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The Department of External Affairs today announced that Germany and The Netherlands have concluded an agreement to compensate Netherlands victims of Nazi persecution. Approximately \$34 million will be available for this purpose. It is understood that a number of present or former Dutch nationals or their heirs now residing in Canada may be eligible for compensation.

The deadline for filing claims is December 1, 1963 and persons in Canada who believe that they may qualify for compensation under this programme are urged to enquire immediately at the nearest Netherlands Consulate or at the Embassy of The Netherlands in Ottawa. Such persons should request, without delay, claim application forms to be submitted to the Claims Office for German Compensation Payment, P.O. Box "D", Amsterdam.

Persons who were Netherlands nationals or Netherlands-protected subjects at the time the persecution commenced, irrespective of whether the persecution took place in The Netherlands or elsewhere, are entitled to compensation if they were persecuted because of their race, faith or ideology, or because of their activity in the resistance movement. Regardless of the persecutee's nationality at the present time, compensation is to be paid to persecutees who: (1) were imprisoned for three months or longer; (2) suffered disability of 70 per cent or more for not less than five consecutive years as a result of persecutory measures; (3) were under an obligation to wear the Star of David at least six months; or (4) were subjected to sterilization.

Heirs of persecutees who died during or as a result of Nazi persecution may also apply for compensation. The right is limited to (a) the non-remarried surviving spouse of a persecutee, or (b) in the absence of a surviving spouse, jointly to the persecutee's children who had not yet reached twenty-one years on ....2/

May 7, 1945, or (c) to parents of a persecutee who was not married and who left no children. Heirs must meet the same nationality requirements as persecutees. Claims of victims or heirs who obtained Netherlands nationality after persecution commenced may also be submitted, since additional categories may possibly be established to cover such claimants.

In addition to the Embassy of The Netherlands in Ottawa, Consulates of The Netherlands in Canada are located in Calgary, Chatham (Ont), Edmonton, Fort William, Halifax, Hamilton, London (Ont), Montreal, Quebec, Regina, Saskatoon, St. John's (Nfld), Sydney, Toronto, Trenton, Vancouver and Winnipeg.