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**C O M M O N M A R K E T • E U R A T O M • C O A L & S T E E L C O M M U N I T Y**

**MORE AFRICAN STUDENTS GIVEN**

**COMMON MARKET SCHOLARSHIPS**

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17 -- Three hundred young students from EEC-associated African countries and Malagasy are now in Europe for a year's stay on scholarships awarded to them by the European Economic Community Commission. This represents an advance since the first year of operation of the scheme, when 70 such scholarships were offered.

The Common Market plan provides opportunities for higher studies which do not as yet exist in Africa. Recognizing the associated countries' most urgent development needs, the scholarships are awarded in the fields of economics and finance, agriculture and technology.

The candidates are nominated by a selection committee set up in each associated country and are sponsored by their governments. In choosing them, the Community is guided by the following considerations: qualifications, subjects chosen for study, places available in member countries' institutions, distribution between the various associated overseas states.

The scholarship-holders come from all the associated countries, the largest contingents being from the Congo (Leopoldville) (61), from the Malagasy Republic (53), from the Congo (Brazzaville) (36) and from Gabon (35).

As to academic level, the distribution is as follows: 63 per cent have secondary education, 20 per cent have taken advanced courses, 16 per cent have studied for professions.

In the three fields chosen by the European Economic Community, 37 per cent have opted for economics and finance, 22 per cent for agriculture and 35 per cent for technological subjects (other fields account for 6 per cent). The distribution by countries is: France 30 per cent, Belgium 29 per cent, Germany 18 per cent, Italy 14 per cent, the Netherlands 7 per cent and Luxembourg 2 per cent.

A majority of the students are in France and Belgium because almost all of them come from French-speaking African countries.