PARIS, July 24th - (CNR) - in its issue of July 23 PARIS HERALD TRIBUNE carries an article entitled HUNGARIAN SCIENTISTS' FLIGHT TO FREEDOM, by Earl Ubell.

New York.—Organized American science played a principle role in the Hungarians' fight for freedom last October.

The full story is told in the "News Report" of the National Academy of Sciences, the nation's top honorary scientific society, which is the official adviser on science to the United States government.

The Academy helped more than 500 highly trained scientists find jobs in industry and universities at salaries from 4,000 dollars a year to 15,000 dollars a year in this and 75 other countries. The Academy obtained fellowships for some to continue their interrupted training. And it also set up courses in English to keep the scientists here.

Rather than sit and wait for the scientists to come through Camp Kilmer, where most of the Hungarians of all walks were first taken when they arrived in this country, the Academy sent a special mission to Austria, over whose borders the refugees first swarmed. More than 375 scientists were helped there.

At Camp Kilmer, in central New Jersey, 750 professionals—holders of college degrees went to the Academy's office. A third were engineers, 16 per cent were medically trained, 10 per cent in chemistry. An equal number were technicians and most of the rest were non-science professionals.

Since many had fled Hungary without documents, how could they establish their competence. The answer was to interview them in depth. For this highly trained American scientists in the same field volunteered to interview Hungarians of the same technical competence.

The American scientists came from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rockefeller Institute, Columbia, Princeton, Rutgers and Johns Hopkins Universities, as well as other academic institutions.

Lawyers presented the big problem since they could hardly practice under a philosophy that was so different from the one in which they were brought up. Doctors were difficult to place, too, since many states will not license foreign doctors without an examination in English.

Even the placement of engineers was made complicated by the prohibition of interviews by private industry at the camp. However, with the transfer of the refugee offices to Brooklyn's Hotel St. George,
This problem was apparently eased. The Academy did this work with Ford and Rockefeller Foundation grants. And the program is still operating.

In their description of the program, Dr. Wallace W. Atwood Jr., director of the Academy’s Office of International Relations, and Dr. W.H. Elyot, director of Scientific Personnel, emphasized that the Hungarians will be real assets to the scientific community.

“Almost all instances,” they wrote, “Hungarian refugees have filled positions for which American scientists and engineers were not available.

“There is a serious shortage of professionally trained personnel in the United States. Consequently, the arrival of young and well trained Hungarian scientists is a valuable contribution both to the academic and to the national economy. In money terms alone, the training of these well advanced young scientists and engineers behind the Iron Curtain represents an investment of many millions of dollars.

“The true value of the Hungarian migration to the countries of the free world can perhaps never be adequately measured. The group as a whole is a young group compared to other migrations. Most of the professional people are between 25 and 35 years of age.

“There seems little doubt that the Hungarian scientists who have come to the United States will emerge as worthy successors to the many distinguished Hungarian-Americans who now contribute so much to American science.”
New York July 19

Five hundred Hungarian refugees have found work in science, medicine, and technology through a special aid program arranged by leading American scientists.

The professional placement program is conducted by highly trained members from New York's Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. The Rockefeller team works under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences and its research council, the nation's top non-governmental scientific research organization.

A progress report on the professional aid program has just been issued in the new quarterly report of the Rockefeller Institute. According to the report, the professional interviews and placement efforts were begun last December when Hungarians first began to arrive in the U.S. following the freedom revolt.

The interviews are now going on both in Austria and in the U.S. to help the highly trained refugees find suitable positions in America and elsewhere.

Of the 500 continuing their professional careers, 200 were placed in U.S. research institutions and laboratories, and another 300 were indirectly aided by the professional interviews conducted for volunteer agencies which arranged the actual placements.

Several of the Hungarian refugees associated with the Rockefeller Institute's Szego Nagy, who worked with Professor R. J. Strawn at the Budapest Institute of Biochemistry, is working with Dr. Joseph S. at the Institute, Csaba Gall, a trained pharmacologist from Hungary, has a job as a technician in one of the Institute laboratories. Ferenc Szalay, who studied veterinary medicine in Hungary, is also employed in one of the laboratories at the Institute.