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UNITED STATES
NATIONAL ARCHIVES
COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND
WASHINGTON, VIRGINIA

Miss McKay

February 4, 1946

Messrs. Campbell Brazier Fisher & McMaster,
Barristers & Solicitors,
675 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver B.C.

Attention Mr. R.J. McMaster

Dear Sirs:

I very much regret having overlooked returning the attached documents to you before, and trust it has not been the cause of any inconvenience.

Yours very truly,

Ruby McKay,
Superintendent of
Child Welfare,

RMK:K
encls.

Campbell, Brazier, Fisher & McMaster

Barristers and Solicitors

A. T. R. CAMPBELL A. W. FISHER
C. W. BRAZIER R. J. McMASTER
C. G. ROBSON

ROYAL BANK BUILDING
675 WEST HASTINGS STREET
VANCOUVER, B.C.

OUR FILE NO.

February 1, 1946.

Miss Ruby McKay,
Superintendent of Child Welfare,
Court House,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Miss McKay:

On August 31st, 1945 we forwarded to you two memoranda from the Department of Labour, B. C. Security Commission, signed by Walter Hartley, supervisor at Tashme, B. C., both dated July 13, 1945, one being addressed to Teruaki Tamura, No. 17037, and the other being addressed to Sadan Shimoji, No. 16986.

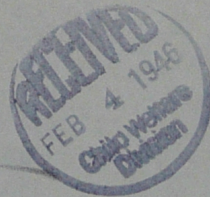
Our clients have requested the return of these documents and accordingly it would be appreciated if you would forward them by return mail.

Yours truly,

CAMPBELL, BRAZIER, FISHER & McMASTER

Per *R. J. McMaster*

RJM:PG



(Personal)

October 4, 1945

Mr. R. McMaster,
Barrister & Solicitor,
675 West Hastings St.,
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Mr. McMaster: re Japanese children

I have considered writing you about this question of Japanese children, but find that there are so many complicating factors that I wondered if you would drop into the office and see me some time when you are in the Court House. I feel that some discussion of the various points might be helpful.

Yours very truly,

Ruby McKay,
Superintendent of
Child Welfare,

RMck:K

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE BRANCH

To Miss Ruby McKay,.....
Superintendent,
Child Welfare Division,.....
Court House,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

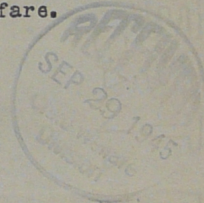
Weiler Building,
September 28th, 1945.
VICTORIA, B.C.

Re: Japanese Children.

In reply to your memorandum of the 10th instant on the above noted subject, enclosed herewith please find copy of communication received from Mr. Griffith and which is self-explanatory.

CWL:LLL
Encl.

C.W. Lundy
C.W. LUNDY, R.
Director of Welfare.



COPY LLL

September 25, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. C.W. LUNDY

Director of Welfare, Weiler Building, Victoria, B.C.

With reference to memorandum dated the 10th instant written to you by the Superintendent of Child Welfare, concerning the separation of Japanese children from their families, it seems to me that we have no jurisdiction in the matter and if any enquiries are received they should be answered by asking the writers to take the matter up with the appropriate Federal Department concerned.

So far as I am aware all Japanese now come under the control of the Federal Government and it appears that under the War Measures Act the Federal Government is not in any way bound by Provincial Statutes. This is a problem that affects Canada as a whole and I think we would be well advised not to take any part in discussions or representations made by any party respecting the present or future treatment of the Japanese people.

EWG:GV

E.W. GRIFFITH
Asst. Deputy Provincial Secretary.

SEP 29 1945

Mr. C. W. Lundy,

Director of Welfare,

Weiler Bldg., Victoria B.C.

Child Welfare Division,

Vancouver B.C. September 10, 1945

re Japanese children

I enclose copy of a letter recently received from Mr. McMaster in connection with the repatriation of Japanese and their families. I mentioned this matter very casually to Mr. Griffith at the Municipalities Convention, and would appreciate it if you would bring this matter to his attention and let me have your joint comments.

I have merely acknowledged Mr. McMaster's letter, as I felt it was wiser not to discuss the matter in writing with him. There are a number of broader issues involved in this question of repatriating the Japanese, and I realize that the Government's future policies will have a bearing on our attitude in this connection. Mr. McMaster's letter is not too clear, but from conversation I have previously had with him I understand that children are being sent East apart from their parents if they do not agree to sign for repatriation to Japan with their families. Presumably these are children born in Canada, and certainly such practice is contrary to the principles of child welfare.

I am prepared to get in touch with the Commissioner but, before doing so, would appreciate having your help and advice.

Ruby McKay,
Superintendent of
Child Welfare,

RMCK:K
encls.
cc Mr. Griffith

(Personal)

September 10, 1945

Mr. R. J. McMaster,
Barrister & Solicitor,
675 West Hastings St.,
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Mr. McMaster:

re Japanese children

I have for acknowledgment your letter of August 31, which was waiting for me upon my return from vacation. I have taken up the matter with my senior officials in Victoria, and just as soon as I hear from them will communicate with you further. Meantime, many thanks for your letter.

Yours very truly,

Ruby McKay,
Superintendent of
Child Welfare,

RMCK:K

Campbell, Brazier, Fisher & McMaster

Barristers and Solicitors

A. T. R. CAMPBELL
C. W. BRAZIER

A. W. FISHER
R. J. McMASTER

ROYAL BANK BUILDING
675 WEST HASTINGS STREET
VANCOUVER, B.C.

OUR FILE NO.

August 31st,
1945

Miss Ruby McKay,
Superintendent of Child Welfare
Child Welfare Branch,
Court House,
Vancouver, B.C.

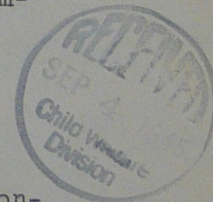
Dear Miss McKay:

A short time ago the writer spoke to you concerning the policy being followed by the B. C. Security Commission with reference to minor children and their separation from their parents unless they were prepared to sign a declaration indicating their willingness to be returned or rather sent to Japan on the termination of hostilities. At that time I promised to get you further details and also to provide you with copies of the notices which were served upon these children. I am forwarding these documents to you personally upon the understanding that you will return the original documents to me. The documents enclosed are two memorandum from the Department of Labour B. C. Security Commission signed by Walter Hartley, Supervisor, of Tashme, B.C., both dated July 13th, 1945, one being addressed to Teruaki Tamura #17037 and the other being addressed to Sadan Shimoji #16986.

In the case of Tamura, he was born on the 25th day of January, 1929. I am advised that he would not sign to be sent to Japan until he was compelled to do so by his father when faced with removal from his parents because they had signed for Japan and he had received the enclosed notice. His father took the position that the son was too young to go off by himself back east.

With respect to Shimoji, I am advised that this boy was 17 just this month and that after being served with the enclosed notice, rather than sign to be sent to Japan he went East.

As indicated to you in our telephone con-



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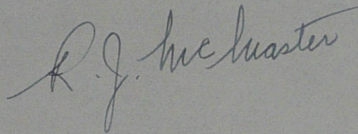
Miss Ruby McKay,

August 31st, 1945

versation, it would appear to me to be a matter which comes within the consideration of your Department that young persons should not be forced to be separated from the control of their parents unless they are prepared to be sent to a country to which they owe no allegiance.

I might say that this letter is written by me personally and not on behalf of the firm.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. J. McQuarrie".

RJM/G.
Encl

DEPARTMENT OF
LABOUR



BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

Welfare Dept

April 1st, 1943

355 BARRARD STREET,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Miss Isabel Harvey,
Superintendent of Child Welfare
Court House,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Re: Japanese children
without guardianship

Dear Miss Harvey:

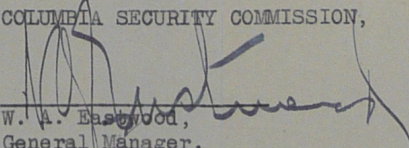
It has been brought to our attention by our Welfare Department that there are a few Japanese children in this Province who have no legal guardianship.

In the period in which they are under the control of Federal departments, the interests of these children, and others who may become orphaned, will be safeguarded by this Commission, and their care supervised by our Welfare Department. In the period following the war, however, it may be necessary to obtain your advice and assistance in respect to their care. With that in mind we are starting a file in this office containing particulars of the cases, to be available when needed.

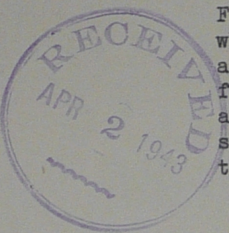
Our purpose in writing you at this time is to establish in our files the proper department to whom we may refer this problem, if and when our jurisdiction over the Japanese people in Canada terminates.

Yours very truly,

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION,


W. A. Eastwood,
General Manager.

MEM:DJ



BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION
1130 MARINE BUILDING
VANCOUVER, B.C.

April 18th, 1942.

Miss Isabel Harvey,
Secretary,
Child Welfare Branch,
410 Seymour St.,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Y L 27 - 0

Dear Miss Harvey:

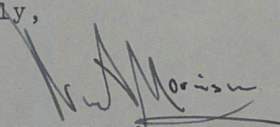
Will you kindly advise the members of your staff that the B. C. Security Commission, who are handling the evacuation of Japanese, are prepared to deal with welfare problems concerning Japanese, and we would appreciate having them bring to our attention any such case referred to them.

In order to expedite our work, we would suggest that they prepare a written outline of the same, and send it to our office, addressed:-

B. C. Security Commission,
Marine Building,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

and it will be handed to the proper department for attention. If a personal interview is necessary, and it concerns Japanese who have not yet been evacuated, it should be brought to the attention of Mrs. Booth at our Head Office. If it concerns Japanese at the Clearing Station, Hastings Park, it should be brought to the attention of our Social Worker there.

Yours very truly,


Wm. Morrison,
Secretary.

WM.CS

