

working out of agreements with other governments for joint evacuations.

Registration of Canadian citizens at Canadian posts abroad--an essential component in contingency planning--is voluntary. The only real motivation for the individual Canadian to register at the nearest Canadian post is to ensure that the post will know where he is in case of some emergency. As a consequence, registration in some areas--western Europe, for instance--may represent only a fraction of the Canadians in the area concerned. Canadian posts in Britain, the United States, Australia and New Zealand do not attempt to register Canadians in those areas. Posts in other countries have a total of about 60,000 citizens on their registers. Time spent in registering Canadians is not inconsiderable. At the sixteen posts surveyed in the Internal Evaluation and Audit study, the average amount of time spent on registration was 3% of total consular time, making it number six in order of magnitude of the 40 different functions recorded. While there was no time spent on registration at two posts, Lagos spent 13.5% of its time on this activity and Jeddah 14.1%.

Problems

The existing Treasury Board authority for the payment of necessary expenditures to enable the evacuation of Canadian citizens from threatening situations appears to require the signing by every would-be evacuee of an Undertaking to Repay. In some evacuation situations, however, it has not been possible to require every person to sign a UTR before embarking them. The requirement also takes no account of the fact that some governments, with whom we may work out a standing cooperation agreement or an ad hoc provisional arrangement in the heat of a crisis, may not require a UTR from their citizens.

It seems desirable that the Department obtain a somewhat more flexible requirement which would permit of some exceptions to the general rule that every evacuee should pay the cost of his evacuation.

CONSULAR AWARENESS PROGRAM

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Early in the 1970s, the Department launched an active program to make known to Canadians what services the Department and consular posts abroad could and could not provide to the travelling public and to suggest what the traveller should do