



These refugees, who arrived in Toronto on August 3, are standing in front of their new house, which was provided by The Toronto Sun.

Today's Refugees

In late July Canadian military planes began bringing Indochinese boat people from Hong Kong 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 — a revolving fund, for example, provides transportation loans — and since 1945 it has accepted more than 350,000 refugees.

Since 1975 most of the refugees have come from Vietnam. 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 60,000 by the end of 1980.

Refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are processed by Canadian immigration officers in Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong and Manila. 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.

Churches, towns, provinces and private groups are contributing, and by 7 September, 2,549 local and national groups had agreed to sponsor 14,644 refugees.

Alberta will give \$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.