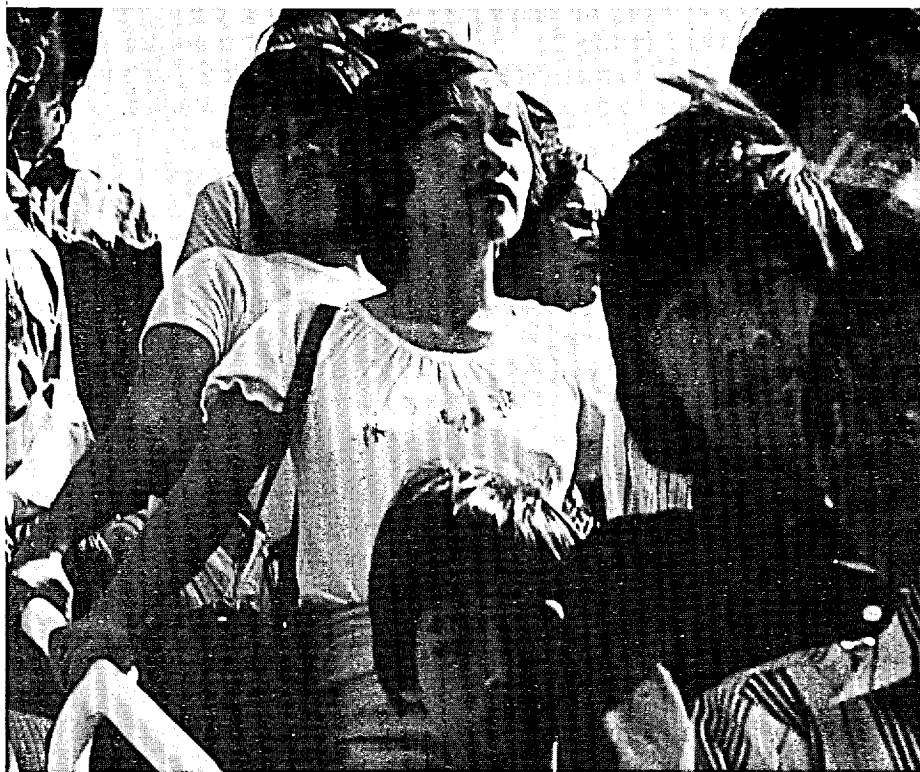


IMMIGRATION — TODAY AND TOMORROW (continued)

on Family Class immigration. Our 45,000 planning figure for 1987 is just that — an estimate. It is not a quota or ceiling."

Already, recommendations are being implemented to expedite the processing of spouses and dependants. The fact that these improvements are being implemented in CIC offices at home and abroad has special relevance to family reunification. Now, family class applicants and sponsors alike will be the beneficiaries of fully-coordinated procedures more attuned to their related needs.

Referring to "a new era for sponsors and their relatives", the Minister of State described quality-of-service measures such as a reduced waiting period for sponsors and less complex applications. Sponsorship provisions have also been broadened, allowing for individual determination of each sponsor's obligations and expanded



Asian immigrants descending plane steps upon arrival in Canada.



St-Catherine Street, Montréal.

criteria for measuring family financial resources.

For people applying abroad at an embassy or consulate, more efficient security, background and medical checks are being examined and foreign students will also find it easier to obtain authorization for the length of their course of study. In addition, External Affairs is improving the training offered to foreign service staff in immigration law, interviewing skills and languages.

In early April, Mr. Weiner visited foreign service offices and was "encouraged and stimulated by the importance being given quality of service initiatives. There is general understanding at home and abroad that, in the context of an expansionist

immigration policy, service delivery will assume an even greater priority."

"The rest of this century," said Mr. Weiner, "will be a period of great challenges for Canadian immigration. The signs are everywhere that we can meet these challenges" ■

Lee Edwards