

FEDS NAB 100 ILLEGAL ALIENS

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Body

U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service agents arrested **100** undocumented immigrants yesterday during sweeps at five garment factories in Manhattan and Queens.

Though the workers face expulsion from the country, lack of jail space forced INS officials to let them go after court dates were set for deportation hearings.

That means many may never be found again if they move and choose not to appear for the proceedings, INS officials acknowledged.

"We lack the cell space to hold them," one said. "That's why the get-tough policy of the INS targets employers."

The garment factory owners face cumulative fines of \$ 25,000 to \$ 200,000 under a **federal** law that bans the hiring of foreigners who lack work authorization papers.

"Hopefully if the employers see us canvassing on a regular basis, there will be fewer **illegal aliens** in their employ," an INS spokesman said.

Three factories in Manhattan's Garment District were raided: Spring and Soon Fashion at 262 W. 38th St., T and E Fashion at 307 W. 38th St. and Advent/Accent Inc. at 580 Eighth Ave.

In Queens, INS agents raided Marcel Finishing at 692 Onderdonk Ave. and Anvado Inc. at 43-15 Queens St.

Almost all of the workers are from Mexico and Ecuador.

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