

Jews Paid \$1,500 Each For Forged Passports To Get Into Canada

Arrested in a RCMP roundup in Toronto of aliens illegally in Canada, seven Jewish immigrants would rather commit suicide than go back to Germany, they said yesterday. All had been hiding in Toronto's crowded Ward in the centre of the city's downtown

area. Solving to some extent the mystery of how they managed to reach here from overseas, the RCMP learned that all had paid the same man \$1,500 each, all they had in the world, for forged British passports, and had come here by air.

Members of the Jewish community have rallied to the aid of the seven now held in Don Jail while police continue investigation into reports that others have managed to enter the country with forged passports.

Six persons, including one woman, were taken into custody several days ago in the Ward. Latest to be held for breach of immigration laws is David Faitlowitz, who had been living under the name of James McKenna at 173 Harbord St. He gave himself up yesterday on advice of Rabbi David Monson. Rabbi Monson has appealed to the authorities for generous treatment of the prisoners in view of the horrors which they had been through under Nazi persecution.

"These people have nothing else to live for," Rabbi Monson said yesterday. "I have visited all of them in the Don Jail and they said they would rather commit suicide than go back to Germany." All had suffered under Nazi rule and had fought the Germans, he said. They had been in a displaced persons camp in Germany since the end of the war.

The others had been living under assumed names which ranged from Hughes to Haggerty. They are Alter Abramowitch, 35, alias Edward Gougham; Arthur Magad, 34, alias Roderick Gorhan; Israel Chalawa, 22, alias John Gorhan; Genia Chalawa, 20, his wife, alias Sarah Hag-

Passports Cost Aliens \$1,500

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gerty; Manek Kuper, 30, alias James Hughes; and his cousin, Mordecai Szul, 30, alias Ronald Drummond.

Abramowitch and Magad both saw their wives and children murdered in the infamous Nazi concentration camp at Belsen. Chalawa and his wife were married just a year ago in the DP camp in Germany. Kuper and Szulc both fought in the Polish Army, escaped after the fall of France and fled to England, later to fight beside soldiers of the Canadian Army.

It was in Glasgow that they heard of the man who could obtain forged passports for displaced persons, and they managed to get in touch with him in Scotland after they had been demobilized and sent to the DP camp in Germany. They went to Scotland to obtain the passports and then flew to Canada. Kuper and Szulc have been here six months, but the other five arrested arrived only seven weeks ago.

When Szulc was picked up by the RCMP, he said he was engaged to a girl in Toronto. It was learned that his fiancée is a university student here who is already married, but is estranged from her husband and is seeking a divorce.

The ultimate fate of the aliens is in the hands of the federal immigration department at Ottawa which will decide whether to return them to Europe or allow them to remain here. Several planned eventually to enter the United States legally Rabbi Monson said. They have relatives there. "They have no one here, but I would like to see Canada welcome them," he said.

Many offers of help have come from local Jews, Rabbi Monson declared, and Ald. Nathan Phillips said that he had received several offers from New York to help the seven now in custody. The Jewish Immigrant Aid Society has announced that it will act on behalf of all seven. Hyman Latch, director of the society, attended a board of inquiry Saturday in connection with the case and an effort is being made to have the aliens freed on bond.

Further, an appeal is to be made to Ottawa by the society to permit the seven to remain in Canada with the assurance that they would not be a burden to any one. Meanwhile Rabbi Monson said they were being treated extremely well at the Dor Jail. He also commended the RCMP for their fair treatment.

On the other hand, in Ottawa Samuel J. Sacks, national president of the Zionist Organization of Canada, washed his hands of the whole affair, and said his organization was concerned with getting Jews into Palestine, not Canada. He made it clear that the Zionist Organization had nothing to do with the illegal entry of the Jews.