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Canadian official to discuss issue abo U.S. border screenings with Powell

TORONTO (AP) — The cases of two Canadian citizens ensnared by tighter U.S. border screenings have so angered the country that the Canadian foreign affairs minister will raise the issue with Secretary of State Colin Powell during a visit on Thursday.

Powell's visit is to discuss a possible military strike against Iraq. But Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham plans to raise the cases of the two Canadians, one involving a man jailed in Maine after crossing the border to buy cheaper American gas.

The other involves a dual Canadian-Syrian citizen deported to Syria while switching planes at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport after U.S. officials reportedly accused him of links to al-Qaida. Graham has protested that the man should have been deported to Canada.

Canada has criticized the U.S. National Security Entry Exit Registration System created after the Sept. 11 attacks. It authorizes border officials to fingerprint and photograph people who were born in or are citizens of the five countries accused by the U.S. government of having terrorism links.

Those countries are Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria.

Canada even issued a travel advisory warning people born in those countries to avoid trips south of the border.

The Americans responded by promising Canadians equal treatment but saying U.S. security overrode any Canadian concerns about unfair treatment.

Graham rescinded the travel advisory last week, but foreign affairs spokesman Rodney Moore said the "high-profile consular cases" would be discussed with Powell.

Michel Jalbert, a 32-year-old French-speaking Quebec resident living near Maine, was arrested Oct. 11 while doing what people in Pohenegamook, Quebec, routinely do — driving a few yards into America to buy gas.

The gas station is less than a mile from a U.S. border post on a road primarily used for logging in northern Maine. Residents routinely buy gas without first registering with U.S. authorities.

When Jalbert stopped for gas, he had a hunting rifle in his vehicle that attra attention of a U.S. policeman. A back check found a 13-year-old criminal co for vandalism and possessing stolen p making him inadmissible for entry United States.

Jalbert was arrested and charged w gally entering the country and two t violations. He faces up to six months if convicted.

Locals call the case unnecessar harassment, while U.S. officials say security changed after the terror attacks World Trade Center and Pentagon.

Maher Arar, who holds joint Ca Syrian citizenship, was detained Sy while switching planes in New York o trip from Tunisia to his Montreal hom was then deported to Syria.

According to Canadian news repo immigration lawyer in New York who help Arar said a U.S. Immigrati Naturalization Service document she ined alleged that Arar was a member Qaida.

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The Special Education/Reading Interface Study Office in Department of Educational Psychology is looking for six to graduate students with experience working/volunteering in Te schools to collect data in schools throughout Texas.

The Special Education/Reading Interface Study is a federally-fund project that is studying elementary schools that appear to succe fully teach struggling readers, including special ed students, to re We have selected a number of schools around the State for t study and must travel to those schools to interview the principal a three teachers and review special education and cumulative folde of selected students. No classroom visits are included.

After receiving training, data collectors travel in teams of two to t schools. Pay is $11.25 per hour ($90 per day) per person plus tra expenses. No benefits except meeting some great educators, see some of the great State of Texas, and helping to improve read instruction for Texas children.

Qualifications-Data collectors must: have experience working/ unteering in Texas schools; have good interpersonal skills; have go word processing skills; be "detail" persons, be able to follow thro on tasks; be able to carry a laptop computer; be able to cond scripted interviews in a professional manner; be able occasionally travel 2 or 3 days in the middle of the week by car and plane; dri professionally. Experience as a special ed or reading teacher or s diagnostician is a plus.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Kevin O'N in the Department of Educational Psychology. Telephone: (979) 45 0498. E-mail: spedread@coe.tamu.edu