

375 arrivals in the past week add to huge refugee backlog. (1988, December 30). *The Toronto Star*.

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About 375 refugee claimants from 20 countries around the world poured into Metro on flights into Pearson airport during the past week.

Fleeing economic, social and political hardships in their homelands, many will find that only those who are truly being persecuted can be classed as legitimate refugees.

Economic hardship, a dislike of their country's government or the desire for a better lifestyle in Canada is not reason enough,

Immigration Canada officials said.

Since last Friday nearly 100 Argentines have arrived, making them the largest ethnic group to pour into Canada during the week-long holiday season. Sri Lankans rank second with the arrival of 17 people since Dec. 23.

Those arriving before the new year will be added to the backlog of 85,000 refugee claimants.

But as of Sunday Jan. 1, 1989, travellers seeking refugee status will no longer be added to the massive backlog of waiting claimants.