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## We smash passport racket at Comet; NOW investiga

MAZHER MAHMOOD

BOGUS asylum seekers can enjoy low, low prices for fake passports at a branch of Comet-but they'd better hurry because the sale ends today. Unknown to bosses of the electrical giant, one employee sells the phoney documents at a knockdown Pounds 400.

That's a third of the usual price of Pounds 1,200-and it comes with a bank account and cash and debit card-everything a bogus asylum seeker, illegal immigrant or terrorist needs to set up a false identity in Britain.

The man behind the racket is Comet warehouse worker Miri, who lives up to their slogan "Always Low Prices-Guaranteed".

But, after an undercover investigation, the News of the World has closed him down.

Licence

A bogus asylum seeker himself, Miri bragged as he showed off a red Greek passport: "I'm giving you a good deal. Normally it's Pounds 1,200.

"I can get you Greek passports, Italian, French, anything you want. If you want more we can do a discount."

Known to the Home Office as Skender Dardhishta, Miri came to Britain eight years ago claiming he was fleeing persecution in Kosovo.

Now he says he's paying an English woman Pounds 6,000 to marry him so he can stay here. Miri, 28, works in a Comet warehouse in Tottenham and takes phone orders for forged passports while stacking fridges.

He met our man near his home in Palmers Green, north London, and boasted he had used the Greek passport, in the name of Theodoros Perikleous but with his picture inside.

Next he pulled out a valid Halifax cash card.

We met Miri again on Friday evening-and he handed over the passport with our reporter's picture in it, covered with a plastic coating and the Greek crest.

He suggested using it to apply for a driving licence. But he advised: "With this passport, don't get into trouble because cops will take your fingerprints."

Shame he didn't take his own advice.

A Comet spokesman said yesterday: "We are grateful to the News of the World and we're holding an immediate investigation."

Do you now a scandal that Maz should expose? You can ring him anytime on 020 7782 4402 or e-mail maz@notw.co.uk

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