

[CORONER.]



(186)  
HH  
196

# INQUISITION

RECEIVED  
JUL 10 1944

No. \_\_\_\_\_

INQUISITION

**An Inquisition** indented taken at **Kaslo**

British Columbia, the **third** day of **July, 1944**, in  
 the **Eighth** year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord the King, before  
 me, **George M. Gibson**, gentleman, one of the Coroners for  
 our Lord the King, for the **City of Kaslo** aforesaid, upon the view of the  
 body of **Seiichiro Mizaguchi**, then and there and  
 within the jurisdiction of the said Coroner, lying dead, upon the oaths of

Mack Murphy  
 Andrew Thomson  
 Arthur Bavington  
 William Tonkin  
 Clarence White  
 John Paterson

good and lawful men of **the City of Kaslo**, aforesaid, in the  
 said **Province of British Columbia**, who being now here sworn  
 and charged to inquire, on the part of our said Lord the King, when, where, how, and after what  
 manner, the said **Seiichiro Mizaguchi** came to his death,  
 do say upon their oath, that **(See Over)**

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IN WITNESS whereof, as well the aforesaid Coroner as the Jurors aforesaid, have to this  
Inquisition, put their seals, on the day and year and at the place first above mentioned.

We the Jury find the death of Seiichiro Mizaguchi was accidental with no blame attached to anyone as a result of injuries sustained on or about 11:00 A. M., Friday, June 30th, 1944, at the British Columbia Security operations near Kaslo. He died a short time later in the Victorian Hospital from shock and loss of blood.

John Paterson Foreman

Wack Murphy

William Gordon

W. T. Thomson

Clarence J. White

Edmund

Geo. M. Gibson

Coroner.

**Certificate of Cause of Death as Determined by Coroner's Inquest.**

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To the District Registrar of Vital Statistics

at Victoria, B.C.:

**This is to certify** that Seiichiro Mizaguchi  
late of the City of Kaslo, in the Province of British Columbia  
deceased, came to his death on the 30th day of June, 19 44  
at Kaslo, in the Province of British Columbia.

That an inquest has been held by me upon the body of the said deceased, and that the cause of death, according to the verdict of the jury, was— accidental, with no blame attached to anyone. from shock & loss of blood.

WITNESS my hand this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 19 44

Geo. M. Gibson  
Coroner.

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[CORONER.]



### Information of Witnesses.

CANADA: }  
 PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. }

County of

To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, touching the death of **Seiichiro Mizaguchi** at **Victorian Hospital**, in the City of **Kaslo** Province in the ~~County~~ of **British Columbia**, on the **30th** day of **June**, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and **forty-four**. before me, **George M. Gibson**, one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said County, on an Inquisition then and there taken on view of the body of the said **Seiichiro Mizaguchi**, then and there lying dead, as follows, to wit: **Dr. K. Shimo Takahara** -- Duely qualified Medical Practician

of the City of **Kaslo**, in the said ~~County~~ Province of **British Columbia**, being sworn, saith,

One June 29th, Friday morning about 11:30 I was called by a Japanese to go to the hospital at once for a man who was injured in the B. C. Security Commission's Operations, and I immediately went to the hospital and I was waiting for the man to come. In the meantime I was preparing the instruments for the man to come, and having waited about one-half hour the man arrived at the hospital. We put the man into the operating room, and examined the man, and found the man with no pulse, I examined the blood pressure, no blood pressure at all. He was white like a sheet of paper, and his eyes were up high in his head. He was not able to talk very much. I also found that he had a tourniquet on the upper part of the right thigh. Then I told one of the friends who came with this injured man the seriousness of the accident and advised him to call his wife to come to the hospital.

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[CORONER.]



### Information of Witnesses.

CANADA: }  
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. }

County of

To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, touching the death of Seichiro Mizaguchi at Victorian Hospital, in the City of Kaslo, Province of British Columbia, on the 30th day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-four, before me, George M. Gibson, one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said County, on an Inquisition then and there taken on view of the body of the said Seichiro Mizaguchi, then and there lying dead, as follows, to wit: Mohei Kamegaya -- Whistle Punk (Translated by Ken Kutsukeke, sworn interpreter)

of the City of Kaslo, in the said ~~County~~ Province of British Columbia, being sworn, saith,

At 11:00 the whistle punk received a signal from the choker man. A go ahead signal. They say "hoy", which means to go ahead, so he immediately signalled the engineer to go ahead. Two means to slack back. After he signalled the engineer to go ahead, a moment later, the engine was in full blast, he could hear the motor going, but the main line was slacked. Nothing was unusual to them. The line was slack. Usually the whistle punk stands where he is able to see the engineer, but at this particular moment he was standing where he was not able to see the engineer at all, and whenever there is trouble between the engineer, and the choker man, the punk usually warns the engineer, so naturally the whistle punk thought there was nothing wrong, the line was slack, but the motor was going. He could not see because of the logs. He was just wondering where the engineer was. The whistle punk is not supposed to leave the post unless the engine

\* 2M-240-1052

(over)

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[CORONER.]



### Information of Witnesses.

CANADA: }  
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. }

County of

To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, touching the death of Seichiro Mizaguchi at Victorian Hospital, in the City of Kaslo Province in the County of British Columbia, on the 30th day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-four, before me, George M. Gibson, one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said County, on an Inquisition then and there taken on view of the body of the said Seichiro Mizaguchi, then and there lying dead, as follows, to wit: Kanezo Tokai -- High Rigger (Translated by Ken Kutsukake, sworn interpreter)

of the City of Kaslo, Province of British Columbia, in the said County, being sworn, saith,

Mr. Tokai usually sees the engineer, but this particular morning the logs were piled so high he could not see the engineer. For that reason he had to have the whistle punk signal the engineer for releasing the logs. Usually Mr. Tokai warns the engineer, but this morning the whistle punk did all the warning. Up to the time of the accident everything was running smoothly, and all of a sudden the sound of the engine was quite different from that on usual mornings, so he immediately went over the top of the logs where he could see the engineer, and then he heard the engineer shout and that is how he first got to know about the accident. The motor was running in a funny way. Mr. Tokai could not hear the whistle punk's whistle because he was working by the caterpillar which was hauling logs, but he heard the funny noise the engine was making. It was going very fast. Mr. Mizaguchi, the engineer,

\* 2M-340-4032

(over)

[CORONER.]



### . Information of Witnesses.

CANADA: }  
 PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. }

County of

To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, touching the death of **Seiichiro Mizaguchi** at **Victorian Hospital**, in the City of **Kaslo** Province in the ~~County~~ of **British Columbia**, on the **30th** day of **June**, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and **forty-four**. before me, **George M. Gibson**, one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said County, on an Inquisition then and there taken on view of the body of the said **Seiichiro Mizaguchi**, then and there lying dead, as follows, to wit: **Chujiro Yoshida - First Aid Man**

Province

of the City of **Kaslo**, in the said ~~County~~ of **British Columbia**, being sworn, saith,

At about 11:00 o'clock I was working two hundred and fifty feet from the engine. At that time I heard a strange noise from the engine, so by my feeling something happened, so I took my kit to the machine, but Mr. Tokai was quite near. He was the first man to help the engine man and I was the second man to help him. It was very lucky Mr. Tokai knows all about first aid. Mr. Tokai and I stopped the bleeding and a stretcher was brought and we took Mr. Mizaguchi to a shady place and waited for a truck to come. Then we took him down to the hospital after the truck arrived. When we arrived at the hospital I explained to Dr. Shimo-Takahara what happened and I believed his injuries were very bad. I did not notice what part of the engine hit the injured man.

*correct copy of evidence  
 Geo. M. Gibson Coroner*

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[CORONER.]



### Information of Witnesses.

CANADA: }  
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. }

County of

To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, touching the death of **Seiichiro Mizaguchi** at **Victorian Hospital**, in the City of **Kaslo** Province in the ~~County~~ of **British Columbia**, on the **30th** day of **June**, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and **forty-four**. before me, **George M. Gibson**, one of His Majesty's Coroners for the said County, on an Inquisition then and there taken on view of the body of the said **Seiichiro Mizaguchi**, then and there lying dead, as follows, to wit: **A. L. MacPhee** of the City of **Kaslo**, in the Province of **British Columbia**, being sworn said:

of the ~~of~~ ~~of~~, in the said County  
of ~~of~~, being sworn, saith,

The engineer sits back here. In front of him there is a pile of logs, At this particular place this man could not see more than the length of this room. This man down here is guided with a bell, or whistle, I should say. The same as a man would be on a ship. The cable runs from the drum to the top of the spar tree, extending out into the bush around sever hundred to eight hundred feet. This cable is brought back out of the bush by what we call a haulback cable, when the cable goes out our choker man is the man who puts the cable around the logs. When they get the cable around the log, we have what we call our whistle punk, a man that does nothing else but take his signals or calls, from the choker men to haul in, or as the case may be, haul back on the cables. Then when the log starts going out often it gets caught on a stump. Then the choker man calls to the whistle punk. He

\* 2M-240-4052

(over)



[CORONER.]

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# SUMMONS FOR JURY.

BRITISH COLUMBIA }  
To Wit: } **County of Kootenay**

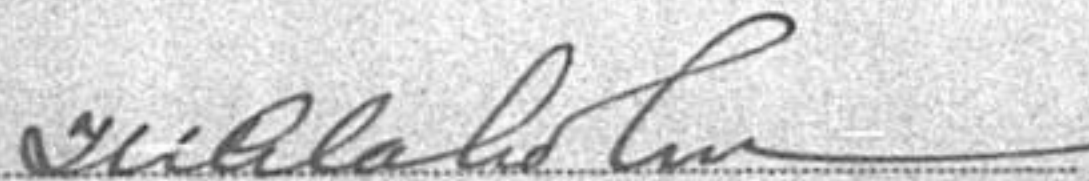
To **Maek Murphy**  
**Andrew Thomson**  
**Arthur Bavington** , of **Kaslo B.C.**  
**William Tonkin**  
**Clarence White**  
**John Paterson**

By virtue of a Warrant, under the hand and seal of **Dr. G. M. Gibson**

one of His Majesty's Coroners for this County **of Kootenay** , you are  
hereby summoned personally to be and appear before him as a Juryman, on the **3rd** day  
of **July** instant, at **7** of the clock in the **after** noon  
precisely, at **Court House** .

in the said County, then and there to inquire, on His Majesty's behalf, touching the death of  
**Seiichiro MIZUGUCHI** , and further to do and execute such  
other matters and things as shall be then and there given you in charge, and not depart without leave.  
Hereof fail not at your peril.

Dated the **3rd** day of **July** , one thousand nine  
hundred and **fourty four**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**T.W. Glaholm** Constable.

Mack Murphy.  
Andrew Shonson  
Arthur Ravington  
William Lonkin.  
John Paterson.  
Clarence White.

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[CORONER.]



### Coroner's Precept.

To the Constable of **Kaslo, T.W.Glaholm**

**By virtue** of my office, these are, in His Majesty's name, to require and command you, immediately upon sight hereof, to summon and warn ~~twenty-four~~ <sup>six</sup> good and lawful men of **Kaslo, County of Kootenay** to be and appear before me, **Dr.G.M.Gibson**, one of the Coroners of **His Majesty The King** at **Kaslo**, in the said **County**, on the **3rd.** day of **July**, at **7** of the clock in the **after** noon, then and there to inquire of, do, and execute all such things as on His Majesty's behalf shall be lawfully given them in charge, touching the death of **Seiichiro Mizaguchi**. AND be you then and there to certify what you shall have done in the premises; and further to do and execute what in behalf of our said Lord the King shall be then and there enjoined you.

Given under my hand ~~and seal~~, the **3rd** day of **July**, A.D. 19**44**.

*Dr. G. M. Gibson*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dr.G.M.Gibson Coroner.

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[CORONER.]



# DECLARATION.

I, Geo M Gibson  
 of Kaslo B.C., in the Province of British Columbia, Coroner, do  
 hereby solemnly declare that in the case of the death of Benjamin Mayagueli  
of Kaslo B.C., from information received by me as Coroner, I  
 am of opinion that there is reason for believing that the deceased did not come to his death from  
 natural causes, or from mere accident or mischance, but came to his death from violence, or unfair  
 means, or culpable or negligent conduct of others, under circumstances requiring investigation by a  
 Coroner's inquest.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it  
 is of the same force and effect as if made under oath, and by virtue of the "Canada Evidence Act."

Declared before me at Kaslo B.C.  
 this 25 day of July  
 A.D. 1944

Geo M Gibson

W H Kean

Commissioner for taking Affidavits  
 within the Province of British Columbia

NOTE.—This declaration may be made before a Justice of the Peace, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits, or a Notary Public.