ITEM No. 4250/57 - 1050/57 Mr. Galantiere SPECIAL ATTENTION: Mr. Sears Mr. Walker Mr. Hazelhoff Mr. Griffith (36 copies) HUNGARY *REDEFECTION)

KK -July 20 I-17101

Belgum

(2700) RE-EMIGRANTS

(1201)EXILE

HUNGARIAN REFUGEES IN BELGIUM

SOURCE MUNICH: Refugee agency source.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: July 1957.

EVALUATION COMMENT: None.

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There are 4,500 Hungarians who have taken refuge from the revolution in Belgium. By the end of June, 180 persons (85 per cent of whom are under 20) had registered with Hungarian authorities for repatriation. In the first week of July, an additional eight registered. In most cases, the young persons under 20 were all called back by their parents, who without exception seem to be surprised that the child decided to return to Hungary.

Most of the youngsters are homesick, speak only Hungarian, and are having a difficult time finding any kind of job. Some rascals among the Hungarians have broken laws and the Belgian papers have been very quick to play the crimes for all they are worth. The criminals suffer no more, but the majority of the law-abiding types reap the trouble from the propaganda.

Part of the confusion stems from the parents at home. Although they are under pressure by the regime, they still help to confuse their children by writing frantic telegrams and qables urging them to come back at once, and the next week, equally fervent telegrams bidding them to stay where they are.

The Hungarian legation in BRUSSELS gives no support to the would-be returnees except to accept their registration. All expenses must be paid by the returnee, including visas, train fare, food, etc.

End.