

security is present. In such areas as the east coast where unemployment is high, it is no surprise to see such high secondary migration. It also seems only rational to ensure that several families be settled in the same area, providing each other with the support that can make the process of becoming a Canadian citizen a smooth and manageable transition. □

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AROUND THE WORLD

THE UNITED KINGDOM

Between April 1975 and the end of December 1980, ~12,884 Southeast Asian refugees were admitted to the United Kingdom. Three voluntary agencies shared the task of receiving and resettling the refugees: the British Council for Aid to Refugees, the Ockenden Venture and the Save the Children Fund.

With government funds, each agency ran a number of "reception centres". On arrival the refugees stayed in the centres for three to six months, during which time they received intensive tuition in the English language, as well as some orientation to British society and any necessary medical care.

During the refugees' stay in the centres, the staff of the agencies - which included social workers, nurses, teachers, individuals acquainted with Southeast Asia - tried to familiarize themselves with the resettlement needs of each family, its employment potential, its ties with other families in the U.K.; and then to arrange its move into the most appropriate available public housing.

Two features of the British experience might be of particular interest to Canadians:

Settlement in clusters

- The Vietnamese resettlement operation has followed a policy of establishing "clusters" of between five and thirty families within walking distance or an easy bus ride of each other.

Self-employment

- Prospects for employment are bleak and the level of jobs most refugees get is so low that they must still receive state benefits. The agencies have therefore concentrated on assisting people to become self-employed: Save the Children Fund established a fund to provide the necessary tools of trade for refugees to become self-employed — for example, an industrial sewing machine for a seamstress or tools for a plumber; and the agencies have been successful in getting banks to provide loans for such labour-intensive enterprises as a window-cleaning venture and a bicycle repair business.

RESOURCE EXCHANGE

GUIDE FOR NEW CANADIANS

The Immigrant Services Society of British Columbia has developed a booklet about Canadian institutions and culture specifically for newcomers from Southeast Asia. It details customs about punctuality, eating, socializing; explains concepts like volunteer work and our expectations of civil servants; outlines civil and human rights protected in Canada, and more. The guide was written by a Canadian who lived many years in Southeast Asia. It is available in English, French, Vietnamese, Lao and Chinese.

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SLIDE-TAPE: INDOCHINESE CULTURE

The Multicultural Association of Nova Scotia has produced a 20-minute slide-tape programme which presents Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian customs that Southeast Asians have maintained in their new lives in Nova Scotia. The programme is intended to help sponsors and teachers better understand Indochinese cultures. It was developed by Xuong Ngo and Patty Ha, who arrived in Canada in the summer of 1980.

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UNHCR

At its annual meeting in October, 1981, the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) noted that, in line with various recent United Nations General Assembly resolutions requesting UNHCR assistance in Africa, UNHCR has broadened its category of "persons of concern to UNHCR" to include not only Convention refugees defined in terms of fear of persecution but also persons who are forced to flee their country because of serious conflicts there, such as external aggression or civil conflict.

UNHCR officials and representatives of non-governmental agencies also expressed concern at the increased scale and seriousness of violations of the physical safety of refugees, including pirate attacks in Asia, bombardments in Southern Africa and kidnappings in Latin America.

The Executive Committee also approved the projected financial requirements for 1982 programmes for UNHCR, which are shown in the Statistical Survey on page 8.

