

No. 67-25(7) - Vancouver Centre - Japanese  
in British Columbia (1946-48)

-25(7) Was in Vol. 24

C O P Y

Confidential

Commissioner of Japanese Placement,  
Department of Labour,  
360 Homer Street,  
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Forwarded for your information

Edmonton  
December 2nd, 1947

(C. BATCH) Insp.  
i/c "K" Division C.I.B.

Confidential

The Officer Commanding,  
"E" Division, R.C.M.P.,  
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Forwarded for your information. Copies to  
the Commissioner.

Edmonton  
December 2nd, 1947

(C. BATCH) Insp.  
i/c "K" Division C.I.B.

Confidential

The Commissioner, R.C.M.P., OTTAWA.

Forwarded for your information.

Edmonton  
December 2nd, 1947

(C. BATCH) Insp.  
i/c "K" Division C.I.B.



C O P Y

CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

|          |                                  |
|----------|----------------------------------|
|          | Division File No. .K.945-67..... |
|          | Sub-Division Detachment          |
|          | Lethbridge Special Section       |
| Province | Alberta Date 22-11-47            |

CONDITIONS AMONG JAPANESE - ALBERTA

CONFIDENTIAL

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Headquarters    | 1. Further to the above, conditions generally remained normal among the Japanese evacuees in Southern Alberta during the past month.  |
| D 915-1-H-4 (5) | 2. With the completion of the beet harvest the Youth Council members became very active trying to set up a Provincial chapter of The Japanese Canadians Citizens' Association, however they have met with strong opposition from the Japanese Main Committee which is composed of Japanese Nationals. The Nationals apparently realize that they would have no control in the local affairs of Japanese as one stipulation in the new Citizens' Association is that they must be naturalized to be an official. The issue between the Japanese Main Committee and the Youth Council over the use of A.G. Virtue as legal counsel for the Japanese property claims has resulted in a stalemate. The Main Committee have decided to continue with Virtue and the Youth Council will support the legal committee composed of E. W. Huckvale and L. S. Turcotte. There has been a flurry of activity among the Japanese to get their claims filed and at present it appears that the Japanese are equally divided in supporting these two legal firms. It is very doubtful if a Provincial chapter of The Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association will be formed in Alberta for some time due to the opposition of the Nationalist element. |
| Sub-Division    |   |
| LS 601-1        |   |
| Detachment      |   |
| 497-2           |   |
| P.C.R.          |   |
| Lethbridge      |   |
| 20-7-41         |   |
| to              |   |
| 23-10-47        |   |
| A.R.V. No.      |   |
| Diary Date      | 3. This year the Japanese evacuees handled approximately 55% of the sugar beets raised in Alberta and it has proved a very prosperous year for them. There are very few who will be on relief this year with the exception of a few elderly persons and the odd family who expected repatriation and did not take on beet contracts. In the meantime approximately 200  |
| Set For -----   |   |



Japanese have now left for bush work and it is likely that by Christmas there will be well over 250 Japanese taking this type of work.

4. It is anticipated that before Spring between 150 and 200 Japanese will move to Eastern Canada from Alberta. Since completion of the harvest 26 have left and likely an additional 50 will leave before Christmas. Although exact figures are not at present available, it is estimated there are still roughly 3,100 evacuee Japanese in the Province, and although the main Japanese Committee claims that only 3% desire to move to British Columbia, usually well informed Japanese now state that from 15 to 20% still plan on return to British Columbia despite the fact that they will not find a sympathetic attitude there. They expect the lifting of all controls as to movement by next Spring and there is much talk amongst them as to moving into various points in B.C. by one or two families at a time so as not to have any noticeable settlement of Japanese at any one point.

5. Some Japanese youths have recently visited Vancouver and on their return have advised the local Japanese that Japanese are still very unfavourably regarded and jobs are scarce. It seems likely that a large majority of the Alberta evacuees intend to remain in this Province, at least for some time, particularly the large families who are doing well in the beet fields and many are doing well in vegetable growing activities and they will be content to remain and see how the others fare in moves to B.C.

6. Several Japanese families have now moved into the City of Lethbridge, some have bought homes and others are building new ones but as yet there has been no large movement into the City. The ones already moving in are mainly carpenters and such families as the Japanese doctor and the United Church Minister.

7. There has been no noticeable animosity towards the Japanese for some time in this area except that one or two prominent Mormon leaders have intimated that they still prefer to bring in European



- 3 -

labor to that of keeping Japanese. The reason appears to be that some Mormons desire no large settlement of Japanese in what are regarded as Mormon communities.

STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION (Sgd.) J.S. Connors Corpl.  
(J.S. Connors) #12625.

O.C. "K" Division,  
R.C.M.P., EDMONTON.

Forwarded for your information and that of the Department. The Youth Council and the Japanese Main Committee are still at loggerheads and it would appear that the services of A.G. Virtue will be continued as legal counsellor by the Main Council in pressing their claims in so far as Japanese property is concerned, while the Youth Council will retain as their counsellor W.E. Huckvale and L.S. Turcotte.

Small movement of Japanese has taken place to Eastern Canada in recent months and the local Japanese believe that all restrictions as to their movements will be removed next spring when it is thought likely that some 15 percent of the remaining Japanese which is believed to be 3,100 will return to British Columbia.

The attitude of some of the prominent Mormon leaders as stated in Paragraph 7 will, no doubt, be of interest to you.

STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION.

Leth. 25-11-47  
/C

(H.A. Maxted) Inspr.  
Commanding Leth. S/Divn.



N. 67-25(7)

В. 1. 2. 1

N. 67-25(7) - Воронежская обл. - Т. 1. 2. 1  
В. 1. 2. 1



Slovan City, B.C.,  
June 28, 1946.

To the Rt. Hon. W.L. McKenzie King,  
Prime Minister of Canada,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Honourable Sir:

We attach herewith a copy of a  
petition to the Government of Canada,  
submitted by the Japanese Veterans of the  
World War I who have been under the protection  
of the Dept. of Labour since the beginning  
of War II.

We have not been advised yet of the  
decision of the government regarding the  
matter in our petition. We pray for your  
immediate and kindest consideration.

Respectfully yours,

On behalf of the Japanese Veterans of  
World War I.  
(Sgd.) George Shoji.



P E T I T I O N

To:

To Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,  
The Minister of Labour,  
Ottawa, Canada.

From:

The Japanese Veterans of World War I.

Whereas: At the outbreak of hostilities with Japan, the Canadian Government deemed it necessary to evacuate all people of Japanese Origin from the Protected Area of the Pacific Coast, all Japanese Veterans were evacuated regardless of the fact that we held the full fledged rights of Canadian citizenship.

Whereas: The above has resulted in the temporary cancellation of our rights and claims of Canadian citizenship; yet have the utmost regard for and faith in the Canadian administration and the democratic principles for which we stand, and for which we so willingly offered our lives; we left all our material holdings of twenty-five years of sweat and toil in the hands of the Government Canadian and the Soldiers' Settlement Board, trusting that our interests will be rightfully protected.

Yet be it known:

1. That those properties and chattels have been willfully sold at half their actual value with neither consultation with nor the consent of the rightful Veterans owners.
2. That we have sustained untold financial losses in being uprooted from homestead built and secured over a period of twenty-five years.
3. That we, who so willingly gave our lives to Canada, for the cause of freedom are now regarded in the interior housing projects, receiving treatment as enemy aliens.
4. That all grants applicable to Veterans have been cancelled.

Yet these Veterans, feeling that Canada and her administration was so pressed by the call to arms that she had no alternative but to neglect the matters of her Japanese Veterans, with the fixed faith that the Government will rectify the injustices. Now that the war in Europe has been brought to a victorious conclusion and the matters of Japanese categorical segregation has been finished; we feel that the time has come when the Administration can and will give our cause due consideration and a Christian treatment.



13. Internees  
Japanese national internees are subject to deportation without having requested repatriation.  
The following is the present status of internees:

JAPANESE NATIONALS

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Signed for repatriation.....       | 10  |
| Wouldn't sign but want to go ..... | 61  |
| Undecided .....                    | 49  |
| Want to remain in Canada .....     | 26  |
|                                    | 146 |

NATURALIZED CANADIANS

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Signed for repatriation .....      | 14 |
| Wouldn't sign but want to go ..... | 16 |
| Undecided .....                    | 0  |
| Want to remain in Canada .....     | 10 |
|                                    | 40 |

CANADIAN BORN JAPANESE

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Signed for repatriation .....      | 123 (a number of these have revoked recently) |
| Wouldn't sign but want to go ..... | 28  |
| Undecided .....                    | 0   |
| Want to remain in Canada .....     | 51  |
|                                    | 202   |

In the case of Naturalized Canadian Internees and Canadian born Internees who have applied to be repatriated, the repatriation of such persons and their families will be subject to the same provisions as apply to persons having a similar status and who are not presently interned. Persons in these groups who are not to be repatriated will be released as quickly as placement can be found for them.

In the case of Japanese Nationals, a deportation order will be issued covering those who have signed for repatriation and those who, although not having signed, have signified their intention of going. This is, however, subject to the provision that if the wife has not signed neither will be sent.

A decision has to be made as to whether the remaining Japanese Nationals who want to remain in Canada or are undecided should be deported under the same conditions as apply to those who have requested repatriation or whether in the alternative, these should be permitted to stay in Canada or go to Japan as they may elect. It is suggested that the persons who are undecided should not be sent.



2. Man and wife - both born in Japan. One having become a Naturalized British subject and both having requested repatriation. If the one who is a Naturalized British subject applied prior to midnight the first day of September, 1945, for revocation neither will be included in a Deportation Order (in order to avoid compulsory division of a family) unless a new election to go to Japan is assumed that the parents will take their children with them. If they refuse to do so no assistance to go to Japan will be given to a man and wife without the children.
3. Man and wife - both born in Japan and both Naturalized British subjects - both having requested repatriation. If either applied for revocation prior to September 2, 1945, neither will be included in the Deportation Order unless upon a new election both decide to go. If neither person has applied to revoke prior to September 2, 1945, both will be included in the Deportation Order.
4. Rules 1, 2 and 3 are for cases where both have requested repatriation. In such limited number of cases (and there are very few) where the husband alone has been repatriated and is deportable and the wife has not repatriated (i.e. has not that applied for repatriation nor made a statement verbally or written, of which there is a record, stating she does not wish to be repatriated) - neither will be sent if the wife is not prepared to go.
5. Man and wife - the husband having requested repatriation and the wife having signified her desire not to be repatriated. If the wife is not prepared to go, neither will be sent.
6. Man and wife - one born in Japan and one born in Canada - both having applied for repatriation. If the Canadian born applies for revocation, neither will be sent.
7. Where the husband goes to Japan and the wife stays in Canada, the children remain with the wife if they have been in the home with her unless the parties otherwise agree.
8. In the case of single Japanese born in Japan and not Naturalized, men or women, who have applied for repatriation, an order for deportation will be made and deportation proceeded with.
9. In the case of a single man or woman born in Japan who is a Naturalized British subject, an order for deportation will be made and such person will be deported if such person has requested repatriation and has not revoked prior to September 2, 1945.
10. If the domestic relationship of the man and wife has already been broken up, each will be dealt with as in the case of a single individual.
11. No Japanese person, irrespective of national status, who fought for Canada in the last war, will be sent from Canada on other than a voluntary basis.
12. Forced deportation will not be undertaken in the immediate future in the family groups sent of Canadians who signed for repatriation but have since revoked. Voluntary repatriation from Eastern Canada may be proceeded with, however, at any time.



CABINET:  
RE JAPANESE DEPORTATION POLICY

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET:

RE JAPANESE DEPORTATION POLICY

In order to complete deportation orders covering Japanese  
1. who are to be sent to Japan under P.C. 7385, it is necessary to  
settle at this time the general principles which will be followed  
in the matter of deporting where the following rules, due considera-  
tion has been given to the decisions of the majority of the Judges  
of the Supreme Court of Canada.

2385 outlines the classes of persons who may be  
deported on deportation orders is discretionary and  
particularly of persons who are "undesirable". It is  
suggested that the following classes of persons should be

P.C. 9355 outlines the classes of persons who may be deported but the issue of deportation orders is discretionary and discretion must be exercised in a reasonable and sensible manner. It is contended that the policy in this respect should be cleared through the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Repatriation.

11. The majority decision of the Supreme Court on the reference as to the validity of the orders relating to the 2355 which says that the wives and children of persons who are deportable may be deported as well as the persons. This

[illegible][illegible]



Therefore: The Japanese Veterans Petition the Canadian Government to rectify the following injustices immediately, and advise us to the policy and procedure to be taken on the matter.

1. That all right-hand privileges of full fledged Canadian citizenship be returned on an exacting par with all veterans of World War I.
2. That all privileges, grants and pensions applicable to Veterans be restored to the Japanese Veterans of World War I.
3. That an immediate appraisal of all material and occupational losses sustained by the Veterans and occupational losses be made, and on account of the same evacuation be made, and the exact amount be restored to them.
4. That the Canadian Government give the Japanese Veterans the right to permanent settlement in any part of the country of Canada.
5. That adequate material and financial aid be given in the re-establishment of these Veterans into the occupation for which they are best suited, in view of the fact that their present administration is a direct result of the wartime administration policies of the Government, and that they would never have been subjected to such injustices.
6. That the members of their families who are now separated throughout Canada be permitted to return and join the family wherever such families should settle to a permanent homestead.
7. That the Government of Canada give the above matter their immediate consideration and advise us as to the formulated policy in giving the matter a rightful treatment.

Of the 280 Japanese Canadian soldiers of the last great war, there were only 34 men left. To these few men, the above matter and its treatment is of the gravest importance. Moreover, in the annals of Canadian history, the treatment of these veterans will remain a shining banner. Therefore, your Honour, we pray that the Canadian Government will give our cause its kindest and rightful consideration.

Dated this 24th day of June, 1945.  
In Slocan City, B.C.

On behalf of the Japanese  
Veterans remaining in Canada.



C O P Y

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE  
Headquarters

Our File No. D.915-1-H.4 (6)      Ottawa, December.10..1947...  
Your File No. ....

Attention: Japanese Division

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Referred by direction of the Commissioner,  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Ottawa. Forwarded for  
your information.

TO: The Deputy Minister,  
Department of Labour,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.

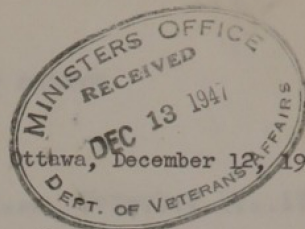
Encl.

Officer i/c Special Branch.



27

DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOUR



Submitted for your information.

*A MacNamara*

Deputy Minister of Labour.

TO: The Deputy Minister,  
Department of Labour,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Encl.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

Confidential

The Commissioner, C.I.B., OTTAWA.

Forwarded for your information.

Ottawa  
December 2nd, 1947

(C. BATH) Insp.  
1/c 7th Division C.I.B.