

[CORONER.]



5/15

# INQUISITION

AT WENNE-GENEVALS DEPT  
RECEIVED  
JAN 25 1945

(1)

**An Inquisition** indented taken at **Tashme, County of Westminster, Province**

of **British Columbia, the Twelfth** day of **January**, in  
the **Nineth** year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord the King, before  
me, **J. Herbert Richmond**, gentleman, one of the Coroners for  
our Lord the King, for the **Province** aforesaid, upon the view of the  
body of **Yoshio Takahashi**, then and there and

within the jurisdiction of the said Coroner, lying dead, upon the oaths of

**William Edward Roberts, Foreman.**

**Albert Joseph Hudson.**

**Robert Joseph Kimmitt.**

**John Franklin Bailey.**

**Harold Francis Webb.**

**Alexander Ewing Stein.**

good and lawfui men of **the County of Westminster.**

said **Province of British Columbia.**

and charged to inquire, on the part of our said Lord the King, when, where, how, and after what

manner, the said **Yoshio Takahashi.**

do say upon their oath, that

ENTERED

FORWARDED

, aforesaid, in the

, who being now here sworn

came to his death,

The abovesaid deceased, on Jan 12. 1945.  
Yoshio Takahashi, came to his death at 11 mile south  
whilst working around a Speeder Gas Shovel. Hope Princeton  
Accidentally due to misadventure, no blame  
is attached to any person. With a recommendation  
that in future cases of such repairs, that all  
equipment be secured in a safer manner.



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K  
Coroner 30.00  
Jan. 30/48



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.

(3)

15<sup>th</sup> of Nov. Foreman

A. J. Hudson  
Minnitt

Alexander Ewing Stei

Harold Francis Webb  
John Franklin Bailey

J. H. Richmond  
Coroner.

J. H. Richmond

Coroner.



REPORTS ON THE LATE YOSHIO TAKAHASHI

Brought to the Clinic at 10:00 a.m. January 12, 1945.

Coramine 1 amp. given for stimulation.

Morphine  $\frac{1}{4}$  gr. given hypodermically for shock.

Blood cleaned off the patient's face and chest and soiled clothing removed prior to sending him in to the operating room.

Operation began at 10:30 a.m. under Evipol Sodium anesthetic.

Wounds were cleansed with Green Soap and a great deal of dirt was removed. Then they were sterilized with Tincture Merthiolate. After hemostasis, liberal amount of Pulv. Sulphathiazole was used and wounds repaired.

WOUNDS

1. Over the right frontal area, a deep gash about 5" in length penetrating to the bone. The bone itself was fractured but not depressed. *gash right eye*
2. Both eye lids <sup>^</sup>were torn and some tissues missing. The eyeball was injured.
3. Nasal bones were fractured--considerable bleeding from both nostrils.
4. Four upper front teeth were missing. A part of the upper jaw bone was torn away and there was bleeding from the torn flesh of the upper palate.
5. A deep punctured wound on the upper lip just to the left of the mid-line.
6. A deep wound on the chin just about in the mid-line.
7. Whole right side of the face was abraded.
8. Contusions on the left side of the chest and also on the left thigh.

Operation completed at 12 o'clock and returned to bed at 12:10 p.m.

During the course of the operation, Adrenalin and Coramine as well as oxygen were used.

At 12:25 p.m., 10% Glucose Saline intravenously was started. The patient responded to the treatment and was doing quite well until 12:50 p.m. Then he began to fail and in spite of all efforts, he passed away at 1:15 p.m.

*Diag. cerebral hemorrhage  
due to skull fracture*

*The above was read in court by H. J.  
who was duly sworn.-*

*H. M. Shimokura*  
H. M. Shimokura, M.D.

*J. H. Richmond*  
J. H. Richmond, Coroner.



[CORONER.]



## Information of Witnesses.

CANADA:  
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. }  
County of Westminster.  
To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign  
Lord the King, touching the death of **Yoshio Takahashi.**  
at **Tashme Hospital.** , in the Province of **British Columbia.**  
in the County of **Westminster.** , on the **twelfth** day  
of **January** , in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and **forty five.**  
before me, **J. Herbert Richmond.** , 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 **Yoshio Takahashi.** , then and there lying dead, as  
follows, to wit:

*Russell Louis Dennison.*  
*Truckdriver*

of the Village of *Hope* , in the said County  
of *Westminster.* , being sworn, saith, *On the morning of*  
*Jan 12<sup>th</sup> last, I was driving on the Hope-Princeton Road and*  
*stopped at the scene of an accident, near a Speeder Gas*  
*shovel, I first saw the shovel runner, Haska. he was lying*  
*on the ground to one side, the deceased, Yoshio Takahashi,*  
*was also lying there in front of the shovel, there were three*  
*other men present, one known as Jimmie Nikamura was in*  
*the cab of the machine. We placed Takahashi in the front seat of my*  
*truck & took him to the first-aid man at 11 mile camp nearby. I asked*  
*the operator Haska, where he was hurt and he pointed at his ribs &*  
*upper body. We then took Takahashi to the Hospital at Tashme.*

*J. H. Richmond.*  
*Coroner.*

*R. L. Dennison*



Donald Ross. Sworn, saith. I am road foreman at eleven mile camp. The Gas Shovel involved in the accident was working under my orders. But I always left repairs and adjustments to the Shovel Runner. He is responsible for the condition of his machine. I do not understand it. He reported to me about 9-30 A.M. on the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst. that the shovel needed a little fixing. I did not ask what was wrong, and did not examine the machine at all.

J. D. Richmond  
D. Ross  
Coroner.

Albert-William Kaska. Sworn, saith. I am a Shovel Operator on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Jan. last. I was working with my Gas Shovel on the road just below 11 mile Camp. I am employed by the Dept. of Mines & Resources (Dominion) and have operated the same machine for the past 15 months. On the morning of the accident I had with me, Yoshio Takahashi, and Junius Nakamura, the latter has worked with me for 15 months on the shovel. The shovel was not working well on that morning and I installed a new brake band on the crowd drum. I had difficulty in doing it, as the pin was too small, when I got off the shovel and asked Nakamura to go up in the cab and hold his foot on the crowd brake whilst I tried to take up the slack in the band. I was putting in the pin & remember nothing more, until I came to, when I was lying on the ground. It would have been safer if I had rested the bucket on something solid. But I did not think it necessary. The bucket was locked in the air by the brake pedal. I do not know what caused release of the hoist-brake.

J. D. Richmond  
Coroner



the brake & latch were in good condition. The brakes are both operated by the feet: a pressure by the foot on the latch would release the brake, it could be done accidentally. My relationships with the men with me was good, we were friendly. This is the first accident of its kind that I have ever had happen on work

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G. H. Kaska.

J. H. Richmond.  
Coroner.

Masayoshi Nakamura, Sworn, faith:-  
of Eleven Mile Camp.

I am employed as helper to the Shovel Runner, Kaska, and have worked with him 15 months. I was present at the time of the accident on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January last. I understand the brakes on the Gas Shovel & was told by Kaska to go up into the cab & hold the crowd brake, so that he could take up slack in the brake drum. I did this for about 5 minutes. The hoist-brake was set when I went into the cab, and was holding the bucket in the air. If you step on the hoist-brake, that will release it. Kaska and Takahashi were working underneath the bucket and I could not plainly see them. I have held the brakes in a similar way several times. If the hoist-brake was released, it would cause the bucket to fall and swing on to men underneath. Whilst I was holding the brake, Kaska was trying to fit a pin into the band. I put both my feet on the crowd brake and think I must have touched the hoist-brake lever, causing the bucket to fall, the brake levers are about 2 inches apart and about 5 inches wide. I placed my feet one on top of the other. I saw Takahashi underneath bucket. I do not know much about running the shovel, but tried to move the bucket off Takahashi. I managed to move the bucket forward, I then jumped out of the cab and we picked up the injured men. I knew Takahashi for 2½ years, we were friends & we were both on good terms with Kaska.

M. Nakamura

J. H. Richmond  
Coroner.



[CORONER.]



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### Information of Witnesses.

CANADA:

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

County of *Westminster*

To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, touching the death of *Yoshio Takahashi* at *Tashme Hospital*, in the Province of *British Columbia* in the County of *Westminster*, on the *twelfth* day of *January*, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and *fifty five*, before me, *J. Herbert-Richmond*, 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 *Yoshio Takahashi*, then and there lying dead, as follows, to wit:

*William King Gwyer. Civil Engineer.*  
*of the Dept. of Mines & Resources. (Dominion)*  
*Hope-Princeton Road,*

of the *Westminster* of *Westminster*, in the said County, being sworn, saith, *on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Jan last* there was an accident - on the work, with a *Specker Gas Shovel*. One man was fatally injured, and the shovel operator was injured. I leave all repairs to the machine to the operators, in this case to *Keston*, who I would say is a first-class man one of the best. I have seen out of hundreds. I was away at the time of the accident - *but* since then, have, during my enquiries, formed the



opinion that the usual care was taken for safety purposes, but I am not prepared to state that this was an unavoidable accident.

W. H. Grier

J. H. Richmond.  
Coroner.

Joseph Frederick Haigh. sworn, saith. —

I am the head timekeeper & first-aid man at 11 mile Camp. The injured Takahashi was brought to me by Russell Dennison on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Jan last. The man had a deep gash on his head. I put on bandages and ordered him rushed to the Hospital at Tashima.

Joseph F. Haigh

J. H. Richmond  
Coroner





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## Information of Witnesses.

CANADA: }  
 PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. }  
 County of Westminister.

To Wit:

INFORMATIONS of witnesses severally taken and acknowledged on behalf of our Sovereign Lord the King, touching the death of **Yoshio Takahashi**,  
 at **Tashme Hospital**, in the Province of **British Columbia**,  
 in the County of **Westminister**, on the **Twelfth** day  
 of **January**, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and **forty four**  
 before me, **J. Herbert Richmond**, 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 **Yoshio Takahashi**, then and there lying dead, as  
 follows, to wit:

*Miles Frederick Foster.*  
*I am a Corporal, R. C. M.P. 1/c at Tashme Camp*  
 of the *Camp* of *Tashme*, in the said County

of **Westminister**, being sworn, saith,

*On the 12<sup>th</sup> of Jan last- I was present-  
 when the jury viewed a body, which I  
 indentified as the body of Yoshio Takahashi, dead,*

*M. F. Foster*  
*J. H. Richmond*  
*Coroner*