

Incentives for Canadian Firms in Developing countries

THE Canadian Technology Transfer Facility (CTTF), an incentive program offering up to \$250,000 per project to assist Canadian manufacturers, was established in the last months of 1980 as part of the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) Industrial Co-operation Program. The facility will allow manufacturers to test and adapt their technology in developing countries, as a lead-in to long-term co-operation between Canadian firms and their developing-country counterparts.

When the Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan announced the program to a high-level liaison group of business and government leaders in Ottawa he said he hopes that this facility will encourage firms to examine their product lines with a view to new applications in developing countries. For example, as he pointed out, Canada is a world leader in the most up-to-date forms of power generation, ranging from the production of gasohol through processes both simple and ultra-sophisticated to low-head turbines for mini-hydro, solar power and wind generation.

Mr. MacGuigan explained that this new facility will enable the Canadian firms involved, many of whom are small and medium-sized enterprises, to prove their technology on site through demonstration projects. And, in more traditional sectors, such as agricultural implements and production machinery, it will enable companies to test and adapt their equipment to make it appropriate to the developing countries' environments; a better product for the recipient and a more marketable one for the producer.

Mr. MacGuigan noted the favourable response of consultants to the Canadian Project Preparation Facility (CPPF), also part of CIDA's Industrial Co-operation Program, which funds feasibility studies as a lead-in to large capital projects. It is his hope that the CTTF will become as important to the Canadian manufacturing community as the CPPF is for the consultants, and that it will make a significant contribution to the industrialization of developing countries and foster closer economic relations between them and Canada.

Refugees: Canada Responds

New Homes for 60,000

ON DECEMBER 3, 1980, the 60,000th Indochinese refugee accepted by Canada from refugee camps throughout ASEAN and Hong Kong left Bangkok aboard a Canadian Pacific flight bound for a new home in Canada. Thus, Canada has received the largest per capita number of Indochinese refugees.

This massive program was the largest single such exercise in the history of the Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission, the agency responsible for refugee matters. The costs of implementing the program which began in mid-1979 totalled in excess of \$168 million. Nearly 20,000 refugees—10,000 Laotians, 5,000 Vietnamese and 4,500 Kampuchians were processed through the Bangkok office. Refugee processing offices have also been established in Manila, Hong Kong and Singapore (covering Malaysia and Indonesia).

The refugees' plight touched a sensitive chord in the hearts of ordinary Canadians. It is estimated that more than one million (nearly five per cent of the population) came forth with offers of sponsorship and help for these unfortunate people.

As with most tragedies, there were moments of real humour. At least two of the officers involved in the Bangkok operation became godfathers when grateful refugee families decided to name new children after them. In one case, such a plan nearly had to be abandoned

when the name of the officer (himself the son of immigrants to Canada) proved impossible for the parents to pronounce. Happily, a solution was found when a local employee suggested a Laotian variation of the original Dutch name.

Although refugees remain a problem for the ASEAN countries, there is general agreement that the worst of the crisis is past. Nonetheless, Canada intends to continue its assistance in 1981.

Child Born Aboard Canadian Refugee Flight

AN OCTOBER 3, 1980, refugee flight from Bangkok brought not only 490 Indochinese refugees to Canada but also one new Canadian citizen. Nguyen Thu was born aboard the Canadian Wardair charter aircraft and under Canadian law became a citizen at birth. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ha Van Nho, became landed immigrants on their arrival in Canada and will themselves be eligible for citizenship after three years of residence.

Madame Ha felt in good health before her departure from Don Muang airport in Bangkok but shortly after take off she began to experience labour pains. The plane's captain, located two doctors among the passengers. However, it was a Thai flight attendant who actually delivered the child.

Shortly after Nguyen Thu's birth the Wardair 747 landed at the U.S. Air Force base at Yakota, Japan, where the mother



Canadian Minister of State for Trade Ed Lumley visited Indochinese refugees in Bangkok bound for Canada during his recent trade mission to ASEAN. Mr. Lumley is shown giving a small memento to Mrs. Nguyen Hoang Lam. Looking on are Mr. Nguyen and his family, Mrs. Lumley and Canadian Ambassador to Thailand Fred Bild.