

Two months in Kampala

A Chronology of Canada's response to the expulsion of the Ugandan Asians

This chronology was prepared by Michael Molloy then a visa officer sent to Kampala as part of the Canadian immigration operation to provide sanctuary to thousands of Ugandan Asians. Molloy drew on the book 'Seven Crested Cranes' (<https://carleton.ca/uganda-collection/seven-crested-cranes-roger-st-vincent/>) written by the late Roger St. Vincent who was the officer-in-charge of the operation as well as his own experiences and research.

Date	Event
9 October 1962	Uganda attains Independence, First President Sir Edward Mutesa 1962-1966. Second President Apollo Milton Obote 1966-1971
1969	Canada ratifies the 1951 UN Refugee Convention and Protocol
27 July 1979 and 16 September 1970	Canada's Cabinet adopts the UN Refugee convention definition, opens resettlement to refugees outside Europe, established selection criteria for their resettlement and institutes the 'Oppressed Minority Policy' via Cabinet Documents 10327/7/70 and 1116/70.
25 January 1971	General Idi Amin stages a coup d'état while Obote is attending the Commonwealth Conference in Singapore.
October 1971	Amin orders a census of the Asian community
Early December 1971	Amin makes angry anti-Asian broadcasts. Accuses Asians of "fraudulent and corrupt practices, cheating Africans and isolating themselves within their own communities".
7-8 December 1971	Amin meets with Asian Community leaders. Hostile.
9 December 1971	Uganda government cancels citizenship applications of 12,000 Asians
	Immigration from Uganda (and eastern Africa), was the responsibility of the visa office of the Canadian Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. The officer-in-charge/attaché was Roger St. Vincent (RStV). The Beirut office was already dealing with Asians from Tanzania whose businesses has been nationalized by the Tanzanian government.
January 1972	On instructions from RStV, Michael Molloy visits Uganda to establish contact with Asians leadership and assess the situation.
5-12 June 1972	Amin attends the Organization of African Unity conference in Rabat, Morocco and visits Arab countries including Libya. On return he expels Israeli aid and military missions.
July 1972	Molloy's second visit to Uganda. He learns of the killing of southern tribe soldiers by northern soldiers aligned with Amin's tribe. On return to Beirut via Cairo he witnesses the departure of Russians soldier expelled by Nasser's successor, President Anwar Sadat.
4 August 1972	Amin orders the expulsion of Uganda Asians, initially targeting those with British passports, who are given three months - till 6 November, 1972, to depart for the UK. Amin's decision is in part intended to punish the UK.
5 August	Prime Minister (PM) Pierre Trudeau advises Cabinet colleagues that he will lead Canada's response, orders External Affairs, Manpower and Immigration (M&I), and National Defence to coordinate the operational response.

10 August 1972	Immigration HQ Ottawa telexes Beirut: Ottawa does not have sufficient information and seeks input from the Beirut Immigration Officer-in-Charge, Roger St. Vincent (RStV). The possibility of sending a team to Uganda is raised.
18 August 1972	External Affairs, Ottawa, advises that Cabinet gave some preliminary consideration on 17 August and the PM believes Canada should assist on humanitarian grounds and assist the United Kingdom which agreed to meet its obligations to Asians passport holders but is having serious race relations problems The British High Commissioner to Canada calls on the PM to formally request Canadian assistance in resettling some of the Asians.
18 August 1972	External Affairs, Ottawa advises Reg. Smith, the Political Officer at the Canadian High Commission (CHC) in Nairobi is told to proceed to Kampala and check out accommodation for an Immigration team. An estimate of possibly 20,000 applications for Canada is foreseen. A team is to proceed to Kampala within 7 to 10 days
18 August 1972	Immigration HQ Ottawa tells the Visa offices in London (G. Campbell), Athens (J. Drapeau), Rome (F. Tufts) to designate officers for the Kampala team. These officers should get the necessary vaccinations and have their passports and visas to enter Uganda ready and then be on standby.
18 August 1972	Immigration HQ Ottawa advises that Minister Bryce Mackasey wants statistics on the nationality and occupations of Ugandan Asians accepted. Normal immigration selection criteria will not be relaxed.
August 1972	RStV sends estimates of likely occupations. Rejects the suggestion that the operation can be based in Beirut – mail is too slow. He designates Molloy as his assistant.
21 August 1972	CHC Nairobi reports that a team could have 4 to 5 officers in the International Hotel, Kampala with 2 offices reserved at the IPS Building
22 August 1972	Immigration HQ Ottawa outlines the Cabinet submission on Canada's proposed response. A target of 3000 people is laid out and with no restrictions on Asians who can meet the selection criteria and need no settlement assistance. The Minister has the authority to invoke the 'Oppressed Minority Policy' if less than 3000 qualify. The team is to be composed of: OIC Beirut RStV, 4 visa officers, Canada-based support staff from Immigration's Central Processing Office (CPO) unit in Ottawa plus 1 External Affairs support staff from CHC Nairobi. The National Health and Welfare department is to provide 2 doctors. The Immigration program's NHQ Programs and Procedures Branch is looking into transportation to Canada by regularly scheduled flights and by charter flights.
23 August 1972	Morris Mitchell, the Director Operations, (Dir Ops) Immigration HQ Foreign Branch phones RStV to confirm that he (RStV) is to lead the Kampala operation
24 August 1972	Message from Director General of Immigration Foreign Branch, M.G. Clark to RStV instructing him to proceed to Kampala. "Your mission is to process without numerical limitation those Asians who meet immigration selection

	criteria bearing in mind their particular plight and facilitate their departure for Canada.”
24 August 1972	<p>Cabinet meets and approves the operation.</p> <p>External Affairs, Ottawa reports and quotes the PM’s statement including, “In an attempt to ease the effect of this humanitarian problem, both on those forced out of Uganda and on the people of Britain who would otherwise be forced to share their already overcrowded island with a tide of involuntary immigrants from Uganda, the Canadian government is prepared to offer assistance.”</p> <p>“For our part we are prepared to offer an honourable place in Canadian life to those Asians who come to Canada.”</p>
28 August 1972	RStV arrives in Nairobi and meets Canada’s High Commissioner Olivier, Smith (External), Boyce (CIDA), Burianic (Trade), and McNeish (Admin. Clerk). Reg Smith and Philip Boyce will be the team’s full-time liaison with the Ugandan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). RStV orders category and statistical forms from a Nairobi printer drawing on his experience organizing transportation to Canada for Czech refugees in 1968. Dr. McRae of NHW advises that Drs. Piché and Duncan are proceeding to Kampala along with a team of military medical technicians. RStV meets Mr. Ahmad of the IPS company regarding office accommodation for the team in Kampala.
29 August 1972	Immigration HQ, Ottawa advises that ‘Assisted Passage’ loans will be available to Asians to cover transportation costs.
30 August 1972	Ugandan MFA authorizes RStV to enter Uganda and he arrives that day to find the reserved offices too small. He negotiates 2700 sq. ft. of space in the IPS building with real estate agent Peter Dow for \$6500 for 4 months. Charles Broadfoot administration officer of the UK High Commission arranges for telephones, a post office box and a telegraph address.
1 September	IM Roche, a resident British carpenter, agrees to build counter and partitions for medical examinations space. Assembly starts the next day.
3 September	Mr. Chader, a cabinet maker from Jinja is engaged to build 45 chairs and 10 tables in 48 hours. G. Campbell arrives from London with 100 lbs. of immigration forms.
4 September	<p>Molloy arrives in Nairobi and waits there overnight on instructions from RStV for the printed forms to take to Kampala along with large Canadian flags provide by the High Commission.</p> <p>Zavie Levine (special assistant, Minister’s Office), and secretaries M. Hempel, J. Carrière, G. Leroux and clerk J. McMaster (Central Processing Office CPO, Ottawa) arrive in Kampala from Ottawa, visa officer Tufts from Rome, Drs. Piché and Duncan from National Health and Welfare, Ottawa and administration clerk J. McNeish from Nairobi. The counter built by Roche in place and an ‘open for business’ notice is to be placed in the major <i>Argus</i> newspaper.</p>
5 September	The staff familiarization day. Molloy arrives from Beirut via Nairobi. Furniture arrives and is positioned. M. Macklin, a model from Edmonton

	visiting boyfriend's family in Uganda, volunteers to help out. At a 4:40 meeting organizational and procedural issues were discussed.
<p>6 September</p> <p>Day 1 statistics</p> <p>Applications received: 2588 (for 7764 people)</p> <p>Interviews conducted: 54</p>	<p>Opening day. The lineup stretches for 10 blocks. The reception team of Carrière, Hempel and Macklin give out thousands of applications and takes in takes in 2588 applications for 7764 people. The selection team does 54 interview - mainly people with relatives in Canada. Munich Olympic massacre. Immigration HQ advises that security screening for the Uganda Asians is waived.</p> <p>-</p>
<p>7 September</p> <p>Additional applications distributed: 1500</p> <p>Interviews conducted: 82 for 136 people</p>	<p>With 60 days until the departure deadline and insecure mail and telephone service the challenge was to find an effective and secure way to contact Asians to invite them for interview. Clerk Jim McMaster had brought a small mechanical numbering machine and suggest it be set to stamp each number twice, once on each Asian's immigration application and once on a Tax Clearance information sheet advising the Asians how to clear their taxes so the Ugandan authorities would let them depart. The gray Tax Clearance sheet bearing the number would be given to each applicant who would be told to watch for his/her number in the Uganda <i>Argus</i> newspaper. The system was simple, private and secure. Kevin Croaker, head of British visa team provided RStV 2000 Ugandan Tax Clearance forms which explain that Asians require a tax clearance stamp from the Ministry of Finance so they can leave Uganda.</p> <p>Drapeau arrives from Rome and joins the selection team. The Canadian High Commissioner Olivier is in Kampala to present his credentials to the Ugandan government. A decision is taken to immediately interview all those with relatives in Canada. Nurse Heather Leighton volunteers for medical section. (Babysat Molloy in Pioneer Gold Mines, British Columbia-small world) and Mrs. Banfield (wife of a local air traffic controller) hired. Visa Control Officer, Rene Couplier, makes quick visit to confirm that the Asian community raises no security concerns.</p>
<p>8 September</p> <p>Applicants' citizenship</p> <p>British passports: 585</p> <p>Ugandan citizens: 293</p> <p>Stateless: 208</p> <p>Indian citizens: 199</p> <p>Kenyan citizens: 10</p> <p>Tanzanian citizens. 8</p> <p>Pakistani citizens: 2</p> <p>Total: 1.305</p>	<p>Line dries up at noon. The office borrows stools from the Chez Joseph restaurant for foot-sore secretaries (visa typists from CPO) staffing the counter pending the arrival of the visas to be completed. Today the secretaries were instructed to record the citizenship of people submitting applications. Officers occupied with interviews and screening applications.</p>

9 September	All applications were screened and decisions were made on who to interview. Call up lists of 75 interviews a day were typed. 500 applications were screened in and 300 were called to interview for the next 4 days. Telegrams started arriving from Canada offering assistance for friends and relations. Dr. Piché will not allow medical exams until the military medical unit arrives and is operational. RStV unhappy with decision.
10 September	Interview lists to <i>Argus</i> . Mr. Mevdghi, a leader of the Ismaili community brings 300 chairs for the applicants' waiting area. The use of charter flights is mentioned to RStV for the first time by MG Clark, Director General (DG) Foreign Branch, Immigration NHQ.
11 September Applications distributed: 1,200 for 2,700 people Applications received to date: 3,928 for 8,000 people Lists to the <i>Argus</i> -4 for 280 interview invitations Interviewed this day: 82 for 136 people	The office runs out of the immigration application form IMM 058 so RStV orders 2,000 more printed locally. The Chima sisters, Jessie and Sadarsha, (identified as possible secretarial help during immigration paper screening) are hired to work on medicals and call lists using their own typewriters. Two secretaries typing visas to work upstairs away from noise. HC Olivier presents his credentials to President Amin who tells him that Canada is free to take the Asians. The first immigrant visa is issued to Semin Kassim and a photo is taken. The office had received 1,338 applications for 8,000 people and handed out 1,200 application forms. Molloy interviews and 3 officers screen the applications. Four more interview lists are sent to the <i>Argus</i> .
12 September New applications received -1,068. Total to date – 2,736 for 11,208 people Interviews this day - 82 for 136 people	The first charter flight is set for 19 or 20 September. Coloured boarding cards are designed and printed. Tufts returns to Rome and is replaced by T. Colfer. No Asians by 4:30 but a long hard day.
13 September	Cabinet meets and re-defines the Kampala team's mandate as 'humanitarian'. DND Medical Technicians Stonach, Moser, McPhee, Maloney, Martinbault, Deschamps and Daigneault arrive along with Dr. Leclerc. Secretary Roseanne Hughes arrives from Lagos to join team. Volunteer Macklin returns to Canada. Interviews continue

<p>14 September</p> <p>Applications distributed since Sep.6. – 7,900. Returned 4,503</p> <p>Interviews conducted today: 82 / 136</p> <p>Awaiting interview invitation: 931 people</p> <p>Screened for interview: 345 cases</p> <p>Daily interview schedule: 70 cases</p> <p>Interview ads sent to <i>Argus</i>: 3/7</p>	<p>New volunteers, Bev Oldham and Mrs. McKenzie, wife of CIDA technician, join the team. Daily interview call-ups are increased from 60 to 70 cases. More staff on the way. 345 cases in process with 931 people screened in but not yet interviewed. The team now numbers 22 but is struggling to keep up.</p> <p>-</p>
<p>15 September</p> <p>Applicants waiting for medicals on Sept 19, 20 and 21– 1,100</p>	<p>The first charter with 140 seats is postponed to September 27. Many have applied but are not ready to leave. Dr. Piché: medicals ops ready. Notice sent to <i>Argus</i> for September 18. Medical technicians' generators unloaded. Long queue of Asians from small towns and villages submitted applications today. Most will not return home having been harassed and or robbed at military check points.</p> <p>-</p>
<p>16 September</p>	<p>Medical Unit fully operational. Secretaries report all Forms 1000 (visas) are up to date. Threatening military activity. Reports of invasion from the Tanzanian border by supporters of former president Obote. Office closed; staff restricted to hotel for security.</p>
<p>17 September</p>	<p>Dr. Abear arrives. Medical backlog is 1,060 people. Medical technician's tent temperature 100 degrees. Too hot for blood samples. Danish clinic volunteers to do 150 blood tests a day. RStV reports delays to Immigration HQ Ottawa. Dennis, our Ugandan driver, is beaten by security service</p>
<p>18 September</p>	<p>No interviews. Medicals only today. McNeish acquires air conditioner and extra Xray film dryer for MU tent.</p>
<p>19 September</p> <p>Applications received: 5,136</p>	<p>Larry Carroll (visa officer, Beirut) and Hal Malone (communications officer) arrive. Drapeau, Carroll and Molloy screen applications. Telegrams from Canada offering assistance to various Asians arrive. Gerry Campbell to head new Visa Transportation Unit (VTU) to coordinate file management, visa production and transportation of Asians to airport. Hughes and Hempel transferred to VTU. Applicants report thefts and beatings at army road blocks.</p>

<p>20 September</p> <p>Three interview lists for Sept. 27, 28, 29 sent to <i>Argus</i>.</p>	<p>Medicals only today. Transportation loan warrants to be signed but transportation on charters will be free. Ugandan govt. wanted to tax loans. PM Trudeau responded by deciding that transportation to Canada will be free. Director of Ops Mitchell coming. Mission is now fully operational.</p>
<p>21 September</p> <p>Medical processing: 130-200/day</p>	<p>Large crowds by 8: 00 for medicals and interviews. Med. techs are doing 200 cases a day. Doctors are doing 130 -150 examinations per day. First flow through cases: interview> medical tests> medical exams all in the same day.</p> <p>Panic Day. Armored vehicle plus jeeps stopped in front of office. Pointed guns at Canadian office. Close office and send staff to hotel. Staff confined to hotel that evening. Reg. Smith detained at gun point and then released. When RStV and Dir. Ops. Mitchell spoke on phone in French the line was cut. RStV requests additional officer, informs Mitchell there are fewer qualified applicants, suggests selection criteria be relaxed.</p>
<p>22 September</p> <p>Visas issued: 300</p>	<p>High tension. Asians now want to leave but only 83 booked on first charter. Interviews increased to 80 per day.</p>
<p>23 September</p> <p>Applications received to date: 5,779 for 17,000 people</p>	<p>Passenger categories requested by Immigration HQ. Med. techs. volunteer to clear their backlog. Heavy pressure on VTU from Asians who have met requirements, want their visas but are not ready to travel. VTU to collect information re: dietary needs of members of different religious communities for all charter passengers.</p> <p>Paper screening blitz to identify applications that qualify for interview. Result: will convoke 940 interviews in next 12 days.</p>
<p>24 September Sunday</p>	<p>Departure Procedures: Flight check-in to take place at International Hotel parking lot. Buses to airport load at hotel. Procedures and workflow reviewed.</p> <p>Reorganization: visa typing secretaries move to 7th floor office so they can type visas without distractions. VTU moves to main office. RStV, Molloy and Campbell spent afternoon moving furniture to accommodate changes.</p>
<p>25 September</p>	<p>All staff briefed on changes. Procedures: after each medical exam by the doctors a medical secretary escorts the person to the VTU where the medical file number is copied onto the applicant's Form 1000 (Visa). The person is then escorted to the flight booking desk. Notice of Charter #1 is sent to the <i>Argus</i>. 135 passengers booked. Booking unit worked till 8:00PM.</p>
<p>26 September</p> <p>Visa issued to date: 515</p>	<p>Nancy di Gregorio, volunteer, assigned to the booking desk. J. Mitchell (refugee policy expert) and Nadia Gray (FS officer assigned to senior Immigration committee responsible for the Uganda operation) arrive from Ottawa for consultations. Met by Molloy who was Nadia's classmate. MG Mitchell Dir. Ops. and his counterpart Saul Grey, coordinator for External Affairs, arrive. They were told teams needs one more officer for interviews and another for the VTU. Also discussed issues regarding Asian university students (we have 60), medical practitioners and humanitarian cases. Cabinet decision: Canada will cover the cost of transportation. Therefore, no</p>

	<p>need for Assisted Passage loans. D. Lygo, visa officer, from Rome is instructed to stay in Nairobi to assist with immigration queries from Asians in Kenya. 138 passengers booked for flight #1. Not a single Asian booked for flight #2. High Commissioner Olivier to lead the first convoy to Entebbe Airport.</p>
<p>27 September Charter #1</p>	<p><u>First flight:</u> Buses arrive at hotel parking lot at 6:15. All booked Asians showed up. Checking and loading went well. Flag draped buses were led by High Commissioner Olivier and on Olivier's command passed through check points without stopping. Important precedent as it protected Canada-bound refugees from harassment en route to airport.</p> <p>Charter #1 AC with 138 passengers arrives CFB Longue Pointe Montreal. Summit Series final hockey game in Moscow: newly arrived Asians help celebrate victory. Agha Khan in Ottawa for consultations with officials and PM. Only 30 persons booked for Flight #2. Need to increase numbers called for interview to 100 per day: no-show rate rising as people who applied to Canada and other countries depart for UK and other destinations. RStV sends message to Dir. Ops. Mitchell demanding cancelation of Charters on Oct 4 and 6 due to lack of Asians ready to travel.</p>
<p>28 September</p> <p>Applications:6,355 Interviewed:785 Visas: 663 Pending meds: 927 people Pending interviews: 2,500 over next 11 days</p>	<p>Large crowd today. Dr. Puliot arrives, Dr. Duncan departed on Charter #1. "Affirmation for Visa" forms printed to be used for Asians lacking passports. Only 82 passengers booked for flight #2 on Sept.3. Pan Am agent Bruce McNalley will assist Campbell with charter/ airport arrangements.</p>
<p>29 September</p>	<p>Asians having trouble getting tax clearances. Number booked for Charter #2 drops from 83 to 73.</p>
<p>30 September Charter #2 Only 60 passengers</p>	<p>Charter #2 PWA. 73 passengers booked but only 60 show-up. Dr. Collins arrives for one week. Frank Sharp to Las Palmas to coordinate refueling stop overs. Secretaries and McMaster can call home at government expense.</p>
<p>1 October</p>	<p>Incoming offers of assistance from Canada now include our reference file numbers which facilitates locating and prioritizing files of Asians with connections in Canada. Call from Director General MG Bud Clark- why so few on flights so far? Mitchell did not brief him. Lygo, who had been temporarily working at the HC in Nairobi, arrives.</p>
<p>2 October Charter #3</p> <p>Visas issued: 148 (daily record)</p>	<p>Charter #3 PWA departs with only 48 passengers. 68 booked on charter #4 and 90 on charter #5. Dir. Ops. Mitchell calls: In repose to RStV's request that selection criteria be loosened team is instructed it can accept all nationalities including Uganda citizens. Moe Benoit arriving on Charter #5 with three more visa typists and senior officer George Reynolds.</p>
<p>3 October</p>	<p>Ugandan MFA agrees to recognise our "Affirmation for Visas" for departing Asians lacking passports. Med technicians do 260 tests and 144 X-rays. Las</p>

	Plamas stopover option for escorts Campbell and Drapeau. USA to accept 1000 young people with degrees.
4 October Charter #4	Charter #4 PWA 83 passengers. Dr. Stubbing replaces Dr. Leclerc. Four officers interviewing: Molloy, Drapeau, Lygo and Carroll. Calling for interview 100 a day. 125 booked for Charter #5. After an incident when someone falsely claiming to be army officer tried to seize the Chima family home, sisters may move to hotel for safety. UK team reports that only 24,000 admission vouchers have been picked up. UK had issued 40,000 passports to Uganda Asians since 1962
5 October	Anti-Ismaili headlines in Ugandan media. Mr. Christensen of Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICEM) arrives. Briefed on Canadian operation. Doctors fall behind. No shows increase. No Asians at UK office downstairs in IPS building.
October Charter #5 Visas readied: 656	Charter # 5 PWA with 145 passengers. Reynold plus new team member Benoit to staff reception counter with typists LaBelle, Watson, and Clark. Also Longue Pointe reception centre coordinator, R. Lefebvre. Uganda National Day. Sent for three-day break in Mombasa: Hempel, Carrière, Leroux, McMaster, Drapeau, Hughes, Campbell and the med techs. 125 booked on Charter #6. 23 on Charter#7. Decision: over Uganda Day long weekend reviewed all cases that were initially screened out.
7 October	Benoit and Reynolds, newly arrived from Ottawa, review all applications including those previously screened out keeping in mind Dir. Ops. Mitchell's direction to focus on stateless persons and those with no obvious place to go. The applications they "screened in" are reviewed and confirmed by Molloy and RStV. 6000 applications are reviewed of which 1,988 will be invited for interview.
8 October	Uganda National Day. Screening exercise continues.
9 October Applications reviewed: 6000 Awaiting medicals.731 persons To be interviewed: 1988 cases. Visas prepared: 656	Call for interview raised to 145 cases a day 18 to 31 October. All Forms 1000 (visas) up to date.
10 October	Big crowd. Benoit and Reynolds at the counter direct people to interviews, med exams, drop off of medical samples, visa pickup and booking for charter flights. Labelle and Hughes to VTU. Charters 6&7 booked with 152 and 157 passengers.
11 October Charter #6	Charter #6 AC departs with 152passengers. RStV goes to Nairobi to consult with Ismaili leader Sir Eboo Pirbhai.

<p>12 October Charter #7</p> <p>Awaiting med exam: 750</p> <p>Visas issued to date: 2031</p>	<p>Charter #7 PWA departs with 157 passengers. Reynolds departs. Malone, Olson, Griffith (NHW) and Dr.Pellerin arrive. Doctors examining 235 a day. Charters 8, 9 and 10 partly booked. Carroll to Nairobi to assist High Commission with flood of visa queries. Olson was assigned to the medical clearance desk, entering the medical numbers on visas (Form 1000) and signing and issuing the visas. The additional staff speeds up processing all around. There were now 154 people booked for Charter #8, 37 for Charter #9 and 93 for Charter #10.</p>
<p>13 October Visas issued: 202 (daily record)</p>	<p>J. Versteegh, visa officer, arrives just as the workload increases by one third. Interview lists for 12 to 31 October are posted in office windows thanks to the hard work of Peggy Watson and Jesse Chima. Ismailis submit list of 134 cases for re-consideration. Charters # 8,9,10 now have 156, 143 and 140 passengers booked respectively. RStV made a point of thanking the med techs for their extraordinary efforts. There is no longer any doubt about the team's ability to meet its goals.</p>
<p>14 October</p> <p>Visas issued: 262 (daily record)</p>	<p>Benoit on counter: nicknamed "Genghis Khan".</p>
<p>15 October</p>	<p>Ismaili present list of older people with relatives in India, UK and Pakistan but no apparent means of support in Canada. RStV agreed to discuss with Ottawa.</p>
<p>16 October Charter # 8</p>	<p>Charter # 8 PWA 156 passengers depart. Olson departs on Charter #8 having set a four-day visa production record. On instructions from Ottawa stateless persons will be given top priority. A new schedule indicates there will be two charters on each of October 25, 27 and 31 which will pose significant challenges.</p>
<p>17 October</p> <p>Visas to date: 3,499</p>	<p>More interview 'no shows'- 47 out of 156 invited this date. Will interview all stateless we can find or are referred. 839 people have departed on charters. 639 are booked on the next 6 flights.</p>
<p>18 October Charter #9</p> <p>Interviews: 217</p> <p>Visas to date: 3,662</p>	<p>Charter #9 PWA, with153 passengers. Medhavji brothers arrested, released when RStV confirmed they were due to depart and rushed to charter. Gruer, Gagnon, Schellenberg and Major Benson plus 4 new med. techs arrive. Gruer and Gagnon assigned to visa and booking desks. Drapeau, who interviewed 50 in one day exhausted and will go home on charter 12 for a rest.</p>
<p>19 October Charter #10</p>	<p>Charter #10 CPA departs with 152 passengers including Schellenberg and Leroux who is going home to get married. Tettoni (Rome) and Kindrachuck (Dar-es-Salaam) arrive to support doctors. Word of the good reception in Canada is filtering back. RStV is known as "the Man". Charters #11,#12 and #13 fully booked and 114 booked on #14</p>
<p>20 October Charter #11</p> <p>Visas to date: 3,896</p>	<p>Charter #11 PWA, 114 passengers and 34 people failed to show for the flight for reasons unknown. Malone departs. Dir Ops Mitchell and Dickman arrive. Good news: AC charter for 25 October cancelled. 569 visas not picked up. Another file review to try to identify more stateless.</p>

<p>Departed on charters: 1,358 Departed for Canada on other airlines: 1,307 Interviews booked to Oct 25: 662 Visas not picked up: 569</p>	
<p>21 October Charter #12</p>	<p>Charter #12 CPA, departs with 148 including Drapeau. Review of 4,465 application identified 314 possible stateless to be called. O. Côté (Yaounde) arrives to reinforce doctors. Staff party. All six charters to Oct 27 are fully booked. Ad to <i>Argus</i> warning that 569 unclaimed visas will be cancelled in 5 days if not claimed.</p>
<p>22 October Sunday Charter #13</p>	<p>Charter #13 CPA with 150 passengers and 2 no show. L. Mach, visa officer, arrives. Uganda Asian medical students expelled from university interviewed by Molloy. All but 1 (accepted by UK) went to Canada and were placed in medical schools.</p>
<p>23 October Charter #13</p>	<p>Charter #14 with 152 passengers. Molloy, Mach, Colfer, Versteegh and Lygo all interviewing. UK and Indian High Commissions advise that 3,700 Indian nationals out of 4,400 have returned to India by ship. Ismailis present list of people from Jinja. Armed army officer intrudes office looking for keys to car he purchased from Asian. UN planning to set up a centre for any leftover stateless Asian and move them to camps in Europe.</p>
<p>24 October Charter #15</p>	<p>Charter #15 PWA with 155 passengers departs. Hughes, Hempel, Gruer and Walker depart. P. Gray and A. Prien (visa officers) arrive. Assigned to Visa signing desk and interview team. No show rate 40%.</p>
<p>25 October Charter #16</p>	<p>Charter #16 departs with 148 incl. Colfer. RStV observes departure and witnesses male and female customs officers robbing men, women and children of jewelry. UN Special envoy and ICEM Christensen meet with RStV re: UN operation to remove any remaining Asians. Next 4 flights fully booked</p>
<p>26 October Charter #17</p> <p>Visas issued to date: 5,076</p>	<p>Charter #17 PWA 155 passengers. Drapeau returns along with Jim Mitchell, and visa officers A Lukie, and N, Derrick. Assigned to interviews or visa desk. 523 applicants waiting for medicals. Dir Ops Mitchell sends 5 pound round of Black Diamond Cheese for staff. Mitchell phones to advise team may accept up to 300 hard core cases. (Comment: This advice would have been much more useful had it come a few weeks earlier). Holders of 250 unclaimed visas given notice they will be cancelled in three days.</p>
<p>27 October Charter #18 Charter #19</p>	<p>Double Flight Day. Staff turn out to assist 7 busloads of 353 Asians for Charter #18 CPA (148 passengers) and Charter #19 AC (198 passengers). Versteegh and Gray are escort officers. Dr. Stubbings and Lygo depart. <i>Argus</i> ad invites any stateless Asian to contact Canadian team. RStV offers office furniture to UN office opening across the hall from Canadian office. Procedures changed to adapt to large number of people not coming to their interviews.</p>

<p>28 October</p>	<p>Of 145 invited to interview 89 came. 193 of 256 came to collect their visas. Office closure schedule: no med referrals after Oct 31, final med. tests and exams Nov 3rd. Med equipment to be removed to Entebbe evening of 1 Nov. and be loaded on Charter# 25 next morning.</p>
<p>29 October Charter #20</p>	<p>Charter #20 CPA (148 passengers). 59 of 140 invitees appear for interview. New arrivals Nadia Stachowski, W. Major, W. Greaves plus returning escort officer Colfer. Low turnout at UN Center.</p>
<p>30 October Charter #21 Visas issued to date: 5572 Interviews remaining: 113 Awaiting meds: 46</p>	<p>Charter #21 PWA with 152 passengers. Stachowski chairs meeting to plan phase out and reassure Ottawa team is leaving no one behind. Four factors mitigated concerns: 1) UN Center will removed any Asian wishing to leave, 2) our no show rate is now 50%, 3) Asians in key positions have permission to stay, 4) Thousands of UK vouchers have not been claimed. In addition, 4000 have returned to India/Pakistan, USA and Australia have taken token numbers only, UK expected 80,000, but got 28,000. 12 stateless appear for interview. 208 are booked to flights.</p> <p>Departure Plan Oct 31, Stachowsky and J. Mitchell Nov. 1 W. Major Nov.2 Gagnon, Lukie, Côté Nov.3 Greaves, Carrière, Clarke, Kindrachuck and most med. techs Nov. 5 Colfer, Drapeau, Labelle, Watson, Tettonie, Campbell, Versteegh, Carroll Nov. 8 McMaster, Mach and RStV Nov 9 or 10. Molloy, Benoit, McNeish</p>
<p>31 October Charter #22 Charter #23 Visas issued to date: 5,712 Visa not claimed: 45 Effective output: 5,667 Pending meds. 377 Max visa output: 6,034 Expected med. 'no shows': 35</p>	<p>Double Flight Day. Charter # 22 AC (142 passengers), Charter #23 CPA (148 passengers) Interviewed 59 of 132 invited. 158 booked on charters</p>
<p>1 November Charter# 24 Visas issued to date: 5,864 Pending meds: 180</p>	<p>Charter #24 (148 passengers). W. Major departed. Charters on Nov 7 and 8 cancelled. Radio announcement asking Asians who had not claimed visas to do so. Med Techs dismantle mobile unit for shipment to Canada.</p>

Unclaimed visas: 145	
2 November Charter #25 Charter # 26 Visas issued to date: 5,978 Visas this day: 241	Double Flight day. Six buses arrived at hotel at 6:15. 302 Asians for Charter #25 AC (150passengers) and Charter #26 CPA (152 passengers.) The AC flight was over-booked by 21 persons who stayed at the hotel or with friends and left the next day. Findley and Versteegh arrive. Little for them to do. Côté returned to Yaounde and Kinrachuk to Dar-es-Salaam. MG Clark coming to Kampala on 6 Nov.
3 November Charter #27 Charter # 28	Last double flight day. Charter #27 AC (158 passengers) and Charter #28 PWA (128 passengers). Stretch AC DC8 carried the medical equipment including two 800 pound generators (never used), and most the med techs. Drs. Pellerin, Thibeau and Pouliot depart. As do Greaves, Carrière, Clarke and Kindrachuk. Departures were delayed and Campbell bought lunch for 287 Asians. Carroll going to Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Lusaka and Mauritius for regular immigration interviews. For Larry Carroll there was one more Uganda experience: "I was back in Kampala for 4 nights in December 1972 at the same hotel where (we lived) ... in August, September, October and first week of November that year. I believe the High Commission in Nairobi had made arrangements to have a 'notice' placed in the Kampala newspaper that a Canadian Immigration official would be in town available to assist anyone who may have been unable to attend an earlier scheduled appointment with Canadian officials. No one contacted me during my stay. I guess all those who needed to get out of the country did so on their own."
4 November Charter # 29	Charter #29 CPA (151 passengers) McGrath (Immigration finance) and Dr. Wood (NHW) arrive. Drapeau, Labelle, Tettoni, Watson, Campbell, Versteegh, Carroll and Colfer depart. Colfer would subsequently interview many Asians transferred by UN to refugee camps in Italy.
5 November	Last review of applications
6 November Charter #30	Charter #30, CPA (155passengers) Director General Clark arrives
7 November	Charter Cancelled. RStV provides Director General Clark with final stats Applications received: 8,065 for 32,393 persons Refused: 4,172 for 12,446 persons Interviewed: 3,893 for 10,942 persons Visaed: 2115 for 6,292 persons Visas not claimed: 39 for 117 persons Net effective total: 2,116 for 6,175 persons Total number traveling to Canada on 31 charters: 4,420 Expected via commercial flight 1,725* (Note approximately 2,000 more were admitted to Canada from camps in W. Europe in 1973/4)

	<p>*For a more detailed breakdown see St Vincent, "Seven Crested Cranes", 40th Anniversary Issue. P123. https://carleton.ca/uganda-collection/</p>
<p>November 8 Charter #31</p>	<p>Final flight Charter # 31 AC, (209 passengers). Clark, Wood, McGrath and Malone depart. Departing Ismaili leaders give St. Vincent a cheque for one million Uganda pounds which he tried to return. When they refused, he tore up the cheque. Moe Benoit witnessed. St Vincent and Mach departed that evening.</p>
<p>November 9</p>	<p>Benoit, Molloy and McNeish depart Kampala. McNeish with the immigration files returned by train to Nairobi where a new visa office would open in January, 1973. Benoit returned to Ottawa. Molloy remained in Nairobi for one week, dealing with Ugandan Asians there before returning briefly to Beirut, then on to Ottawa and a new assignment in Minneapolis and then on to Vancouver in time for the birth of a beautiful baby girl.</p>