

3464-AC-40



Dep

al Affairs

ACCESS REVIEWED:

RECORD GROUP 25

VOLUME 3005

FILE 3464-AC-40

Part _____

From 8-8-42

To 16-11-45

Subject:

PETITION FROM TEN JAPANESE WOMEN AND OTHERS RE RELEASE
FROM INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE IN CANADA.

PAC

References to Related Files

File No.	Subject
PUBLIC ARCHIVES RECORDS CENTRE DEPOT DES ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES OTTAWA	
	L-117-625
	283368

3464-AC-460
6. 12

Ottawa, November 16, 1945.

To: The Deputy Minister,
Department of Labour,
O t t a w a .

Re: Tokikazu TANAKA and family.

Enclosed are two copies of a letter of November 2 from Miss Naomi TANAKA, and a copy of our reply.

I assume that you will write Miss Tanaka direct as regards her mother and sister. We are asking the R.C.M.P. to deal direct with the question of the father, who is interned at Angler.

M. H. WERSHOF

for Acting Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464-AC-40
Sub.	6 Chron. 12

Ottawa, November 16, 1945.

To: The Commissioner,
The Royal Canadian Mounted Police,
O t t a w a.

Re: Tokikazu TANAKA and family.

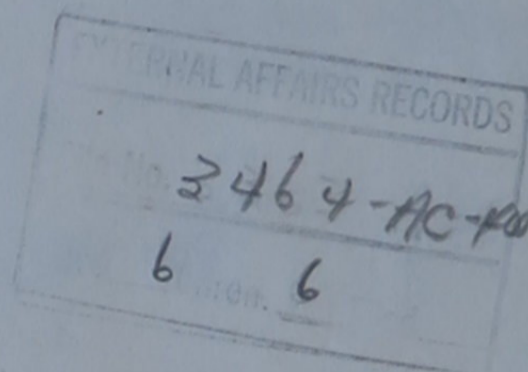
Enclosed are two copies of a letter of November 2 from Miss Naomi TANAKA, and a copy of our reply.

I assume that you will write direct to Miss Tanaka in reply to her request for the release from internment of her father.

I am also sending copies of Miss Tanaka's letter to the Deputy Minister of Labour, in order that he may reply direct on the other points raised in the letter.

M. H. WERSHOF

for Acting Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs.



Ottawa, November 16, 1945.

Dear Miss Tanaka:

I have received your letter of November 2 regarding your parents and sister.

The question of your father's release from internment is within the jurisdiction of the R.C.M.P. The other questions raised in your letter are within the jurisdiction of the Department of Labour.

We are therefore sending copies of your letter to the Commissioner of the R.C.M.P., Ottawa, and to the Deputy Minister of Labour.

You will no doubt receive replies direct from those Departments.

Yours sincerely,

M. H. WERSHOF

for Acting Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs.

Miss Naomi Tanaka,
c/o Mr. J. D. Wilson,
R.R. No. 3,
CHATHAM, Ontario.

C/O Mr. J. D. Wilson,
R. R. No. 3,
CHATHAM, ONTARIO.
November 2, 1945.

The DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
OTTAWA, ONTARIO.

Dear Sirs:

May I present to you herewith our case which I wish to be given your special consideration?

<u>SURNAME</u>	<u>GIVEN NAME</u>	<u>PRESENT ADDRESS</u>
TANAKA	Tokikazu (husband) - Japanese	Internment Camp "101", Angler, Ont.
"	Kizue (wife) - Nationals	Tashme, via Hope, British Columbia.
"	C.B. Naomi - eldest daughter (23)	R. R. No. 3, Chatham, Ont.
"	C.B. Mitsuaki - only son (21)	R. R. No. 3, Chatham, Ont.
"	C.B. Sumire - youngest child (10)	Tashme, via Hope, British Columbia.

Events which had taken place between December 7, 1941 to October 9, 1945.

December 7, 1941: Dad was interned.

May 17, 1942: Mother, Naomi (myself), Mitsuaki and Sumire were evacuated to Kaslo, British Columbia, one of the Interior Housing centres.

June, 1942: Mother filed requests for repatriation for the whole family. At that time, we were notified that an exchange ship, the "Gripsholm" was to take the Internees' families to Japan in September of that year. We haven't given thought to repatriation or expatriation since.

January, 1945: Family made applications for relocation through the B. C. Security commission in Kaslo. Applications were rejected owing to the repatriation requests made in June 1942.

February 26, 1945: Family and 2 other Internee families were ordered to move to Tashme to mark the initial step to close Kaslo. At this time, the family was self-supporting, (ever since November 1943.) I was employed in a newspaper office, (The New Canadian) and my brother was working in Mr. Lambert's private mill. (Both my brother and myself were on B. C. Commission payrolls from the time we were evacuated until the end of October 1943. We were not a maintenance case. Our family was respected highly by both the Occidentals and the Japanese evacuees while we were in Kaslo. To confirm this, please inquire the supervisor, Mr. T. A. Moryson, Mr. A. L. MacPhee of the Board of Trade, and the former B.C.S.C. supervisor of Kaslo now in New Denver. Both Mr. Moryson and Mr. MacPhee are still in Kaslo.

March 8, 1945: Family arrived in Tashme.

April 9 - 13, 1945: Family did not sign repatriation papers, we expressed our desires to be relocated east of the rockies to join our relatives in Chatham.

August 20, 1945: I was informed by the supervisor of Department of Labour

The Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, Ont.

in Tashme that: "Canadian-born children of Internees' families who did not sign repatriation papers may now relocate east of the Rockies. However, wives of the Internees', regardless of their status, cannot relocate East of the Rockies at present." This was quoted from a letter received from Ottawa, by supervisor, Mr. Walter Hartley of Tashme, B. C.

October 9, 1945: Mitsuaki and myself left Tashme to join our relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Yoshimatsu Takeda, c/o Mr. J. D. Wilson, R. R. No. 3, Chatham, Ont.

We feel very fortunate that we were finally able to come out to Ontario. My brother is already working at Darling Co. and I shall be working from next week. Now, I am begging your assistance to have our parents and sister, Sumire rejoin us.

For the past months, I have been writing to the proper authorities to make possible the release of my Dad from the Internment camp but the results so far have been unsatisfactory. No one seems to know the reason for the unsatisfactory replies I receive. We still do not know why Dad has been interned in the first place. He has been very active while residing in New Westminster, in promoting goodwill between the Occidentals and the Japanese. He was well known in various circles. For reference, please write to Rev. W. R. MacWilliams, 1716 West 49th Ave., Vancouver, British Columbia, and Mr. Saburo Shinobu, 15 Howland Ave., Toronto, Ontario, or Mr. Takaichi Umezuki, The New Canadian, 504 Talbot Ave., Winnipeg, Man. My mother has been active on the executive of the Parent-Teachers' Association for many years. She is at present on the Education Committee of the Tashme Elementary School sponsored by the Department of Labour, in Tashme, B. C. Our family belong to the United Church. Both my brother and myself have been on the Sunday School teaching staff during our stay in Tashme. My brother has been working in the sawmill and I was employed in the General office in Tashme prior to our departure. Our friendship with the Occidentals in Tashme, were very pleasant. For reference, please inquire Miss May MacLachlan, Miss Katherine Greenbanks, and Mr. Walter Hartley, Supervisor, of Tashme, B. C.

We left Tashme in order to comply with the Government's dispersal policy and also to enjoy normal living in normal surroundings. It is up to us to support our parents and our sister. We would very much like our young sister to be educated properly and be educated to grow up to be a good citizen of Canada. We must have our parents with us as soon as they are allowed to. Dad has a slight case of cancer trouble and it is up to us to look after his medical. When the whole family reunites under the same roof, we are intending to take over Mr. Wilson's farm. Mother cannot stay much longer in a damp atmosphere like in Tashme. We would like her to be out in this moderate climate before anything serious should happen to her, for we are not guaranteed whether we can return to British Columbia in the cases of any sicknesses, deaths within the family.

If and when our case is presented, we earnestly seek your special attention and consideration to have our family reunion made possible. If there are omissions, I shall be willing to attend to it, if you so desire.

I shall be anxiously waiting your reply in regard to the above matter, I am

Very respectfully yours,
(Miss) Naomi Tanaka. Reg. #08228.

Dune
SEP - 4 1945

C.C.

Refer
1. R.C.M.P.
2. Labour
mj

Our File 3464-AC-40

Ottawa, September 1st, 1945.

File No. *3464-AC-40*

Sub. *4* Chron. *12* Filed

Dear Mr. Maag:

I wish to refer to my letter of August 9th, regarding a request from Mrs. Sato MARUBASHI for the release from internment of her husband and two sons.

This petition has been considered by the R.C.M.P. and the Department of Labour, and it has been decided that the request for release from internment cannot be granted at the present time. Mrs. Marubashi's request to cancel her application for repatriation and the request of the three men for release from internment will no doubt receive full consideration when the proposed machinery to handle such cases is set up.

Yours sincerely,

"J.E. Lead"

for Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs.

E. L. Maag, Esq.,
International Red Cross Delegate,
74 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, Ontario

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
HEADQUARTERS

LY PLEASE QUOTE

FILE NO. 42 D 269-4-J-226

OTTAWA,
CANADA

*File
Jum*

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RELATIONS		
File No.	3464-AC-40	
Sub.	Chro.	Filed
	12	

August 29, 1945.

We would refer to our letter of the 10th instant relative to the application for the release of her husband and two sons from internment made by Mrs. Sato MARUBASHI, to the delegate in Canada of the International Red Cross.

2. We have been in touch with the Department of Labour regarding this matter and embodied hereunder will be found the contents of a letter received from that Department. I might add that this Force is in full accordance with the views set out by the Department of Labour.

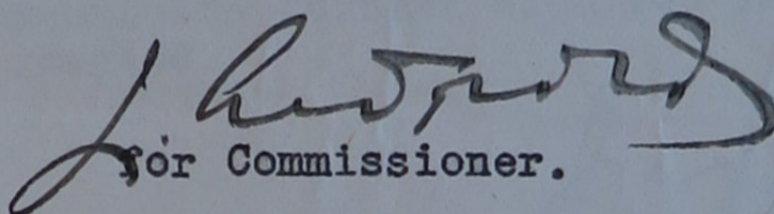
"I wish to acknowledge your letter of August 11, concerning Mrs. S. Marubashi who signed for repatriation, and concerning also the request of her husband and two sons for release from internment.

"After considering the case, we believe that no consideration should be given the requests from this family at the present time. Mrs. Marubashi's excuse that she signed for repatriation because it was the only way to let her son continue his High School education is a very weak one, since any Eastern High School is superior to that in Lemon Creek, B.C.

The Under Secretary of State
for External Affairs,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

"It is noted that the three men wish release from internment, but as there are no compassionate circumstances, we recommend that no action be taken at this time.

"The request of Mrs. Marubashi to cancel her application for repatriation and the requests of the three men for release from internment will no doubt receive full consideration from the proposed Loyalty Tribunal when established."


for Commissioner.

"Refer: Dept. of Labour" (2 copies)

AUG 9 1945

One - JB

Ottawa, August 9, 1945.

To: The Commissioner,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police,
O t t a w a.

Re: Mrs. Sato MARUBASHI.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464-AC-40
Sub.	3 Chron/) Filed

Enclosed is a copy of a letter of August 8th from the Delegate in Canada of the International Committee of the Red Cross, enclosing a letter from Mrs. Marubashi. She asks for the release of her husband and two sons, who are at present in the internment camp at Angler, Ontario.

The Delegate, Mr. Maag, asks on compassionate grounds that the case be reviewed by the competent Government authorities.

I should be grateful if you would send me a report on this case, with your views.

I am referring a copy of this letter to the Department of Labour for their information.

M. H. Wershop

fol Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs.

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
DÉLÉGATION AU CANADA

ERNEST L. MAAG
DELEGATE

OTTAWA, August 8, 1945
74 SPARKS STREET

Department of External Affairs,
Special Division,
O t t a w a.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS

File No. 3464-AC-40

3

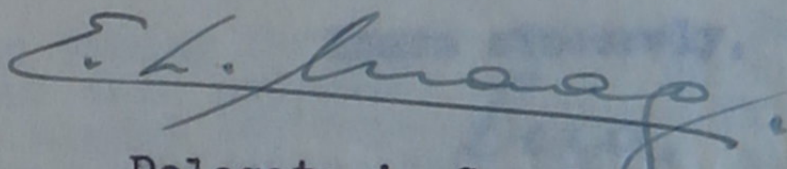
Dear Sir,

Enclosed herewith please find copy of a registered letter which I received under date of July 20th, from Mrs. Sato Marubashi, No. 05897, at present residing at Lemon Creek, B.C.

This lady asks for the release of her husband and two sons who are at present held at the Internment Camp at Angler, Ontario.

Will you please, on compassionate grounds, review this case with the competent Government Departments.

Yours sincerely,



Delegate in Canada of the
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

ELM/B

August 8, 1945.

Mrs. Sato Marubashi, No.05897,
Lemon Creek,
Slocan, B.C.

Dear Mrs. Marubashi,

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of July 20th, in which you inform me that you desire to be reunited with your husband and two sons at present held at the Angler Internment Camp.

I have not myself seen the notice in the "New Canadian" but I can hardly understand how the editor of that newspaper could make such a statement that all those who desire release from internment were set free by the Canadian Authorities. This is not so and there certainly must be some misunderstanding about this.

Your letter has been transmitted by me to the Department of External Affairs for their consideration and I assure you that your letter receives sympathetic attention although I wish you to understand that this office cannot concern itself with any interference with the Department of Justice under whose jurisdiction internment falls.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Delegate in Canada of the
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

ELM/B

If my husband and my sons are definitely granted release from their present location, I wish to re-establish part of the Rockies as one happy family.

I presume that you have already interviewed my husband, who is also doing his utmost for our family reunion. Our separation for four years have been a very unhappy years, and our only wish now is for family reunion.

I ask your kindness to take full consideration of our problem and also ask for your support for the release of my husband and my sons. I thank you.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Sato Marubashi, No.05897

C O P Y

Lemon Creek,
Slocan, B. C.,
July 20, 1945.

Mr. Ernest L. Maag,
Delegate of Canada,
International Red Cross,
Sun Life Building,
MONTREAL, Quebec.



Dear Sir:

During your interview with the Lemon Creek Hakko-kai, I asked for a personal interview with you, but met with no success. Unable to do so I decided to write a letter, which you took with after the completion of the tour. This letter concerned about the release of my husband, H. Marubashi No.05100, and my twonsons, T. Marubashi, No.09518, O. Marubashi, No.02046, from the Angler Internment Camp.

I have not as yet received your reply in regard to this letter. Kindly answer my letter for I am anxiously awaiting the reply.

I read in the New Canadian Kaslo Newspaper of last weeks issue, that Internees who desire for release were to be granted by the authority in Ottawa. My husband and two sons asked for their release last year continuously, but the only answer to them was that the letter be kept on file. During the past month, they have asked several times, but no definite reply has been received .

Since they have been asking for their release, they may have been granted their request, but this principle matter which I would like to extend is that I have signed for repatriation. This occured when my son who is just entering his Junior High School, wished to work for his fees at a seasonal work in Vernon. Since I am unable to support his High School Entrance Fees, I thought it best to let him earn himself. But I had not signed any form because I did not know definitely what my husband would do, consequently, my son was unable to leave the community because of my signing problem. Because he was not able to go I signed for repatriation only thinking it was the only way to let my son have his necessary High School Education. This is the only reason I signed the form.

If my husband and my sons are definitely granted release from their present location, I wish to re-establish East of the Rockies as one happy family.

I presume that you have already interviewed my husband, who is also doing his utmost for our family reunion. Our separation for four years have been a very unhappy years, and our only wish now is for family reunion.

I ask your kindness to take full consideration of our problem and also ask for your support for the release of my husband and two sons. I thank you.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Sato Marubashi, No.05897



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS
File No. 3464-AC-40
Sub. 4 Chron. 18 Filed

Ottawa, November 3, 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs,
East Block,
Ottawa, Canada.

*file
6/11/44*

Your File: 3464-AC-40

Attention: Mr. Rive, Special Section

I wish to acknowledge your letter of October 27 concerning a request received from Mrs. Y. Kawai of Tashme, B. C., who wishes her husband released from internment.

According to our present policy all applications from Japanese for release from internment are examined by a Committee of R.C.M.P. and Department of Labour Officials, and consideration is given only where there are special compassionate circumstances, as it is felt that in general the release of Japanese internees should not be permitted until the proposed Loyalty Tribunal has considered their individual cases.

An application for release was received from the internee, I. Kawai, dated September 20, 1944. As the R.C.M.P. file on this man indicated that his sentiments were pro-Japanese, and that he had indicated a desire to go back to Japan, no action was taken on his application for release.

A MacNamara

A. MacNamara.

11001

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

ARMY

OTTAWA 18 Oct 44.

Department of External Affairs,
Special Section (POW),
O T T A W A , Ontario.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION
3464-AC-40
18
19/10/44
03

Japanese Internee J. 90 - MARUBASHI, H.
Japanese Internee J. 91 - MARUBASHI, O.
Japanese Internee J. 92 - MARUBASHI, T.

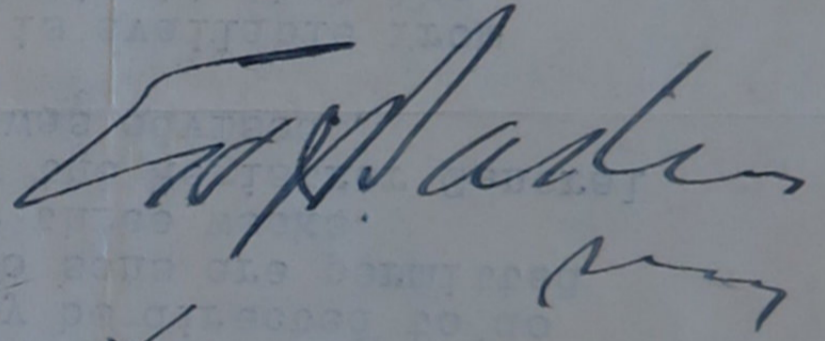
In reply to your request contained in your letter, 3464-AC-40, dated 13 Oct 44, the following information is supplied in regard to the above-noted internees.

Marubashi, H. is a Japanese and father of the other two internees who are both Canadian born. Marubashi, H. was offered his release in July 43 on condition that he accept employment as offered by the B.C. Security Commission. He declined to accept this release. The two sons have not been offered release. Marubashi senior has recently written to the Minister of Justice advising him that he is now willing to relocate with his family wherever he may be directed to do so provided that he and his two sons are permitted to visit his family for two or three weeks. This request has been filed by the Registrar General of Enemy Aliens and Marubashi was advised.

Such information as is available from the files of this Department indicate that the Marubashi family, both interned and at large, are strongly pro-Japanese. There is no indication whatever that these people might become good Canadians. The father seems to be as restrained as any of the family in spite of his Japanese birth. The sisters

have

have constantly advised the brothers to remain in internment and a brother, who is at large, appears from correspondence to be a subversive influence among those Japanese employed at Slocan, B.C.



(H.N. Streight),
Colonel,
Director, Prisoners of War.

14548

1944 OCT 19 11 53 AM

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Our File No. 34e

December 17, 1943.

E FOR MR. RIVE

EXTENSION		
File No.	3464-AC-40	
Sub.	Chron.	Filed

file
sd

RE MITSUBAYASHI, Eon

(Buddhist Priest)

(Petition to release above to serve as priest at Kaslo)

I discussed this with Mrs. Stone as you requested and find that she is in complete agreement with the attitude that you suggested we should take. It is her belief that our clerics in the Far East are given preferential treatment as internees and are comparatively better off than are our other nationals in Japanese or Japanese-controlled territory. She believes that there is a possibility that their condition would be worsened by Japanese knowledge of a rejection of such a petition as the one in question. She suggests that the man be released to Kaslo with a warning that if he causes trouble, he be re-interned.

To be sure, it is believed that none of our clerics in the Far East are permitted to function as such, except among themselves within their own confines. However, the comparison can only be relative.

I gather from a telephone conversation with Mr. Pammet that these priests cause trouble by urging non-co-operation with the authorities. Doubtless they are opposed, for example, to the scattering of their flock, as in their moving, or being indirectly compelled to move East to obtain employment. However, as you point out, we must not jeopardize the present not-too-intolerable position of our many clerics in the Far East merely in order to save labour or ourselves some difficulties here.

MAB

OK
a.e.s.-

141

30-8-1943
 FAIRS
 No. 3464 AC. 40
 Sub. Chron. 77

Ottawa, September 14th, 1943.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your Despatch No. 677 J. 367 dated 30th August in which you requested a list of Japanese nationals interned in Canada at the present time.

I now enclose a list of those Japanese nationals who have been released from internment since you were last furnished with such a list.

It will be noted that there are nineteen names, three of whom were released for repatriation, the remaining sixteen have been released in Canada.

If this serves your purpose and if you can check your list with these releases, I should appreciate your informing me. If, however, you wish me to prepare a complete new list, I shall be pleased to do that.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. Rive
 Under-Secretary of State
 for External Affairs.

Joh
 The Consul General of Spain
 In Charge of Japanese Interests,
 Sun Life Building,
 Montreal, Quebec.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464 AC-40
Sub.	7-13

Refer: Justice
Done July 17
Daly

Ottawa, July 15, 1943.

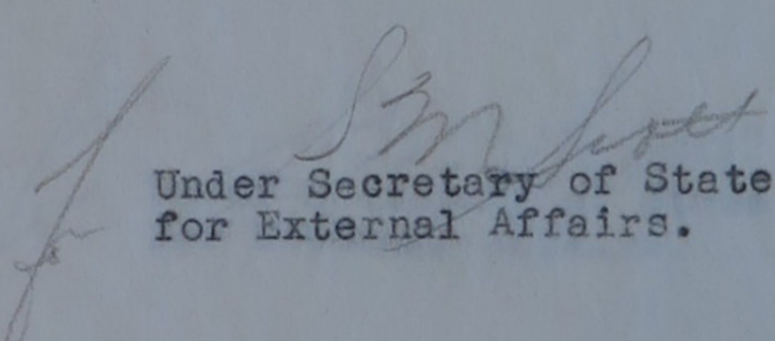
File No. 3464-AC-40.

To: The Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Subject: Application by Mrs. Seishichi MASAGO, for release from internment of her husband, Seishichi Masago, No. 473.

Attention: Inspector Saul.

I refer to my letter of 8th June to the Deputy Minister of Justice which was forwarded to you and answered by you through this department in your letter of 24th June, your file 43D-269-4J-69. A letter has now been received by this department from the Consul General of Spain in charge of German interests to the effect that he has been advised by the internee himself that the application for release had been made by Mrs. Masago without the consent of the internee, and that he wishes to remain at the camp in the hope of being repatriated.


Under Secretary of State
for External Affairs.



CONSEJO GENERAL DE ESPAÑA
MONTREAL

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECC
File No. 3464 AC 46
Sub. 7 Chron. 13 Filed

July 8, 1943.

No. 497
J.411

A1141

File (P)

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your communication No. J.109, concerning the application for release from internment of Seishichi MASAGO, No. 473, I have the honour to inform you that I have recently been advised by the internee himself that the application had been made by his wife without his consent, and that it is his intention to remain at the camp with the hope of being repatriated.

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.

SMS/EN
March 22/43

MEMORANDUM

EX. AFF. RECORDS
File No. 3464-AC-40
Sub. 19 Chron 11 Filed

Mr. Schwartz called (1) to ask about his despatch No. 142 J.95 of March 8th asking for lists of Japanese evacuated from the Pacific Coast. He said he was very anxious to be able to tell his Government that a beginning had been made on these lists and would be glad to receive our consent to give the first lot to him as soon as possible. I said that the request was still under consideration and that in answering it, some regard would have to be paid to reciprocal considerations. He would like a list in somewhat the following form:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Former residence</u>	<u>Present situation</u>
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He clearly had in mind only Japanese nationals. He said that the Minister of Labour in the House had said there were 9,000 Japanese nationals and 21,000 Japanese altogether and pointed out that these were quite different figures from those he had received. I said I would check with Hansard and write him about the discrepancy.

2. He raised as a less urgent matter his despatch No. 151 J.110 of March 10th concerning the property of Japanese in Canada. He said that this was not a request from Spain but his own idea; that he had not sent to Spain a copy of the despatch but had said that he was coming to see us about P.C. 469, that is the Order in Council permitting the sale of Japanese property. He said that his own view was that P.C. 469 was against international law and that the Custodian had no right to sell property in international law except perishables. He had not wished to put this in a letter however. I told him that the matter was being given very serious consideration by all the Departments concerned.

3. In the course of discussion on Japanese property, he said that similar questions had been addressed by Mr. de Kobbe to the B.C. Security Commission. I asked him whether he thought that was a desirable channel and he replied that he thought not but he seemed to be unwilling to put a curb of this sort on Mr. de Kobbe. I said that I supposed the B.C. Security Commission could only answer that they could refer such questions to the Department of External Affairs. He seemed quite satisfied with this remark.

4. He enquired about ex-internee Ariga saying that he had had an enquiry from his Minister who had apparently had some home town connections with Ariga. Ariga was very anxious to get to his family in Tashme and Mr. Schwartz appears very anxious to oblige his Minister. (file 3464-AC-40). I think we should oblige Mr. Schwartz if we can. He says the man is in Schreiber and while we have written Mr. Schwartz that he will be sent to Tashme, the man himself seems not to know this. This should be looked up and Mr. Schwartz should get another letter.

5. He asked two questions about mail receivable by internees which I checked by telephone with Major Pearson. I told Mr. Schwartz that there was no limit on the number of letters friends of Japanese internees in this country could write to them, and that they could write in either language. Also that they could receive parcels without limits subject to ordinary censorship.

SMS

Sir,

Joe MIYASHITA - Camp No. 101

I have the honour to advise that the above named internee has indicated his willingness to accept employment in Eastern Canada and arrangements are being made to place him at Hamilton, Ontario.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
Under Secretary of State for External Affairs

The Delegate in Canada
of the International Red Cross Committee,
1040 Sun Life Building,
Montreal, P.Q.