186-24

SECRET SERIES

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE (NAVAL SERVICE)

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From: Naval Officer-in-Charge Vancouver, B. C.

To: Commanding Officer
Pacific Coast
H.M.C. Dockyard
Esquimalt, B. C.

Subject: ATTEMPT TO SABOTAGE JAPANESE FISHING FLEET AT NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

Submitted with reference to the above subject, it was reported to this Office by J.H. Kyle, R.C.M.P. on the 16th February, that he (Kyle) had received information from one "George Bournfeind" (German) that owing to the poor price the Japanese were receiving for their vessels they were becoming very disgruntled, and had said to one "Oscar Iuon" that they intended to burn the fleet--when told this was practically impossible, they replied, "Oh, no it isn't, we can float an oil soaked barge down on the proper tide and let it do the work".

In view of the information coming from "Bournfeind", who is well known to the R.C.M.P. for the reliability of his news, the following signal was despatched to Officer-in-Charge, New Westminster -

REPORT ON HAND ATTEMPT MAY BE MADE TO SET FISHING FLEET ON FIRE BY SCOW FILLED WITH INFLAMMABLE MATERIAL DRIFT-ING DOWN STREAM. ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN.

20072/16/2/42

Following telephone conversations with Commander McCulloch, it was decided to send thirty-six ratings from "DISCOVERY" under the orders of Lieut. Cdr. Elfert, who had six vessels standing by for patrol duty. This patrol is now working on twenty-four hour duty.

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Cdr. R.C.N.R. (Temp.) N.O.i/c, Vancr.

GB/B

cc Commanding Officer, H.M.C.S. "GIVENCHY", Esquimalt, B. C. Security Intelligence Officer, H.M.C. Dockyard, Esquimalt, B. C.

SECRET

Vancouver, B. C.

17th February 1942

From:

Naval Officer-in-Charge

Vancouver, B. C.

To:

Commanding Officer Pacific Coast H.M.C. Dockyard Esquimalt, B. C.

FOR INFORMATION 10 INITIAL ND DATE 19/2/42 200 910 A/Soki SOU)

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GB/B

Security Intelligence Officer, H.M.C. Dockyard, Esquimalt, B. C.

Commanding Officer, H.M.C.S. "GIVENCHY", Esquimalt, B. C.

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From:

Naval Officer-in-Charge

Vancouver, B. C.

To:

Commanding Officer Pacific Coast

H.M.C. Dockyard Esquimalt, B. C.

Subject: ATTEMPT TO SABOTAGE JAPANESE FISHING FLEET AT NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

The following is submitted further to Naval Officer-in-Charge, Vancouver's 15-037 of 17th February, 1942.

- 2. The Security Intelligence Officer to Naval Officer-in-Charge investigated fully the report of a proposed attempt to sabotage the Japanese fishing fleet at New Westminster, B. C., and it was concluded that the situation was not as serious as it had first appeared to be.
- 3. The thirty-six ratings borrowed from H.M.C.S. "DISCOVERY" as an additional guard have been returned to that Establishment, and the Officer-in-Charge, New Westminster, is carrying out extra precautionary measures with his present staff in order to prevent any attempts at sabotage.

Cdr. R.C.N.R. (Temp.) N.O.i/c, Vancr.

RMH/B

Commanding Officer, H.M.C.S. "GIVENCHY", Esquimalt Security Intelligence Officer, H.M.C. Dockyard, Esquimalt

Naval Service

SECRET

Vancouver, B. C. 19th February 1942

From: Nav

Naval Officer-in-Charge

Vancouver, B. C.

To:

Commanding Officer

Pacific Coast H.M.C. Dockyard Esquimalt, B. C.

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Commanding Officer, H.M.C.S. "GIVENCHY", Esquimalt

Security Intelligence Officer, H.M.C. Dockyard, Esquimalt

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After Action Circulation

SUBJECT. Sabolage: Japanese Fishing Visselr: Amnocis Island
ORIGIN Someonine. 15-037 dated 19th Feb. 42. Referred to Officer : Date: Date : S.o.o : Rec : Passed: Monte patotage precautions appear to be evell on hand & the forther forment. Disposal B.U.

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SECRET

DATE

February 20th, 1942

AREA Vancouver, B. C.

SUBJECT

Japanese Fleet at New Westminster, B. C.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Bec. Bournfeind through R.C.M.P. (Bournfeind being previously known to the Security Officer and being very reliable for information).

NATURE OF INFORMATION

That the Japanese at Steveston, B. C. were not satisfied with the treatment given their boats and also the unfair prices they were getting for same, they stated they were going to burn up the boats at New Westminster by letting a barge or some other oil soaked boat float down the river and lodge in the main anchorage, causing a fire.

ACTION TAKEN

N.O.i/c notified and Lieut. Commander Elfert, O.C. i/c, New Westminster, in turn notified to be on the alert for any attempt.

Patrol made to Steveston and Mr. Hashimoto, President of Steveston Fishermen's Association, interviewed. Hashimoto stated he had not heard of any talk about the boats, but would either notify the Naval Service or the R.C.M.P. should he hear of any such talk or movement.

RECOMMEND-ATIONS Special precautions be taken such as a log boom in front of the boats to stop a fire boat from entering and, if possible, a patrol vessel be kept in constant use at the fleet, which could tow away any obstacles that might drift into the main anchorage.

Lieutenant, R.C.N.V.R. (S.B.) Security Intelligence Officer

AGH/B 25-020 Commanding Officer Pacific Coast H.M.C. Dockyard Esquimalt, B. C.

Submitted for information.

H.M.C. Naval Base Committee Vancouver, B. C. 20th February, 1942 FOR INFORMATION

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