canadian and 52 American prisoners to their respective countries. The following nine states of the United States have adhered to the Treaty: Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas and Virginia.

The Department has been monitoring closely the case which recently arose between Mexico and the USA when several American prisoners, who had been transferred under the United States-Mexico Prisoner Exchange Treaty, were released on a habeas corpus application by a U.S. court, inter alia, on the grounds that their constitutional rights had been denied in Mexico. The United States Justice Department is appealing the case. This case is of particular concern as it affects a basic principle of prisoner exchange treaties, namely, that when a prisoner is transferred, the requesting state will ensure that he serves the balance of the sentence in his own country.

An Agreement between Canada and France on the Transfer of Inmates and Supervision of Persons Under Sentence was signed in Ottawa February 9, 1979 and is expected to be ratified in the near future. Talks have also been held with New Zealand,