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A UNITED STATES - CANADIAN UNION.
FOR MUTUAL PACIFIC COAST DEFENCE

A FORTY YEAR REVIEW OF JAPANESE ACTIVITY ON
THE AMERICAN-CANADIAN PACIFIC COAST LINE... THE PROMISE
OF EARLY START ON ALASKA-CANADA HIGHWAY, LINKING ALASKA
WITH FORTY-EIGHT STATES BY A ROAD NINE TENTH OF WHICH
RUNNING THROUGH CANADIAN TERRITORY, IS IMPORTANT FOR MUTUAL
MILITARY DEFENCE BECAUSE JAPANESE FISHERMENS INVASION
OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN PACIFIC COAST WATERS INCREASES,
CALLING FOR CLOSER BONDS BETWEEN CANADA AND UNITED STATES
FOR MUTUAL DEFENCE.

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In opening this forty year review of Japanese activity
upon the Pacific coast, nothing can be more apropos than to
quote the recent words of the famous English editor, Wickham
Stead, in an English broadcast to the Empire, when he gave
this direct and emphatic warning:

"The sinister military nationalism of Japan may not con-

Portion of an old article
on Japanese situation
long before Canadian-American
alliance

fine its conquests to Asia."

Startling as this may sound to many people, the menace of such possibility is no new thing to a good many Americans and Canadians on the Pacific coast, where Japanese secret espionage has been going on since as far back as thirty years ago.

That Japanese naval officers in the guise of innocent fishermen have during that time been engaged in a most thorough mapping of every inch of the British Columbia coast, that amazing coastline for which there are twelve miles of intricately indented waters and shore for every straight mile of distance, has been repeatedly affirmed by Canadian seamen who have at times glimpsed Japanese fishermen for years engaged in activities which no simple fisherman had need to be. There is neither space nor necessity to here amplify this.

In making a trip recently along the British Columbia coast, the writer talked with one man who has been an engineer making regular voyages in these waters for forty years. What he related as having seen is only one of many statements corroborating the far-reaching plans of Japan. That Alaskan waters have been equally a matter of Japanese attention is also the opinion of many Americans.

The American coast from the State of Washington southward to Mexico is perhaps adequately defended, but Alaska is still vulnerable. Realising this, and the importance, if not dominance of aerial warfare in possible conflicts in the future, the United States in July, 1937, established an air base at Fairbanks, Alaska,

with a start^{to} of 100 fighting planes.

But Mr. Stead is not alone with alarming warnings. Mr. F.M. Black, a leading Canadian citizen, Chairman of the Mining Bureau of the Vancouver Board of Trade, after a visit to Japan, recently in an address to that body said:

"Japan — highly industrialized, aggressive and possessing a first-class army and navy — is working toward world domination and Canadians would do well to realise the risk they run as the Nipponese sun rides higher and higher into the international firmament."

On November 13th, 1936, addressing the Legislative Assembly at Victoria, Canada, D.W. Strachan, Liberal member for Dewdney, said briefly in effect:

"In another sixty years Japanese will rapidly approach in numbers the white population of British Columbia unless something is done to discourage Oriental settlement in this country."

1937,

On December 13th/ Alderman H.D. Wilson entered a resolution in the City Council, Vancouver, seeking to ban further entry of Japanese women into British Columbia. Alderman Wilson warned against "peaceful penetration of Japanese into British Columbia."

"Ald. Wilson asserted he is reliably informed that Japanese women come to B.C. with the unofficial understanding of their government that their race is to be increased in this province."

"In the opinion of this council," the resolution reads, "it is desirable that present immigration regulations whereby

100 female Japanese are permitted to enter Canada each year, should be modified, and that this council requests the Dominion Government to take some immediate action in the matter."

Tom Reid, M.P. for New Westminster, addressing a meeting of Native Sons of Canada on September 3rd, 1937, stated in part:

"It will be a very serious day for British Columbia if the Japanese residents here, now estimated at 34,000 get the vote. If they get the vote they will want to run for office, too. The Japanese will act as one unit, speaking either through their consul or their elected representative."

On January 21st, 1937, at Ottawa, the Government was so alarmed by movements of Japanese fishing vessels direct from Japan on the Canadian coast that Prime Minister Mackenzie King said in the House of Commons:

"The government is alive to the danger of fishermen other than those of Canada and the United States invading the halibut and salmon fisheries of the British Columbia coast."

Last year a ship from Japan, with facilities for canning fish on board, proceeded along the coast outside the three-mile limit and canned some 22,000 tins of salmon while en route to Seattle.

On April 14th, 1937, at Portland, Oregon:-

"B.M. Brennan, Washington state director of fisheries, described the Japanese invasion of American fishing waters as a major problem at a meeting of the

Oregon Fish Commission Tuesday.

"Our three-mile law is only as good as our army and navy," he said.

"From Senator Homer T. Bone of Washington he quoted this message: 'We are very alarmed here in Washington (D.C.) over the invasion of Japanese fishermen. The condition is most serious and could possibly precipitate a war.'"

Another ominous example of the Japanese invasion of American territorial rights was the

"MS. Taihoku Maru, 8253-ton floating reduction plant owned by the Shinko Fishery Company which successfully operated off the coast of Alaska at Bristol Bay this year, packed 3,300 cases of cod fish while engaged in the manufacture of fish meal, according to the last issue of the Japanese Canned Food Times, published in Tokio.

"The intention of Japan is to sell the canned cod fish in the United States, always till now considered the exclusive preserve of the U.S."

On March 16th, 1937,

"Tatsunji-Hara, director of the fisheries bureau of the ministry of agriculture, told questioners in the Japanese Diet that the government intends to encourage Japanese salmon fishermen in the 'public waters' off Alaska. Hara told members of the Lower House of Japan's Parliament Japanese fishermen would be encouraged to fish off Alaska 'in view of the promising nature of the fishing lots,' a Domei (government) news agency translation of the Lower House's minutes revealed.

"Alaskan fishermen protested to President Roosevelt, and British Columbia fishermen to Ottawa, asking that steps be taken to bar Japanese fishermen from operating outside the three-mile limit off the Pacific

Coast. They claim the salmon are spawned and cultured at great cost on Canadian and United States territory, and that the Japanese catch the fish after they leave the spawning grounds and return to the sea."

On October 28th, 1936, at Seattle

"Frank T. Bell, United States fisheries commissioner, home from Alaska, said Japanese fishermen working in sampans off six big floating canneries, caught salmon outside the three-mile limit in Bristol Bay this summer, and their unregulated operations threaten extinction of Alaska salmon.

"Bell said Japanese cannery ships of up to 15,000 tons, the largest carrying a crew of 600, took salmon in the open sea, although ostensibly fishing for crabs.

"Under the present rigid control, the salmon run would continue indefinitely," Bell said. "There is a \$10,000,000 a year industry in Bristol Bay, supporting 10,000 employees at about twenty canneries.

"Nobody knows how much salmon fishing the Japanese did. But they had the opportunity of studying the "channels" down which the salmon run, and some mother ships, from which fishing sampans worked, kept lookouts on the masts. Salmon jump when running, and it is easy to locate the sections where the run is toward the coast.

"If Japanese fishing reaches the proportions it could, all the regulations and restrictions which the United States has imposed would be for naught."

On June 8th, 1937, at Anchorage Alaska, Edward Coffee, member of the Alaska Legislature, stated:

"Japanese fishermen are destroying the Bristol Bay red salmon. If the Japanese are allowed to fish in Alaska waters for five years the salmon will be a thing of the past. Twenty-five big Japanese boats and many small ones are fishing inland waters."

These are only a few quotations from speeches of warning regarding the Japanese invasion of the Pacific coast fishing areas uttered by prominent men in both countries; and it must be remembered this refers to waters ⁱⁿ which both the Canadian and American Governments are spending large sums for conservation of fish. And it is often only a short step from "peaceful" invasion to war.

Even though Canada has spent in the past three years one hundred and thirty million dollars in defense armament, her enormous Pacific coastline, where there are ~~ten~~ miles of shoreline for every straight mile of distance, is still inadequately protected. A hostile enemy fleet simultaneously attacking her three ports of Vancouver, Victoria, Prince Rupert might lay waste these important terminals and cut off rail connections with the rest of the continent.

In the old days, American and Canadians all ~~knew~~ this could not possibly happen, because of the British navy. But the time has come when all North Americans realize that this assumption no longer holds good. We are now faced with a situation in international relations so colossal, that each Dominion of the British Commonwealth must look to itself. This is only as it should be; and Canadians are only too willing to face the new situation. Indeed, they are in a much better position to do this, than even Australia and New Zealand; for they have along 3,000 miles of unfortified boundary a neighboring people who are practically the same blood, for in the United States today there are 20,000,000 people of Canadian ancestry. So a mutual defense pact between the United States and Canada is the most natural thing in the world; because, not only is there a blood bond, but one of mutual interest in defending the Pacific coast.

~~introduction~~

To-day it is accepted among chiefs of staff and scientists that a future war will be one of surprise attack. Made swiftly, without declaration on a nation unprepared, or unsuspecting, that nation will be a ruin, a shambles, and a prisoner in face of such unethical procedure.

And nations with a thirst for conquest or revenge have seldom cared much about the refinements of procedure; and leave a regard for ethics to the beaten foe.

To this again the Canadian of complacent mood will and does reply: "But there is no one to attack our Pacific coast, except the Japanese." ~~#####~~

The possibility of a European nation's warships doing so does seem infinitely remote. Yet in the Great War, German warships were on the Pacific coast. They might easily have laid low our seaports, at the time particularly valuable as ship-building centres. And to-day Japan and Germany are allies!

As for Japan attacking Canada: that possibility, we like to think, is very remote. Will Japan ever attack our friendly neighbor, the United States? The revelations made in California in July, 1937, of a Japanese spy plot against the United States navy is a disturbing thought, coupled with the inexcusable bombing of American ships. in China.

As for Japan's feelings towards the United States and Canada, let us examine a little history. In 1894, Japan trumped up a successful war against China, but was robbed of the fruits

of victory by Germany and Russian interfering to share the spoils. In 1902 Japan made a treaty with Great Britain. Out of this miserable affair was foisted upon Canada acceptance of Japanese entry into Canada in far too large numbers. This Anglo-Japanese alliance was an agreement to help each other if either were attacked in the Orient, which treaty Japan was almost breaking for a time in 1914-16 when it looked like Germany was going to win. Japan's seizure of Manchuria; the Shanghai attack of 1932; Japan's turning from the League of Nations; her withdrawal from the London Naval Treaty; the astonishing murderous outbreaks at the end of February, 1936, showing the power of the militarists; these factors, coupled with her underselling all other nations of the world in their long-established markets, and right in their own countries, made a problem troubling the diplomats of the world long before there developed the present undeclared war on China, the flouting of the Nine-Power Treaty, and lastly, and most dreadful, the wanton, deliberate destruction of the lives of Americans and English people, and shipping of the United States and Great Britain. There are some other things that here may well be recalled, things either unknown or entirely forgotten by the public at large, things particularly pertinent to the people of the United States and Canada. There is the old matter of "unequal treaties" which the Western Powers forced upon Japan at the middle of the last century. The struggle of the Japanese people, particularly between 1880-1895, before Japan was able to rid herself of the bonds forced upon her by extra-territoriality and foreign control of tariff schedules, were bitter ones. The memory still burns in the hearts of the older generation. The American barrier to Japanese immigration, and the recent treatment of a few Japanese settlers

perhaps
might remember
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in the Western States, even Canada's gutless limitation of Japanese entry, which is an empty one, all these things have tended to hurt the perhaps hypersensitive Japanese national feeling. Though, it should be noted, no Canadian or American is granted any such privileges in Japan, that Japanese citizens are granted in the United States and Canada, particularly Canada, where they have full rights of citizenship, except the vote, for which Japanese born in Canada are now clamoring. While the "unequal treaties", etc. are ancient history, and the immigration barriers raised by the United States and Canada, are the right of every nation, all these things are fine material for propaganda. The unthinking mass of Japan might easily, by skilful playing upon an ordinarily high national pride, be led to what now seems unthinkable ~~at~~ an attack upon the Pacific coast of North America, that so tremendously rich terrain valuable to the overcrowded Japanese nation. And if such a thing did come to pass, is a strong nation going to consider the feelings of a defenseless Canada whose territory on the Pacific coast might be at least temporarily useful? And if such an attack does come, the almost certain way will be by the easy air route from Japan to the Aleutian Islands, thence either to Alaska (depending on the strength of the defenses there), or the undefended coast of British Columbia as a temporary operating base. So the answer of any objecting Canadian: "that Japan's attack upon the United States is not a matter concerning Canada", is replied to.

But there are a great many residents of Canada, in British