

RESPONSE TO UNRWA SPECIAL APPEAL

The Government of Canada has announced a special supplementary contribution of wheat flour worth \$500,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. The contribution is being made through the Canadian International Development Agency in response to a special appeal by United Nations Secretary-General U Thant.

In making his appeal, the Secretary-General pointed out that without special contributions it would be necessary for UNRWA to reduce essential services to Palestine refugees in the Middle East. He said that the large number of refugees to which the United Nations Relief and Works Agency was extending assistance had placed the Agency in a difficult financial position.

The wheat flour contribution is in addition to Canada's pledge of \$1,200,000 to UNRWA for the current fiscal year.

SLIGHT RISE IN PENSIONS

Increases in the Old Age Security Pension and the Guaranteed Income Supplement in 1970 were announced on August 21 by Health and Welfare Minister John Munro. Mr. Munro and Revenue Minister J-P Côté also jointly announced similar increases in Canada Pension Plan retirement pensions, survivors' benefits and contributions, effective next year. Cheques issued in January will reflect these increases.

This action will follow a 2 percent increase in the pension index, the maximum allowed by legislation, from 113.7 for 1969 to 116.0 for 1970. The pension index reflects increases in the consumer price index which, beginning last January was converted to a 1961 time-base from the previous 1949 time-base.

BENEFICIARIES

The maximum monthly amount of the combined Old Age Security pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement in 1970 will be \$111.41 (at present \$109.20). The OAS pension will rise from \$78 to \$79.58 monthly. More than 1,600,000 Canadians will benefit, including those whose pensions will begin in January when the eligible age will drop to 65 years. In addition, 780,000 Old Age Security pensioners will benefit from an increase in the Guaranteed Income Supplement. The maximum monthly GIS payment will rise from \$31.20 to the 1970 rate of \$31.83.

Mr. Côté said that the maximum annual pensionable earnings under the Canada Pension Plan would reach \$5,300 in 1970, up from the 1969 figure of \$5,200. He also pointed out that the maximum yearly contributions by employers and employees would rise to a new figure of \$84.60 each. The 1969 rate was \$82.80. For self-employed persons, the new maximum would be \$169.20. It was \$165.60 this year.

CPP PENSIONS

Mr. Munro said that all retirement pensions under the Canada Pension Plan being paid in December 1969, would be increased by 2 per cent in 1970. With the increase in the year's maximum pensionable earnings, retirement pensions that become payable for the first time in 1970 would be slightly higher than those in 1969. On the basis of the new ceiling of \$5,300, the maximum rate of full retirement pensions, first payable in 1976, will rise to \$110.42 monthly from the present \$108.33.

In January 1970, survivors' benefits being paid in December 1969, will increase by 2 per cent. Orphans' benefits and the flat-rate components of pensions to widows and disabled widowers will increase from \$26.01 to \$26.53 a month. By the end of 1969, Mr. Munro estimated, more than 140,000 Canadians would be receiving monthly retirement pensions and survivors' benefits under the Canada Pension Plan.

The maximum death benefit payable under the Plan, for deaths in 1970, will be \$530.

SALE TO AIR INDIA

Air India has ordered a *Boeing 747* digital flight simulator worth \$2,800,000 from CAE Industries Ltd., bringing to three the number of 747 simulators now on order with the Canadian company. The sophisticated flight-training machine, with a unique six-degree motion system that can duplicate almost every movement of the actual aircraft, will be developed and manufactured by CAE.

This is the first CAE flight simulator to be ordered by India's international airline, which now operates a fleet of 10 *Boeing 747* aircraft over routes stretching from Japan and Australia, through Southern Asia, Africa and Europe, including the Soviet Union, to the United States, carrying some 300,000 passengers annually. Air India, which is expanding rapidly, has two *Boeing 747*s on order and four supersonic transports on option.

The CAE simulator will be delivered to the airline's flight-training center in Bombay in 1971.

Faithfully reproducing all the sights, sounds, motion and feeling of an actual aircraft, with complete flight deck identical to that of the plane and the most modern flight instructor's aids, the computer-controlled simulator is considered to be an essential flight-training aid by all modern airlines.

CAE is ranked among the world's top aircraft simulator manufacturers, with 15 commercial flight simulators under development or delivered to 10 major international airlines and one aircraft manufacturer, and another 78 military simulators in use with the defence forces of 10 Western nations. It is currently developing *Boeing 747* simulators for BOAC and a consortium of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Swissair and SAS Scandinavian Airways Systems, and a Lockheed *TriStar* simulator for the Lockheed California Company.