2966 - C-40

.

Dep

RECORD GROUP 25

2937 ACC 33-84/359

VOLUME +12

il Affairs

R.

FILE 2966-C-40

0	1			
91	ub	116	20	10
0				Lo.

CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

& SPANISH REPRESENTATIVES IN CHARGE

OF JAPANESE INTERESTS IN CANADA.

References to Related Files

File No.	Subject		
	CD/		
	272		
	AS'		
	Contract of the second of the		

AHM/M

#### CANADA

# DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN

ADDRESS ALL
COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE
CUSTODIAN'S OFFICE
PLEASE REFER

FILE NO.....

What

Ottawa, December 6th, 1945.

To: The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Subject: Handing over of Japanese Archives and Property.

I refer to your letter of December 3rd, your file 2966-40C, enclosing a copy of your reply to the Consul General of Switzerland relating to the above matter.

I believe this matter should be handled in a similar manner to that set out in my letter of even date covering the disposal of German property, your file 728-B-39C.

As we already know that there is considerable property in Vancouver it is suggested that your Department make arrangements with the Swiss authorities to furnish at once a list similar to that done in the German case, and name someone in Vancouver authorized to meet our Mr. Wright to complete the inventory during his stay on the Coast.

If any of this property is situated at other points
East of Vancouver, outside of Ottawa, arrangements should
also be made with the Swiss Government to name a representative
to meet Mr. Wright on his way back from the Coast to carry
on the necessary examination and inventory at these other
points.

I would also suggest that an expression of opinion be given either through your Department or the Government relative to the disposal problems raised in my letter regarding German property.

I would appreciate being advised as soon as possible so that the necessary arrangements may be made with Mr. WWright before he leaves Ottawa.

A. H. MATHIEU

Assistant Deputy Custodian.

Vmathica



CONSULADO GENERAL DERESPAÑA MONTREAL

> No. 493 J.409

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your despatch No. J.110 of July 6th, I have the honour to inform you that a copy of this communication has been forwarded to-day to Mr. Fernando de Kobbé, Spanish Consul at Vancouver, for his knowledge and guidance.

> I have the honour to be, Sir,

EXTERNAL AFFAMS RECORD

Your obedient servant,

Pedro Consul General of in charge of Japanese interests

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Ottawa, Ontario.

SMS/CC Ay Lolar Done July 1/43 Department of External Affairs. File 2966-C-40 Ottawa, July 6, 1943. File No. 2966-C. &
Sub. 4-Chron. 3-Filed Sir, I have the honour to recall your attention to my despatch No. J.34 of February 18th, 1943, concerning the channel of communications between Mr. de Kobbe, Spanish Consul General at Vancouver, and the officers of the British Columbia Security Commission. I should be grateful if you would remind Mr. de Kobbe that it has been agreed that enquiries concerning individuals which he wishes to make should be addressed to either Mr. Collins or Mr. Eastwood at the headquarters of the British Columbia Security Commission. There are considerations which make it inadvisable for communications of this sort to be addressed by the Protecting Power to other officers of the Commission. In respect to matters of policy and information concerning the condition of settlements, scales of maintenance and so on, the correspondence should continue to be with the Department of External Affairs. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant, In level Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. The Consul General of Spain in charge of Japanese interests, Sun Life Building, MONTREAL, Que.



2966-C. 48
Sub. 40000 2 Filed\_

Ottawa, June 30, 1943

Kasy.

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Attention: Mr. S. M. Scott, O t t a w a

I attach copy of letter sent by Mr. F. de Kobbe, Spanish Consul at Vancouver, to Mr. H. P. Lougheed, B.C. Security Commission Supervisor at Kaslo, concerning provision of new quarters for Mrs. Koide.

Under date of May 14, Mr. Collins advised Mr. de Kobbe that the B.C. Security Commission was not prepared to relocate this woman, and a copy of Mr. Collins' letter was sent for your information. I attach copy of a report from Mr. Lougheed to Mr. Collins which explains further why Commission officials refuse to move Mrs. Koide.

Mr. Collins requests that the Department of the Secretary of State for External Affairs ask Mr. de Kobbe in a tactful way to refrain from writing directly to Commission employees, who have instructions not to answer such communications. It is our understanding that Mr. de Kobbe will correspond on individual cases with Commissioner Collins, and will refer any questions of a general nature through the Consul General at Montreal to your office.

a. Tuachamara

A. MacNamara.

June 16th, 1943.

No. 220.

Mr. H. P. Lougheed, Supervisor, B.C. Security Commn., Kaslo, B.C.

Dear Mr. Lougheed:

A Mrs. Koido, of Kaslo, has written to me several times, complaining that she is ill, and the fact that she is living in an upstairs flat, makes it difficult for her to go out; that the exertion of climbing the stairs each time is too much for her.

I am wondering if, in this particular case, it would be possible for you to find her living quarters in a one storey dwelling, so that she would have no further cause for complaint in this respect.

Thanking you very much for you kind attention to this matter and extending my kind regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,
(sgd.) F. de Kobbe
Spanish Consul

1

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

Kaslo, B. C., June 21st, 1943.

Mr. George Collins, Commissioner, B.C.S.C., VANCOUVER.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter 1 received today from the Spanish Consul regarding living quarters of Mrs. Koide. I would refer to your letter of May 8th and to mine of May 10th in respect to the same woman. I might add further that we have very few ground floor living quarters here and if we had we certainly have many more deserving cases from the standpoint of health that should be moved. Last fall this family was offered an opportunity to move to New Denver where they would have shared one of the houses which are established more of less on the ground level. They flatly refused to be moved from Kaslo and under the circumstances I cannot do anything further for them in regards to housing. In fact, at the moment the complaint of the other Japanese is that these people are too well housed compared with the rest.

I have refrained from replying to the Spanish Consuluntil I hear from you as I feel this matter should be taken up through you. On hearing from you I will take such action as you advise.

"H.P. Lougheed" Supervisor.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LECORDS
File No2966 C. 40
Sub Chron Filed
Land of the same o

# NOTE FOR FILE

I telephoned Mr. Pammett of Labour today and pointed out to him that Mr. de Kobbe had written to Mr. Collins on February 26th, a long letter asking not only particular matters, but general matters of policy. Or rather, I asked if such a letter had been received from Mr. de Kobbe and added that if Mr. Collins had answered it, we should like to know what he said. Mr. Pammett realized that I was saying that such a correspondence was against our understanding.

S.M.S.



12966-C-40

Chron. 3Filed\_

February 24, 1943.

No. 105 J.72

Bond Box march 1.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. J.34 of February 18th, concerning the relation between the officers of the British Columbia Security Commission and the Spanish Consul at Vancouver, Mr. F. de Kobbe.

Due note has been made that all correspondence concerning matters of policy and information regarding the condition of settlements, scales of maintenance, etc., should reach me through the Department of External Affairs. I am sending a copy of your communication and that of mine to Mr. Kobbe for his guidance.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Pedra E. Schwartz Consul General of Spain in charge of Japanese interests

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Ottawa, Ontario.

Charle. Of

SMS/DEK

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECOGNS

File No. 2966-C-46

Labour

Labour

Ottawa, February 18, 1943.

NO. 34

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 50 J.35 of February 1st, 1943, concerning communications between Mr. F. de Kobbe, the new Spanish Consul at Vancouver and the officers of the British Columbia Security Commission.

I agree that it is highly desirable that problems
pertaining to routine affairs should be despatched in Vancouver
by means of conversations between the Commission and the
Consulate. Nor is there any objection to notes and letters
being exchanged concerning routine matters such as visits
by the Protecting Power, status and welfare of individuals
and the like. There will be no objection to Mr. Collins and
Mr. Eastwood talking and writing to Mr. de Kobbe in regard
to such matters, and these officers will be informed
accordingly.

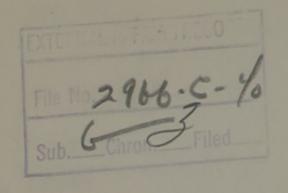
I think you will agree, however, that all correspondence concerning matters of policy and information concerning the condition of settlements, scales of maintenance and so on, of which your Consulate General is supposed to have official knowledge, should reach you through the Department of External Affairs.

These remarks are not, of course, intended to apply to internees or conditions of internment concerning which the procedure is already well understood.

I have the honour to be,

The Consul General of Spain in charge of Japanese interests, Sun Life Building, Montreal, P.Q. J. S. Rad





Ottawa, February 15, 1943.

Mr. N. A. Robertson. Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Department of External Affairs,

I have your letter of February and appreciate the formula in the second spanish consultant in the s I have your letter of February 8, on the above subject and appreciate the force of your remarks. I am annoyed that the contents of my letter to the British Columbia Security Commission Officers of November last should have been passed on to Mr. Bernard. It is agreed that verbal or written communications to the Spanish Consul General or Consul should be limited to matters of routine information covering enquiries concerning individuals, etc., and that information on matters of policy should be furnished only through your Department. Information to your Department on matters of policy relating to the Japanese will be transmitted to you from here rather than from the Officers of the Department in British Columbia. Instructions are going forward to Mr. Collins, the Commissioner of Japanese Placement, accordingly.

> I should point out that by P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943, the powers and duties of the British Columbia Security Commission have been taken over by the Department and the British Columbia Security Commission wound up. Mr. George Collins, as Commissioner of Japanese Placement, is in charge of administration of the regulations as Chief Executive Officer.

I will be glad to have a representative from this Department discuss with your Departmental Officers an arrangement for the interchange of information, at any convenient time suggested by you.

A. MacNamara

SMS/CC
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS
File No. 2966-C-40
Sub Chron. Filed
February 8, 1943.

# Ouf File 3464-A-40

TO: The Deputy Minister of Labour, Ottawa.

RE: Communication between British Columbia Security Commission and Spanish Consul.

I enclose a copy of despatch No. 50 J. 35, dated February 1, 1943, from the Consul General of Spain.

On November 10th, I wrote you as follows:-

involved in the practice of various officers of the British Columbia Security Commission communicating directly and individually on the letterhead of the Commission, with the representatives of the Protecting Power. The Consul General is, of course, likely to send such communications to Madrid as the considered opinion of the Canadian authorities. There is doubtless an advantage in having friendly and informal relations between the Commission's officers and the Vice-Consul, but I submit for your consideration whether written communications should not pass through some common channel."

You will observe that I did not propose that no further conversations or written communications take place between the officers of the Commission and the Spanish Vice-Consul, but only that written communications should pass through some common channel, which would now presumably be the General Supervisor.

On November 12th you answered this letter, enclosing a letter from yourself to Mr. Eastwood on the subject, which letter I presume, has occasioned the present despatch from the Consul General.

2966:A-40

This Department has no objection to conversations taking place between Mr. Kobbe and officers of the Commission; on the contrary we think they are highly desirable. But it must be constantly remembered in these conversations that Mr. Kobbe represents a foreign state which is not only protecting the interests of an enemy state, but whose Government has advertised their sympathy with the enemy's cause. To say things to him is to say them to Japan. You will also appreciate that the arrival of Mr. Kobbe, who is a career man in the Spanish Foreign Service, must necessarily restrict the freedom with which the Canadian authorities have been in the habit of dealing with Mr. Bernard, who is a Canadian national and who had no ties with the Spanish Government except those appertaining to his honorary Vice-Consulship.

As to written communications, it is the opinion of this Department that no written communications should be made to the Consul or to the Consul General except by or on the express authority of the General Supervisor or yourself; and that these communications should be confined to matters of routine, such as the arranging of trips of inspection, information concerning individuals, etc. Information on matters of policy should be transmitted to the Protecting Power by means of despatches from the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs to the Consul General. I should be grateful if you would tell me whether letters on such matters are to be received by this Department from the British Columbia Security Commission, or solely from the Department of Labour.

The practice previously followed by this Department of referring to you copies of despatches of this sort will be continued.

Since this Department is responsible for official information which reaches the Protecting Power through official channels and also for reciprocal considerations affecting the welfare of Canadians in enemy hands, it is highly desirable that we be kept informed both as to facts and policies respecting the treatment of Japanese in Canada. May I suggest that within a few days it might

be desirable for our departments to consult as to how information can be regularly exchanged.

I propose to write to the Consul General informing him of this decision. I shall, however, withhold this letter for a few days in case you have comments to make from the procedure suggested.

M. M. Robertson
Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs.

REFER: B.C.S.C.

DRAFT

NO. J

Sir,

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DECOMES & DO NO.

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 50 J. 35 of February 1st, 1943, concerning communications between Mr. F. de Kobbe, the new Spanish Consul at Vancouver and the officers of the British Columbia Security Commission.

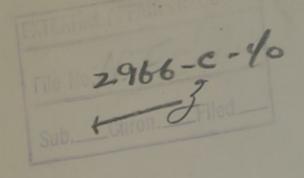
roblems pertaining to routine affairs should be despatched in Vancouver by means of conversations between the Commission and the Consulate. Nor is there any objection to notes and letters being exchanged concerning routine matters such as visits by the Protecting Power, status and welfare of individuals and the like. There will be no objection to Mr. Collins and Mr. Eastwood talking and writing to Mr. de Kobbe in regard to such matters, and these officers will be informed accordingly.

I think you will agree, however, that all correspondence concerning matters of policy and information concerning the condition of settlements, scales of maintenance and so on, of which your Consulate General is supposed to have official knowledge, should reach you through the Department of External Affairs.

These remarks are not, of course, intended to apply to internees or conditions of internment concerning which the procedure is already well understood.

I have the honour to be,





OTTAWA, February 8, 1943.

The Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, O T T A W A, Ontario.

### Attention: Mr. S. Morley Scott

Herewith copy of letter received from Mr. Collins of the British Columbia Security Commission concerning channel of communications with Mr. F. de Kobbe, Spanish Vice-Consul at Vancouver.

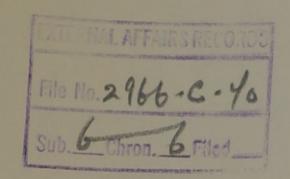
It would appear to be a sensible proposal to avoid delay by agreeing with Mr. de Kobbe that he correspond directly with the B.C. Security Commission at Vancouver, but I would suggest that copies of such correspondence passing to or from, between the Spanish official and the Commission, be sent to this Department and yours.

I would appreciate your views in this matter as soon as possible in order that a reply may be made to Mr. Collins.

A. MacNamara.

ENC.

29th January 1943. Mr. A. MacNamara, Deputy Minister of Labour, OTTAWA, Ontario. Dear Mr. MacNamara, While we were in the Interior, Mr. F. de Kobbe, Spanish Consul recently appointed to Vancouver, called at this office. Yesterday Mr. Pammett, Mr. Eastwood and I made a courtesy call upon Mr. de Kobbe. The procedure in this office has been that any correspondence with the representative of the Protecting Power was to be referred through Ottawa. However, Mr. de Kobbe advises us that when he was in Ottawa the Secretary of External Affairs Department intimated to him that as he had the rank of full consul, he would be privileged to deal direct with the Commission authorities in Vancouver. The reason this has been referred to you for clarification is that we already have an enquiry from Mr. de Kobbe relative to a Japanese national who is residing in the Province of Alberta on the sugar-beet operations. I am sending an additional copy of this letter in the event that you would like to forward it to the Department of External Affairs to have their views on this matter. Yours very truly. BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION GEORGE COLLINS. GC/EG General Supervisor.



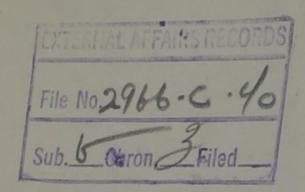
### NOTE TO MR. RIVE

# Mr. Schwartz's despatch No. 50 J.35.

I attach a draft for Mr. MacNamara on this subject which, if approved, you might have sent out together with a despatch to the Consul General, or you might wish to hear from Mr. MacNamara before writing Mr. Schwartz, or you might wish to approve the draft against my return, or something.



February 1, 1943.



5962

No. 50 J.35

Sir,

12 ml

2966. 402

3464-A-40

I have the honour to inform you that at the end of last November, I learned that the British Columbia Security Commission had been instructed by Mr. Arthur MacNamara, Deputy Labour Minister, not to correspond with Mr. F.P. Bernard, Spanish Vice-Consul, by letter in order to avoid the possibility of the Commission supplying information which might be at variance with that given me by the Department of External Affairs.

An interview was held between the new Spanish Consul at Vancouver, Mr. F. de Kobbé, and Mr. Collins, General Supervisor of the British Columbia Security Commission, Mr. Alec Eastwood, and Mr. Pammett from the Department of Labour at Ottawa, on January 28th when the above matter of correspondence was discussed. It was agreed by all that with the arrival of the Consul at Vancouver to take charge of Japanese matters, it would be most desirable if any problems, pertaining to routine affairs, could be dispatched in Vancouver between the Commission and the Consulate. I have been told that Mr. Collins and Mr. Eastwood have been awaiting instructions from Ottawa on this point.

I should be highly obliged, if after due consideration by the Canadian authorities concerned, a decision in favour of the Consul's wishes is reached.

> I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Pedro E. Schwartz

Consul General of Spain
in charge of Japanese interests

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Ottawa, Ontario.