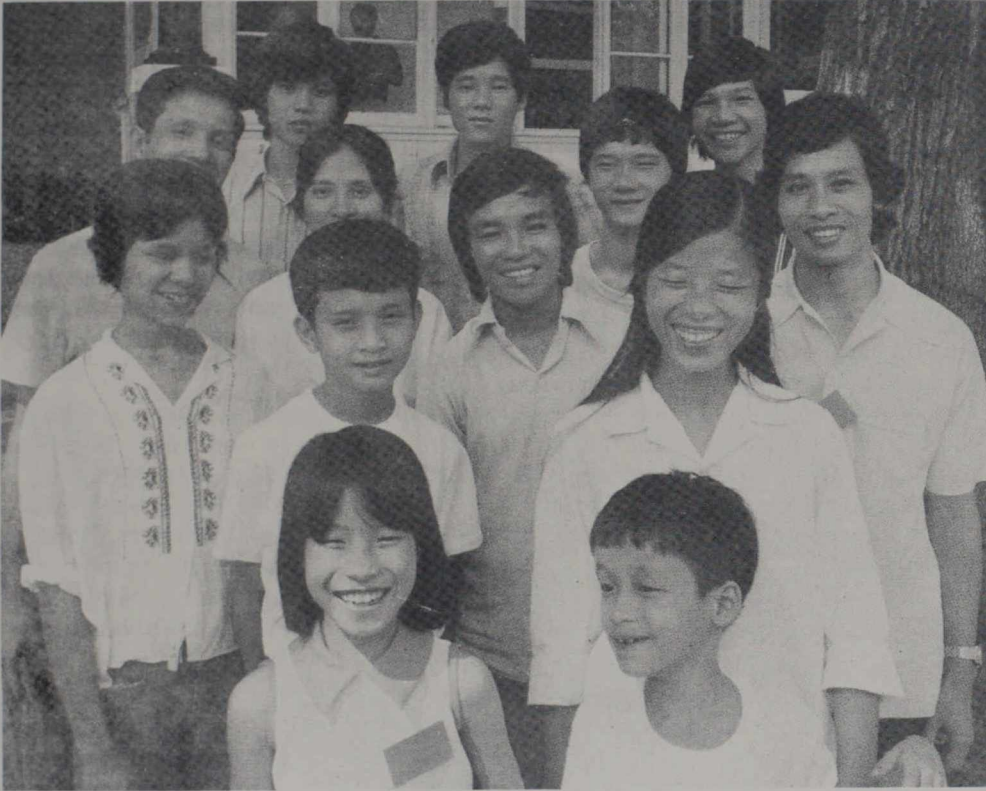


Refugees To Canada



These refugees who recently arrived in Canada are standing in front of their new house which was provided by The Toronto Sun newspaper.

In late July 1979 Canadian military aircraft began bringing Indochinese boat people from Southeast Asia to Canada. The first one carried 23 to Vancouver, 21 to the Prairies, 140 to Toronto and 32 to Montreal and Ottawa. One baby born en route got off in Vancouver.

Canada has a formal refugee program and since 1945 it has accepted more than 350,000 refugees. The Indochinese refugee program is the largest movement of refugees in Canada's history.

Since 1975 most of the refugees have come from Indo-China. Canada recently increased the quota, and the government now sponsors one Indochinese refugee for every one sponsored privately. Private sponsors must agree in writing to provide necessary food, accommodations, clothing, incidentals and general resettlement help for a full year. The number of Indochinese refugees admitted since 1975 is expected to reach 70,000 by the end of 1980.

Refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are processed by Canadian immigration officers in Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong and Manila. More than 27,000 refugees from camps in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia will have been processed by Canadian officials in Singapore by the end of 1980. Most are boat people, but some fled overland to Thailand. They are now flown by Canadian airlines and the Canadian Department of National Defence to staging centres in Edmonton and Montreal and then, within a week, to their final destinations.

Alberta has given \$1 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to help refugee children in Thailand and Malaysia; Ontario will match up to \$500,000 in funds collected in the province by the Red Cross; and Quebec will accept approximately 10,000 of the refugees admitted under the government plan, plus any who arrive in Quebec under private sponsorship. Quebec is also granting \$400 to each private sponsoring group. Vancouver has pledged \$275,000 to help refugees resettle, and Ottawa has a program to assist 4,000. Individuals contribute to the Canadian Refugee Fund, which was recently created by the government as a private charitable organization.

Canada hopes that a family reunification program will enable people in Vietnam to join their Canadian relatives, and the first 25 visas were recently issued.



Canadian officials bid farewell to Vietnamese refugees bound for Canada.