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O. N. — REPORT ON REFUGEE A

u n high commissioner reports on refugee aid. —

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nearly five thousand hungarian refugees left austria and half that many left yugoslavia during the month of may, according to statistics received here from the u n high commissioner for refugees. D.

a background publication issued by the high commissioner's office in geneva, reports 35,534 hungarian refugees were in austria as of may 1. in yugoslavia on that date there were 14,698. by may 30, the austrian total was down to 30,645 and on may 27 the figure for yugoslavia was 12,085, according to the latest statistic available here.

the publication includes a summary of international action in behalf of the hungarian refugees in the six months after soviet suppression of hungary's bid for freedom. the first big wave of refugees began to cross the border into austria on sunday, november 4, 1956. the peak was reached at the end of november when 8,537 refugees registered within a single 24, hour period. by november 30, the total influx had risen to 115,851 and nine countries had started receiving hungarian refugees at an average rate of 2,000 a day. austrian government figures show that 174,149 persons had crossed the border from hungary up to midnight last april 30.

the u n general assembly, taking up the hungarian situation on november 9, asked the high commissioner to start arranging emergency aid for refugees from hungary and authorized an appeal for contributions. on november 21 the assembly authorized a call for contributions toward a target-total of dollar 10,000,000 by mid-march 1957, responses totalled dollar 7,342,382.

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X the u n high commissioner for refugees, aususte lindt, khad actually received the equivalent of dollar 6,162,940.04 In governmental contributi- D ons for hungarian refugees up to may 1,1957. an additional dollar 2,714,706 had been promised in cash and more than dollar 60,000 in kind. the united states payment was dollar 5,000,000 private contributions brought the grand total of payments made and promised to dollar 9,646,285.21 as of may 1. in addition, some governments made contributions through channels other than the high commissioner's office -- dollar 8,491,160 directly to the austrian government.

lindt reports that his office had paid out dollar 4, 778,676 xx 4,778,676 and has committed dollar 505,000 more, leaving dollar 1,082,586 in reserve.

less than two months after the refugee influx began , 87,838 hungarians had been moved from austria to fourteen countries in europe and eight countries overseass.

the operational agency for u. n. aid is the league of red cross societies.

the league recently announced more than dollar 30,000,000 in emergency relief contributions have been made available through the national red cross societies in 59 nations.

nearly dolar 6,000,000 came from the american public through the american red cross;

the total from nine other countries exceeded dollar 1,000,000 each.

the intergovernmental committee for european migration has announced plans for moving 7, 600 hungarian refugees from

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X yugoslavia, with the major part of the cost being borne by the
united states,

the u .n. high commissioner emphasizes the need for conti-
ning efforts to resettle refugees now in austria and particular-
ly those in yugoslavia, whose plight has not received the same
amount of public attention, he has asked the league of red cross
societies to continue its humanitarian work and the league's
executive committee, on april 17, voted to do so, though in
partial modified form.-

D. 18

(1845)

5/22/57

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1. ^WBONN: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Dr. Auguste R. ^{812 61}Lindt of Geneva declared in Bonn today that his office and representatives of the Federal ~~State~~ Republic Government believe that the camps for homeless foreigners in West Germany should be terminated as soon as possible. He told newsmen following conferences with the Federal Government that some 220,000 non-German refugees are under his mandate in West Germany, of whom about one tenth or 22,000 are still living in camps.

2. Dr. Lindt paid tribute to the speed with which the Federal Republic ~~had~~ responded to the appeal to aid refugees from the Hungarian freedom uprising, and to West Germany's providing a refuge for the largest quota on the Continent of these Hungarians. "I am convinced," he added, "that through international cooperation it will be possible to solve the Hungarian refugee problem before the end of this year."

3. The U.N. High Commissioner said that international solidarity of the free countries had shown itself in the aid programs for the Hungarian refugees. But he also raised the question whether ~~sufficient~~ enough is being done for the "old refugees" who fled from Communist oppression before the Hungarian uprising last fall.

(MORE)

4. ~~From~~ High Commissioner Lindt declared that the problem of the earlier refugees should be solved with just as concentrated efforts as the aid to the refugees of the Hungarian freedom uprising. He reported that of the 171,000 of these refugees who fled to Austria, 130,000 already have been transported to other countries thanks to the eagerness of numerous free nations to provide them with new homes and to the aid of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, ICEM. And he added that 5,000 more will leave Austria within the next six weeks, ^{SO} ~~and~~ that by the end of the year one could count on only 8,000 to 10,000 Hungarian refugees ^{REMAINING} ~~left~~ in Austria.

5. ~~Discussing~~ Reviewing the situation of refugees in West Germany, the U.N. High Commissioner reported that in the 11,300,000 marks or almost three million dollars four-year plan of the United Nations from 1955 to 1958, ~~has~~ have been provided for promoting the settlement of homeless foreigners in Germany. Dr. Lindt added that one thousand housing units have either been completed or are already under construction for this purpose in Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia, Baden-Wuerttemberg and Bavaria. And he declared that the goal is to substitute international funds for the German contributions in giving the refugees an equal chance for a new life in the ~~same~~ country of asylum.

(MORE)

~~¶~~ 6. Regarding the question of Soviet citizens in the Federal Republic, repeatedly raised in Soviet notes to Bonn, the High Commissioner said that since taking office he has received no complaints from these refugee circles. He added that his office will promote the voluntary return of Russians in West Germany, but that repatriation itself is not a part of his mission.

7. A spokesman for the West German foreign office added that the Federal Republic accords equal rights with German citizens to homeless refugees from other countries. The spokesman said that these refugees can return at any time to their homeland if they wish to do so. And he confirmed that negotiations are under way between the foreign office and the Soviet embassy in Bonn regarding the voluntary repatriation of nationals of both countries, with the office of the U.N. High Commissioner taking part in every case in which a repatriation is agreed to.

8. High Commissioner Lindt will be in Nurnberg Thursday and in Munich Friday, visiting refugee centers in these Bavarian areas.

(DPA EP 1615) JW

CNR

PRESS RELEASE
7 May 1957

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION

VIENNA-----Since the 27th of April 1268 Hungarian refugees have departed from Austria for resettlement in other parts of the world, officials of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration announced here today.

CANADA and four LATIN AMERICAN countries accepted the largest groups of these escapees from communist oppression in Hungary. A total of 417 refugees flew from Vienna to Montreal, and 353 persons left Austria for Genoa, with the assistance of ICEM, to sail to South America. Of this last group 100 refugees embarked on the "SS Conte Grande", on April 28th, for BRAZIL. An additional 169 BRAZIL-bound refugees sailed aboard the "SS Provence" on May 1st. Also sailing on the "Provence" were 43 Hungarians with CHILE as a final destination while 13 more went to URUGUAY. The "SS Surriente" sailed on May 2nd with 28 VENEZUELA-bound Hungarian refugees aboard.

Other departures of Hungarians taking place during this period of time included one ICEM flight from Linz carrying 71 refugees to AUSTRALIA, and another ICEM flight, also from Linz with 69 Hungarians flying to SOUTH AFRICA. ICEM transported 165 EMADs-----Hungarian refugees admitted to the UNITED STATES under the Emergency Admission Program-----by bus from Salzburg and Vienna to Munich to await flights aboard US military aircraft. They will depart for the United States within 24 hours after their arrival at the US Air Base in Munich.

Several EUROPEAN COUNTRIES also received Hungarians during this time. 56 refugees left Vienna by train for SWEDEN and another group of 92 persons departed by train for FRANCE.

Under its REGULAR MIGRATION PROGRAM ICEM also arranged transportation for other groups of migrants. On May 2nd approximately 150 YUGOSLAVS left Austria by train for Bremerhaven where they embarked on the "SS Castelfelice" which sailed for CANADA on May 3rd. A group of 350 Austrian nationals and Yugoslavs went by train from Salzburg to Genoa, with the help of ICEM. They are scheduled to sail today aboard the "SS Flaminia" for AUSTRALIA.

In the last ten days 30 more Hungarians escaped into Austria, bringing the total number who have arrived since last October 28th to 171,249. 134,904 of these refugees left Austria for new homes in 32 different countries.

5/8/57

///WITH GENEVA ICEM STORY DISTRIBUTED///
(See also MRC 3)

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1. Vienna: The Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration announced yesterday that since April ^{27th} 1,268 more Hungarian refugees have left Austria for new homes in various parts of the world.
 2. Of this total, the announcement said, 417 flew from Vienna to Montreal, Canada, while ~~353~~ 353 left Austria for Genoa to sail for South America.
 3. Another 165 Hungarians left Austria for Munich and airlift to the United States under the Emergency Admission Program, while other groups were flown to new homes in Australia and South Africa. Sweden and France also accepted Hungarian refugees during the past ten days.
 4. ICEM also announced that in this same period 30 more Hungarians escaped into Austria, bringing the total number who have arrived since last October 28th to 171,249. Of this total, 134,904 Hungarian ~~are~~ refugees have left Austria for new homes in 32 different countries.