



# THE TRIBE SCRIBE

SHEMINI: PASSPORT TO SAFETY!

WALLENBERG



DINA, WHO WAS THE MAN ON THE STATUE WE PASSED THIS AFTERNOON IN TOWN NEAR WESTERN MARBLE ARCH SHUL?

HE WAS A COURAGEOUS AND SELFLESS HERO NAMED **RAOUL WALLENBERG** WHO SAVED THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF HUNGARIAN JEWS DURING WORLD WAR TWO. THIS IS HIS STORY...



SPOTLIGHT ON...

## RAOUL WALLENBERG

**Raoul Wallenberg** was born in Sweden on August 4th 1912. In 1930, he left school with top grades in Russian language and drawing. After serving in the army, he travelled to the USA where he studied architecture in Michigan University. After graduating, Wallenberg moved to Cape Town where he was employed by a building company. He then moved to work in a bank in Haifa, a city in present day northern Israel. It was during his time in Haifa that Raoul met Jewish people who were escaping from Germany. He was extremely moved by their stories.

On returning to Sweden in 1936, Wallenberg formed a partnership with a Hungarian Jewish man named Kalman Lauer and together they ran an import and export company. During his time at the company, Raoul would often travel to Hungary on business trips. He became well acquainted with the capital of Hungary, Budapest.

In 1944 the United States set up a War Refugee Board to help rescue Jews from Europe. The board requested that Sweden, which had remained neutral during the war, should send a special envoy to Budapest. Because he spoke Hungarian and German, cared deeply about the plight of the Jewish people and knew Budapest well - Raoul Wallenberg, then 31, was chosen for the job. While in Budapest, Wallenberg risked his life to save thousands of Jewish people by handing out special protective fake Swedish passports that he had made, setting up safe houses where thousands of people hid and other life saving measures.

In January 1945, Wallenberg was seized somewhere outside of Budapest by Soviet forces for unknown reasons and was never heard from again. While his exact fate remains a mystery, he has received numerous honours for his humanitarianism. Raoul Wallenberg is an honorary citizen of the United States, Canada, Israel, Australia and the city of Budapest.



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Tribe is the Young People's Department of the United Synagogue: Creating a future for our community through engaging, educating and inspiring the next generation.