

Thorold, Ontario,
October 3rd., 1953.

Mr. Edward T. Applewhaite, M.P.,
P.O. Box 1475, Postal Station B,
Prince Rupert, B.C.

Dear Sir:

Following a conversation with Dr. W.R. McMillan, our M.P. for Welland West riding in Ontario, Dr. McMillan has advised me to write to you concerning the following.

Mr. E. Kagetsu, who was a timber operator in British Columbia and suffered heavy losses due to war evacuation, has asked me to make some efforts on his behalf.

I was greatly surprised when he informed me recently that no final settlement has yet been made for his claimed losses. Much legal work has been done and various meetings of the interested parties have been held, but there remains a wide gap between the sum claimed and that offered by the custodians.

Dr. McMillan, M.P. has informed me that as a B.C. Member you would know more about the problem than any member from the South Ontario region.

I have known the Kagetsu family, and some of their family connections, for over 16 years, and have no hesitation in saying that their record for loyalty, industry, scholastic and cultural attainment is of a high order.

Mr. E. Kagetsu is now residing at 8 Mountview Avenue, Toronto, and his lawyers have advised him to make a partial political approach for settlement of his claims. A just and reasonable compromise in settlement of Mr. E. Kagetsu's claim is what any Canadian citizen would hope for, and for that reason I have accepted our Welland West member's advice and put the above-mentioned claim before you with the hope that you could give the matter some attention.

Perhaps you could advise Mr. E. Kagetsu by mail at his 8 Mountview Avenue, Toronto address as to any suggestions you might have concerning any steps he should make to bring about

a final settlement.

Mr. E. Kagetsu has suggested a meeting in Ottawa when Parliament assembles in November with a few members and others who would be willing to talk over the matter, and suggest some line of action.

To speed up matters, a copy of any correspondence forwarded to the 8 Mountview Avenue, Toronto, could be sent in the enclosed stamped envelope to my address, Box 251, Thorold, Ontario.

Yours truly,

Geo Griffith



House of Commons
Canada

213 Elizabeth Apts.,

Prince Rupert, B.C.

Oct. 8, 1953.

Geo. E. Griffiths, Esq.,

Box 251, Thorold, Ont.

Dear Mr. Griffiths:-

RE MR. E. KAGETSU.

With the greatest possible desire to be of help, I regret that there is so little data and specific information in your letter of October 3rd, that I couldn't even express an opinion without getting a lot more information. I leave here in a week's time, so could not get it here.

I would suggest therefor that Mr. Kagetsu give the full story with details (specifically) to Dr. McMillan, if he, Kagetsu, is in Welland county still. I note your reference to a Toronto address. If Kagetsu is in Toronto, perhaps he might like, to take this letter to Col. David Croll, M.P., at 2222 44 King St. West (one of our best members) and give him full data. Col. Croll and I could then go over the matter together when I get to Ottawa.

Yours faithfully,

(Edward T. Applewhaite)

ETA

FM 4-4288
OK 9623

CNT 6196-E

3



CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

TELEPHONE NO.	FROM WHOM DUE	PLACE TO/FROM	BILL NO.	DATE	AMOUNT
MU 5023	EIKICHI KAGETSU 8 MOUNTVIEW AVE	OTTAWA	24716	FEB 23	1.76

ACCOUNT FOR MESSAGE FILED BY TELEPHONE FOR TRANSMISSION AS ABOVE INDICATED

RECEIVED PAYMENT

DATE

19

FOR CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

Mary 54 Lee

February 23, 1954

Mr. David Croll, M.P.
House of Commons
Ottawa, Canada.

Request your attending February 26 cocktail party Royal York
as special guest. Press attending to discuss timely subject
fairer retribution for evacuation losses. Please wire
reply collect. T. Umezaki Y. Iwasaki I Uchida K Hidaka
Z. Shin T Kadonaga T Mineoka S Ozawa I Sumi

Eikichi Agetsu
8 Mountview Toronto.



House of Commons
Canada

O T T A W A,
February 23,
1 9 5 4.

Mr. Eikichi Kagetsu,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Your wire reached me today.
I appreciate very much the invitation.

I am Chairman of the Banking
and Commerce Committee which is scheduled to sit
on Friday to hear the Mayors of Canadian Municipalities.
Consequently, I cannot be with you.

Please explain to the other
signatories of the wire the reason for my failure
to be present.

I shall be very happy, indeed,
at some time in the future to meet a small delegation
if you feel that that is in your interest.

Sincerely yours,

David Croll

13	Abbott, Hon. D. C.	L.	136a	Fraser, Alan M.	L.	196	McWilliam, G. R.	L.
173	Adamson, A. Rodney	P.C.	171	Fraser, Gordon K.	P.C.	247	Meunier, J.-A.	L.
233	Aitken, Miss M.	P.C.	179	Fulton, E. D.	P.C.	54	Michaud, H.-J.	L.
128	Anderson, R. E.	L.	161	Gagnon, P.-E.	Ind.	235	Michener, R.	P.C.
29	Applewhaite, E. T.	L.	10	Gardiner, Hon. J. G.	L.	135	Mitchell, D. Rodger	L.
182	Argue, Hazen R.	C.C.F.	130	Garland, J. R.	L.	259	Mitchell, R. W.	P.C.
73	Arsenault, B.	L.	8	Garson, Hon. S. S.	L.	192	Monette, M.	L.
57	Ashbourne, T. G. W.	L.	78	Gauthier, André	L.	260	Monteith, J. W.	P.C.
			142	Gauthier, J.-L.	L.	230	Montgomery, G. W.	P.C.
			66	Gauthier, Pierre	L.	109	Murphy, H. J.	L.
143	Balcer, L.	P.C.	155	Gillis, C.	C.C.F.	202	Murphy, J. W.	P.C.
124	Balcom, S. R.	L.	50	Gingras, E.-O.	L.			
242	Barnett, T.	C.C.F.	59	Gingues, M.	L.	261	Nesbitt, W. B.	P.C.
132	Batten, H. M.	L.	189	Girard, F.	Ind.	237	Nicholson, A. M.	C.C.F.
27	Beaudoin, Hon. L. R.	L.	49	Goode, T.	L.	229	Nickle, Carl O.	P.C.
99	Beaudry, R.	L.	46	Gour, J.-O.	L.	71	Nixon, G. E.	L.
255	Bell, Thomas M.	P.C.	47	Gourd, D.	L.	156	Noseworthy, J. W.	C.C.F.
69	Benidickson, W. M.	L.-Lab.	146	Green, H. C.	P.C.	178	Nowlan, George C.	P.C.
96	Bennett, C. E.	L.	7	Gregg, Hon. M. F.	L.			
234	Bennett, Miss S.	P.C.				215	Patterson, A. B.	S.C.
31	Bertrand, L.	L.	108	Habel, Joseph-A.	L.	151	Pearkes, G. R.	P.C.
159	Blackmore, J. H.	S.C.	188	Hahn, F. G. J.	S.C.	15	Pearson, Hon. L. B.	L.
180	Blair, W. G.	P.C.	257	Hamilton, W. M.	P.C.	262	Perron, R.	P.C.
70	Blanchette, J.-A.	L.	136b	Hanna, R. F. L.	L.	131	Philpott, E.	L.
102	Boisvert, M.	L.	158	Hansell, E. G.	S.C.	32	Picard, L.-P.	L.
21	Boivin, M.	L.	82	Hardie, M. A.	L.	44	Pickersgill, Hon. J. W.	L.
33	Bonnier, J.-A.	L.	203	Harkness, D. S.	P.C.	97	Pinard, R.	L.
251	Boucher, J.-G.	L.	40	Harris, Hon. W. E.	L.	220	Pommer, W. A.	L.
225	Boucher, Jean	L.	22	Harrison, J. H.	L.	162	Poulin, R.	Ind.
94	Bourget, M.	L.	72	Healy, T. P.	L.	18	Pouliot, J.-F.	L.
52	Bourque, R.	L.	200	Hees, George H.	P.C.	1	Power, Hon. C. G.	L.
129	Breton, M.	L.	23	Hellyer, Paul T.	L.	221	Power, J. A.	L.
103	Brisson, L.	L.	167	Henderson, W. J.	L.	101	Proudfoot, J. H.	L.
150	Brooks, A. J.	P.C.	126	Henry, Charles	L.	37	Prudham, Hon. G.	L.
140	Brown, D.	L.	210	Herridge, H. W.	C.C.F.	60	Purdy, G. T.	L.
83	Brown, J. E.	L.	201	Hodgson, C. W.	P.C.			
105	Bruneau, R.	L.	133	Hollingworth, A. H.	L.	185	Quelch, V.	S.C.
268	Bryson, H. A.	C.C.F.	244	Holowach, A.	S.C.			
53	Buchanan, W. M.	L.	165	Hosking, H. A.	L.	118	Ratelle, J.-G.	L.
104	Byrne, J. A.	L.	134	Houck, Wm. L.	L.	269	Regier, E.	C.C.F.
			12	Howe, Rt. Hon. C. D.	L.	84	Reinke, R. E.	L.
127	Cameron, A. J. P.	L.	258	Howe, W. M.	P.C.	123	Richard, J. A.	L.
267	Cameron, Colin	C.C.F.	170	Huffman, E. B.	L.	61	Richard, J.-T.	L.
212	Campbell, A. M.	C.C.F.	137	Hunter, J. W. G.	L.	56	Roberge, L. E.	L.
43	Campney, Hon. R. O.	L.				92	Robertson, F. G.	L.
100	Cannon, C.-A.-D.	L.	166	James, J. M.	L.	252	Robichaud, H.-J.	L.
172	Cardiff, L. E.	P.C.	241	Johnson, W. M.	C.C.F.	232	Robinson, A. E.	P.C.
79	Cardin, L.-J.-L.	L.	213	Johnston, C. E.	S.C.	28	Robinson, W. A.	L.
113	Caron, Alexis	L.	211	Jones, O. L.	C.C.F.	24	Rocheport, J.-I.	L.
87	Carter, C. W.	L.	62	Jutras, R.-N.	L.	45	Ross, T. H.	L.
175	Casselman, A. C.	P.C.				226	Rouleau, G.	L.
238	Castleden, G. H.	C.C.F.	163	Kickham, T. J.	L.	148	Rowe, Hon. W. E.	P.C.
117	Cauchon, Robert	L.	34	Kirk, J. R.	L.	249	Roy, Gustave	L.
138	Cavers, H. P.	L.	98	Kirk, T. A. M.	L.			
204	Charlton, J. A.	P.C.	209	Knight, R.	C.C.F.	11	St. Laurent, Rt. Hon. L. S.	L.
9	Chevrier, Hon. L.	L.	181	Knowles, S. H.	C.C.F.	55	Schneider, N. C.	L.
207	Churchill, G.	P.C.				186	Shaw, F. D.	S.C.
5	Clark, S. M.	L.	20	LaCroix, W.	L.	91	Shipley, Mrs. M. A.	L.
14	Claxton, Hon. B.	L.	89	Lafontaine, J.	L.	197	Simmons, J. A.	L.
2	Cloutier, A.	L.	86	Langlois, J.	L.	36	Sinclair, Hon. J.	L.
153	Coldwell, M. J.	C.C.F.	93	Langlois, J.-G.-L.	L.	263	Small, R. H.	P.C.
76	Conacher, L.	L.	42	Lapointe, Hon. H.	L.	122	Smith, J. E.	L.
17	Côté, Hon. Alcide	L.	216	Leboe, Bert R.	S.C.	264	Stanton, H.	P.C.
85	Crestohl, L. D.	L.	51	Leduc, Edgar	L.	231	Starr, Michael	P.C.
65	Croll, David	L.	115	Lefrançois, J.-E.	L.	183	Stewart, A. M.	C.C.F.
			250	Légaré, G.	L.	198	Stick, L. T.	L.
4	Dechêne, J.-M.	L.	177	Lennard, F. E.	P.C.	141	Stuart, A. W.	L.
168	Decore, John	L.	35	Lesage, Hon. Jean	L.	193	Studer, I. W.	L.
121	Demers, L.	L.	157	Low, Solon E.	S.C.			
19	Denis, A.	L.	224	Lusby, A. R.	L.	184	Thatcher, W. R.	C.C.F.
248	Deschatelets, J.-P.	L.				191	Thibault, L.	L.
114	Deslières, J.-L.	L.	144	Macdonnell, J. M.	P.C.	160	Thomas, R.	S.C.
95	Dickey, John H.	L.	169	MacDougall, J. L.	L.	236	Trainor, O. C.	P.C.
149	Diefenbaker, J. G.	P.C.	80	MacEachen, A. J.	L.	75	Tucker, W. A.	L.
228	Dinsdale, W. G.	P.C.	154	MacInnis, Angus	C.C.F.	174	Tustin, G. J.	P.C.
147	Drew, Hon. Geo. A.	P.C.	30	MacKenzie, H. A.	L.			
256	Dufresne, J.-W.	P.C.	208	MacLean, J. Angus	P.C.	119	Valois, P.	L.
48	Dumas, A.	L.	64	MacNaught, J. W.	L.	88	Viau, F.	L.
106	Dupuis, H.	L.	125	Macnaughton, A.	L.	110	Villeneuve, G.	L.
			164	Maltais, A.	L.	223	Vincent, A.	L.
266	Ellis, A. Claude	C.C.F.	81	Mang, H. P.	L.			
25	Enfield, Frank A.	L.	16	Martin, Hon. Paul	L.	195	Weaver, G. D.	L.
90	Eudes, R.	L.	107	Massé, A.	L.	39	Weir, W. G.	L.
77	Eyre, K. A.	L.	26	Matheson, N. A.	L.	219	Weselak, A. B.	L.
			41	McCann, Hon. J. J.	L.	111	White, A. W. A.	L.
214	Fair, R.	S.C.	67	McCubbin, R.	L.	199	White, G. S.	P.C.
176	Fairclough, Mrs. Ellen	P.C.	3	McCulloch, H. B.	L.	205	White, H. O.	P.C.
136	Fairey, F. T.	L.	240	McCulloch, E. G.	C.C.F.	265	Winch, H. E.	C.C.F.
206	Ferguson, J. H.	P.C.	58	McDonald, W. K.	L.	38	Winters, Hon. R. H.	L.
145	Fleming, D. M.	P.C.	152	McGregor, R. H.	P.C.	194	Wood, R. J.	L.
139	Follwell, Frank S.	L.	68	McIlraith, G. J.	L.	187	Wylie, W. D.	S.C.
74	Fontaine, J.	L.	6	McIvor, D.	L.			
112	Forgie, J. M.	L.	243	McLeod, G. W.	S.C.	271	Yuill, C.	S.C.
			120	McMillan, W. H.	L.	239	Zaplitny, F.	C.C.F.

NOTE L.=Liberal; P.C.=Progressive Conservative; C.C.F.=Co-operative Commonwealth Federation;
S.C.=Social Credit; Ind.=Independent; L.-Lab.=Liberal-Labour.

22nd PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

22^e PARLEMENT, 1^{re} SESSION

111 White (Waterloo South)	83 Brown (Branford)	55 Schneider (Waterloo North)	27 Beaudoin (Mr. Speaker)
112 Forgie (Renfrew North)	84 Reinke (Hamilton South)	56 Roberge (Stanstead)	28 Robinson (Mr. Deputy Speaker)

Mr. Speaker

M. l'Orateur

163 Kickham (Kings)	191 Thibault (Matapédia-Matane)	219 Weslak (Springfield)	247 Meunier (Papineau)
164 Maltais (Charlevoix)	192 Monette (Mercier)	220 Pommer (Lisgar)	248 Deschatelets (Maisonnette-Rosemont)

113 Caron (Hull)	85 Crestohl (Cartier)	57 Ashbourne (Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador)	29 Applewhaithe (Skeena)	1 Power (Québec South)
114 Deslères (Brome-Missisquoi)	86 Langlois (Berthier-Maskinongé-Delanaudière)	58 McDonald (Parry Sound-Muskoka)	30 MacKenzie (Lambton-Kent)	2 Cloutier (Drummond-Arthabaska)

The Clerk of the House
Le Greffier de la Chambre

137 Hunter (Parkdale)	165 Hosking (Wellington South)	193 Studer (Swift Current-Maple Creek)	221 Power (St. John's West)	249 Roy (Lafayette)
138 Cavers (Lincoln)	166 James (Durham)	194 Wood (Selkirk)	222	250 Legaré (Rimouski)

115 Lefrançois (Laurier)	87 Carter (Burrin-Burgeo)	59 Gingues (Sherbrooke)	31 Bertrand (Terrebonne)	3 McCulloch (Pictou)
116	88 Viau (St. Boniface)	60 Purdy (Colchester-Hants)	32 Picard (Bellevue)	4 Dechêne (Athabaska)

The Clerk Assistant — Le Greffier adjoint

139 Fellwell (Hastings South)	167 Henderson (Kingston)	195 Weaver (Churchill)	223 Vincent (Longueuil)	251 Boucher (Restigouche-Madawaska)
140 Brown (Essex West)	168 Decore (Vegreville)	196 McWilliam (Northumberland, N.B.)	224 Lusby (Cumberland)	252 Robichaud (Gloucester)

117 Cauchon (Beauharnois-Salaberry)	89 Lafontaine (Megantic)	61 Richard (Ottawa East)	33 Bonnier (St-Henri)	5 Clark (Essex South)
118 Ratelle (LaFontaine)	90 Eudes (Hochelaga)	62 Jutras (Provencher)	34 Kirk (Antigonish-Guysborough)	6 McIvor (Fort William)

141 Stuart (Charlotte)	169 MacDougall (Vancouver-Burrard)	197 Simmons (Yukon)	225 Boucher (Châteauguay-Huntingdon-Laprairie)	253
142 Gauthier (Nickel-Belt)	170 Huffman (Kent (Ont.))	198 Stick (Trinity-Conception)	226 Rouleau (Dollard)	254

119 Valois (Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes)	91 Mrs. Shipley (Timiskaming)	63	35 Lesage (Mentimagny-L'Islet)	7 Gregg (York-Sunbury)
120 McMillan (Welland)	92 Robertson (Northumberland, Ont.)	64 MacNaught (Prince)	36 Sinclair (Coast-Capilano)	8 Garson (Marquette)

143 Balcer (Trois-Rivières)	171 Fraser (Peterborough)	199 White (Hastings-Frontenac)	227	255 Bell (Saint John-Albert)
144 Macdonnell (Greenwood)	172 Cardiff (Huron)	200 Hees (Broadview)	228 Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris)	256 Dufresne (Québec-Ouest)

121 Demers (Laval)	93 Langlois (Gaspé)	65 Croll (Sudbina)	37 Prudham (Edmonton West)	9 Chevrier (Stormont)
122 Smith (York North)	94 Bourget (Levis)	66 Gauthier (Portneuf)	38 Winters (Queens-Lunenburg)	10 Gardiner (Melville)

145 Fleming (Elmington)	173 Adamson (York West)	201 Hodgson (Victoria (Ont.))	229 Nickle (Calgary South)	257 Hamilton (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce)
146 Green (Vancouver-Quadra)	174 Tustin (Prince-Edward-Lennox)	202 Murphy (Lambton West)	230 Montgomery (Victoria-Carleton)	258 Howe (Wellington-Huron)

123 Richard (St-Maurice-Lafleche)	95 Dickey (Halifax)	67 McCubbin (Middlesex West)	39 Weir (Portage-Neepawa)	11 St. Laurent (Québec-Est)
124 Balcom (Halifax)	96 Bennett (Grey North)	68 McIlraith (Ottawa West)	40 Harris (Grey-Bruce)	12 Howe (Port Arthur)

Debate Reporters
Sténographes des débats

147 Drew (Carleton)	175 Casselman (Greenville-Dundas)	203 Harkness (Calgary North)	231 Starr (Ontario)	259 Mitchell (London)
148 Rowe (Dufferin-Simcoe)	176 Mrs. Fairclough (Hamilton West)	204 Charlton (Brant-Haldimand)	232 Robinson (Bruce)	260 Monteith (Perth)

125 MacNaughton (Mont-Royal)	97 Pinard (Chambly-Rouville)	69 Benidickson (Kenora-Rainy River)	41 McCann (Renfrew South)	13 Abbott (St. Antoine-Westmount)
126 Henry (Rosedale)	98 Kirk (Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare)	70 Blanchette (Compton-Frontenac)	42 Lapointe (Lotbinière)	14 Claxton (St. Lawrence-St. George)

149 Diefenbaker (Prince Albert)	177 Lennard (Wentworth)	205 White (Middlesex East)	233 Miss Aitken (York-Humber)	261 Nesbitt (Oxford)
150 Brooks (Royal)	178 Nowlan (Digby-Annapolis-Kings)	206 Ferguson (Simcoe North)	234 Miss Bennett (Halton)	262 Perron (Dorchester)

127 Cameron (Rich Park)	99 Beaudry (St-Jacques)	71 Nixon (Algoma West)	43 Campney (Vancouver Centre)	15 Pearson (Algoma East)
128 Anderson (Norfolk)	100 Cannon (Iles-de-la-Madeleine)	72 Healy (St. Am)	44 Pickersgill (Bonaville-Twillington)	16 Martin (Essex East)

151 Pearkes (Esquimalt-Saanich)	179 Fulton (Kamloops)	207 Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre)	235 Michener (St. Paul's)	263 Small (Danforth)
152 McGregor (York East)	180 Blair (Lanark)	208 MacLean (Queens)	236 Trainor (Winnipeg South)	264 Stanton (Leeds)

129 Breton (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm)	101 Proudfoot (Pontiac-Témiscamingue)	73 Arsenault (Bonaventure)	45 Ross (Hamilton East)	17 Côté (St-Jean-Iberville-Napierville)
130 Garland (Nipissing)	102 Boisvert (Nicolet-Yamaska)	74 Fontaine (St-Hyacinthe-Bagot)	46 Gour (Russell)	18 Pouliot (Témiscouata)

Debate Reporters
Sténographes des débats

153 Coldwell (Rosedale-Biggan)	181 Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre)	209 Knight (Saskatoon)	237 Nicholson (Mackenzie)	265 Winch (Vancouver East)
154 MacLennan (Vancouver-Kingsway)	182 Argue (Assiniboia)	210 Herridge (Kootenay West)	238 Castleden (Yorkton)	266 Ellis (Regina City)

131 Philpott (Vancouver South)	103 Brisson (Saguenay)	75 Tucker (Rosthern)	47 Gourd (Chapleau)	19 Denis (St-Denis)
132 Batten (Humber-St. George's)	104 Byrne (Kootenay East)	76 Conacher (Trinity)	48 Dumas (Villeneuve)	20 LaCroix (Québec-Montmorency)

155 Gillis (Cape Breton South)	183 Stewart (Winnipeg North)	211 Jones (Okanagan Boundary)	239 Zaplatny (Dauphin)	267 Cameron (Nanaimo)
156 Noseworthy (York South)	184 Thatcher (Moose Jaw-Lake Centre)	212 Campbell (The Battle-Fords)	240 McCullough (Moose Mountain)	268 Bryson (Humboldt-Melfort)

133 Hollingsworth (York Centre)	105 Bruneau (Glenarry-Prescott)	77 Eyre (Timmins)	49 Goode (Burnaby-Richmond)	21 Boivin (Sheffield)
134 Houck (Niagara Falls)	106 Dupuis (Ste-Marie)	78 Gauthier (Lac-St-Jean)	50 Gingras (Richmond-Wolfe)	22 Harrison (Meadow Lake)

The Sergeant-at-Arms

Le Sergent d'armes

157 Low (Peace River)	185 Quelch (Acadia)	213 Johnston (Bow River)	241 Johnson (Kindersley)	269 Regier (Burnaby-Coquitlam)
158 Hansell (MacLeod)	186 Shaw (Red Deer)	214 Fair (Battle River-Camrose)	242 Barnett (Comox-Alberni)	270

135 Mitchell (Sudbury)	107 Massé (Kamouraska)	79 Cardin (Richelieu-Verchères)	51 Leduc (Jacques-Cartier-Lasalle)	23 Hellyer (Davenport)
136 Fairey (Victoria (B.C.))	108 Habel (Cochrane)	80 MacEachen (Inverness-Richmond)	52 Bourque (Outremont-St-Jean)	24 Rocheffort (Champlain)

159 Blackmore (Lethbridge)	187 Wylie (Medicine Hat)	215 Patterson (Fraser Valley)	243 McLeod (Okanagan-Revelstoke)	271 Yuill (Jasper-Edson)
160 Thomas (Wetaskiwin)	188 Hahn (New Westminster)	216 Leboe (Cariboo)	244 Holowach (Edmonton East)	272

136A Fraser (St. John's East)	109 Murphy (Westmoreland)	81 Mang (Qu'Appelle)	53 Buchanan (Cape Breton North and Victoria)	25 Enfield (Scarborough)
136B Hanna (Edmonton-Strathcona)	110 Villeneuve (Roberval)	82 Hardie (Mackenzie River)	54 Michaud (Kent (N.B.))	26 Matheson (Queens)

161 Gagnon (Chicoutimi)	189 Girard (Lapointe)	217	245
162 Poulin (Beauce)	190	218	246

*Letter to
Mr. Applewhaite
March 12, 1954*

8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto 9, Ont.
March 12, 1954.

Mr. Edward T. Applewhaite, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Applewhaite:

Last Fall there was communication made with you regarding evacuation losses during the last war. Japanese Canadians now regard this again a national concern and have organized to seek more liberal retribution. Your colleague, Col Croll, M.P., is also being approached.

Replying to a pleas for review of an unsettled case, the Hon. John Pickersgill recently asserted that all claimants would be treated the same and that he would consult with the Cabinet about an overall review. We commend the Secretary of State for this noble and moral stand. Unfortunately, the Cabinet has opposed him.

With regard to a particular claimant, Government Scale Records of timber logged since the Bird Hearings, provide ample proof that the commissioner had erred. This evidence was not available to the commissioner. Being such, had this been an ordinary matter of the civil courts one would expect the case be reopened. But, the Under Secretary of State has rejected this new evidence on the patently irrelevant grounds that the business was not a going concern, which contention in itself conflicts with the commissioner's finding.

Samples of other unreasonable awards in the Kagetsu Case are:- \$1,000 for 41 houses, \$1,000 for over 8 miles of private railway, \$1.50 an acre for vast lands.

To categorically refuse reviews is morally very unjust, and can only be founded on:-

- a) The defendant of a case has powers of a tribunal in assessing the significance of new evidence.
- b) The false premise that one judicial mind is infallible.
- c) The object of the Government was not full and just compensation but merely a limited ex gratia adjustment for losses.

This is a slur not only on the rights of a minority group,

Page 2..Mr. E.T. Applewhaite, M.P.

but on the sincerity of the Prime Minister himself, who this very moment is promoting fairness and brotherhood. And, above all, this is an insult to the intelligence of all Canadians.

For the benefit of all good Canadians, we beg of you to fight this revival of wartime behavior.

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu, 10 Mountview Avenue,
KVA (Armed Forces)
MONTREAL 2, TEL 954-1011.

Dr. W.H. McMillan, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Can.

Dear Sir:

Last Fall, you may recall, Mr. Geo. E. Griffiths, a good friend of Eikichi Kagetsu, approached you with regard to the latter's evacuation claims. As far as Japanese Canadians are concerned, this has developed to a national concern, in matters of rights and morals.

Knowing you to be an upstanding Canadian, we appeal to you to rise up against what all appearances of an intolerable behavior.

I happen to be the son of the above claimant and was appointed by our committee to take leadership.

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu.
EVACUATION LOSSES
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE.

1558 Mglinton Avenue West,
Toronto, Ont.
March 13th, 1954.

Mr. J.G. Diefenbaker, M.P.,
House of Commons,
OTTAWA, CANADA.

Dear Mr. Diefenbaker:

Please find enclosed a letter to Mr. Fleming, M.P.
The claimant suffering the heaviest losses is in his riding.

The report of the Bird Commission was announced in 1950. With regard to above claimant, timber removed by subsequent logging is weighty new evidence not earlier available to the commissioner. After conceding every reasonable discount, the figures prove unequivocally that the commissioner had erred. There is little doubt that had this been a matter of the civil courts, the case would be reopened. The defendants to these claims, the Department of the Secretary of State, are ^{in effect} setting themselves up as a tribunal and reject the new evidence on the irrelevant grounds that the business was not a going concern, which in itself is inconsistent with the commissioner's finding.

For a defendant to assume the duties of a tribunal, on the one hand and on the other, for the Government to entirely preclude appeals, we believe, are two patent breaches of morals. These are strongly tinted with wartime discrimination-a continued policy of second class citizenship to a minority.

We urgently appeal to you, Mr. Diefenbaker, to check once again this form of wrong, which we are sure good Canadians would not tolerate.

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu,
EVACUATION LOSSES
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE.

c.c. Mr. D.M. Fleming, M.P.

8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.
March 15th, 1954.

Flemming
Mr. John G. Diefenbaker, M.P.,
House of Commons,
OTTAWA, CAN.

Dear Mr. Diefenbaker:

We are a newly formed citizens' committee backed by the Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association. We seek fairer treatment by the Government for evacuees who experienced property losses during the last war.

In reply to a plea for review of a claimant's case, The Hon. John Rickersgill asserted that all cases would be treated the same and that he would consult the Cabinet about a complete review. We commend the Secretary of State for this stand. However, it seems that he has met with no success in the Cabinet.

~~We have been philosophical about Government behavior at time of war but to be denied some recourse to appeal this day~~ If the Japanese Canadians are denied a recourse to appeal it seems that we are being denied a means to justice. And, such denial can only be tantamount to subscribing to the false premise that one judicial mind is infallible.

We have been philosophical about Government behavior during times of war. However, at peacetime, the instant our good Prime Minister is promoting racial harmony abroad, his Ministers are behaving in a manner which casts a slur not only on Mr. St. Laurent the rights of minority citizens but on Mr. St. Laurent himself.

Just as the Bird Commission proved that property had been liquidated at low prices and contradicted the views of many sincere Canadians. Likewise, we are convinced that, given the opportunity, many claimants can prove that commissioner Bird had also erred to some degree. For example, the above claimant has been awarded a mere \$1.50 an acre for over 5,000 acres of land, \$1,000 for 41 buildings, \$1,000 for over 8 miles of private railway and above all Government Scale Records since made available prove beyond any doubt that twice the volume of timber existed than was the judgement allowed. Alas, the awards are given on ex-gratia basis, thereby being outside the jurisdiction of the courts.

Mr. Flemming, surely this is not democracy at work. We will be grateful for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

H. Nagetsu
EVACUATION LOSSES
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

768 CRAWFORD STREET

TELEPHONE LAKESIDE 1286

CONTINENTAL FAMILY CO-OPERATIVE

IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS

TORONTO, ONTARIO

8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.
March 17, 1954.

Col. David Croll, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Croll:

We are a newly formed citizen's committee backed by the local Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association. Our committee is made up mainly of Toronto Japanese Canadian leaders and include Messrs. Kurata, Kadenaga and others.

Last fall, you may recall, a particular claimant for evacuation losses, Kikichi Kagetsu, having approached you. The Custodians have charged him about \$20,000 in the aggregate for liquidation fees and disbursements. Moreover, the cost to present his difficult case before the Bird Commission was in excess of \$30,000 for which the Government has awarded him a mere \$2,587.50. Also only about 10% of his losses arising from undervaluation sales has been offered. This is but one claimant who has been a victim of gross unfairness. Fundamentally, this is because of error or oversight on the part of Mr. Justice Bird, who had the stupendous task unique in the history of Canadian jurisprudence. There were close to 3,000 claimants, about 10,000 exhibits, and well in excess of 25,000 pages of evidence. No matter how competent, this task was impossible for one judicial mind.

For example, one claimant who owned timber limits, can at this date prove that twice the volume of timber existed than was allowed by the Commissioner. Unshakable B.C. Government Scale Records of timber actually removed from his limits, from the date of sale to the present, provides weighty new evidence not available in 1948 to the Commissioner. The Under Secretary of State has rejected this new evidence on the patently irrelevant grounds that the claimant's management was inefficient, which contention conflicts with the Commissioner's findings. Factors such as closer utilization fail entirely to reconcile the wide disparity. But a review has been denied.

It would appear that the ~~Government's~~ ^{Government's} behavior towards certain Canadians in 1954 is not unlike war years. The above attitude can only be founded on: a) The defendant of a case has powers of a tribunal to reject new evidence; b) The false premise that one judicial mind is infallible; c) The object of the Government was not full and just compensation but merely a rough limited adjustment for losses.

Page 2. Col. David Crell, M.P.

Another tribunal to assess new evidence and to study all appeals is more than indicated. Japanese Canadians have requested the Secretary of State and the Minister of Justice to make such a tribunal available. We believe the Ministers are sympathetic but are waiting to consult with the Prime Minister.

We respectfully beg of you to persuade the Government to act favourably towards this matter. We are confident from your past shining record that you will rise against any policy which flavours of second-class citizenship.

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu,
EVACUATION LOSSES
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE.

1558 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto 10, Ont.
March 17, 1954.

Mr. D. M. Fleming, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Fleming:

When the Royal Commission on evacuation losses of Japanese Canadians was under discussion in the House, I understand you did some very commendable work. I happen to be one of those evacuees now doing business in your riding.

I bring this matter up now because Japanese Canadians have recently approached both the Secretary of State and the Minister of Justice to make available a tribunal to assess new evidence and to study appeals. The need for such a tribunal will become apparent from the contents below. The Ministers appear to be sympathetic and we have reason to believe that they are waiting to consult with the Prime Minister.

The Custodians have charged me in the aggregate about \$20,000 for liquidation fees and disbursements for which I am offered no compensation. The cost to me to present my difficult case before the Bird Commission was in excess of \$30,000, for which the Government award is \$2,587.50. About 10% of my losses arising from the Custodian's undervaluation sales is the award of the commission. Other claimants have been victims of similar unfairness. Fundamentally, this is because of error or oversight on the part of Mr. Justice Bird, who had the stupendous task unique in the history of Canadian jurisprudence. There were close to 3,000 claimants in all, about 10,000 exhibits, and well in excess of 25,000 pages of evidence. No matter how competent, this task was impossible for one judicial mind.

Much of my claim involved timber limits. By using unshakable B.C. Government Scale Records I can prove that twice the volume of timber existed at time of sale than was allowed by the Commissioner. These records unequivocally show the actual volume of timber removed from my limits from the date of sale to the present, and provide weighty new evidence not available in 1948 to the Commissioner. The Under Secretary of State has rejected this new evidence on the patently irrelevant grounds that management during my ownership was inefficient, which contention in itself conflicts with the Commissioner's finding. Factors such as closer utilization during later years fail entirely to reconcile the wide disparity. But a review has been denied.

Such behavior towards certain Canadians in 1954 appear to be not unlike war years. It can only be founded on: a) The

Page 2. Mr. D.M. Fleming, M.P.

defendant of a case has powers of a tribunal to reject new evidence; b) The false premise that one judicial mind is infallible; c) The object of the Government was not full and just compensation but merely a rough limited adjustment for losses.

Mr. Fleming, surely this is not democracy at work. We most respectfully urge you to persuade the Government to act favourably on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mikichi Kagetsu.

March 18, 1954.

The Hon. George A. Drew,
Leader of the Opposition,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Drew:

With the object of arousing interest in the House, the enclosed is being sent to many Members of Parliament. It is hoped, as a result, that the Government may be moved to take favourable action on the matter.

The Bird Commission on the evacuation losses of Japanese Canadians is a timely subject once again. Concrete evidence which fully reveals the inadequacy of Mr. Justice Bird's recommendations has now come to light, as described herewith.

Custodians have charged one particular claimant about \$20,000 in the aggregate for liquidation fees and disbursements, for which compensation has been denied. To present his difficult case before the Bird Commission, in excess of \$30,000 was needed. For this the Government has awarded a mere \$2,587.50. For the grossly undervalued sales, executed by the Custodians without the owner's consent, only about 10% of losses has been awarded by way of total retribution. Victims of this sort of flagrant unfairness are many, fundamentally because the terms of reference were too narrow and because Mr. Justice Bird was required to accomplish almost the impossible.

For the benefit of those who wish to appeal, our organization has requested the Minister of Justice to make a tribunal available, our having been refused by the Secretary of State for a policy of general review.

On behalf not only of Japanese Canadians but all thinking Canadians, we appeal to you as Leader of the Opposition, to check once again, what may well turn out to be a blot to the good record of Canada.

Sincerely yours,

TELEPHONES
MURRAY 5023
ORCHARD 7571



House of Commons
Canada

O T T A W A,
March 18,
1 9 5 4.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

I have your letter of
March 17th.

I have always had some
misgivings of the treatment of Canadian Japanese
during the War and have so stated.

Thus, I will discuss this
matter with the Minister of Justice and urge
whatever action is possible at this late date.

Sincerely yours,

David Croll

March 18, 1954.

Mr. J.M. Macdonnell, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Macdonnell:

Matters relating to the Bird Commission ~~are~~ again
brewing much interest. It is hoped, as a result, that the
Government may be moved to take favourable action on this subject.

We respectfully ask your indulgence to read the
enclosed and to actively check what may well turn out to be
another blot on the excellent record of Canada.

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu.

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
OF
JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS

8 MOUNTVIEW AVENUE
TORONTO, ONT.

March 18, 1954.

Mr. Solon E. Low, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Low:

With the object of arousing interest in the House, the enclosed is being sent to many Members of Parliament. It is hoped, as a

March 18, 1954.

Mr. M.J. Coldwell, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Coldwell:

With the object of arousing interest in the House, the enclosed is being sent to many members of parliament. It is hoped, as a result, that the Government may be moved to take favourable action on the matter.

The Bird Commission on the evacuation losses of Japanese Canadians is a subject brewing concern again. Concrete evidence which fully reveals the inadequacy of Mr. Justice Bird's recommendations has now come to light, as described on the enclosed.

Custodians have charged one particular claimant about \$20,000 in the aggregate for liquidation fees and disbursements, for which compensation has been denied. To present his difficult case before the Bird Commission, in excess of \$30,000 was needed. For this the Government has awarded a mere \$2,587.50. For the grossly undervalued sales, executed by the Custodians without the owner's consent, only about 10% of losses has been awarded by way of total retribution. Victims of this sort of flagrant unfairness are many, fundamentally because the terms of reference were too narrow and because Mr. Justice Bird was required to accomplish almost the impossible.

The Government is at the present faced with the question of some sort of review for appellants. Our organization has requested the Minister of Justice to make another tribunal available.

Your outstanding record is fully appreciated. May we respectfully ask your actively checking once again any treatment which may flavour of second-class citizenship?

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu.

March 18, 1954.

*Diefenbaker
Bird
Knowles*

Mr. M.J. Coldwell, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Coldwell:

The enclosed is being sent to many members of parliament, the object being to arouse interest in the House. As a result, it is hoped that the Government may take favourable action on the matter.

The Bird Commission on the evacuation losses of Japanese Canadians is a subject brewing concern again. Concrete evidence which fully reveals the inadequacy of Mr. Justice Bird's recommendation has now come to light, as described on the enclosure.

Custodians have charged one particular claimant about \$20,000 in the aggregate for liquidation fees and disbursements for which compensation has been denied. To present his difficult case before the Bird Commission, in excess of \$30,000 was needed. For this the Government has awarded a mere \$2,587.50. For the grossly undervalued sales executed by the Custodians without the owners' consent, only about 10% of losses has been awarded by way of total retribution. Victims of this sort of flagrant unfairness are many, fundamentally because the terms of reference were too narrow and because Mr. Justice Bird was required to accomplish almost the impossible.

Recently the Government has been faced with the question of some sort of review for appellants.

We fully appreciate your outstanding work ~~in the past~~. We are compelled to request most respectfully, your actively checking once again something which highly flavours of second-class citizenship treatment.

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu.

over 100 circulated by MAIL - MAR 18/19 1954

BIRD COMMISSION HAS ERRED!

Long before the war with Japan, certain Canadians had been victims of racial discriminations. The outbreak of war caused some 23,000 of these citizens to be forcibly uprooted from their homes on very short notice. This was for purposes of security, although the Prime Minister said they were "guilty of no crime or even of any ill intention." All property that could not be carried away by the evacuees had to be hurriedly placed in custody of various authorities. Subsequently, the Department of the Secretary of State adopted a policy, not of custodianship but of mass liquidation.

In 1947, thanks to the efforts of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, other groups and individuals, the Government finally authorized Mr. Justice Henry Bird to act as a Royal Commission. His duties were to probe into, not all forms of losses but only those where the fair market value could be shown to exceed the sale price. Broader terms of reference were refused. At the hearings before the Commissioner the arguments of the claimants were rebutted by Custodian's counsel.

By 1950, the Bird Commission had proved that property of claimants including war veterans, had been sold at great undervaluation. This revealed the inaccuracy of the opinions held by many sincere Canadians.

The counsel for the Co-operative Committee said, " There have been inquiries into the value of very extensive properties by judicial commissions....Never before, however, has it been necessary to inquire into the value of many different sorts of properties lost to a large group of Canadian residents scattered over the whole of Canada." This was unique in the history of Canadian jurisprudence, yet the Government placed this gigantic task on the shoulders of one man. There were close to three thousand claimants involved, about ten thousand exhibits, and well in excess of twenty-five thousand pages of evidence. No matter how competent, this task was well nigh impossible for one judicial mind. Thus, glaring evidences of error have since become apparent.

For example, one claimant who owned timber limits, can at this date prove that twice the volume of timber existed than was allowed by the Commissioner. Unshakable B.C. Government Scale Records of timber actually removed from his limits from the date of sale to the present, is weighty new evidence, not available in 1948 to the Commissioner. The logging of these limits still continues. The Under Secretary of State has rejected this new evidence on the patently irrelevant grounds that the claimants management was inefficient, which contention conflicts with the Commissioner's findings. Factors such as closer utilization fail entirely to reconcile the wide disparity. But a review has been denied. \$1.50 an acre for vast lands, \$1,000 for 41 housing units are further examples of erroneous valuation by the Commissioner.

It would appear that the Government's behaviour towards certain Canadians in 1954 is not unlike war years. The above attitude can only be founded on: (a) The defendant of a case has powers of a tribunal to reject new evidence; (b) The false premise that one judicial mind is infallible; (c) The object of the Government was not full and just compensation but merely a rough limited adjustment for losses.

A new tribunal to assess new evidence and to study appeals is more than indicated. To you legislators with shining records of protecting human rights, this appeal is being sent to respectfully solicit active support.

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto 9, Ontario.
March 15, 1954.

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
OF
JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS

8 MOUNTVIEW AVENUE
TORONTO, ONT.

March 19, 1954.

The Hon. L. R. Beaudoin,
Speaker,
The House of Commons,
OTTAWA.

Dear Sir:

Matters relating to the Bird Commission
are again causing much concern. We request your
indulgence in reading the enclosed and in checking
what may well turn out to be another blot on the
excellent record of Canada.

Yours sincerely,

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE,

H. Kagetsu.

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
OF
JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS
8 MOUNTVIEW AVENUE
TORONTO, ONT.

March 19, 1954.

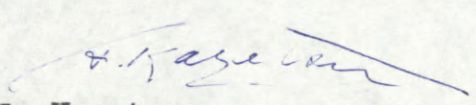
Mr. W. A. Robinson, M.P.,
Deputy Speaker,
The House of Commons,
OTTAWA.

Dear Sir:

Matters relating to the Bird Commission
are again causing much concern. We request your
indulgence in reading the enclosed and in checking
what may well turn out to be another blot on the
excellent record of Canada.

Yours sincerely,

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE,


H. Kagetsu.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Leader of the Opposition

OTTAWA, March 19th,
1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation
Committee of Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountainview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu,

Your letter of March 18th,
addressed to Mr. Drew, was received here this
morning. He is briefly away from Ottawa and
your communication will be shown to him upon
his return.

Yours very truly,

Vernon A. M. Kemp,
Personal Assistant.



House of Commons
Canada

OTTAWA, Ontario.
March 19th, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee
of Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 18th of March, with which you enclosed a statement to show that the Bird Commission erred. I have read the same with care.

It has been my sincere hope all the way along that the Canadian Government would be spotless and blameless in its treatment of the Japanese Canadians who, under force of war, were evacuated from the British Columbia coastal area for security reasons. From your letter and the attached statement, it is evident that your Committee believes gross injustice has been done. I am interested in learning if this is true. Consequently, when the occasion arises, I'll see what I can do to stir up some enquiry for the purpose of ascertaining the facts, and also getting justice.

To dispense justice to all; to exercise mercy; and to walk humbly, is the mark of a truly great nation. I hope ours will prove to be just that.

Yours very truly,

SOLON E. LOW, M.P.



House of Commons
Canada

O T T A W A,
March 19th, 1954.

Eikichi Kagetsu, Esq.,
1558 Eglinton Avenue West,
TORONTO 10, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter
of the 17th instant.

I am still interested in seeing justice
done to Japanese Canadians who were evacuated from
British Columbia during the war. I shall question
the Ministers concerning the intention of the Govern-
ment in regard to the subject matter of your letter.

Yours very truly,

Donald M. Fleming

Donald M. Fleming, M.P.



House of Commons
Canada

CCF

OTTAWA, March 19, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

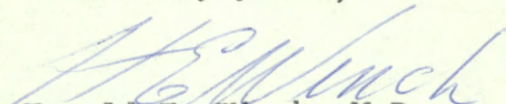
Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of
your letter of March 18th with the enclosure.

I am fairly conversant with the
matter you bring to my attention, as I worked
very closely with the Japanese leaders and Committees
during the time the evacuations took place from
the coastal areas of British Columbia.

I have discussed your present
problem with my colleague, Mr. Angus MacInnis, M.P.
and anticipate that he will in all probability have
some thing to say on the matter when the Estimates
of the Secretary of State are before the House of
Commons.

Sincerely yours,


Harold E. Winch, M.P.

HEW/M



House of Commons
Canada

CCF

O t t a w a,
March 22nd, 1954

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO,
Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of March 19th dealing with the recommendations of the Bird Commission in the matter of compensation for Chinese citizens who do not appear to get fair treatment under that Commission's report.

This matter is always under consideration by members of our group, and you may rest assured of our continued interest. I will speak to Mr. MacInnis about your letter.

Yours sincerely,

C. Gillis

CG:
W.

C. Gillis, M.P.,
Cape Breton South.



House of Commons
Canada

Soc

Ottawa, March 22, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto 9, Ontario

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Thank you very much for your letter of
March 19th relative to the recommendations of the Bird
Commission.

This is being given consideration, and
Mr. Solon Low, M.P., will be writing you with respect
to the matter.

Yours very sincerely,

A.B. Patterson, M.P.,
Fraser Valley.

ABP/vs



House of Commons
Canada

CCF.

OTTAWA
March 22, 1954

Mr. H. Kagetsu
8 Mountview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Thanks for your letter dated March 19th together with a statement regarding the operations of the government in the matter of Japanese property.

I shall discuss this matter with my colleague Mr. MacInnis.

Yours very truly,

J. W. Noseworthy, M.P.
York South

JWN:meg



House of Commons
Canada

CCF.

March 22nd, 1954

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu,

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter regarding the treatment of Japanese following and during the last war. Many of the displaced Japanese were moved to Greenwood, B.C., which happened to be in my constituency and at the time I was informed of many unfair settlements suffered by these people. Some were adjusted but many were not.

I trust that your application to the Minister of Justice will bear fruit and that a general review will be granted.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "O.L. Jones".

O.L. Jones, M.P.,
O.K. Boundary, B.C.

OLJ/DM



House of Commons
Canada

O t t a w a,
March 23rd,
1 9 5 4.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee of
Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication of March 19th, with reference to the Bird Commission.

NO EVIDENCE → As you are well aware, the Japanese had occupied some of the Aleutian Islands, and a Japanese submarine had fired shells at an odd place on Vancouver Island. While doubtless many of the Japanese Canadians were loyal, there was a strong element who were unquestionably disloyal, and who made no bones about it. In what appeared to be a national emergency, the Japanese were evacuated from the coastal area. It was not considered feasible to screen them in such an emergency. As it turned out later, the emergency was not as great as it had appeared to be at the time.

The terms of reference of the Commission were widened on several occasions in order to cover physical assets which had not been included in the original terms of reference. On the whole, the wrongs which had been created by the liquidation of the property were righted by the Commission to the extent of achieving fair market value as at the date of sale.

There are obviously many things which cannot be compensated for, such things as forcible removal, loss of occupations, interruption of education, and dispersal of families.

It would have been a physical impossibility to calculate such losses on any known measuring rod.

On the whole, and excepting those older persons who cannot make the adjustment, the Japanese Canadians have been much better off since. Before the evacuation, many of them were living in Japanese settlements such as Steveston. They were not becoming Canadians, and were attending their own schools after the British Columbia schools. They were under the domination of the Japanese Consul, and if they ever hoped to become Canadians they were far better off being removed from such places. In these Japanese settlements they were being exploited, and their standard of living was very low. There was a fairly heavy incidence of tuberculosis.

The removal of the Japanese Canadians improved their health, and by the wide dispersal of their numbers were made less conspicuous, which enabled them to fuse with the Canadian population, achieving greater acceptance and a higher standard of living.

If the Japanese Canadians are going to continue to brood on past wrongs, they are not going to be much use to themselves or to Canada. While I am not suggesting that two rights ever make a wrong, there is no doubt that Canadians in Japan were treated much more rigorously and harshly than were Japanese in Canada, and while I admit that many of the Japanese in Canada were Canadian citizens, the fact is that many of these so-called citizens were more subversive in their outlook than many who had not taken out Canadian citizenship.

The Japanese Canadians on the whole achieved justice from the Bird Commission, and as I have stated before, they would be far better off to write off past wrongs and face the future with a determination to be good Canadian citizens and make themselves useful Canadians and prosperous citizens.

Yours very truly,

John W. G. Hunter
John W. G. Hunter
M.P.- Parkdale.



House of Commons
Canada

P.C.

March 23, 1954

H. Kagetsu, Esq.,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee
Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

I have your letter of the 18th of March regarding the Commission presided over by Mr. Justice Bird. You mention one particular claimant who was charged \$20,000 for liquidation fees and dispersal. Will you please give me his name and any other cases wherein an injustice was done and I will certainly do what I can to bring the matter to the attention of Parliament.

With every good wish, I am

Yours sincerely,

John G. Diefenbaker
per sp.

John G. Diefenbaker

JGD:as



House of Commons
Canada

OTTAWA, March 23rd, 1954.

CCF.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee
of Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:-

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of date March 19th with enclosed memo entitled "Bird Commission Has Erred" and to thank you for this information.

I have taken a personal interest in this and related questions since the evacuation of 1931 and I intend to discuss the contents of your letter with Mr. MacInnis to see what we can best do to modify to some extent this obvious injustice.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert W. Herridge
Herbert W. Herridge,
Member for Kootenay West.



House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, Ontario,
March 23, 1954.

Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Attention - H. Kagetsu

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

This will acknowledge your letter of the 18th instant with memorandum. I will, of course be only too pleased to give it my earnest study, and also to discuss the situation with Mr. Brewin.

I am, With best personal wishes,

Yours sincerely,

AJPC*P.

A.J.P. Cameron, M.P.,
For Toronto-High Park.



House of Commons
Canada

CCF

O T T A W A,
23 March 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

This will acknowledge your recent communication, the contents of which I have discussed with my colleagues, Mr. Angus MacInnis and Colin Cameron.

Mr. MacInnis has made available to me his file on this subject and I have been perusing with interest much of the material contained therein. He has also indicated to me that as a result of recent discussions he has had on this subject, he is not too hopeful that the government will agree to any further action.

However, you may rest assured that I will be pleased to give him all the support I can in this connection.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas S. Barnett, M.P.

TSE/r



House of Commons
Canada

P.C

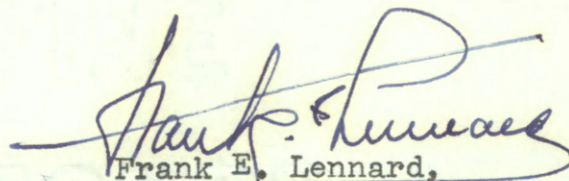
O t t a w a, March 23rd, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
8 Mountainview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu,

I wish to acknowledge your letter of March 19th, and to assure you that any efforts you may make to right the wrongs that have been done in connection with your fellow citizens will have my wholehearted sympathy and support.

Yours faithfully,


Frank E. Lennard,
Member for Wentworth.



House of Commons
Canada

P.C.

O T T A W A,
March 24th, 1954.

Eikichi Kagetsu, Esq.,
1558 Eglinton Avenue West,
TORONTO 10, Ont.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

I have discussed your case with Mr. Pickersgill, Secretary of State, who informs me that he is writing directly to you.

He tells me that he gave no undertaking to reopen your case or any other individual case, but rather said that he would be prepared to submit to the Cabinet the question whether all cases should be reopened. He tells me he has now done so, and the Cabinet has decided against reopening the cases.

I am sorry that the decision is unfavourable. It is evident that there is no possibility of its being reversed as long as the present Government continues in office.

Yours very truly,

Donald M. Fleming

Donald M. Fleming, M.P.



House of Commons
Canada

P.C.

Ottawa, Ontario,
March 23, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee
of Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Your letter of March 19th received
relating to the Bird Commission, and you may
rest assured that I will check into what you have
to say.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gordon K. Fraser", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Gordon K. Fraser.



House of Commons
Canada

OTTAWA, March 24th, 1954.

CCF

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee of
Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Thank you for your letter of March 18th, and for the memo which you enclosed therewith concerning the inadequacy of Mr. Justice Bird's recommendations.

I have discussed the subject-matter of your letter and memorandum with my colleague, Mr. Angus MacInnis, and I join with him in being ready to do anything we can on your behalf.

In particular, I am making representations to the Minister of Justice, urging that he agree to your request to make a tribunal available. I am most anxious that full justice should be accorded to your people, and you can count on it that, along with my colleague, I will do my very best on your behalf.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Stanley H. Knowles,
Member for ~~Winnipeg~~ Winnipeg North Centre.

March 25, 1954

Mr. John W.G. Hunter, M.P.
House of Commons,
Ottawa

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your lengthy letter of 23rd instant.

We very much appreciate and admire your frankness and believe that we have found in you a friend. More than sympathizers we were seeking sincere men with open and searching minds. Therefore your views are not only respected but we subscribe to a large part of them. However, we beg to differ with you essentially on how best to be a good Canadian. Needless to say, uppermost in all our minds is to be just that and as a corollary to seek for ourselves self respect and dignity.

Our conviction is that this democracy of ours requires constant vigilance to keep it as wonderful and as great as it is or to even make it even better. The responsibility of this vigil should be shared by Japanese Canadians as much as by other citizens of Canada. Our present object, therefore, is not so much to unearth past unpleasantness but to bring to the fore something about which we have knowledge. This happens to be flavoured with injustice of the past as well as of the present and it happens to concern us. We are attempting to avoid another blot on the shining record of Canada, the type of blot the Communists twist and mold into mammoth propaganda. We argue that rather than the policy our Government has pursued with regard to evacuation losses, a policy which leans to the picayune, it would be much better to error on the side of generosity. However one looks upon it the cost will be small. Yet, our diabolical red enemies will find that a bitter pill to swallow. Moreover, the free world will hail such a large gesture. But, alas, what is apparent to a minority group is sometimes hidden to others. This is all the more reason as Japanese Canadians, we owe it to the land which

... sufferings were immeasurable. Thus, the meeting was deeply concerned about guarding against any feeling of Canadians that because of a Royal Commission, injustices to Japanese Canadians had been connected; and that as a group we were so docile as to submit to harsh injustices with meek oriental surrender.

As a result, it was unanimously approved to form a citizens' committee to shoulder the responsibility of seeking more equitable compensation for all evacuees. The name given was Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee (ELCC). Appointed as chairman of this committee was Issaku Uchida; and members are: Kunio Hidaka, Lucien Kurata, Haj Kagetsu, Eikichi Kagetsu, Takaichi Umezuki, Tokuye Kameoka, Yoriki Iwasaki, Zentaro Shin, Tomojiro Kadonaga, Tsugou Mineoka, Shiosaku Ozawa, Riken Sumi, Saul Kadonaga. Issaku Uchida and the above first three members were appointed as an executive sub-committee.

The support of such person as Senator Roebuck; Angus MacInnes, M.P.; Col. Croll, M.P. and other have been or are being solicited.

It is now clear that a campaign is necessary to make the Government realize that this matter is again a national concern. The ELCC strongly urge those in other communities to organize to promote this campaign. We suggest a good beginning can be made by wiring Mr. Pickersgill, commending him for his appreciation of the maltreatment of Japanese Canadians and requesting favourable action by him and colleagues for a more liberal retribution.

Unfortunately, one must act while the irons are hot. We have every reason to believe that Mr. Pickersgill is now very concerned with this issue. The greater the interest shown, the more intense grows the Minister's concern.

This is a struggle not only for human rights but for human dignity as well. Being such, one cannot measure the chances of immediate success. However, we trust good citizens will rise to support this cause at this opportunity. We will be grateful for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Issaku Uchida.
Chairman.

March 1, 1954.
Toronto, Ontario.

Please address correspondence to Haj Kagetsu, 8 Mountview Ave., Toronto 9, Ontario.

provides us with the comforts of life, not to be backward on matters which we may have insight. In short, a good citizen, we believe, should not shirk duty nor responsibility.

Admittedly, we often fail, as do others, where we should not. By closer association with men of your calibre, we must strive to minimize these failures.

Secondly, we feel that to surrender to what appears to be wrong is to lose both self-respect and dignity with our fellow citizens. Is not dignity won by men of determination, men who have the courage to speak in defense of an issue and who will persistently resist what is thought to be wrong? Our native oriental meekness is not always a virtue. One must endeavour to contribute to Canada only the good, not the bad with the good. The principles behind the evacuation policy is a matter with which we really never have argued; so our lack of resistance to that was not a matter of meekness nor surrendering. Matters relating to the Bird Commission, however, we believe, should have been resisted earlier in a more forceful manner. For example, the Custodian accounts of one claimant show charges of many thousands of dollars for liquidation fees and disbursements for which no compensation whatever has been awarded. Many Japanese Canadians have acquiesced to this sort of unfairness. Could it be as a consequence that we have lost our dignity? Could it be that the more recent complaints brought to your attention be the result in part to our own shortcomings? Dignity and civil liberties appear to go hand in hand, and with us, to fight for one seems to be to fight for the other. Moreover, we will cherish both the more, only after winning them through untiring efforts of our own, and with the assistance of friends such as yourself.

In conclusion, we firmly believe, to be worthwhile citizens we must not be an ostrich but more like an eagle-lofty in perspective, keen and searching in vision, determined, and courageous.

Sincerely yours,

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

H. Kagetsu.

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

On February 12, 1954, The Hon. John Pickersgill, Secretary of State, gave Eikichi Kagetsu an interview to discuss the latter's large claim for evacuation losses. Present were:- The Deputy Minister; Chief Custodian Wright; Angus MacInnis, M.P., claimant's counsel, John Osborne; and Haj Kagetsu. Mr. Pickersgill emphasized that whether or not claimants had waived rights to further claims, his stand was that all claims would be treated as equal. He also asserted that he was not in a position to set himself up as a tribunal judge. And, lastly, that he would ask at Cabinet level for a complete review of all cases, but would not promise to plead for such a policy. The consensus was that if matters were left to take their course, nothing at all would result.

Responding to the recommendations of many local Issei leaders, the Toronto Issei Japanese Canadian Citizens Association sponsored a public meeting last February 27.

During the war, Canada treated a peaceful minority group as second or third class citizens. Subsequent awards for property losses in many bona fide cases amounted to only ten cents on the dollar - with pleas for appeal denied. The forms of other inter-racial sufferings were immeasurable. Thus, the meeting was deeply concerned about guarding against any feeling of Canadians that because of a Royal Commission, injustices to Japanese Canadians had been connected; and that as a group we were so docile as to submit to harsh injustices with meek oriental surrender.

As a result, it was unanimously approved to form a citizens' committee to shoulder the responsibility of seeking more equitable compensation for all evacuees. The name given was Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee (ELCC). Appointed as chairman of this committee was Issaku Uchida; and members are: Kunio Hidaka, Lucien Kurata, Haj Kagetsu, Eikichi Kagetsu, Takaichi Umezaki, Tokuye Kameoka, Yoriki Iwasaki, Zentaro Shin, Tomojiro Kadonaga, Tsugou Mineoka, Shiosaku Ozawa, Riken Sumi, Saul Kadonaga. Issaku Uchida and the above first three members were appointed as an executive sub-committee.

The support of such person as Senator Roebuck; Angus MacInnes, M.P.; Col. Croll, M.P. and other have been or are being solicited.

It is now clear that a campaign is necessary to make the Government realize that this matter is again a national concern. The ELCC strongly urge those in other communities to organize to promote this campaign. We suggest a good beginning can be made by wiring Mr. Pickersgill, commending him for his appreciation of the maltreatment of Japanese Canadians and requesting favourable action by him and colleagues for a more liberal retribution.

Unfortunately, one must act while the irons are hot. We have every reason to believe that Mr. Pickersgill is now very concerned with this issue. The greater the interest shown, the more intense grows the Minister's concern.

This is a struggle not only for human rights but for human dignity as well. Being such, one cannot measure the chances of immediate success. However, we trust good citizens will rise to support this cause at this opportunity. We will be grateful for your support.

Yours sincerely,



House of Commons
Canada

OTTAWA, - March 25, 1954.

Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto 9, Ontario.

Dear Sirs:

The appeal which you forwarded to me does seem unjust. My opinion, of course, is based only on the facts outlined in your circular. I would be glad to take this matter up on behalf of any complainant in the House of Commons if facts are produced that will merit the re-opening of this matter.

I strongly believe in justice for all people residing in the Dominion of Canada. I do not mean a whole loaf for some due to ravages of war and a half of a loaf for others. I mean justice taking all facts into consideration. With these facts before me, if the matter merits my support, you can rest assured I will not hesitate to give same whatever support it merits.

Yours very truly,

Julian Ferguson
Julian Ferguson, M.P.,
Simcoe North.

JF/md



House of Commons
Canada

O t t a w a,
March 25th, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation
Committee of Japanese Canadian
Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO 9, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:-

I wish to thank you for your letter of March 19th and also for the enclosed statement concerning the Bird Commission.

The statement of your Committee is most interesting and you can assure your Committee that I shall support the efforts of my colleague, Mr. Angus MacInnis, on behalf of Japanese Canadian citizens.

Yours very truly,

Hazen Argue, M. P.
for Assiniboia.

HA:jh



House of Commons
Canada

CCF

O t t a w a,
March 25, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee of
Japanese Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Canada.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

I wish to acknowledge with thanks your
letter of March 19th.

I have noted your Brief, and we in the
C.C.F. Group hope to raise the matter at the appropriate
moment.

Yours truly,

W. Ross Thatcher, M.P.
(Moose Jaw - Lake Centre)

WRT/EB



House of Commons
Canada

OTTAWA, March 26th, 1954.

Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee
of Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sirs,

I have for acknowledgment
your letter of March 19th and the enclosed
brief. I realize the complexity of this
problem and know that there must inevitably
have been some injustices.

I will be happy to look into
the matter in order to determine whether or
not any further action can be taken.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul T. Hellyer".

Paul T. Hellyer.



House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, Ontario,
March 26th, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
8 Mountview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

I was most interested to receive your letter which arrived this morning, and I wish to thank you for your congratulations.

I will read through the enclosed brief later on today, and I feel sure I will find it both interesting and instructive.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George H. Hees", followed by a period.

George H. Hees, M.P.

March 26, 1954.

Mr. John G. Diefenbaker, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your kind and encouraging letter of 23rd instant.

Small losses to those with little possessions often mean greater hardships. Consequently, the concern of our organization lies as much in small losses as in the large. Yet, the success of a purpose lies much on the glaring and the obvious. Hence the specimen below. Other convincing specimens I hope to send in a few days, if I may.

Eikichi Kagetsu whose almost wholly owned interests were the Deep Bay Logging Company and the Kagetsu Company Limited were treated as one claimant (Number 1388). This is the party referred to in our previous letter. His address is as above, my being his son and acting as an executive for this organization, the chairman being Mr. Issaku Uchida, also of Toronto.

Please find enclosed extracts from the claimant's accounts with the Custodian. Copies of the accounts are in our possession. The originals are in the Custodian's Office, Ottawa.

Despite pleas to allow the removal of logs already on the ground-logs being scarce for war demands, all his operations had to stop early in 1942. Most of his employees were of Japanese descent.

You will note a large charge for watchman's wages. Watchmen of course were unnecessary during operations. These were employed by the Custodian in the interest of the principal. Most of the other items are self-explanatory. Those that are not, are charges for expenses arising from custodianship or liquidation. The total approaches \$20,000.

The enclosed memorandum may be helpful in ascertaining the nature of this claim, which in the aggregate was \$464,134.02, all within the terms of reference and thought to be conservative.

Evacuation retribution policy to border on the picayune is one thing, but to be given a deadline within which to accept an award, hardly sounds the democratic way. The Custodian's Office with raised voices emphasized that the choice was between accepting by March 15th, just past, as specified in their letter, or take the chances of the awards being completely withdrawn. A reply from the Minister of Justice regarding the appeal tribunal was pending, so a request was made to advance the deadline. This was refused. These being the circumstances, what was likely the very last and undoubtedly the largest and the most difficult of the cases, was accepted. To the Under Secretary of State was addressed a registered letter dated March 12, 1954, agreeing to accept but only with protest. The very inadequate awards and the more obvious grounds for protest were innumrated in that letter for his attention. The Government immediately asked for signatures on affidavits of release despite the existing dispute as to present shareholders of the companies concerned. Thus far the claimant has withheld formal releases.

Their full and final settlement is an award of \$54,821.25 to cover every form of loss. Their figure is based on the recommendations of the Bird Commission re fair market value plus slightly less than 5% to defray a small fraction of expenses in presenting the case.

Please note that no mention has been made to you of interest losses over the years on sizable capital involved; nor on the usual 10% allowance for compulsory taking which, for reasons not given, have not been awarded.

This then highlights Eikichi Kagetsu's major material losses.

If you should require further substantiation of evidence, we will be only too glad to provide what may be at our disposal. Please rest assure that much sound legal evidence is available, making victory in a court reasonably certain. But as we all know, no legal demands for a review can be made for recommendations of a Royal Commission. Our evidence, however, may be useful in a battle over morals.

With respect and with many thanks, we remain,

Sincerely yours,

H. Kagetsu.



House of Commons
Canada

March 27, 1954

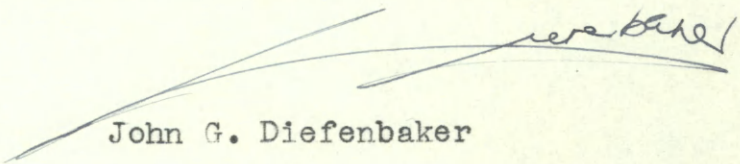
H. Kagetsu, Esq.,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee
Japanese Citizens,
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

I have your letter of the 26th of March and will have the question of the compensation loss brought to the attention of the Committee of the House of Commons when the estimates pertinent to this matter are before the House. I will write you at that time. I hope that I am not away at the time the Committee deals with this matter, although I will be absent from the House for the next four weeks.

With every good wish, I am

Yours sincerely,


John G. Diefenbaker

JGD:as



House of Commons
Canada
O T T A W A

LIBERATION
March 30, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
Evacuation Losses Compensation Committee of
Japanese Canadian Citizens,
8 Mountview Ave.,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Thank you for your letter
which I have read with interest.

Yours sincerely,

M.R.

for

Alan Macnaughton, M.P.
Montreal-Mount Royal.

AM/MR



House of Commons
Canada

OTTAWA
March 31, 1954

Mr. H. Kagetsu
8 Mountview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Since writing to you on March 22nd, I have been in contact with some of my Japanese friends who live in South York regarding the situation which you brought to my attention in your memorandum and have discussed the matter with Mr. MacInnis.

I think everybody in our C.C.F. group here realize that the Bird Commission was not very thorough in its findings and I think we realize that your father's case was without doubt the worst example of injustice.

I understand that your father at present operates a gift shop at Eglinton and Oakwood. Since that is quite close to where I live I shall try to make his acquaintance when I am in Toronto.

If there is anything that we can do here to have a new tribunal to study new evidence and appeals you may rest assured that we will do our best to secure such a tribunal.

Yours very truly,

J. W. Noseworthy, M.P.
York South

JWN:meg

March 31, 1954.

Mr. George H. Hees, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your encouraging reply of 26th instant.

We have had occasions to write to your colleagues Mr. Diefenbaker and Mr. Ferguson to whom certain of our evidence have been sent. To prove injustices will be an easy matter. To have them corrected against the Government's will is of course quite another thing.

Japanese Canadians have never attacked the evacuation policy because our thinking has been that of an ordinary citizen. The subsequent gesture to compensate for losses suffered by evacuees was noble and indeed a mark of a true democracy. However, we believe that the Government's failure to recognize the intensity of human sufferings and the scope and magnitude of material losses is a tragedy, not of the evacuees but of Canada as a nation. Because many losses could not be measured the Government chose to ignore them. Other losses were easily ascertained but for strange reasons were not considered. Negligence on the part of the Custodian and losses arising out of sales at less than fair market value were as broad a term of reference to which the Government was willing to accede. But to top this off, the task which is sufficient to stagger one's imagination was expected to be efficiently done by the labours of one man. The current changing market, the loss of documents from several moves, the death of witnesses during the six year lapse, made the problem the more difficult for the Commissioner, who had to dig into evidence of which the paper is stacked in one pile was very much higher than a tall man. As is customary, if an accurate appraisal is impossible, the next best thing is a conservative estimate. It can now be proved that certain phases at any rate, of the Bird Commission were just that.

To add insult to injury, the awards which in most cases

BIRD COMMISSION HAS ERRED!

Long before the war with Japan, certain Canadians had been victims of racial discriminations. The outbreak of war caused some 23,000 of these citizens to be forcibly uprooted from their homes on very short notice. This was for purposes of security, although the Prime Minister said they were "guilty of no crime or even of any ill intention." All property that could not be carried away by the evacuees had to be hurriedly placed in custody of various authorities. Subsequently, the Department of the Secretary of State adopted a policy, not of custodianship but of mass liquidation.

In 1947, thanks to the efforts of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, other groups and individuals, the Government finally authorized Mr. Justice Henry Bird to act as a Royal Commission. His duties were to probe into, not all forms of losses but only those where the fair market value could be shown to exceed the sale price. Broader terms of reference were refused. At the hearings before the Commissioner the arguments of the claimants were rebutted by Custodian's counsel.

By 1950, the Bird Commission had proved that property of claimants including war veterans, had been sold at great undervaluation. This revealed the inaccuracy of the opinions held by many sincere Canadians.

The counsel for the Co-operative Committee said, " There have been inquiries into the value of very extensive properties by judicial commissions....Never before, however, has it been necessary to inquire into the value of many different sorts of properties lost to a large group of Canadian residents scattered over the whole of Canada." This was unique in the history of Canadian jurisprudence, yet the Government placed this gigantic task on the shoulders of one man. There were close to three thousand claimants involved, about ten thousand exhibits, and well in excess of twenty-five thousand pages of evidence. No matter how competent, this task was well nigh impossible for one judicial mind. Thus, glaring evidences of error have since become apparent.

For example, one claimant who owned timber limits, can at this date prove that twice the volume of timber existed than was allowed by the Commissioner. Unshakable B.C. Government Scale Records of timber actually removed from his limits from the date of sale to the present, is weighty new evidence, not available in 1948 to the Commissioner. The logging of these limits still continues. The Under Secretary of State has rejected this new evidence on the patently irrelevant grounds that the claimants management was inefficient, which contention conflicts with the Commissioner's findings. Factors such as closer utilization fail entirely to reconcile the wide disparity. But a review has been denied. \$1.50 an acre for vast lands, \$1,000 for 41 housing units are further examples of erroneous valuation by the Commissioner.

It would appear that the Government's behavior towards certain Canadians in 1954 is not unlike war years. The above attitude can only be founded on: (a) The defendant of a case has powers of a tribunal to reject new evidence; (b) The false premise that one judicial mind is infallible; (c) The object of the Government was not full and just compensation but merely a rough limited adjustment for losses.

A new tribunal to assess new evidence and to study appeals is more than indicated. To you legislators with shining records of protecting human rights, this appeal is being sent to respectfully solicit active support.

fell within 10% to 25% of the amount claimed, the Government not only refused appeals but refused to make payments without the claimant's unconditional release. They insisted on an all embracing release from every imaginable form of loss, including the very losses they refused to consider when drafting the aforementioned terms of reference. To make matters still worse the Government finally placed a deadline as to acceptance of the awards, threatening that awards will be withdrawn unless accepted before a specified time. Again the tragedy is that the picayune attitude of what might have been a most praiseworthy gesture, has resulted in what may be construed as buying off cheaply the unconditional releases from unfortunate claimants. Would the purpose be to fool the public, when and if they should get curious?

In other words, to have carried out what the public wished, merely by applying a little more kindness, would have been just and benevolent. In every way the cost would have been small. Yet, it would have served as a shining deed of a truly great nation, a deed which would have been acclaimed the world over, by nations of all races. We say it is a tragedy because it is from such things our diabolical enemies gather material to twist and mold to suit their bulging propaganda files.

Civil courts award a 10% allowance for compulsory taking. With no explanation this has been refused to evacuees. It would be interesting to learn their reasons. Also, interest on losses would seem not unreasonable, but this too has been refused. In fact the Government has remained adamant to pleas from every direction by replying, "...in carrying out the recommendations of Mr. Justice Bird, we feel that we have discharged our obligations both to those most directly affected and to the general public."

Thus it is most unlikely that claimants will have more to gain. However, the price of our worthy country is constant vigilance. And, we feel it our duty, not to bury our grievances as some prescribe, but to bring them out to the open to be sooner or later checked.

The consolation of this experience is the lesson that for democracy to progress, an opposition strong in numbers is imperative. It appears that your personal responsibilities are by no means small.

Sincerely yours,

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

H. Kagetsu.

Commissioner the arguments of the claimants were rebutted by Custodian's counsel.

By 1950, the Bird Commission had proved that property of claimants including war veterans, had been sold at great undervaluation. This revealed the inaccuracy of the opinions held by many sincere Canadians.

The counsel for the Co-operative Committee said, " There have been inquiries into the value of very extensive properties by judicial commissions....Never before, however, has it been necessary to inquire into the value of many different sorts of properties lost to a large group of Canadian residents scattered over the whole of Canada." This was unique in the history of Canadian jurisprudence, yet the Government placed this gigantic task on the shoulders of one man. There were close to three thousand claimants involved, about ten thousand exhibits, and well in excess of twenty-five thousand pages of evidence. No matter how competent, this task was well nigh impossible for one judicial mind. Thus, glaring evidences of error have since become apparent.

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A new tribunal to assess new evidence and to study appeals is more than indicated. To you legislators with shining records of protecting human rights, this appeal is being sent to respectfully solicit active support.

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE
8 Mountview Avenue,
Toronto 9, Ontario.
March 15, 1954.

March 31, 1954.

Mr. Julian Ferguson, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your kind reply of 25th instant. A number of your colleagues have offered their support for which we are very grateful. Mr. Fleming, for one has talked to the Ministers concerned and found them adamant. Mr. Diefenbaker, having received further evidence from us, has decided to raise this matter in parliament when the Estimates of the Secretary of State are under debate. Mr. Diefenbaker hopes that such debate will not be during his absence of four weeks.

Please rest assured that our various evidence may be easily substantiated. The nature of some are enclosed herewith, and concerns one of the most obvious and the most glaring of the cases. Of course, our organization is equally interested in bad losses to small claimants but the following we believe to be a convincing specimen.

The name of the particular claimant is Fikichi Kagetsu, whose almost wholly owned interests were the Deep Bay Logging Company and the Kagetsu Company Limited, all treated as one claimant (NO. 1388). Official copies of the claimant's various accounts with the Custodian are in our possession. Enclosed are extracts from those accounts.

Logging operations had to stop early in 1942. In the interest of the principal watchmen were employed by the Custodian. However, their wages, a sizable item, were charged to the claimant. Disbursements for custodianship and liquidation approach \$20,000.

Please note that ordinary overhead items are listed separately. The losses in this sphere were over \$14,000

The claimant owned property in North Vancouver (D.L.193, Lots 1 to 13 & 18 to 21) which the Custodians sold and took back a mortgage in the claimant's name. The general policy of Custodians not to act as collectors resulted in another loss of \$8,750. This can be attested by the same accounts, of which we have official copies.

1,400 pages of evidence and arguments were required to present this case before the Commissioner. This cost, barring legal fees was in excess of \$30,000 being such an involved matter.

From the foregoing it can be seen that in excess of \$70,000.00 has been lost without beginning to consider losses from sales at less than fair market value. The latter were the limits of the narrow terms of reference of the Bird Commission. Yet, I have letters from both the Secretary of State and from the Minister of Justice, who both repeat that, "...in carrying out the recommendations of Mr. Justice Bird, we feel we have discharged our obligations both to those most directly affected and to the general public."

It is interesting to note that during his absence of forced retirement, this man had to pay close to \$17,000 in the aggregate, in the form of various taxes, not including hidden taxes nor special dues. The same Custodian records will show this. He had no access to his properties, he had no choice as to their disposition, he derived from them no income to speak of--but the taxes became due just the same. It is only right that he paid taxes, but the evacuation certainly caught a man in many unique predicaments.

B.C. Government scale records can be used to show twice the volume of timber allowed by the Commissioner, but this does not in the least impress the Government. The Commissioner himself relied on these same figures as far as they went in 1948. To the strange thinking of the Government, the continuation of the same records, to bring them up to date, are not convincing in 1954. The obvious reason is because the Commissioner's errors are so glaring and so easy to prove that recourse to justice will inevitably result in embarrassment to the Government.

The enclosed memorandum may be helpful to ascertain the nature of this particular claim, which in the aggregate was \$464,134.02, all within the terms of reference and thought to be conservative. The above \$70,000 loss embrace losses not included in the claim.

The full and final award for settlement is \$54,821.25. The Government's position was either accept the settlement by last March 15th or take the chance of the total award being withdrawn. There was no choice but to agree to accept, under protest.

Please also note that we make no mention of interest losses over the years on sizable capital involved; nor on the usual 10% allowance for compulsory taking which have not been awarded. The justification for denying these has never been made known to claimants.

Should any of the data provided require further substantiation, we will be only too glad to provide you with further evidence. Since we are armed with sound evidence, it is most regrettable that this matter falls outside the jurisdiction of the courts, where victory would be reasonably certain. The evidence, however, may be useful in a battle on morals.

With respect and with many thanks, we remain,

Sincerely yours,

EVACUATION LOSSES COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

H. Kagetsu.

Please also note that we make no mention of interest losses over the period of years on the sizable capital involved; nor on the usual 10% allowance for compulsory taking which have not been awarded for reasons not given



House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, Ontario,
April 13, 1954.

Mr. H. Kagetsu,
8 Mountainview Avenue,
TORONTO, Ont.

Dear Mr. Kagetsu:

Thank you for your
recent letter.

I have discussed this
matter with Angus MacInnis and he assures me
that he will be raising this matter in the House
when the estimates of the Secretary of State are
being considered. I understand that he has also
written to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. J. Coldwell", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

M. J. Coldwell



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