RECORD GROUP 25 83-84/259 VOLUME 3005 Affa Department FILE 3464-V-40 GI From-File No. 3464-V-40 To\_ Subject: POST-WAR TREATMENT OF JAPANESE IN CANADA - PROROGALS Unofficial proposals. References to Related Files Subject File No. Treatment of Japanese in Canada in Wartime--General File 3464-5-40C Post-War Treatment of Japan - Unofficial Pressalar by Various Persons re 4959-A-1-1+0 Treatment of propose in Commanda su group 3464-40 Treatment of Japs in Canada-trop

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## DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA.

### NUMBERED LETTER

TO: THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA, CANADA.	Security: RESTRICTED 40
FROM: The Canadian Embassy, Tokyo, Japan.	Date:January 20, 1964.
Our letter 398 of July 14, 1961.  Petition from Repatriates to	Air or Surface Mail: Air  Post File No: 4-6-1-1
Subject:Japan.	Ottawa File No.  3 46 4-V-HO
	3,464-1

References

Since our letter under reference was sent, we have had a number of visits from representatives of the "Shiga Prefectural Association of Repatriates from Canada" enquiring about any information that may have been received enquiring their petition asking for pension grants to be made to Japanese repatriates from Canada.

Jirohei Ohtsuka, who presented us with an additional 40 signatures to be added to the petition which had been delivered to us on July 10, 1961, and had been forwarded you with our letter under reference. On January 31, 1962, a Mr. S. Isogai, one of the co-signers of the July 10 petition, came to enquire whether there had been any word from Ottawa on the matter and, most recently, we received a letter dated December 11, 1963, signed by Messrs.

Matsumiya and S. Isogai formally enquiring as to the outcome of their petition. On each occasion the individuals were informed that no reply had been received from Canada, that it was unlikely that any favourable answer would be forthcoming, but that if an answer were received the Embassy would immediately get in touch with the petitioners.

Internal Circulation

- In their present letter, which the writers have asked to be considered as their "new petition", the Canadian Government is requested, it seems to provide those petitioners over 65 years of age with the equivalent of the Canadian Old Age Pension. The reference to Japanese who are currently receiving the pension refers, we take it, to Canadian citizens resident in Japan currently receiving veterans, allowances or those Canadians of Japanese extraction who, having fulfilled the necessary Canadian residence requirements, are retired in Japan and indeed receiving old age pensions.
- 4. As this letter emanates from the same source as the previous petition and is based on the same contentions, we cannot recommend that it be given any greater consideration than the previous one, particularly as the events involved and the final date of settlement of the various claims occurred such a long time ago.
- 5. On the other hand, if it were felt that some gesture of restitution were warranted -- perhaps by way of disposing symbolically once and for all of the various murmurs that are still heard about wartime injustices towards Japanese-Canadians -- the proposal contained in the

Distribution to Posts

attached letter might be worth some consideration. The individuals involved are few in number and will eventually decrease. Provided, of course, such a gesture were not likely to give rise to undesirable repercussions in Canada and in other countries, it might prove to be a fairly inexpensive expression of our desire to dispose of any lingering clouds of ill will which might affect the closeness of present-day Canadian-Japanese relations.

(Sgd.) R.P. Bower

Ambassador.

Honorable Canadian Ambassador to Japan, Tokyo To, Japan.

Dear Sir,

On July 10, 1961, I, Masuo Matsumiya on behalf of Shiga Prefectural Association of Repatriates from Canada presented to your office a petition signed by 180 repatriates to be forwarded to your government authorities for their kind consideration of it.

On July 26, 1961 I received a letter from Honorable William Fredrick Bull, Canadian Ambassador to Japan then, that our petition was translated and has been forwarded to the government authorities in Ottawa after his careful study.

Again on December 20, 1961, Mr. Jirohei Otsuka, our representative visited your office and handed the petition of the same content with the signatures of additional 40 repatriates to your officer.

So far, however, we have not received any word either from you or your government in Ottawa in regard to our petition yet.

We are aware that it is very difficult to have an early determination, for it has very complicated elements, but at the same time we firmly believe that your government authorities are giving favorable efforts in determining this matter continuously.

As we have stated in our petition, we have lived in Canada for a good many years as law-abiding and faithful citizens, worked for the development of industries of Canada in many fields and contributed to the promotion of Canadian economy. And if there were not an unfortunate Mass Evacuation in January 1942 and the confusion thereafter, we would not have had to return to Japan. Without any doubt, we would still have remained in Canada and would be doing our utmost to help the industries of Canada. Thus we are longing the days of yore, but the member of our association, honest Canadian citizens, who are living in Japan now are getting older, and many of them are over the age of 65 now. Therefore, it makes them harder to maintain their livelihood.

In our last petition, we requested to compensate our loss of our personal belongings, properties and economical and spiritual damages which we received as the result of evacuation by means of Pension. But due to the circumstances stated in paragraph 6 above, we concretely request that those aged people be relieved by the same measure of Old Man Pension.

We request that you will forward this letter as our new petition to your government authorities in Ottawa together with your kind and thoughtful advice to help our predicament, for this request of granting us the monetary allowance similar to that of the Old Man Pension would be our only and final appeal to you and to your government. We sincerely wish you would give your special consideration to our present circumstances.

We do not know about the existing Old Man Pension law of Canada in detail, but we know at present that there are some Japanese who are in Japan now after being in Canada for many years receiving the Old Man Pension every month. Of course we are aware that our case is somewhat different from theirs, but we strongly

request that the monetary allowance be granted to us by giving your special consideration to what we have stated in our previous petition and our present predicaments.

At this moment, it is hard to state exactly how many of our members are over the age of 65, but roughly there are about 100 of them. If your government authorities would like to know the exact number, it would be easy to get it. Also any other particulars and information concerning them we would furnish them upon your request.

Kindly forward this letter to your government authorities in Ottawa, and we are looking forward to receive your favorable reply at your earliest convenience. Thanking you for your trouble in advance, we remain.

Yours very faithfully,

(Sgd.) M. Matsumiya

(Sgd.) S. Isogai

Shiga Prefectural Association of Repatriates from Canada.

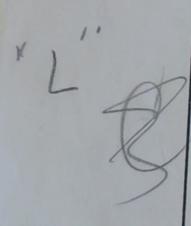
## DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA.

### NUMBERED LETTER

4 7	NOMBERED LETTER	
	ETARY OF STATE FOR AIRS, OTTAWA, CANADA.	Security: CONFIDENTIAL  No: 398
FROM: The Canadian	Embassy, Tokyo	July 14, 1961
	e-c-4606-c-21-t	
Reference: Our despatch	No. 764 of November 21, 1960	Air or Surface Mail:
Subject: Petition from	m. Repatriates to Japan	Post File No:4-6-1-1
	Bieslin	Ottawa File No.
		3464-1-40
	JUL 28 Rects	57 57
References	REGISTRY	CC: 4606-C-21-40"X"
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Refer to Continue 27

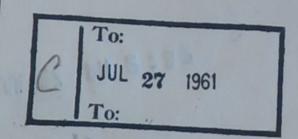
Internal Circulation



Distribution to Posts On July 10 a four-man delegation representing a number of persons who were repatriated to Japan after the war presented a petition to the Embassy. An office translation of this petition is enclosed for your information and consideration. In the Ambassador's absence on leave, the delegation was received by B.A. Keith, Counsellor and C.O Spencer, Third Secretary. Its members were: Matsuo Matsumiya (Head of Delegation, Shiga Prefecture), Bunji Hisaoka (Spokesman), Takejiro Ode (Wakayama Prefecture) and Umenosuke Ohta (Wakayama Prefecture).

White wind

- In essence, this petition is virtually identical to the one presented by a similar group last November, a translation of which was enclosed with our despatch under reference. Although it does not repeat the request for restoration of Canadian citizen included in the previous petition, this one asks that the Canadian Government specifically extend relief to repatriates in the form of pension grants.
- This petition was co-signed by Mr. Matsumiya and Mr. Isogai, representing the "Shiga Prefectural Association of Repatriates from Canada", on behalf of 174 repatriates whose signatures were attached. We were assured that none of these names had appeared on the earlier petition.
- 4. It is interesting to note that Mr. Takejiro Ode, the originator of the previous petition from the "Kansai Chapter", was one of the members of the second delegation, and it is likely, therefore, that he has co-ordinated both petitions. (The Kansai Chapter may be the area organization, since the previous petition was referred to during our recent interview as having originated among repatriates in Wakayama Prefecture).
- of the Canada-Japan Association in Vancouver in 1941 and that he was now interested in the whole repatriate question.



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- 6. In response to questions, the spokesman, Mr. Bunji Hisaoka, whose card indicates that he is a member of the "Maple Leaf Society", stated that most repatriates are currently engaged in farming and fishing, though some are employed in business. He added that they are widely scattered and named nine prefectures in which they are located, extending from north-central Honshu to southern Kyushu. Judging by the facility with which these locations were listed, there seems to be some contact between these groups and this may further presage the arrival of more petitions under the aegis of Messrs. Ode, Matsumiya, Hisaoka, or the "National Federation of Repatriates from Canada".
- 7. We indicated to the delegation that we would forward their petition to the Canadian Government but that we were not aware of any policy decision on the attitude to be adopted to the previous petition, and we would think it quite unwise for them to count on any grants from Canada.
- 8. Although we have been interested in this new petition as a sign that organizational work is continuing among the repatriates, we do not think the basic situation has changed since our despatch of November 21.

The Embassy

To: His Excellecny Ambassador William F. Bull
Camadian Embassy, Tokyo.

From: Mr. Masuo MATSUMIYA (Head of Delegation)
303, Kaideima-cho, Hikone-shi, Shiga-ken
and
Mr. Sotaro ISOGAI,
Matsubara-cho, Hikone-shi, Shiga-ken.

Representing the Shiga Prefectural Association (Fraternity) of Repatriates
from Canada.

Plus 174 co-petitioners.

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_, 1961.

PETITION

Sir:

We, the undersigned, and the other co-signatories to this petition whose signatures appear on the attachments, wish to respectfully submit this petition to Your Excellency in your capacity as representative of the Government of Canada to explain the living conditions in Japan of Canadians of Japanese ancestry who were repatriated to Japan at the end of the war and to request your good offices in transmitting this petition to the Government of Canada.

We, the undersigned and other co-signatories to this petition, may be classified into three categories:

1. Persons born in Canada;

2. Persons naturalized in Canada;

3. Persons possessing Japanese nationality who have lived in Canada for five consecutive years or more.

These persons consist of those who have lived in Canada from around 1894 or their descendants and who, for the most part, engaged in fishing, commerce, industry, agriculture or worked as company employees in the Pacific seaboard region of British Columbia. Ever mindful of Canada's prosperity and conscious of the great blessing of being able to live in peace in Canada, they worked hard in the cause of Canadian industry.

With the unfortunate outbreak of World War II in December 1942(sic) the Government of Canada created certain defence zones, as a result of which we were forcibly transferred to the interior more than 100 miles from the coast in spite of the fact that we stoutly abided by the laws of Canada and worked faithfully in Canadian industry without having anything at all to do with the military.

This arbitrary Government order to relocate us to road camps in the interior was so sudden and so swift that many of us were compelled to summarily abandon our occupations and sell all our household furniture and possessions at ridiculously low prices. Others were sent to internment camps on suspicion of being spies or saboteurs, although such suspicion was totally groundless. The chaos and mental and financial losses we suffered at the time as a result of administrative injustices unworthy of an orderly, civilized state, would be absolutely unthinkable today. This chaotic situation lasted for several months.

- Group A The inmates of the internment camp were treated in accord with the provisions of international law.

  But the grievous mental suffering dealt to innocent individuals having nothing whatsoever to do with military matters by putting them into concentration camps, restricting their freedom, separating them from their families for the duration of the war and, hence, depriving them of honest work for so long was of such great magnitude that it defies figuring out in terms of the present day. The economic hardships they underwent almost stagger the imagination;
- Group B Those in this group were permitted to be with their families. But the allowances they were paid totalled only \$11 a month for adults and \$5 a month for children. Those ordered to work building roads and on railway construction projects were paid a wage of 25 cents an hour hardly sufficient to subsist. In the circumstances, whatever money they had to spare soon disappeared;
- Group C Those in this group, admittedly, were allowed to go in quest of jobs and are said to have managed to support themselves during the war years. But because they had to work in unfamiliar employments in strange parts of the country, actually they were far from being in a position to exercise their talents to the full. As in the case of Group B, they were lowly paid and were obliged to drain their resources down to the last penny.

The previously mentioned relocation order came so swiftly without notice that it inevitably made disposal of property very difficult. Household possessions long and painstakingly accumulated over the years were auctioned off at ridiculously low prices, at all but a total loss to the owners. Some who ran businesses did not have time to dispose of merchandise and equipment or were victimized by burglars. Those whose property was dispersed of by the Custodian at unreasonably low prices were left with very little after fees had been deducted.

All immovable property was sold by the Government of Canada by virtue of an ordinance which was issued empowering the Government to take over all such property for public sale one year later. But the sales prices were far from satisfactory to the owners inasmuch as no allowance was made for the wishes of the owners. In this conjunction, the owners organized a law suit in the Exchequer Court to contest the constitutionality of the ordinance authorizing the Government to sell requisitioned immovables. The right of the Government to take over the property was not questioned, however. The court granted the owners indemnification for their losses but the amount was not satisfactory.

When the war ended in 1946, we expected to be allowed to return freely to the British Columbia coast but prevailing circumstances prevented this. The denial of our wish to leave behind the uncertainty of the displaced lives we had been leading during the war for the chance to return to the coast to make a new start in life shocked and distressed us as badly as the time the Government ordered us out at the start of the war.

Out of sheer sense of insecurity, under these circumstances, we boarded the repatriation ship for Japan. If we had been allowed the same measure of complete freedom of movement as enjoyed by Canadian citizens in general, we would have gone back to the British Columbia coast. If measures had been taken in line with the principle of democracy which Canada professes to follow to give us freedom of movement to make a living without fear or uncertainty after the internment camp and "interior housing project" were closed, we would not have chosen to take the repatriation ship. Only by considering the compelling and desperate circumstances which confronted us at the time is it at all possible to understand why it was inevitable for us, in view of the weakness of our position, to make that reluctant decision.

Coming to Japan, our only means of support was the \$200 provided by the Government of Canada. This meager amount, however, did not go very far in the face of the food shortage and rampant inflation sweeping Japan, struggling to rise from its defeat in the war. It did not last for more than a couple of months. A large number of repatriates died from poverty and malnutrition. Another contributing factor was the changeable climate and employment under unfamiliar conditions. Even to this day financial distress compels us to live a life of poverty under living standards below 25% of that of Canadians.

You may now appreciate from the above how our desire to continue to live in Canada as we had for so long as dutiful citizens of Canada was interrupted by this unfortunate train of events.

For all this, our allegiance to Canada remains unmistakenly as steadfast as ever. We hereby appeal to Your Excellency that this petition be transmitted to the Government of Canada so that it may be persuaded to see reason and justice and to take appropriate measures to relieve the plight of us repatriates from Canada by means of a pension or through some other similar method.

The attached list of signatures does not contain the names of all the repatriates from Carada for geographical reasons. But there are thought to be about 1,000 families of them in Japan.

In closing, with this petition go our heartfelt wishes for Canada's glory and prospertiy.

(Signed) Masuo MATSUMIYA S. ISOGAI

## DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN The Under-Secretary of State

262 Wellington Street, Ottawa 4, Ontario.

December 29th, 1960.

for External Affairs, OTTAWA.

Re: Petition from repatriates to Japan

I have for acknowledgment your letter of 16th instant enclosing copy of the Department of Labour's letter dated 12th instant, also copy of Memorandum dated 7th instant.

You will observe that the Bird Commission was authorized to consider the claims of Japanese resident in Canada at the date of the order. (see memorandum paragraph 3, page 2)

Your File 3464-V-40

The purpose and scope of the Inquiry is set forth in the terms of the Commission directed by Order-in-Council P.C. 1810 of July 18th, 1947, as amended by Orders-in-Council P.C. 3737 of September 17th, 1947 and P.C. 242 of January 22nd, 1948, and as amended is, in part, as follows:

"7. That the terms of reference should be expressed in terms in line with the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee of the House of Commons on Public Accounts, which Report dealt with the general administration and liquidation of property owned by Japanese evacuees and was concurred in by the House of Commons."

The fourth report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to the House of Commons reads in part as follows:

"In view of the evidence adduced and in order that more information may be obtained as to the desirability of adjusting any apparent discrimination or loss which may have resulted from the taking over or sale of property of any kind, your Committee recommends that a Commission be appointed under the provisions of the Inquiries Act to inquire into and report upon the claim of any person of the Japanese race now resident in Canada for alleged loss which resulted from the amount received by him being less than the fair market value of his property at time of sale or loss."

I suggest that it is reasonable to assume the steering committee, as well as the main committee, gave careful consideration to the matter of confining the enquiry to claims of persons of the Japanese race resident in Canada.

About the middle of July, 1943, the Custodian was advised of the possible repatriation of a number of Japanese who had applied to the Spanish Government Authorities for this purpose. The final list contained sixty-one names. Arrangements were made for the assembly of these people in Winnipeg and we supplied The Western Trust Company, the Agents of the Custodian in that City, with all information we had regarding available cash and property under our control. Each adult was allowed to take

Under the authority of the War Measures Act a special Committee known as the Japanese Fishing Vessels Disposal Committee, was empowered under Order-in-Council P.C. 288 dated January 13th, 1942, "to make such arrangements as would make it possible for the present owners to freely negotiate for charters, leases or sales of such vessels as they own to persons other than of Japanese origin". The personnel of the Committee was:

The Honourable Mr. Justice Sidney Smith, Chairman, Commander B. L. Johnson, D.S.O., R.C.N.R.

Mr. A. E. McMaster was appointed as Executive Assistant and on his retirement on May 12th, 1943 was replaced by

The cash received by the Committee for sales made on behalf of the Japanese owners was disbursed to them after deduction of 1% service charges, survey fees and payments to

By May of 1942 the Committee's report states that 600 vessels had been sold by free negotiation, but at that time it became evident that certain Japanese were determined to retain ownership if possible. In view of this when offers were received by the Committee which were deemed to be fair the Committee negotiated a sale without the owners consent. Approximately two-thirds of such sales were afterwards regularized by the Japanese owners executing the necessary sale documents, and the Custodian executed Bills of Sale on behalf of the other Japanese owners after Order-in-Council P.C. 6247 had been passed giving authority to complete the unfinished business of the Committee.

The amount paid to Japanese owners by the Committee after deduction of mortgage payments and other charges Was \$1,089,097.47.

For your further information, I attach two copies of Commissioner Bird's report dated 6th April, 1950, also two copies of the report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts dated June 17th, 1947.

You may wish to send one set of these to your Ambassador in Japan.

I trust this is the information you require.

M. Robitaille, Assistant Deputy Custodian and Counsel.

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#### REPORT TO THE HOUSE

Tuesday, June 17, 1947.

The Standing Committee on Public & Public Accounts begs leave to present the following as a

#### FOURTH REPORT

Your Committee held its first meeting on Monday, April 28, 1947, and this report covers the first eleven meetings, the last of which was held on Tuesday, May 27.

A steering committee, composed of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and Messrs. Burton, Fleming, Gibson (Comox-Alberni), Marshall and Stuart (Charlotte), was appointed to consider procedure and agenda, and its recommendations were approved by the main committee.

The first four meetings of the Committee were devoted to consideration of Bill No. 22, An Act to continue the Revised Regulations respecting Trading with the Enemy (1945). This Bill was reported to the House with amendments on May 6, 1947, and passed the House without further amendment on May 9.

The next seven meetings were devoted to a review of the general administration and liquidation of real property in British Columbia owned by Japanese evacuees. With a view to obtaining as complete a picture as possible of the Custodian's activities in this respect, the Committee heard evidence from the Hon. C. W. Gibson, Secretary of State and Custodian of Enemy Property, Dr. E. H. Coleman, C.M.G., K.C., Deputy Custodian, Mr. F. G. Shears, Director, Vancouver Office, and Mr. K. W. Wright, Counsel; from Mr. Gordon Murchison, Director, Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act; from Mrs. Hugh MacMillan, Secretary, and Mr. F. Andrew Brewin, Counsel, The Cooperative Committee on Japanese Canadians, and from Mr. George Tanaka, Chairman, Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy.

During these meetings, your Committee's enquiry was confined to a study of the Custodian's administration of the property of persons of the Japanese race as it applies to the West Coast, and more particularly to the area, known as the protected area, extending north several hundred miles from the United States Boundary and inland to the Cascade Mountains, and including Vancouver Island, the Queen Charlotte Islands and the group of small islands known as the Gulf Islands. The affairs of approximately 22,000 Japanese were involved, including the ownership of 1,700 parcels of real property as well as business, stock, equipment and household effects.

It is interesting to note that on December 10, 1941, three days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour that brought the United States into the war, the Custodian opened an office in Vancouver.

Evacuation of persons of the Japanese race from the protected area commenced in March, 1942, and continued until October of that year. In the period between December 7, 1941, and March 27, 1942, the date of Order in Council P.C. 1665 vesting control of their property in the Custodian many Japanese disposed of property at prices which were probably considerably below the market value. Immediately upon assuming control, the Custodian commenced a voluntary registration of all Japanese property, real and personal. A printed form (Form "J.P.", a copy of which is appended) was mailed to every Japanese evacuee with the request that it be completed and returned to the Custodian.

Great difficulty was experienced by the Custodian in identifying the personal property, such as chattels and personal effects, of these 22,000 Japanese and, undoubtedly, some confusion resulted. The reasons for this confusion were explained in evidence to your Committee.

The procedure followed in respect to the listing of personal property and its transportation from owners' homes to storage and subsequent disposal was fully explained by the witnesses.

Some of the household effects and other chattels were advertised in the press and sold at public auction. From the evidence produced, there is no doubt that a certain amount of theft and vandalism took place both before control was vested in the Custodian and during the period of his administration.

Subsequent to the passage of the Order in Council establishing a protected area, two advisory committees were appointed: one under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Sidney Smith, associated with Alderman Charles Jones of Vancouver and a Japanese representative; the other under the chairmanship of the late Judge David Whiteside, assisted by Mayor Mott, of New Westminster, Mr. D. A. Mackenzie, Mr. Harold Menzies and a Japanese representative. The Japanese representatives on the two committees resigned on being evacuated. Every negotiation for the sale of real estate was considered and reported upon by the committee over which Judge Whiteside presided.

Most of the discussion in your Committee centered around the sale of 741 farm properties by the Custodian to the Director, The Veterans! Land Act, for the sum of \$836,250.

A summary of the cash which has been collected by the Custodian on behalf of Japanese evacuees, covering not only real estate but fishing vessels, fishing gear, cars and trucks, farm equipment, household effects and sundries, totals \$5,373,317.64.

In view of the evidence adduced and in order that more information may be obtained as to the desirability of adjusting any apparent discrimination or loss which may have resulted from the taking over or sale of property of any kind, your Committee recommends that a commission be appointed under the provisions of the Inquiries Act to inquire into and report upon the claim of any person of the Japanese race now resident in Canada for alleged loss which resulted from the amount received by him being less than the fair market value of his property at time of sale or loss.

A copy of the minutes of proceedings and evidence to May 27 is appended.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GORDON B. ISNOR, Vice-Chairman



DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR

3464-V-402 88 88

Your File No. 3464-V-40

OTTAWA 4, December 12, 1960.

Mr. N.A. Robertson,
Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs,
Department of External Affairs,
East Block,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Robertson:

I have your letter of December 1 with copy of letter from the Canadian Ambassador, Tokyo, relative to a petition submitted by the National Federation of Repatriates from Canada.

I think I would agree with the views expressed by the Ambassador in paragraph 4 of his despatch. However, I have thought it might be useful for you and possibly also for Mr. Bull to have a copy of a memorandum I have had prepared in the department summarizing the various actions taken by the Government in relation to the property of the displaced Japanese and the action taken in respect to repatriation of some of these to Japan. Two copies of this memorandum are accordingly enclosed.

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Sincerely,

A. H. Brown

DEPARTMENT O	Far Eastern/R. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	V. Gorham/MB embor	90
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#### MEMORANDUM

TO:MEMORANDUM FOR LEGAL DIVISION.	Security .RESTRICTED
***************************************	Date December 2 1960
FROM: FAR EASTERN DIVISION	File No. 3464-V-40 '2"
REFERENCE: Despatch. No 764. of . November . 21, 1960. from	88
the Canadian Ambassador Tokyo	
SUBJECT: Petition from Repatriates to . Japan	se: 4606-C-21-40

/residents

In the Despatch under reference Ambassador Bull referred to a visit I made to the village of Hidaka where a number of former Canadian/now live. (My recollection is that I made the visit in the Spring of 1959 - not in 1958). My visit to this village was only a brief one but I can confirm that my impression was that the people there were no worse off than those in other rural areas of Japan. I met the Mayor and some members of the village Council, none of whom spoke to me about suffering from financial distress or of wishing for compensation from the Canadian Government because of alleged suffering.

2. At one time some of these persons received funds from relatives in Canada and were considerably better off than their neighbors. I was given to understand, however, that this source of revenue has decreased in recent years because the third-generation "breadwinners" in Canada now do not demonstrate their family obligations with remittances as their fathers did.

#### **CIRCULATION**

3. Some of the residents there spoke hopefully of a change in current immigration regulations which would permit them to return to Canada. They also expressed the hope that compensation might be received for property in Canada which was seized and disposed of by the Custodian. This subject was raised at one time - early 1959, I think - in a committee of the Japanese House of Councillors by former Admiral Nomura who represents that district, but nothing ever came of it.

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(The Embassy reported the episode at the time and forwarded the verbatim report of the exchanges in the Committee. If my memory is correct this report was referred to the Custodian (by Economic Division I think)) and the Custodian's comments were reported back to the Embassy.

R. V GORHAM.

Ottawa 4, December 7, 1960.

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. A. H. Brown

RE: MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY OF JAPANESE EVACUATED FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA COASTAL AREA, 1942-1947 - DESPATCH OF NOVEMBER 21, 1960, FROM CANADIAN AMBASSADOR IN TOKYO CONCERNING PETITION FROM REPATRIATES TO JAPAN

The petition of October 31, 1960, forwarded from the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, contains numerous distorted and inaccurate statements about the whole programme of Japanese evacuation, relocation and repatriation, but it would not serve any useful purpose at this late date to provide any factual rebuttal of these charges. Accordingly the following memorandum is restricted as requested to an outline of the manner in which the property of the displaced Japanese was handled, both for those who repatriated to Japan and those who relocated in various parts of Canada.

### Property in Restricted Areas

Between February and July, 1942, the Smith Committee, established by Order-in-Council P.C. 987, sold or leased most of the Japanese-owned fishing boats and equipment on the Pacific Coast, and the remainder in July were turned over to the Custodian of Alien Property.

By Orders-in-Council P.C. 1665 and 2483 of March 1942, all the Japanese property in the restricted areas (except liquid assets) was placed under the control and management of the Custodian as a protective measure, mostly by voluntary agreement. Excluded from this was a considerable amount of household and personal effects which the Japanese took with them in evacuation, at the expense of the Commission. Japanese farm properties, mostly in the Fraser Valley and comprising approximately 1,000 farms, were in June, 1942, placed under the control of the Director of Soldier Settlement of Canada for purposes of administration, and subsequently, the greater number of them were expropriated at an impartial valuation for the purpose of postwar veteran settlement.

In January, 1943, by Order-in-Council P.C. 469, the Custodian was given power to sell or otherwise dispose of all Japanese real property and chattels in his possession. During 1942-43 the evacuated Japanese had the right to apply to the Custodian to locate and forward any of their chattels (which included household furniture, cooking utensils, crockery, store stocks, canned goods, personal possessions, etc.) at their own expense, either to the Housing Centres or to their new homes east of the Rockies, and very many had their goods forwarded to them.

The proceeds of all sales, which totalled \$5,373,317, were held by the Custodian of Alien Property to the credit of the former owners. To those in departmental camps and towns in British Columbia, restricted amounts were released during the war years to cover living expenses, but those who relocated east of the Rockies were permitted to draw on their Custodian credits to any amount.

## Repatriation to Japan

Between May and December 1946, 3,964 Japanese were repatriated voluntarily. Order-in-Council P.C. 7355 of December 15, 1945, included provision to enable persons repatriated from Canada to take their funds, subject to currency exchange arrangements, and personal property with them to Japan. The transfer of funds was at the official exchange rate in effect in Japan at the time. Repatriation grants were given to these people, sufficient to bring their funds up to the minimum figures of \$200 per adult and \$50 per child when leaving Canada.

Since repatriation in 1946, hundreds have applied to come back to Canada, and this has been permitted in the case of Canadian-born Japanese. However, repatriates who were naturalized Canadians lost their naturalization, on repatriation, and with the Japanese aliens have not been allowed to re-enter Canada. The repatriates have in the last thirteen years sent numerous complaints and charges concerning all aspects of their treatment by the government of Canada (of which the present petition is an example). According to Mr. Wright of the Office of the Custodian of Enemy Property, no action has been taken on any of the claims concerning property from repatriates who are at present in Japan, as there is no financial provision for such claims.

### Royal Commission on Japanese Property

On January 24, 1947, Prime Minister King stated in the House of Commons:

"With respect to the property of persons of Japanese origin who were removed from the Pacific coast, and whose property was sold by the Custodian, the government is of the opinion that the sales were made at a fair price. In all cases a complete appraisal was made before disposition. The total of the prices secured is greater in aggregate than the total appraisal value. To ensure, however, the fair treatment promised in 1944, the government is prepared in cases where it can be shown that a sale was made at less than a fair market value to remedy the injustice."

The Commission was established by P.C. 1810 of July 18, 1947, under Justice H. I. Bird, to consider the claims of Japanese resident in Canada at the date of the order for additional compensation for their property seized and sold in the coastal area, and it considered submissions and held hearings from December 1947 to March 1950.

The Commission found that real and personal Japanese property amounting to 7,086 parcels was sold by the Custodian of Alien Property for \$2,591,456. The Commission received claims concerning 2,420 of these sales claiming losses over seven million dollars. The Commission findings on these claims can be summarized as follows:

(1) Real Property:

471 parcels of Vancouver property and 378 of rural property were sold by the Custodian 1943-1947. The Commission recommended that the owners of the city properties be given the amount of the deductions made by the Custodian for administrative expenses, averaging  $13\frac{1}{2}$  percent; the owners of rural properties were given the same amount plus an additional 10 percent of sale prices.

741 parcels of land in the Fraser Valley were sold by the Custodian to D.V.L.A. for \$792,265.22, and claims were received by the Bird Commission on 572 of these. The Commission awarded these claimants an additional 80 percent of the D.V.L.A. prices.

(2) Fishing Vessels and Gear:

201 vessels were sold by the Custodian, and concerning these the Commission received 109 claims. Of these, 27 claims were rejected and the rest received an additional 10 to 15 percent of the selling price, principally to cover the Custodian's deduction of  $13\frac{1}{2}$  percent from selling prices for administrative expenses.

Concerning nets and fishing gear there were 173 claims totalling \$148,958.91. Due to depreciation, thefts, etc., it was very difficult to establish values, but the Commission gave owners an additional 25 percent of the selling price.

(3) Motor Vehicles:
The Custodian sold 428 vehicles between 1942-1947, at a time when values were much depreciated. There were 154 claims totalling \$109,660.62. The Commission gave the owners 25 percent additional to the selling price.

Those chatters which were not sent to the Japanese owners in the camps or in their new homes east of the Rockies, were taken over by the Custodian. There was much theft and other loss before they were removed to storehouses, and later sold by tender or by auction. Consequently it was very difficult for the Commission to establish the real value of the chattels, but it decided to give the owners of goods sold by auction 30 percent additional, and of goods sold by tender 12 percent additional.

Mr. Wright of the Office of the Custodian of the Enemy Property informs me that between 1950-1956, as a result of the Bird Commission recommendations, a total of \$1,317,005 was distributed to the Japanese claimants still resident in Canada.

H. T. Pammett

P.S. \$5,373,317 was the total amount of sales by the Custodian of real and personal property of Japanese evacuees from the British Columbia coastal area (page 1, para. 5 above).

\$2,591,456 was the total amount obtained by the Custodian for sales of 7086 parcels of real and personal property of those Japanese evacuees still resident in Canada at July 18, 1947, the date of the Order setting up the Bird Commission (page 2, para. 4 above).

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA DESPATCH UV 29 Redd Security .... CONFIDENTIAL ..... THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA, CANADA. Date: . November, 21, 1960, ... FROM: ... The Canadian Ambassador, Tokyo. Enclosures:...... Air or Surface Mail: ..... Subject: Petition from Repatriates to Japan. Post File No: ... 4-6-1..... Ottawa File No.

: 4606-C-

References

TU:

I attach, for your information and consideration, an office translation of a petition which was received in early November from Mr. Takejiro Ode of the Kansai Chapter of the "National Federation of Repatriates from Canada". A list of 177 signatures was attached to the petition. In essence, the petitioners seek financial assistance from the Canadian Government as compensation Ofor the hardship and injustice they say they have suffered as a result of discriminatory legislation in Canada at the end of World War II.

- I have given some thought to the plea made in this petition and I do not think we should consider it necessary to go very fully into this question at a date so long after the events involved. If the petitioners have waited twelve to fifteen years to make a request of this kind, I cannot help but wonder whether their action is based more on hope of financial benefit than on strong conviction about the justice of their case.
- As to the actual financial conditions in which these people live, there is some evidence to indicate that they are not worse off than great numbers of other people in rural Japan. An English-language Japanese newspaper described conditions in their area in 1957 as fairly prosperous. In 1958 an officer of this Embassy visited the village of Hidaka-gun where they live and talked to a number of these former Canadian residents. He received the impression that they were not badly off in terms of Japanese standards of living. Some of them at least receive regular remittances from relatives in Canada.
- Unless I hear from you to the contrary, I propose to do nothing more on this question than send a routine acknowledgement to the petitioners saying that their document has been carefully examined and that a copy of it has been sent to Ottawa.

Internal Circulation

1950 NOV 28 PM 1:36

Distribution to Posts

Ambassador

To: His Excellency, Ambassador Bull Canadian Embassy

From: Mr. Takejiro ODE, 40, Hidaka-cho, Hidaka-gun, Wakayama-ken.

Representing the KANSAI Chapter of the National Federation of Repatriates from Canada.

#### PETITION

October 31, 1960.

The undersigned and other cosignatories to this petition are those who went to Canada between the years of 1894 and 1925 to become naturalized Canadians and engage chiefly in fishing and manufacture of marine products, p rofessions they followed while living in Japan, and members of their family.

Those who engaged in fishing gave their entire hauls (salmon, herring, cod, among others) to Canadian canneries and food processing companies, contributing a great deal to expansion of Canada 's exports to foreign markets. Those who engaged in the marine p roducts industry processed and packed salmon and herring which were shipped to as far away as Japan, China, Korea and Taiwan, gaining a sizeable dollar revenue for Canada. In this way they worked vigorously and faithfully to promote the growth of Canadian exports of marine products.

With the outbreak of hostilities in the Pacific, the Canadian Government ordered all Canadians of Japanese origin to be forcibly transferred to the interior outside the defence zones (beyond 100 miles from the coast) as suspected spies. Treated as enemy nationals, all matters pertaining to us Canadians of Japanese descent were made subject to the jurisdiction of the Canadian Government's Security Commissioner under the provisions of wartime measures. In the circumstances, the fishing craft, fishing gear, house furniture we owned among other possessions, were auctioned off at ridiculously low prices, and in many cases fishing net manufacturing plants had to be abandoned without recovering a single cent. As a result, carrying what little possessions they had, some totally stripped of everything, we were sent to "Interior Town" -- a relocation camp especially built by the Canadian Government. ..2

For the duration of the war we remained under the jurisdiction of the Security Commissioner. The allowances we and our
dependents were paid totalled 12 dollars a month for adults and
5 dollars a month for children. All those physically fit were
put at the Commissioner's orders to work building roads and on
national construction projects at a wage of 25 cents an hour.
Under such conditions we were forced to lead a life of hardship. Saving money was out of the question. Yet, for all this,
we doggedly stuck it out, living only for the day we expected
to be returned to our former homes on the coast and to be able
to follow our former professions.

However, after the war, despite the restoration of peace, the Canadian Government issued a decree categorically prohibiting our return to the coast (which was not lifted until 3 years after the wars' end). Like a bolt out of the blue, this decree came as a great shock to us since barring us from fishing was tantamount so to speak, to tearing all the legs off a crab. Not that we wanted of our own free will to return to Japan, but no longer certain of providing for means of self-support, we rue-fully had no choice but to be repatriated.

What I wish to stress in particular here is that while we were treated as enemy nationals on suspicion of being sples during the war, I can firmly testify that not one of the over 20,000 of us Canadians of Japanese extraction in Canada ever warranted such suspicion.

Well advanced in age and with dependents and, moreover, knowing little of conditions over here, having been away from the country for so many years, the chances of finding suitable employment were, as one would expect, practically nil. As the Custodian's records will show, some of us were penniless when repatriated and were obliged to subsist on the 200 dollars provided by the Canadian Government. Considering the prevailing rate of exchange of 13 yen 50 sen to the dollar, this meager sum was hardly sufficient to support us. Because of dire poverty and malnutrition, over 20% of the repatriates living in Kansai have died to date. This will give you some idea of the desperate plight of these people.

recently paid us a small grant-in-aid. We request the Canadian G overnment, for its part, to provide some measure of (financial) aid, taking into consideration our past record in Canada, our hardships caused by the war, the unavoidable circumstances of our repatriation, and our present distress.

Further, there are among us some who wish to live with their children now residing in Canada and to die there but who are unable to obtain permission to immigrate for age reasons. It is requested that naturalization be restored to these persons.

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR Japanese Division

360 Homer Street, Vancouver, B.G., November 15,1946.

#### AIRMAIL

Mr. E.L. Maag, Chief of the Delegation in Canada, INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS? 1040 Sun Life Building, Montreal, Que.

Dear Sir:

Res	Tomejiro NAKA	#01077
	Ishi NAKA	#01081
	Shiguye M. NAKA	#01066
	Isao NAKA	#09015
	Tsuneo NAKA	#00637
	Masao NAKA	#00934
	Kazuo MURAKAMI	#08127

RG 25 Vol 3005 3464-V-46

with your letter of November 8 is herewith returned as requested.

The names of the above are well-known to officials of the Japanese Division and the R.C.M.P. From records at our disposal I have compiled a short resume on this man and members of his family.

Tomejiro NAKA #01077 arrived in Canada November 10th,1906. He was Naturalized at Vancouver, B.C. January 4, 1915. He is 63 years of age, married and has three sons and one daughter.

During the evacuation of Japanese from the Protected Area commencing on March, 1942, Mr. Naka consistently refused to leave the coast as requested by the Government. On October 31, 1942, the date-line set for all Japanese to leave the Protected Area, he and his family were still in Vancouver and stated that they had no intentions of leaving. Arrested by the R.C.M.P. and detained in the City Jail, this family group pleaded "Not Guilty"; but after being remanded for a further week they were found "Guilty" and sentenced to the time which had already been spent in Jail. They were then turned over to the R.C.M.P. to be escorted out of the Protected Area. Mr. Naka and his sons demanded internment. During the period of internment, although repeatedly interviewed regarding the possibility of proceeding to employment outside the camp they stated that they wished to remain in internment and that the Canadian Government would have to decide whether or not they should be returned to Japan or allowed to remain in Canada.

The three sons are definitely Pro-Japanese. Their files show that they have followed instructions from their father and that their general attitude is similar to his in all respects.

In October, 1942 when the father and three sons were sent to internment, the mother and daughter were detained at the Canadian Immigration Building, being allowed to make a choice of the Interior Housing Project to which they wished to proceed. They refused to make a decision in this connection and were therefore escroted by the R.C.M.P. to Rosebery, B.C. Their continued refusal to cooperate made them conspicuous during the period they were in Rosebery and on April 22, 1945 they were transferred to Tashme, B.C., again under escort. They remained in Tashme until July 5, 1946.

By this time Mr. Naka and three sons had been all canada from Angler and having refused to accept the employment offered to them in Eastern Canada, were transferred with other internees to our Moose Jaw Relocation Centre. The family was internees to our Moose Jaw Relocation Centre. The family was reunited there and from the first maintained an attitude of non-reunited there and from the first maintained an attitude and cooperation which has been to the detriment of camp morale and cooperation which has been to the detriment of camp morale and cooperation which has been to the detriment of camp morale and the Hostel for placement in employment in Saskatchewan.

Kazuo MURAKAMI #08127, Canadian born, single, date of birth, June 1st, 1910. This man appears to have attached himself to this family. He is decidedly Pro-Japanese and claims that he will stay with them and do whatever they intend to do. During the evacuation period in Vancouver, he broke curfew regulations and was fined \$25.00. He was interned on October 4, 1942 lations of his refusal to leave the Protected Area as ordered, stating at the time that he preferred internment.

A recent report from our Supervisor at Moose Jaw states that the Naka family is very quarrelsome, are considered the chief agitators of the Camp, and are definitely responsible for keeping other Japanese families from taking outside employment. They themselves have, consistently refused to accept employment and it is presumed that they will continue to do so.

In his letter Mr. Naka complains regarding the disposal of his property and personal belongings. The R.C.M.P. state that this family was repeatedly warned to sell out their stock in the Grocery Store during the period of evacuation. They stock in the Grocery Store during the period of evacuation. They failed to do this and were later told that they should report to the Custodian and turn over all goods to him, according to regulations. This they absolutely refused to do. On November 1st, when this family was detained by the R.C.M.P., a representative of the Custodian was requested by the R.C.M.P. to take charge of all articles custodian was requested by the R.C.M.P. to take charge of all articles in the store including the personal effects of the Naka family which were in their living quarters.

The so-called "Protected Area" is now known as the "Coastal Area". No Japanese are allowed to reside in this area.

Yours truly

(signed) J.F. MacKINNON,

J.F. MacKINNON, Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

T. Naka, c/o H.J. Nakashima, 946-2nd Ave, N.E., Moose Jaw, Sask.

Mr. Ernest L. Maag, 1040 Sun Life Building, Montreal, Que.

Dear Mr. Maag:-

The problem which I am going to place before you may be out of your jurisdiction, but I would like to have you give your worthy attention and advice on the matter.

We have been interned for four years by the Canadian Government because we refused to voluntarily evacuate the west coast of British Columbia during the war between Japan. Now that the war is over, this government takes it upon themselves, to release us unconditionally to this hostel in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, under the Supervision of the Department of Labour.

This government has sent representatives to us, to accept employment east of the rockies but, we are not thinking of accepting such offers, because of the fact, we are fighting for the rights to return to our home in Vancouver, British Columbia.

When we were interned, all our assets, such as property and personal belongings, were left behind, we did not even sign it over to the Custodian, for we were arrested, unable to take care of any arrangements whatsoever. The problem now is: - We believe that since the government took over our properties, and interned us, it is their rightful duty, now that the war is over, and since we have done nothing to prove our disloyalty to this country, to return us to our former homes and compensate us for any losses sustained.

What I want to ask your advice on, is, is it possible for this government to interm a person for four years as an enemy alien because of their origin, and now that the war is over throw them out of internment into a hostel like this, and say: "You are now a civilian, and free to accept any employment east of British Columbia." Can this government without giving us any sort of hearing on the matter of "why we were intermed, and our property rights," get away with this undemocratic and unchristian justice?

Mr. Maag, I ask you for your advice on this matter because, we are in an extremely difficult position. At present we are not working, and have the word of the supervisor of the camp that, unless we accept employment, they will charge us for the board and meal; which would amount to eighteen dollars per person. As for clothing and other necessities we are at a loss what to do, for we are unable to do anything about it, as matters stand at the present.

We would appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

I thank you,

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) Tomejiro NAKA, and family

Ishi NAKA
Shiguye M NAKA,
Isao NAKA,
Tsuneo NAKA,
Masao NAKA
J.Kujurakami.

## Skeena Hederal Liberal Association

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.,

March 22nd.

19 45.

Dear Sir:

I beg to advise that at a Convention of this Association held on the 12th. instant, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved that this convention is in favour of the absolute exclusion of all Japanese from the coastal area of British Columbia and that in so far as possible all members of the Japanese race be deported from Canada as soon as possible after the conclusion of the present war."

Yours very truly.

1. Brooks bank

A. Brooksbank. Secretary.

Copy to:

Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada. Hon. Ian Mackenzie, Minister of Pensions and National Health. Olof Hanson, M.P. for Skeena. Referred to the Minister of Labour.

Ottawa, April 3, 1945.

R. C. Keane, Esq.,
Honorary Secretary,
The Canadian Pensioners' Association,
Victoria Branch,
225 Pemberton Bldg.,
Fort St.,
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Sir:

I wish to acknowledge your

I wish to acknowledge your
letter of the 24th March, addressed to the
Prime Minister, submitting a resolution
passed at a recent meeting of the Canadian
Pensioners' Association with respect to the
disposition of Japanese in Canada.

know that the representations of this resolution will be brought to the attention of his colleagues.

Yours faithfully,

H. R. L. Henry, Private Secretary.

# Victoria Branch THE CANADIAN PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF THE GREAT WAR (INC.)

225 Pemberton Bldg., Fort St., Victoria, B. C.

24th March 45

W. L. Mc. Kenzie King. Esq., Prime Minister.

Honorable Sir.

## Re Japanese in Canada

At a recent meeting of this Association the following opinion was recorded. Resolved by the Canadian Pensioners Association Victoria Branch. that in the interests of Canada, as a whole, and in particular of this Province of British Columbia.

All persons of Japanese Blood and ancestry be repatriated to Japan as soon as possible, at the Conclusion of Hostilities with that Country, and be it further resolved that Japanese be disallowed, entry into Canada for all time.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

We Remain Honourable Sir.

Yours Respectfully

Canadian. Pensioners. Association

(Sgd.) R. C. Keane

Hon. Secretary.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS File No. 3 46 4 - V-40

Ottawa, April 3, 1945.

Mrs. W. J. Cook,

Secretary-Treasurer, West Burnaby Liberal Association, 3526 Rumble Street, New Westminster, B. C.

Dear Madam:

I am directed by the Prime Minister to acknowledge your letter of the 28th of March, b submitting a resolution which was passed at a recent meeting of the West Burneby Liberal Association, with regard to the disposition of Japanese in Canada.

Mr. King wishes me to say that the representations of this resolution will be brought to the attention of his colleagues.

Yours faithfully,

H. R. L. Henry, Private Secretary.

A EH/MP

## WEST BURNABY LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

File No.

Sub.\_\_Chren.\_\_Filed\_

3526 Rumble St.,

New Westminster, B.C.

March, 28th. 1945

Rt. Hon. W.L.McKenzie King, Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

The West Burnaby Liberal Association at its last regular monthly meeting, unanimously passed the following resolution:-

"That as part of the post-war policy, all persons of Japanese origin be returned to Japan."

Respectfully Yours

Sect. Treas.

( Mrs. W.J. Cook)

34620

Copy

491 Somerset Street W., Ottawa, Ont. July 5, 1945.

The Rt. Hon. W.L.Mackenzie King, East Block, Parliament Bldgs. Ottawa, Ont.

File No.34642 V-40
Sub. 8 Chron 8

Sir:

May I congratulate you on the recent success of your Party in the Dominion general election. I also should like to express my pleasure at seeing your certain entry into the House of Commons through the constituency of Glengarry.

We rejoice at your own acclamation and the victory of the Liberal Party, which mean a guarantee for the progress and good government of Canada, and the world at large.

We are grateful that, under your guidance and statesmanship, Canada has done the most magnificent work in this war. We can only acknowledge this by saying that this was possible only with the Liberal Party in power under your leadership.

Your devotion to the causes of peace and humanity has had a profound impression on my mind, ever since I have been able to read the English language. I am of the opinion that your place in Canada's history will perhaps surpass that of MacDonald and Laurier, in the light of what this country will accomplish in the future, due to your efforts and foresightedness.

Speaking of myself, I am an unnaturalized Japanese living almost twenty-nine years in Canada, but I am proud to call Canada as my spiritual and physical home in every sense of the word. I would die for Canada at any time, but never for Japan.

Legally I can not become a naturalized Canadian and vote, which I regard is a great privilege. The fact that I entered Canada illegally automatically bars all these and, according to the Minister of Mines and Resources, I may be deported after the war.

In spite of all this, and the fact that Canada is at war with Japan can never alter my love and gratitude for Canada and the Canadians, to whom I am so heavily indebted.

Please regard this little note of congratulation for yourself personally, and may God bless you.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) HENRY K.AKAMATSU.

ril 21st, 1945. File No. Change Filed

Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. King.

As a Canadian Citizen, living in the United States, I have had many reasons to be proud of my country and of the capable and excellent leadership which you have given.

I am greatly disturbed however, by the recent report of the announced policy, of the Security Commission, concerning those people in Canada who are of Japanese ancestry. Many of Canada's citizenry have come from a background of what is now an enemy nation. It has been found that the majority of those people are loyal, dependable citizens who believe thoroughly in the democratic way of life. I believe that this is true of not only occidentals, but also of orientals. You will agree I am sure, that when a country such as Canada makes regulations for people, on the basis of ancestry, or color; rather than on the basis of loyalty or disloyalty; we are following a pattern which is neither democratic or christian, and against which we have in the United Nations, been struggling and paying the bitter price of the best in manhood, womanhood and materials, during these war years.

Japanese Ancestry in this country. I have also had the privilege of knowing many of them personally and it has been established without question that the majority of them are as loyal as any other persons. Their record in combat, as well, is not surpassed.

I write this letter out of my deep concern, together with yourself and a multitude of others, for a world in which justice, right and peace shall prevail. And I trust that Canada under, your leadership, will not follow this pattern of racism.

Yours respectfully, (Sgd.) Burton S. W. Hill

Copy

The following resolution was passed by the North Lonsdale Liberal Association, North Vancouver, B.C. at their regular monthly business meeting, held on the evening of Wed. Sept. 13th, 1944.

WHEREAS the Canadian Government's post war policy with regard to the Japanese in Canada, as announced in the House of Commons by the Prime Minister, put briefly, provides for the total exclusion of Japanese immigration after the war, the return to Japan of all Japanese in Canada who have been proved disloyal, and the distribution of the Japanese remaining, across Canada, so as to avoid the concentration of residence that proved such a difficult obstacle to assimilation prior to this war,

WHEREAS the concentration of Japanese prior to this war was in British Columbia, and more notably in Vancouver and surrounding districts, Vancouver Island, and the coastal areas of British Columbia, the number of Japanese in British Columbia being in the neighborhood of 22,000 and 1000 in other Provinces,

WHEREAS many outspoken British Columbians, including the present Canadian Government's own member from British Columbia, have declared as their opinion that Canada will not solve the Japanese problem unless all Japanese, regardless of whether they are "Loyal" or "Disloyal" Japanese, are shipped out or excluded from Canada,

WHEREAS degrees of loyalty are variable and it would appear to be very difficult for any board appointed by the Canadian Government to handle this problem, to draw a sharp distinction as to which Japanese are "Loyal" or "Disloyal",

WHEREAS the Japanese population in Canada has proved to date their non-assimilability, many having been proved disloyal to Canada the country of their adoption or birth, as the case may be, and the rapid birthrate among Japanese, as compared to the average birthrate of the balance of population in Canada, could cause untold trouble to future Canadian generations,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Vancouver Federal Liberal Association respectfully urge upon the Government of Canada, that they pass legislation providing for the total exclusion of Japanese from Canada, now forming a part of the population of Canada, and regardless of whether they were born in Canada or not.

NOTES FOR INTERVIEW OVER CKWX, 543 Seymour Street, TUESDAY, MARCH 20th, 1945, 2:15 p.m.

INTERVIEWER:

Dr. Norman F. Black, who, in this province and elsewhere, is widely known as an educator, author and student of social problems. Realizing that he must be keenly interested in recent press announcements regarding Canadian policies relative to persons of Japanese stock who are resident in Canada, CKWX has invited Dr. Black to give an interview in which he will be asked to comment upon the Federal proposals.

Dr. Black, I understand that you are President of an association known as Vancouver Consultative Council. Will you please tell us something of its nature and purposes?

DR. BLACK:

Early in the course of the War, a public meeting of members and delegates of a considerable number of religious, philanthropic and cultural bodies, broadly representative of all political parties and religious denominations, took steps for the organization of the body known as Vancouver Consultative Council. Its special function is to provide a well informed cross section of public opinion relative to problems of citizenship arising from or influenced by wartime conditions.

Among the problems to which most attention has been devoted is that of the Japanese Canadians and Japanese nationals residing in this country.

INTERVIEWER:

Then we were right in assuming that you and your colleagues are greatly interested in the proposals and information which in recent days has been issued by Canada and bear upon a solution of that problem?

DR. BLACK:

These announcements have interested us enormously though they add remarkably little to the pronouncement made in the House of Commons on August 4th, 1944, by the Prime Minister. That section of the public sharing the point of view of Vancouver Consultative Council has been anxiously awaiting the clarification

of Federal policies relative to Canadian residents of Japanese stock and, particularly, to those of that stock who are British subjects and citizens of Canada.

INTERVIEWER:

What is your attitude towards proposals for the more or less permanent dispersion of these people throughout the Canadian provinces?

DR. BLACK:

From the first the Consultative Council has been anxiously aware of difficulties that might arise were any large number of evacuees suddenly to return to the coastal area and, from the first, we have advocated the geographical and occupational dispersion of Japanese Canadians. To such dispersion the Federal authorities have long been committed. The principal obstacle in the way of the implementation of such a policy has been extravagant racism cultivated in British Columbia itself by political opportunists. However, though the government's policies, as officially announced by the Prime Minister last August, have had the undivided support of only one political party, and that a section of His Majesty's loyal opposition, this is a matter involving the application of traditions of British fair play and of othical principles over which there should be no division along Partisan lines. The Vancouver Daily Province has set an excellent example in this connection and deserves the gratitude of all Canadians, no matter what may be their political affiliations. No social problem is solved rightly until or unless it is solved righteously. I believe that Mr. King is seeking a righteous solution and that all loyal Canadians should be strengthening his hands in this regard.

INTERVIEWER:

There are people, are there not, who look upon the government proposals as impracticable? Can you tell us anything regarding the reaction of the Japanese themselves to recent announcements?

DR. BLACK:

I have information from reliable scources that these announcements have made the Japanese more disturbed and unsettled than ever.

Many of them interpret the official bulletins in such terms as "For God's sake, please go back to Japan -- or else: " To date it has not been made plain, to those who are anxious to maintain their British citizenship, just what help they may expect in re-

stances have combined to shake the morals of the people in the concentration camps of British Columbia. Anxieties have been aroused by the disruption of families, by the uncertainty and inadequacy of protection against discriminatory treatment and by the failure of the government as yet to make evident just how far it is willing to go in assisting the re-establishment of evacuees who act upon its invitation to go East.

INTERVIEWER: What further steps on the government's part would you suggest?

DR. BLACK:

A clue to the correct policy might be sought in consideration of what we would have done, if, for purposes of national security, it had been necessary to evacuate from their homes any considerable number of Canadian residents and citizens of Occidental stock. There can be no doubt that their real property would have been expropriated at a fair price and that the Federal authorities would have accepted any necessary financial responsibility for their economic re-establishment in other parts of the Dominion.

INTERVIEWER: Do you believe that the provinces can be induced to give the necessary co-operation to the Federal government's dispersal policies?

DR. BLACK: I think that there is no reason for despair in this connection. Premier

Douglas of Saskatchewan last week officially announced the willingness
of his Province to co-operate with the Dominion for a wise solution
of the problem. I do not think that Mr. Douglas is the only provincial Premier who is also a loyal Canadian. For any Provincial government to assume extra-legal and extra-constitutional powers for the
exclusion of any class of Canadian citizens from its borders, and thus
to render the necessary federal policies impossible, would be something
very difficult to defend.

INTERVIEWER: Have you any comment to make upon the suggestion that no Japanese are to be allowed to remain or settle west of the Rocky Mountains?

DR. BLACK:

As I read the official documents they contain no such suggestion.

British Columbia is still a province in the Dominion of Canada. It has long and justly complained of the formerly settled tendency of Canadians, East of the Rockies, to look upon the Japanese question

as a British Columbian problem rather than as a national problem.

If this province refuses to carry its share of the task devolving upon the Canadian provinces as a whole, the Japanese problem will inevitably be restored to its doorstep, where it has already been for so many years.

INTERVIEWER:

But how are these people to be prevented from leaving homes assigned them and returning to British Columbia?

DR. BLACK:

In the first place, it should be realized that many of the Japanese Canadians already East of the Rockies show no inclination ever to return to the scenes of former humiliation and disaster. What we have to realize is that for successful and permanent dispersion these people require considerable assistance and it has been suggested, for example by Mr. T.F. McWilliams of Kelowna, a lawyer who has studied this problem very dispassionately, that such assistance might be conditioned upon promise to remain for ten years in the provinces to which the evacuees shall have been assigned. Personally, I am inclined to the view that the only way to restrain free men from change of residence is to make their economic interests coincide with the interests of all Canada in preventing premature and wholesale removals from place to place. These people must be allowed to acquire and must be assisted in acquiring whatever real property is necessary for shelter or means of livelihood. That will give them a stake in their community which they are unlikely to be willing to forfeit.

INTERVIEWER: And what is the alternative to all this?

DR. BLACK:

The alternative is the resurgence of very serious racial difficulties
in British Columbia. The alternative is the acceptance of policies
based primarily on wartime passions. The alternative is to jettison
the principles of British fair play and Christian ethics. The alternative is for Canadians to commit themselves to policies that might be
contributary to a future alignment of the nations on the basis of colour.

I am not an easy optimist; neither am I so confirmed a pessimist as to believe that the Canadian people will make such a choice as that.

PRINCETON BOARD OF TRADE

Princeton, B.C.

December 20, 1944.

Right Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G., Prime Minister of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

re: Japanese.

A copy of the letter to you from the Kamloops Board of Trade, dated October 21, 1944, had been sent to me from Kamloops and was read to a regular monthly meeting of this Board, held on November 20th. After considerable discussion then it was tabled for the attention of the next regular meeting on December 18th.

On that date there was a formal debate on the question of Japanese repatriation, and as a result a resolution was passed to have me write to advise that this Board endorses the stand taken by the Kamloops Board of Trade as expressed in the said letter of October 21st.

We would also respectfully draw attention to consideration of the serious competition of the Japanese in the industries of Agriculture, Fishing, and Logging in British Columbia as further reason for being in favour of the repatriation after World War II of all persons in Canada of Japanese origin. I would be glad of the favour of an early reply.

I am, Right Honourable Sir,

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) J.O.C.KIRBY

Secretary.

MEMORANDUMorder Daughters of the Empire Office of the Prime Minister Thildren of the Empire (Junior Branch) Minister, Referred from the Prime

acknowled for External Affairs, Secretary alice, Countess of Atta

Minister's Signeture for the Under Secretary alice, Countess of Atta

Signeture for the Prime

cMurray, M.B.E., Freder

Joseph Martin, Vancouver

Lay, Regina

Marshall, M.B.E., Edmont

Marshall M.B.E., Edmont Ottawa, November 16, 1944. ERS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE IN U.S.A. Incorporated THE NAVY LEAGUE, ENG. he Daughters and Children of the Empire CABLE ADDRESS:-IODE, TORONTO ALICE, COUNTESS OF ATHLONE Private Secretary. CMURRAY, M.B.E., FREDERICTON Secretary—MRS. L. B. SMART, TORONTO
TYEASURET—MRS. W. R. WALTON, JR., TORONTO
Educational Sec.—MRS. J. D. DETWILER, LONDON
AV, REGINA
ARSHALL, M.B.E., EDMONTON
STER, HALIFAX
N HOLLAND, WESTMOUNT

Secretary—MRS. W. R. WALTON, JR., TORONTO
Educational Sec.—MRS. J. D. DETWILER, LONDON
OF S. Sec.—MRS. W. C. HODGSON, MONTREAL
"Echoca" Sec.—MRS. B. B. OSLER, TORONTO
Standard Bearer—MRS. EVERETT NEWMAN, REGINA CMURRAY, M.B.E., FREDERICIO
JGHES, WINNIPEG
MARTIN, VANCOUVER

AV, REGINA
MARSHALL, M.B.E., EDMONTON
FOSTER, HALIFAX
MAN HOLLAND, WESTMOUNT 6th Vice-Pres .ipter of Canada (With Imperial Jurisdiction) 3 464-V-40 to the Officers at 182 Lowther Ave., Toronto 4 November 13th. Rt. Hon. W. L. McKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada. Ottawa, Ontario. Dear Sir: At a recent meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, the following resolution, which was passed by the Provincial Chapter of the Order in British Columbia, was endorsed, and I was instructed to forward it to you for the consideration of the Government of Canada. "WHEREAS the Canadian Government's post war policy with regard to the Japanese in Canada, as announced in the House of Commons by the Prime Minister, put briefly, provides for the total exclusion of Japanese immigration after the war, the return to Japan of all Japanese in Canada who have been proven disloyal. and the distribution of the Japanese remaining, across Canada, so as to avoid a concentration of residence that

proved such a difficult obstacle to assimilation prior to this present war, and

WHEREAS the concentration of Japanese prior to this present war was in British Columbia, and more notably in Vancouver and surrounding districts, Vancouver Island, and the coastal areas of British Columbia, the number of Japanese in British Columbia being in the neighborhood of 22,000, and 1000 in other Provinces, and

WHEREAS many outspoken British Columbians, including the present Canadian Government's own Minister from British Columbia, have declared as their opinion that Canada will not solve the Japanese problem unless all Japanese, regardless of whether they are 'loyal' or 'disloyal' Japanese, are shipped out or excluded from Canada, and

WHEREAS degrees of loyalty are variable and it would appear to be very difficult for any board appointed by the Canadian Government to handle this problem, to draw a sharp distinction as to which Japanese are loyal or disloyal, and

WHEREAS the Japanese population in Canada has proved to date their non-assimilability, many having been proved disloyal to Canada, the country of their adoption or birth, as the case may be, and the rapid birthrate among Japanese, as compared to the average birthrate of the balance of population in Canada, which could cause untold trouble and a menace to future generations of Canadians,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Chapter of British Columbia, Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, respectfully urge upon the Government of Canada that they include, as an integral part of the Peace terms, provision for the total exclusion from Canada of Japanese who now form a part of the population of Canada, whether they were born in Canada or not."

Yours very truly,

(Mrs. L. B. Smart)

NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Dr. Kunleypide A sus file/ NSK.

EXTERNAL AFFA

Ottawa, September 26, 1944.

W. J. Hamilton, Esq., Secretary,

Victoria Builders' Exchange, Ltd Fle No.3 464-V.

Dear Sir:

The Prime Minister has asked me to seknowledge your letter of the 18th of September and to say that he will bring to the attention of the appropriate authorities the representations which you have made on behalf of the members of the Victoria Builders' Exchange, Ltd., with regard to the disposition of Japanese in Canada.

Yours faithfully,

H. R. L. Henry, Private Secretary.

AEH/MP

# Victoria Builders' Exchange, Ltd.

REGISTERED OFFICE: 1712 DOUGLAS STREET



VICTORIA, B.C.

Sept. 18, 1944.

The Right Honorable
W.L. McKenzie King,
Prime Minister,
House of Commons. Ottawa.

Dear Sir:

We wish to register our opinion as a representative group in this area regarding the re-entry of the Japanese into various industries on this coast.

First, we feel that public statements such as that recently attributed to mr. A. McNamara, Director of National Selective Service, are to be deplored at this time. The war with Japan is not yet concluded and therefore Government officials should refrain from statements that can only serve to bring comfort to our enemies and create dissension among our own people.

Second, we contend that the policy previously announced from Ottawa, whereby all Japanese would be axamined to determine which are disloyal in order that these might be deported and the loyal ones allowed to remain in Canada, although not to congregate in large groups as formerly, is a policy without hope of practical application, and therefore, utterly meaningless.

Third, we would urge your Government to devise a policy on the Japanese question which will be acceptable to the people of the Province of British Columbia, as we can assure you that the large majority of the people of this Province are not prepared to have the Japanese return to the position they formerly occupied in British Columbia. If we do not have the right to deport all Japanese, we should at least adopt restrictive measures against them in order that the bulk of their number will be encouraged to return to Japan. If the Japanese were not allowed to own property or to obtain trades licences, or fishing licences, in British Columbia, we are of the opinion that many of them would not wish to remain here and would go elsewhere, and for this reason we urge the adoption of such restrictive measures if wholesale deportation is not feasible. Such measures would constitute racial discrimination but would, in our opinion, forestall future racial discension of much more serious proportions; We are.

Yours very truly, Victoria Builders' Exchange,

per: W J. Dvamilin Secretary

WJH/vh

London, Ontario June 29, 1944

To The Right Honourable William Lyon McKenzie King, P.C., Prime Minister of Canada and Minister of External Affairs, Ottawa, Canada.

File No. 3 4 6 4 - V - 40

Sub. 3 Chron. 3 Filed

Sir:

Re: Canadian Residents of Japanese Ancestry.

The London Japanese Advisory Committee appeals to you for fair treatment of minority groups, particularly one which is in special danger of suffering from unjust discrimination at the present time, namely, the Canadian residents of Japanese extraction.

Church, school and labour groups are represented on our London Committee; though it makes no claim to stand for the entire community, we feel that it sets forth the views of a number of thoughtful, public-spirited citizens. We understand that you, Sir, have already received appeals on this subject from similar groups in other sections of Canada.

The basis of our plea is two-fold: first, we contend that discrimination against a racial minority is un-Christian, and that Canada as a Christian country should not tolerate it; second, Canada is now fighting for democracy and for fair treatment of minorities. Are we to permit at home an infringement of the very rights for which our men are fighting abroad? We abhor race prejudice as manifested by the Nazis. Are we going to allow it to flourish in Canada?

Already the Japanese Canadians have experienced hardship in several respects. Government regulations prevent evacuees from acquiring permanent homes or places of business in the provinces where they have recently settled. At the same time there has been in British Columbia a forced sale of property which was left in care of the custodian. Finally, there is the proposed disenfranchisement of these people under the Dominion Elections Act.

The point on which we wish to address you particularly, however, is the suggested repatriation of Canadian residents of Japanese ancestry. We submit, Sir, that the word "repatriation" is a misnomer when applied to those who are Canadian citizens by birth or naturalization. To deport people who have been born in Canada, educated in Canadian schools and imbued with Canadian ideals would be a gross miscarriage of justice. We urge also that it would be unjust to deport Japanese nationals who are legally present in this country, observant of its laws and desirous of remaining in Canada. Only undesirables and those other persons who wish to return to Japan can in fairness be deported.

What then, is to be done with the remainder? We see no reason why each of the provinces cannot absorb its share of these law-abiding, industrious people who will form only a very small percentage of the total population. In spite of the handicap of a sense of insecurity and uncertainty as to their future status, the great majority of those who have been relocated have proved themselves good employees. If freed from the handicap of insecurity and permitted to earn their living in the occupations for which their training and experience qualify them, they should make a

"thwhile contribution to community and national life.

In conclusion, we would reiterate our appeal that unreasoning prejudice may not control Canada's dealings with these unfortunate people. We count on you, Sir, the responsible leader of the Canadian people, to prevent the deportation of Canadian citizens; an action which would be un-Christian and unworthy of a nation of high ideals.

In confidence that this appeal will be welcomed by you, we remain,

Very respectfully yours,

1. a. Verna mc Clure, B.A. Employment and Claims Officer Mational Selective Service. 388 Dufferin avenue. London. (Chaviman J. London Japanese advisory Committee)

2. Mr. E. Machweie (B.A., A. A). Metropalden Church

3. Curitur Maanes - Crongo Minorial Church (Rector)

4. Lilian M. Bingle. President Huron Diverse. Womans Augulusy. M.S.C.C.

5. REKlinboton. associate Professor, University of Western Outario

6. Waysie Roger. - Eyee. Seety. - London Council of Social Agencies.



# Canadian Institute of Public Opinion Sule/Anns

THE GALLUP POLL OF CANADA

MEMBER NEWSPAPERS

Calgary Herald

Edmonton Journal

Galt Reporter

Halifax Mail

Hamilton Spectator

Kingston Whig-Standard

Montreal La Presse

Montreal Star

Niagara Falls Review

Ottawa Evening Citizen

Prince Albert Herald

Quebec L'Action Catholique

Regina Leader-Post

Saskatoon Star-Phoenix

Sarnia Observer

St. Catharines Standard

St. John Times-Globe

St. Thomas Times-Journal

Stratford Beacon-Herald

Toronto Star

Vancouver Province

Victoria Times

Welland Tribune

Winnipeg Tribune

Windsor Star

Woodstock Sentinel-Review

38 King St. West LORONTO File No.3464-V-6 Sub. & Chron. Giled 14

February 14, 1944.

Mr. H. L. Keenleyside, Department of External Affairs OTTAWA, Canada.

Dear Mr. Keenleyside:

I am enclosing a copy of our report for February 16 which deals with the problem about which you wrote.

You will note the considerable difference between the opinion in regard to Japanese non-citizens and Japanese citizens.

I am glad you called this to our attention because we possibly erred in our first poll by not bringing the distinction to the attention of those being interviewed.

I am enclosing for your perusal a breakdown by provinces and for men and women.

Sincerely,

AAP: ES Enc. -2

Arthur A. Porter, Managing Director.

#### JAPANESE REPATRIATION

#### Non-Citizens

	Send back	Allow to remain	Undecided
National	80	14	6
# Maritimes Quebec Ontario Prairies # B. C.	86 78 80 82 79	9 16 15 11 14	5 6 5 7 7
Men Women	81 80	14 13	5 7
Citizens			
National	33	59	8
# Maritimes Quebec Ontario Prairies # B. C.	39 31 31 34 39	50 60 63 58 51	11 9 6 8 10
Men Women	31 35	61 57	8 8

<sup>#</sup> The margin of error in these areas is slightly greater than that for the other breakdowns due to the relatively smaller sample.

### CANADIAN INSTITUTE



## OF PUBLIC OPINION

### PUBLIC OPINION NEWS SERVICE RELEASE

For RELEASE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1944 -- after 9 a.m.

#### GALLUP POLL OF CANADA

PUBLIC THINKS CITIZENSHIP SHOULD BE

CRITERION IN HANDLING JAPANESE HERE

Most Would Send Non-citizens Back to Japan, but Allow Citizens to Remain Here

By CANADIAN INSTITUTE of PUBLIC OPINION

TORONTO, Feb. 16 -- While eight in every ten Canadians would send Japanese who are not Canadian citizens packing after the war, in every province of the Dominion, majority opinion would allow those Japanese who are citizens to remain in this country.

The sharp distinction which the average Canadian draws between citizenship and noncitizenship is strikingly shown in the results of a cross-country opinion survey conducted by the Canadian Institute, in which, unlike an earlier survey, the two separate
aspects of the problem were delineated. Canadians representative of all types within the
population were asked, first:

CIPO INSIGNIA "DO YOU THINK THAT JAPANESE WHO ARE NOT CANADIAN CITIZENS SHOULD BE SENT BACK TO JAPAN AFTER THE WAR IS OVER, OR SHOULD THEY BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN THIS COUNTRY?"

Canadian opinion on this side of the problem is fairly definite:

Respondents were then asked:

"DO YOU THINK THAT JAPANESE WHO ARE CANADIAN CITIZENS SHOULD BE SENT BACK TO JAPAN AFTER THE WAR IS OVER, OR SHOULD THEY BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN THIS COUNTRY?"

While relative to the whole Canadian population, the number of Japanese looks small

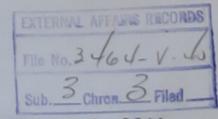
GALLUP POLL RELEASE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, - 2 -

(23,149 according to the 1941 census) the fact that most of these are normally concentrated in one Pacific Coast area has stirred considerable discussion. Of those Japanese in or Canada, estimates place the number who are not naturalized citizens, who were not born in the country, at about one quarter of the total.

One of the interesting things found in these surveys is that demand for repatriation of the Japanese, alien or not, is in effect no stronger or weaker in British Columbia than in other parts of Canada. When asked about non-citizens, nearly eight in every ten persons in British Columbia favor such a move. In the case of Canadian citizens of Japanese origin, only about four persons in every ten in British Columbia would send them back to Japan after the war. Thus, British Columbian opinion is not out of line with national opinion shown in the tables above.

However thorny the problem of Canada's Japanese minority may be, authorities can take some consolation from the fact that it is one issue in which public opinion in all parts of the Dominion divides in the same ratio. And to most Canadians in every area, the test as to whether a Japanese should be allowed to remain in the country or not is citizenship.

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OTTAWA, January 4, 1944.

Dear Mr. Porter,

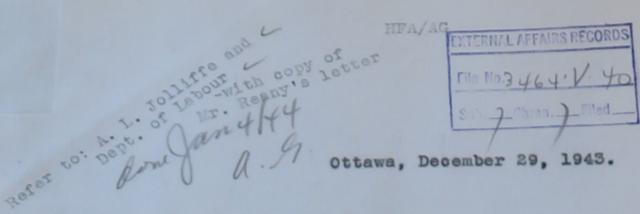
Very many thanks for your letter of December 30. I am glad to know you are considering the possibility of another poll of "Japanese" matters. I should be very much interested in learning the result.

Saul Rae has now arrived in Algiers where we expect he will do first class work on General Vanier's staff.

Yours sincerely,

H. L. Keenleyside
Assistant Under Secretary of State
for External Affairs.

Arthur A. Porter, Esquire,
Managing Director,
Public Opinion News Service,
38 King St. West,
Toronto, Ontario.



Dear Mr. Reany:

Your letter of Docember 15, concerning Japanese in Canada, which was addressed to Mr. F. C. Blair, has been transmitted by the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources to the Department of External Affairs. I am very glad to learn that you have undertaken the responsibility of heading an organization in Hamilton which is to attempt to find work and housing for Canadian-born Japanese who come to that City.

I am greatly impressed by the thoughtful way in which you are analysing this problem. Such information as I have leads me to believe that the Canadian-born Japanese do not have much difficulty in their social contacts once the first general dislike of them is overcome and they are regarded as individuals. The social contacts which they make are extremely important both in maintaining their morale and self-respect and enabling Canadians of other races to form a true picture of the Canadian born Japanese.

As regards the question of employment, it is, I think, important that a man's employment should bear a reasonable relationship to his intellectual and educational qualifications whatever these may be and that very undesirable results may follow if highly qualified men are confined, by custom or prejudice, to manual occupations.

I can see that in the present congestion housing may be a serious problem, particularly as there is always the possibility of some protest against any facilities which are in short supply being made available to persons of Japanese race.

G. J. A. Reany, Esq.,
The Mutual Life Assurance Company of Canada,
10th Floor Pigott Building,
Hamilton.

I have no information as to whether or not the Government has plans regarding the absorption of Canadian-born Japanese. The Government has not repudiated or qualified the general statement of policy made by the Prime Minister on January 14, 1942, and summarized by him later in a statement made in reply to a question from the Honourable Member for New Westminister to the effect that

"Persons of Japanese race, who are Canadians either by birth or by naturalization, and Japanese nationals resident in Canada will be justly treated. No action will be taken which would give any excuse for the ill-treatment of Canadians under the control of Japan. Nor will action be permitted which might give Japan an excuse to inflame Asiatic hostility against the white race. Canadian policies will march in step with those of Britain and the United States."

It has in practice been found necessary to take certain measures, particularly with reference to property held by Japanese, which were not envisaged when this statement was made but there has been no announcement of departure from the general principles, and it is still useful to quote the concluding paragraph of the statement.

"It will be recognized that Canadian citizens of Japanese race have been placed in a very difficult position. They are being asked to bear with patience inevitable hardships and losses. A situation of this kind can only be effectively met by an equal measure of tolerance and understanding on the part of the people of Canada generally. In the national interest it is of the utmost importance that the problem should be approached in this spirit."

Yours sincerely,

H.L. KEENLEYSIDE

Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

### PRESS CLIPPINGS

file

Office of The Prime Minister

Name of Publication

Windsor Star

Date

Subject.

Dec.22/43

.....

The Gallup Poll of Canada 3

3464-1-40

Tite

# Want Japs Sent Home From Canada After War

54 Percent Favor Repatriation; B. C. Idea Has Strong Support in All Other Provinces

TORONTO, Dec. 22. — British Columbians who are advocating repatriation of Japanese after the war will be interested to know that a majority of their fellow Canadians would favor sending these people back to Japan after the war.

Here is the question put to all types of Canadians:

"Do you think that Japanese living in Canada should be sent back to Japan after the war is over, or should they be allowed to remain in this country?"

#### NOT APATHETIC

Although some British Columbians have stated that the rest of Canada is apathetic to the problem provided by the Japanese who, before the war, were concentrated largely on the Pacific coast, here is the way national opinion divides on the matter:

 Send back to Japan
 54%

 Allow to remain
 39

 Undecided
 7

While the largest single group in every province favors repatriation of all Japanese, it is true that, generally speaking, the further an area is from the Pacific coast, the smaller the majority which favors repatriation. As might be expected, opinion supporting sending the Jap back to Japan after the war is strongest in the Pacific province, where between six and seven persons in every ten would, if the issue were put to a vote, mark their ballot in favor of sending the Japanese back to his native land.

While, in Quebec, opinion is almost evenly divided on the issue, with a slight tendency in favor of repatriation, in Ontario there is definite majority support for it:

	Ontario	Quebec
Repatriate	52%	47%
Allow to remain.	42	45
Undecided	6	8

#### HOMES IN CANADA

Those Canadians who told Gallup interviewers that they favored allowing the Japanese to stay in Canada after the war, were asked further:

"Should those who have been moved away from their homes be allowed to return to their homes after the war is over?"

Nearly all those Canadians who oppose repatriation would like to see the Japanese returned to their homes in Canada after the war.

The poll found that farm areas and small towns across Canada are more in favor of giving the Japanese his coat and hat after the war than are citizens in the larger centres. In cities over 100,000 population, opinion is virtually split evenly, but in farm areas about six in ten want repatriation.

valional,?

3464-4-40

## Public Opinion News Service 3 3

THE GALLUP POLL OF CANADA

Arthur A. Porter, Managing Director Wilfrid Sanders, Editorial Director O. J. Morris Jr., Chief Statistician 38 King St. West

December 30, 1943

MEMBER NEWSPAPERS

Calgary Herald

Edmonton Journal

Galt Reporter

Halifax Mail

Hamilton Spectator

Kingston Whig-Standard

Montreal La Presse

Montreal Star

Niagara Falls Review

Ottawa Evening Citizen

Prince Albert Herald

Quebec L'Action Catholique

Regina Leader-Post

Saskatoon Star-Phoenix

Sarnia Observer

St. Catharines Standard

St. John Times-Globe

St. Thomas Times-Journal

Stratford Beacon-Herald

Toronto Star

Vancouver Province

Victoria Times

Welland Tribune

Winnipeg Tribune

Windsor Star

Woodstock Sentinel-Review

Mr. H. L. Keenleyside

Dept. of External Affairs

Ottawa, Canada

Dear Mr. Keenleyside:

I have not answered your letter of December 24th before as I have been out of the city for a few days. I should like to say that your point is well taken regarding the distinction between Japanese nationals and Japanese who have become Canadian citizens. We had intended originally to make the distinction between the two, but a test survey, together with some suggestions made by editors of some of our Member Newspapers on the west coast, caused us to decide to phrase the question on merely "the Japanese as a whole".

I certainly agree with your point of view, and think it would be advisable for us to poll this question again and attempt to obtain opinions regarding the repatriation of Japanese nationals and at the same time, the sentiment which exists about the Japanese who are Canadian citizens.

I believe it may be possible to include this in our next opinion study, and I will be glad to send you the results, with any breakdowns of the information you may desire.

P. S. What is the latest news. of Saul Row?

Cordially,

arthur a Parter

ARTHUR A. PORTER Managing Director

AAP: McC

KYUQUOT TROLLERS CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N

1900

BUYING STATIONS:

KYUQUOT

KLASKISH

WINTER HBR.

BAMFIELD REFUGE COVE

PRODUCERS AND MARKETERS OF OCEAN TROLL-CAUGHT QUALITY SALMON

December 22nd, 1942.

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, P.C.

Prime Minister of Canada Ottawa, Ont. Dear Mr. Prime Minister: Re: Japanese Re-patriation

At the Annual General Meeting of our Association consisting of 405 bona fide fishermen fishing up the west coast of Vancouver Island, the question of re-patriation of Japanese was discussed fully and the stand taken by our letters directed to the authorities since 1932 was confirmed.

We beg to refer the Prime Minister to our letter dated January 8th, 1942, in which we set out the fishermen's unalterable opposition to the Japanese in the fishing industry and, as world affairs have developed, we further wish to stress these points, and are now asking that re-patriation of all Japanese in Canada be made part of the terms of peace.

It has been firmly demonstrated during this year how easily the Japanese can be replaced with white fishermen without curtailing fish production. We, in our Association, made room for sixty more fishermen earning a decent living on grounds where previously the Japanese were predominant.

We would also suggest that all real property owned by Japanese, as in the case of Ucluelet, be disposed of at a fair price to white people so as to give the population in these places an opportunity to get possession of their own homes instead of paying rent to the Japanese. Our members feel that as long as the Japanese own property the Government is doing too little to prevent them from again occupying these places at the end of the war, when it would be doubly difficult to remove them; although it is expected that the Government will see to it that this country is made secure for Canadians who owe allegiance to only one Government.

"Therefore, be it resolved that the members of this Association request the Government to re-patriate all people of Japanese birth

# KYUQUOT TROLLERS CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N

PRODUCERS AND MARKETERS OF OCEAN TROLL-CAUGHT QUALITY SALMON



1124 GOVERNMENT ST. -:- VICTORIA, B.C.

KYUQUOT
KLASKISH
WINTER HBR.
UCLUELET
BAMFIELD
REFUGE COVE

The Prime Minister

-2-

Dec. 22nd, 1942.

and descent at the end of the war, and in order to facilitate this move that all their property be disposed of so as to avoid obstacles that might arise because of Japanese being property owners."

Yours very truly,

Kyuquot Trollers Co-operative Association.

per

HEB/H

Managing Secretary.

Ottawa, December 3, 1943. John K. Wells, Esq., Secretary,
Burnaby Liberal Association (Provincial Riding), 4781 Pender Street East, Vancouver, B. C. I was instructed to forward Dear Sir: The Prime Minister has asked me to acknowledge your recent undated letter embodying a resolution which was passed at the annual meeting of the Burnaby Liberal Association. Provincial Riding, regarding the disposition of Japanese in Canada on the conclusion of hostilities. Mr. King wishes me to let you know that the representations of this resolution will be brought to the attention of his colleagues. Yours faithfully, H. R. L. Henry, Private Secretary. AMH/MP

OPY

### BURNABY LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

Provincial Riding

4781 Pender Street East, Vancouver, B. C.

The Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Ottawa.

Hon. Prime Minister:

At the annual meeting of the above Association I was instructed to forward to you the following resolution:

That: this Association go on record to the effect that all Japanese be returned to Japan on the conclusion of hostilities, and that the attitude of the Liberal Government regarding this issue be definitely stated.

Furthermore will the Electorate of this Province be given a voice of approval or otherwise in regard to this vital matter.

I have the honour to remain

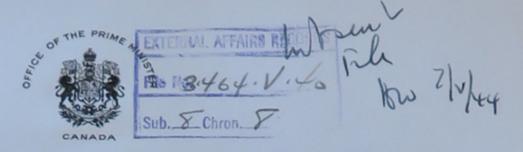
Hon. Prime Minister

Yours respectfully

"John K. Wells"

Sec.

MAN DEC 4 MM (1 33



Ottawa, January 13th, 1943.

Dear Sir.

I have been much interested to receive your letter of December 22nd in which you inform me of the Resolution passed by the Kyuquot Trollers Co-operative Association at their annual general meeting requesting the Government to send to Japan after the war all persons of Japanese birth and descent.

3464. V to

I appreciate the general feeling among the members of your Co-operative that their means of livelihood should be made secure in the post-war period. The desire for social and economic security is, I believe, universal throughout Canada. I think that by the application of intelligence and understanding, we can go far towards achieving it and I look forward to the day when we will be able to guarantee a good living to all Canadians. I welcome the discussion of this problem by your Co-operative as the evidence that the methods of true Democracy still operate in Canada.

While I concur in what I believe was the real objective of your members in passing this Resolution, I cannot accept the method of the Resolution itself. The dictatorships which we are fighting have built their strength on the doctrine of super and subject peoples: they have taught hate as an incentive to action. We might win the war, but we cannot win the peace by adopting the teachings and methods of our enemies which have already brought misery to the world's peoples. I believe that the future of Canada and the welfare of all Canadians require government without favour or discrimination on account of race, creed or language. We cannot depart from the guiding principles which, although sometimes obscured, have made the democratic nations great without ourselves being the first to suffer.

Managing Secretary,

Kyuquot Trollers Co-operative

Ass'n.,

1124 Government St.,

Vancouver, B.C.

Yours sincerely,

Copy sent to Secretary of State Department.
Oct.30/42/U.

October 30th, 1942.

FILE No. 3 4 6 4 - V - 40

Sub. Chrom. Whiled

Dear Mr. Sharp, -

Your letter of October 27th, concerning the investments of Canadians in Japan and of Japanese in Canada, is being referred to the Custodian of Enemy Property who, as you are no doubt aware, is the Secretary of State. It is the Custodian alone who could give this information with any accuracy but the Department of External Affairs is doubtful whether any short statement could be made which would give a clear picture of a very complicated situation. This Department is also doubtful as to the expediency of making any figures on this subject public at the present time. These are, however, matters for the Custodian's consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh II. Keenleyside

Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

E. Lambert Sharp, Esq., 8750 Aisne Street, Vancouver, B. C.

File No. 34-64-V-40
Sub. 19 Chron 19 Filed

8750 Aisne Street Vancouver, B.C. October 27th, 1942.

Provincial Secretary,
Department of External Affairs
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:

I am writing an article for Maclean's Magazine, Toronto, on the Japanese situation here in British Columbia.

As you may have heard, there is strong agitation here for the repatriation of all Japanese in Canada.

So few people realize the complications in such a course, that I am trying to point out a few significant facts, in the article.

That is why I am I am asking for information regarding the approximate amount of, or value of, British and Canadian holdings and investments in Japan, and Japanese holdings, monies, investments, here in Canada.

I hope that you will be able to give me this information.

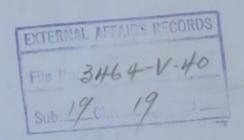
Sincerely yours,

5. Lambur Thanks

E.Lambert Sharp 8750 Aisne Street Vancouver, B.C.

08446

October 27, 1942.



Dear Mr. Godwin:

The Prime Minister has asked me to acknowledge your letter of October 21st concerning the resolution passed by the Vancouver City Council advocating the repatriation of persons of Japanese race and to thank you for your kind wishes to him personally.

Mr. King deeply appreciates the humanitarian and Christian spirit which prompted you to write as you did, and wishes me to assure you that your representations will be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Ll. Keenleyside

Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. John Godwin, 1 Aberdeen Block, 84 Lonsdale Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.



file

Ottawa, October 27, 1942.

Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, O T T A W A.

Dear Doctor Keenleyside:



Herewith for your information and comments is copy of Resolution passed by Vancouver City Council concerning postwar disposition of the Japanese who formerly resided in that region.

Yours very truly,

and amar

Associate Deputy Minister (A. MacNamara)

Encl.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada and other Members of his Cabinet, as well as to all Members of Parliament representing British Columbia constituencies.

COPY OF RESOLUTION PASSED BY VANCOUVER CITY COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 20TH, 1942.

Moved by Alderman Geo. Buscombe,
Seconded by Alderman H. L. Corey,
THAT WHEREAS prior to the outbreak of the present war
the presence in Vancouver of persons of the Japanese race
was a constant source of irritation; owing among other
things to unfair labor and business practices;

AND WHEREAS the experience of the last few decades has shown that assimilation of the two races in impossible; and that the Japanese standard of living is lower than that of the Canadian people;

AND WHEREAS as a necessary result of the action of the Imperial Japanese Government in making war upon our Empire, the Japanese population of Vancouver is being removed from the Coast of this Province;

AND WHEREAS the dislocations caused by the removal of Japanese from the fishing, lumbering, agricultural and other industries will be adjusted so that when peace comes we shall find that our own people are regularly carrying on all the activities which had formerly fallen into the hands of the Japanese;

AND WHEREAS it would be most unwise at a time when our own returned men will be seeking re-establishment in civil life to permit the Japanese to return and repeat the process of infiltration into business and industry which had become such a source of irritation during the years immediately prior to the war;

AND WHEREAS for many years it will be impossible for persons of the Japanese race to expect sympathetic consideration from our people and in their own interest it will be better for them to join their own countrymen in Japan;

AND WHEREAS the other Provinces of Canada have shown a disinclination to assume any portion of the burden of our present Japanese problem:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council do petition the Government of Canada to take in hand as one of its postwar problems the question of the repatriation of all Japanese-born persons resident in Canada; and the setting up of a tribunal to enquire into the loyalty of all Canadian-born persons of the Japanese race, with power to order the removal to Japan of any whose loyalty to this country is not definitely established; and that the continued residence in Canada of Canadian-born Japanese be contingent upon the setting up of such tribunal and a fair distribution of their numbers among all the Provinces of Canada; and that such proportion shall be maintained;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada and other Members of his Cabinet, as well as to all Members of Parliament representing British Columbia constituencies.

File M. B

October 27, 1942.

File No 3464-V-40
Sub. 19 Chron. 19 Filed

Dear Sir:

The Prime Minister has asked me to acknowledge your letter of October 21st transmitting a resolution passed by the Vancouver City Council on the 20th instant and advocating the repatriation after the war of persons of Japanese racial origin. The representations made therein are being brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

Yours very truly,

Hugh Li: Keenleyside

Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Fred Howlett, City Clerk, Vancouver, B.C.

1 aberdeen Block 84 Leurdale avenue Nouse Vancourer Oct 8/08/1942 MTERMAL AFFAIRS RECORDS The M. Hore W. L. File No. 3 464-V-40 machenezie King hu P. Time primer tremier Sub. 19 Chron. 19 Filed I am witing you to ask you not to take any notice of a reorlulion from Vancouver liky Colincial proposed by the present Celegeus bæel to fapeur after the War The mayor wants to get elected again so he klinks he wire be popular by mæhny a political footbull of there people where fells have, to do what this resolution calls for is to sow the seeds of another War the faponese fine tob fought for banada in our atmy last War I surely if for fight for a Country pur have the right to live in it Hus consuliere of the mayor here is fust copying Hiller in racial hatred I that is everal eve are fighting to put draw. When I have all the emply Jupawere flores now I see up in the Windows the

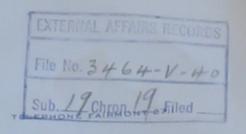
herement Show Cerhificates for their contribution King contributed 300.000 Decease I then I think that we recearded their effects by smarling up their threes & Businesses it seems to be the very negation of Democracy of most un Butis & certainly not in accordance with Chirolian pinciples, to me it seems the peaced tragedy Mal a fine appulantly we have mined to seconemend blustantly to these people, there is me man for years here on the Council the for if an auglecan trimester all Wilson has tried a liceuse to eave their dealy bread, if pre be impressed by such treasment, we have no revine to full about Hiller where we have people in Canada who do such cruel lineys as that Racial habred started this War hel in the new Wirld that is to be racial habred tautaganisms must cease I in their place must be dominant a blinstian Charily to all people ideas on this problem but I have told fur hope that I think that when pur look the Jupanere

we myet with safety have left the Coastal Points in their threes & Business here I the michines me have been belber spend in making up Old age Peurins lo a Dollar a day for the Old People I am on the spot here I the whole feir Politicions ebbs saw ru there peoples accident y Birsh a chause to make a little capital for Themselves politically say that it is the only decent thing for us to do is to let these people return to their threes of Buconess evhere they left off after His War is over or else me better give up singing at Public functions O banada her Land of hope hr all who bit. a young Canadian Japanere British Citizen with out any rights everyl people in this Land to talk about sending them away, justead of a 11 micious of Jollis per orgen le hans another 100 milliones la help to support so many Greonements we have So the condusion the Thing does take any notice of these resolutions fine there poles who are only thinking of thenotomes of their our untereste all the time, surely for see my

pure here that it is may to inflict any to say in our Greenment but who look to us to carry out no proud board that we are different to the rest if the uned, let us not only say we are a bhirtian Nation but let us all lebe one, I think from what I have muster fore vice see that these Canadian Japanese an lawful Ciliyeus off of the Country & after this War are entitled to live where they want under det this trouble, my seema fou has been & jeas in England und the Ceir Fevre I let us hope of play that this dade scorenge Brothers in bhiest the world over is the prayer of Yours very Successery Volue Godwing

CITY
CLERK'S OFFICE
FRED HOWLETT, J. R





VANCOUVER, B.C.

October 21, 1942.

The Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, OTTAWA, Canada.

Sir:

3363.40

Proposed Japanese Repatriation.

I beg to notify you of the following Resolution which was passed by the Vancouver City Council on the 20th instant, regarding the above-noted subject:

"Moved by Alderman Geo. Buscombe, Seconded by Alderman H.L. Corey,

THAT WHEREAS prior to the outbreak of the present war the presence in Vancouver of persons of the Japanese race was a constant source of irritation; owing among other things to unfair labor and business practices;

AND WHEREAS the experience of the last few decades has shown that assimilation of the two races is impossible; and that the Japanese standard of living is lower than that of the Canadian people.

AND WHEREAS as a necessary result of the action of the Imperial Japanese Government in making war upon our Empire, the Japanese population of Vancouver is being removed from the Coast of this Province:

AND WHEREAS the dislocations caused by the removal of Japanese from the fishing, lumbering, agricultural and other industries will be adjusted so that when peace comes we shall find that our own people are regularly carrying on all the activities which had formerly fallen into the hands of the Japanese;

(over)

TELEPHONE FAIRMONT 2711

CITY
CLERK'S OFFICE
FRED HOWLETT, J. R.



VANCOUVER, B.C.

-2-

(continued)

"AND WHEREAS it would be most unwise at a time when our own returned menwill
be seeking re-establishment in civil life to
permit the Japanese to return and repeat the
process of infiltration into business and industry which had become such a source of irritation during the years immediately prior to
the war;

AND WHEREAS for many years it will be impossible for persons of the Japanese race to expect sympathetic consideration from our people and in their own interest it will be better for them to join their own countrymen in Japan;

AND WHEREAS the other Provinces of Canada have shown a disinclination to assume any portion of the burden of our present Japanese problem;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council do petition the Government of Canada to take in hand as one of its postwar problems the question of the repatriation of all Japanese-born persons resident in Canada; and the setting up of a tribunal to enquire into the loyalty of all Canadian-born persons of the Japanese race, with power to order the removal to Japan of any whose loyalty to this country is not definitely established; and that the continued residence in Canada of Canadian-born Japanese be contingent upon the setting up of such tribunal and a fair distribution of their numbers among all the Provinces of Canada; and that such proportion shall be maintained;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Prime

(over)

CITY
CLERK'S OFFICE
FRED HOWLETT, J. R
CITY CLERK



TELEPHONE FAIRMONT 2711

VANCOUVER, B.C.

-3-

#### (continued)

"Minister of Canada and other Members of his Cabinet, as well as to all Members of Parliament representing British Columbia constituencies.

- Carried."

Yours faithfully,

CITY CLERK.

FH:MH

MB/MB

File No. 3464-V-40

Sub. 19 Chron. 19 Filed

October 6, 1942.

Dear Sir:

The Prime Minister has asked me to acknowledge your letter of September 29th, concerning the repatriation of persons of Japanese origin after the war. Your representations have been noted and are being brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities for consideration.

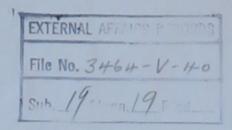
Yours faithfully,

H. L. Keenleyside

Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. S. Mussallem, Reeve of Maple Ridge, Haney, B. C.

October 1, 1942.



Dear Mr. Crowe:

The Prime Minister has asked me to acknowledge your letter of September 23rd, enclosing a copy of your communication to the Mayor of Vancouver concerning the movement for the repatriation of persons of Japanese origin after the war.

Mr. King appreciates very much the thoughtful consideration which you have given to this problem and the spirit which prompted you to write as you did.

Yours sincerely,

Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Clarence B. Crowe, 4522 West 6th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. S. MUSSALLEM

## Carparation of the District of 3464-V-40

TELEPHONES: HANEY 6 HAMMOND 3661 19 19

September 29, 1942.

The Right Honourable MacKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Honourable Sir:

An advertisement, inserted in the Maple Ridge Gazette, calling for expression of Public opinion on whether the Japanese should be allowed to return to their holdings in Maple Ridge after the cessation of hostilities resulted in a general condemnation of any proposal that might be made for their reinstatement.

While credit was given to them in a few cases for their industry, it was felt that they were a detriment to the white community, their ideas not coinciding with those of other residents. Their treachery at Pearl Harbour, and their cruelty to Canadians at Hong Kong being held as undesirable characteristics in people who would have to be considered as neighbours. The impossibility of assimilation into the Canadian race of such people was also stressed. It was also stated that in business the Japanese had dealt among themselves and their own nationals, never doing business with white people unless there was no other way out.

The consensus of opinion is that the Custodian of Japanese Property should sell all Japanese held lands at this time, and all Japanese, whether naturalized or not, be sent to Japan, their presence here being undesirable.

2 -- Right Honourable W. L. MacKenzie King.

In case this is not possible, the people of Maple Ridge feel, that if the Japanese must remain in Canada after the cessation of hostilities, they should be distributed across Canada in pro. ratio numbers to white population of each Province and centre. Maple Ridge has been over-run be them.

Personally, I prefer the original Japanese settler to the second generation. The originals knew that Japan was no place to live in, and they were content to live in British Columbia. The second generation is ignorant of real conditions in Japan but have national conceit. They are ambitious that Japan should rule here, and they be under their own national Government. They entirely overlook the educational and other advantages they have received. They show in their opinions an aptitude for the same treachery and low morals seen in the Japanese of Japan.

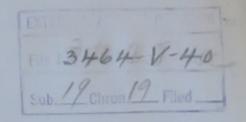
Maple Ridge is not a result entirely of the war. Animosity against them has been growing for a number of
years owing entirely to their lack of what it takes
to be a good Canadian. They have still remained in
ideals and action, and have failed utterly to establish
themselves as members of the Community. Anything they
have done has been entirely in their own interests,
and they have not inspired Public respect or confidence.

Yours truly,

Reeve of Maple Ridge.

& Mussallem

aut afterio



4522 West 6th Avenue Vancouver, B. C. September 23, 1942

Right Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of writing to you concerning a matter that I feel to be of sufficient importance to warrant my bringing it to your notice even at this time when heavy problems weigh upon you, and to justify the hope that you will find time to give it a place in your thoughts for the good of Canada and the furtherance of the ideals we fight for.

I refer to the movement to bring pressure to bear upon the Canadian Government to do something less than justice to the people of Japanese origin who have been living in British Columbia, and I would respectfully call your attention to the enclosed copy of a letter I have written to Mr. J.W. Cornett, Mayor of Vancouver upon this matter.

Yours very truly,

Clarence B. Crowne

Clarence B. Crowe

33

4522 Wost 6th Avonuo Vancouver, B. C. 23rd Soptember 1942

Copies to the following:
Right Henourable W.L. MacKenzie King, Prime Minister
Mr. Howard Green
The Editor, Vancouver Sun.
The Editor, Vancouver Province
The Editor, Vancouver News-Herald
Members of the Vancouver City Council
Mr. G. Maydon Stewart.

Mayor J.W.Cornott, City Hall, Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir,

I write concorning the movement of which you are reported to be a supporter and to which the Vancouver Sun has committed itself in its editorial columns, to bring pressure to bear upon the Canadian Government to alter its declared intention to restore to their homes those people of Japanese origin who have been or are being moved from the Pacific Coast area.

I would remind you that many of these people are Canadian citizens and that the citizenship of the majority of them has been as much above reproach as yours or mine, in spite of the fact that there are some of us who have never treated them as good citizens should be treated. Those of them who are not Canadian citizens are not necessarily any the worse for having been born outside our boundaries and these constitute a foreign minority group within our borders who are in common decency entitled to fair and just treatment, now and in the future. Are we going to visit our wrath with Japan upon these people in British Columbia , the overwhelming majority of whom everyone knows had nothing whatever to do with bringing on this conflict? If we are going to promote or even condone a campaign of hatred directed against these poople, especially at this time when circumstances have made it necessary to put them through experiences that you and I would vind very distressing, how much farther are we along the road to civilization than the Nazi regime that we fight to the death?

Would there be any difference in principle between the Nazi party stirring up hatred against the Jows in Germany and, let us say, the Mayor and Council of the City of Vancouver leading a movement to stir up bitter enmity against the Japanese in British Columbia? I submit, sir, that if the former is a thing to be abhorred the latter could not be semething to be telerated.

Of course, the plain fact of the matter is that the present outery against this particular section of our population is but a new manifestation of the old projudice against the Asiatic, brought to a feeal point by the entry of Japan into war against us. The Chinese people here, who at the moment find themselves in a less embarrassing situation, realize this fact quite clearly and will not be found contemplating with any great satisfaction the present campaign to force out and keep out all people of Japanese origin.

I suppose nearly all of us in Canada wish for an onduring peace when this war shall have been brought to an end by the utter defeat of the powers united against us. No onduring peace was over built nor every shall be built upon any foundation less than mutual understanding, respect and good-will between the peoples concerned. No one who can learn the lessons of History could fail to realize this. Does anyone believe that it is possible for such understanding, respect or goodwill to grow or live between two nations either of which sets itself to force out and koop out the nationals of the other and even disowns and expols its own citizens for the sole reason that they are descended from citizons of the other? It is my opinion that anyone, however sincero he may be, who advocates or assists a movement that will assuredly foment mistrust and hatrod between groups within the country new during our war offort and that will complicate the already difficult task of ostablishing an enduring peace after the end of this war is not a true friend of Canada nor of the cause of the allied nations in this war, and does not stand for the principles for which we are fighting.

Now, sir, if I did not have sufficient confidence in the Government of Canada to be unwilling to believe that this movement, which you are said to have undertaken to support, can succeed in accomplishing its avewed purpose, I should cease to be proud to be a Canadian. Nevertheless the campaign itself can do incalculable mischief, based as it is, and defending for support as it does, upon racial projudice; and for this reason I would urge you to withhold your support as Mayor of Vancouver, from this or any campaign which is un-Christian in its philosophy and unpatrictic in its purpose. I realize that we have difficult problems to be solved in connection with our population of foreign nationality, but I believe they can be solved only by clear constructive thinking and in a spirit of understanding telerance, and I am convinced that they never will be solved by an appeal to projudice.

Yours truly,

MKILL

Sub. 12 Darving

#### MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ANGUS

Mr. Robertson thinks that it would be desirable to postpone the sending of a letter of this kind to Mr. Taylor until nearer the end of the war. He think that if we were to ask for the advice of the Commission just now it is probable that the reply would be that arrangements should be made in the post-war period to provide for the repatriation of all persons of Japanese racial origin. If the request for advice is postponed for the present bitterness might die down and we might look for a more reasonable reply.

1+2.15.



File No. 37 1-40
Sub. 19 Chron. 19 Filed

June 23, 1942.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

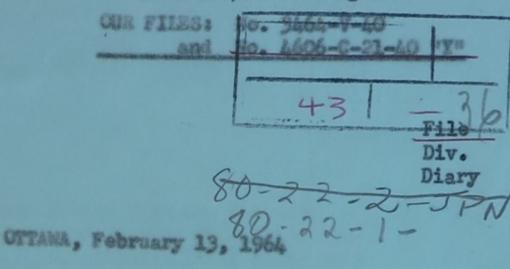
In the course of your arduous duties you and your colleagues on the British Columbia Security Commission have been brought into close contact with all phases of the position of persons of Japanese racial origin in Canada. You are also in a position to judge of the effect upon these persons of the process of evacuation from protected areas and of the repercussions which this movement has had upon the communities in which the persons of Japanese race have found a temporary asylum. You are also aware of what undertakings may have been given either to the persons of Japanese race or to provincial governments or local communities.

It is probable, therefore, that you and your colleagues are in a better position to form a valuable opinion in regard to the post-war settlement of this problem than any other group of men in Canada. While this matter is not one of immediate emergency, it would be unfortunate if the members of the Security Commission were to separate without placing on record, for the benefit of the Government of Canada, your opinion with regard to the lines which a long-run settlement of this question should follow. I should, therefore, appreciate it if the members of the Commission will draft a confidential memorandum on the subject. I realize that there may well be differences of opinion among the members of the Commission and I hope that none of them will hesitate to express their views frankly.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Austin Taylor,
Chairman,
British Columbia Security Commission,
Marine Building,
Vancouver, B.C.

LEGAL DIV/E. B. Wang:elz



The Deputy Minister Department of Finance O t t s w a

## Attention: Mr. H. D. Clark

The Deputy Minister Department of Labour O t t a w a

## Attention: Mr. H. T. Passett

The Deputy Custodian
Department of the Secretary of State |
O t t a w a

## Attention: Mr. H. Robitaille

Departments in 1960/61, concerning petitions from Japanese Repatriates from Canada as transmitted under the following letters from the Canadian Ambassador in Tokyo, which were referred to your Departments:

Letter No. 765 of November 21, 1960 and Letter No. 398 of July 14, 1961.

...2

Et:

I now attach a further letter from the Canadian Ambassador in Tokyo on this subject, dated January 20, 1964. You will note from this correspondence that, although it is clear that there are no grounds for acceding to the demands of these Japanese repatriates, no substantive reply has hitherto been conveyed to them by our Ambassador. We would be glad to have your comments on whether such a reply should be made at this time, and, if so, we would

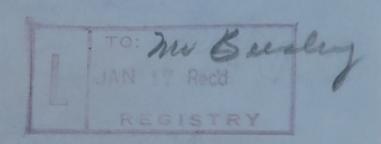
It would seem to us that this group might, in the absence of any reply, continue to present petitions to the Embassy from time to time, in spite of the passage of years since the War. It might therefore be desirable to let them know where they stand with a fairly comprehensive statement which would clarify their position under Canadian law.

be glad to receive any suggestions on the contents of a reply.

RA MUTT







#### DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Ottawa, January 16, 1961.

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, East Block, Ottawa, C a n a d a.

3464-V-402 5-7 5-7

Attention: Mr. J.A. Beesley

Dear Mr. Beesley:

I acknowledge receipt of the transmittal slip dated Januay 12, 1961, to which was attached a copy of the memorandum from Mr. Robitaille to the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs with reference to the petition from repatriates to Japan, File 3464-V-40.

The first paragraph of the memorandum refers to a letter of December 16th enclosing a copy of the Department of Labour's letter dated December 12th and also a copy of a memorandum dated December 7th.

We would appreciate receiving copies of these in order that our file might be complete.

Yours very truly,

Hot Clark

H. D. Clark.

Legal/J.A. Beesley/rh

Boy (243430

3464-V-40 88 42

O t t a w a, January 11, 1961.

The Under Secretary of State, Dept. of the Secretary of State, Ottawa, Ontario.

Attention: Office of the Custodian

Your letter of December 29, concerning the Petition from Japanese repatriates and the attachments to it have proven very helpful.

I have forwarded copies to our Ambassador in Tokyo.

GILLES SICOTTE



3464-1-40

Our File No. 3464-V-40

Ottawa, December 16, 1960.

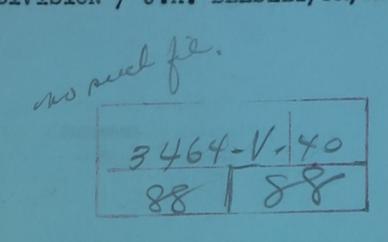
Deputy Minister,
Department of the Secretary
of State,
West Block,
Ottawa, Ontario.

#### Attention: Office of the Custodian

We are attaching for your information a copy of a letter dated December 12, together with a memorandum dated December 7 which we have received from the Department of Labour relating to the petition recently presented to our Ambassador in Tokyo by repatriates to Japan. You will recall that you have received a copy of the petition in question together with the covering letter, No. 764, from our Ambassador in Japan.

It occurs to us that your comments would be of interest to our Ambassador and we would appreciate receiving them before replying to his letter.

G. C. LANGILLE



Our File No. 3464-V-40.

Ottawa, December 16, 1960.

Deputy Minister,
Department of Labour,
Confederation Building,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Your letter of December 12 and the memorandum of December 7 attached to it have proven very helpful, and I am grateful for your prompt and careful attention to my enquiry.

I shall forward a copy of your memorandum to our Ambassador in Tokyo and inform him of your agreement with the views expressed in paragraph 4 of his letter No. 764.

G. C. LANGILLE

C.C. Tokyo
R.C.M.P.
Far Eastern Div.
Dept. of Finance
(Attn: Mr. H.D.Clark)

3464-1-40

Ottawa, December 1, 1960.

#### Our File No. 3464-V-40

The Deputy Minister, Department of Labour, O T T A W A.

I am attaching a copy of letter number 764 from the Canadian Ambassador in Tokyo, together with a copy of the petition dated October 31 referred to in his letter, which has been submitted by the "National Federation of Repatriates from Canada".

I understand that your department was designated by the Cabinet during the war years to deal with matters relating to the resettlement of Japanese, and I should be grateful to receive your comments; (as soon as possible), as to the kind of reply our Ambassador might make to this petition.

	TRANSMITTAL SLIP	To: Mr. Beekley
	Affairs.	Security Unclassified  Date No vember 22, 1960
FROM:The Ca	anadian Embassy,	Air or Surface. Air
Tokyo, Japan.		No. of enclosures
	ts described below are for your information.  hority. G. Lalande	3464-U,40 Z-
		0
Copies	Description	Also referred to:
Copies	Despatch No. 764 of November 21, 1960 re "Petition from Repatriates to Japan"  Despatch No. 764 of November 21, 1960 re "Petition from Repatriates to Japan"  Despatch No. 764 of November 21, 1960 re "Petition from Repatriates to Japan"	Also referred to:

introb. for your information of Tokyo, November 22, 1960 In such superhan from Mr. Tenteries Die of ten Bissel

Dear Sir:

I have received your petition of October 31, 1960, which you sent me in the name of the Kansai Chapter of the National Federation of Repatriates from Canada.

I had your petition translated into English and read its translation carefully. I subsequently forwarded it to our authorities in Ottawa for information.

> Yours truly, The sect of the sect of the section of the section

Wm. Frederick Bull,
The Ambassador.

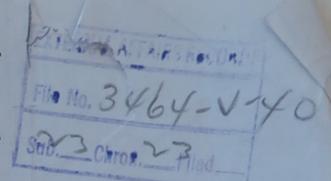
Mr. Takejiro Ode, 40 Hidaka-cho, Wakayama-ken, Japan. of the terms of apprehens standards of living

(Translation attached)

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE W. L. MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G.,

Prime Minister of Canada, and Minister of External Affairs,

Ottawa.



## A Petition Relative to Canadian Residents of Japanese Ancestral Stock

## Who Are Not Subject to Deportation

WHEREAS on the outbreak of the recently terminated war with Japan the Government of Canada felt it wise, as a defence measure, to evacuate from coastal British Columbia all Japanese nationals and Canadian citizens of Japanese origin, and greatly to restrict their civil rights and liberty of movement and action; and

WHEREAS it has been officially declared that, in the very trying circumstances incidental to such removal from their homes and restriction of their liberties, the conduct of the overwhelming majority of the evacuees has been

irreproachable; and

WHEREAS, while certain Canadian residents of Japanese origin may in the early future be deported or go voluntarily to make their home in Japan, it is manifest that numbers of these people, legally resident in Canada and observant of its laws, and not subject to deportation, will exercise their right to remain in Canada permanently; and

WHEREAS, in their own interests and the interests of Canada, it is desirable that such persons of Japanese ancestry as are to remain in Canada should be reabsorbed, as rapidly as possible, into the general economic life of this

Dominion;

THEREFORE we, the undersigned adult citizens of this Dominion, respectfully petition you and your colleagues in

the Privy Council of Canada, praying:

(I) THAT, as rapidly as public interests may permit, the full rights and privileges normally incidental to citizenship or residence in Canada be restored to all persons of Japanese origin who are not subject to deportation under Canadian ORDERS IN COUNCIL or LAWS;

(2) THAT all special Wartime restrictions upon the purchase or lease of real property by persons of Japanese

origin be cancelled immediately;

(3) THAT all discriminatory restrictions upon the free movement of law-abiding persons of Japanese ancestry

within, into, or from, any part of Canada, except coastal British Columbia, be forthwith abolished.

(4) THAT public policy shall not envisage the absolute or permanent exclusion of anyone, upon grounds of race, from any section of Canada, even though, in the present circumstances and for the time being, your Government may feel it advisable to make the return of any evacuee to coastal British Columbia subject to special permit granted upon investigation; and that the issuance of such permit reflect sympathetic consideration of the needs, convenience and dignity of the applicant;

(5) THAT, in order to promote a wide dispersal of the Japanese population formerly and unduly concentrated in certain communities and occupations, the economic losses imposed upon evacuees be adjusted with gener-

osity and promptitude, and

(6) THAT all measures adopted by the Government of Canada relative to any racial minority accord with the commitments of Canada as one of the United Nations, bound to achieve "international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of race, class, language or religion".

		14
NAMES OF PETITIONERS	ADDRESSES	CONSTITUENCY
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Mes & a berthe	m 35-41 w	23 and banceres
Mrs I B. Steerens	3954. W. 2	29 the Vancour
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This Mr. Lews	3250, W27 ch	01110
mis J. L. Dord	3873 - W16	and "
Lonaine E. D. Val	3720 7.1886, 4	Pur.
	a	le hest Pt. Gren

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER Mr. Wouhaf Min - External Affaces. I don't know whither they on any predent which determine our lin in a can like this, but it sens I me that we should take the position that there people are all Butish subjects and Conshin citizens and that then can count, tanks, be dealt with by the Canadian Government through the Red Cross. I thenh the hoke relations me diethy with Labour a with the If you ague, I seem Down that we could gente properly tell way that - in rather soften language. NYA 26/x1/46.

#### DRAFT

Dear Mr. Maag -

I have received your letter of November 21 regarding the case of Tomejiro Naka. dwags

As you know, this Department has at all times been anxious to investigate and comment on specific complaints made to you by persons in Japanese settlements or internment camps.

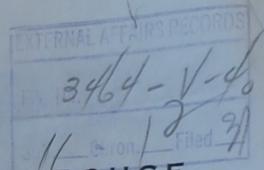
However, I have some to the conclusion that it is not reasonable for Mr. Naka to expect either you or the Canadian Government to enter into a debate with him on the legality or reasonableness of the general policy being pursued by the Canadian Government in relation to the Japanese in Canada.

That policy has been the subject of several ministerial statements in the House of Commons with which you are familiar. It goes without saying that the Canadian Government is satisfied that its policy towards the Japanese has been both necessary and legal.

Yours sincerely,

E.L. Maag, Esq., Delegate in Canada of the International Committee of the Red Cross, 1040 Sun Life Bldg., Montreal, P.Q.





## COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

DÉLEGATION AU CANADA

ERNEST L. MAAG

MONTREAL, November 21st, 1946.

1040 SUN LIFE BUILDING

Sir,

Answering your letter of November 2nd,1946, concerning the complaints made by Mr. Tomejiro NAKA, please be advised that I have meanwhile asked the Commissioner of Japanese Placement in Vancouver for the additional information for which you asked me and answer received from the Commissioner is enclosed herewith.

I would be grateful to receive your comments regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Chief of Delegation in Canada.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, O T T A W A. Ottawa, September 27, 1945.

State Library Records Records

David Bee, Esq.,
S. 20,
Postal Station F,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

The Prime Minister has asked me to reply to your letter of September 17, in which you make certain recommendations concerning the policy to be followed in Canada with regard to persons of Japanese origin.

Mr. King has asked me to say that your views have been noted, and are being brought to the attention of the responsible officials.

Yours sincerely,

(R. G. Robertson) Secretary.

S.20, Postal Station F, Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 17, 1945.

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie-King, Prime Minister, Parliament Bldgs., Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir:

This is in regard to the situation of Canadians of Japanese origin.

I would reccomend that the wartime restrictions on these people be lifted in gradual steps, starting immediately with permitting them to buy land.

For some years my work has been directly and indirectly in contact with these people, and I have always found them in large majority to be loyal and law-abiding, and certainly by law them have as much right to the privileges of Canadian citizenship as I have, born in Vancouver of British parents. Especially I deplore any minority being exploited as a political foot-ball for the sake of a few votes of the uninformed.

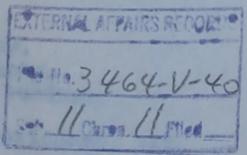
Thanking you for your consideration of the above,

Yours very truly, David Bee. COPY

Tashme, B.C., March 26, 1945.

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir:



In the notices issued on the authority of the Hon.
Minister of Labour and also by the Commissioner of Japanese
Placement, whereby all persons of Japanese racial origin,
now resident in British Columbia, who do not apply for
voluntary repatriation to Japan, who, as evidence of their
intentions to co-operate with the Government policy of dispersal,
will be required to relocate east of the Rockies, we cannot
but entertain doubt and a feeling of unrest to some points.
We, therefore, humbly wish to have the following clarified:

- Does complete understanding exist between the Federal and the Provincial Governments as to the policy of dispersal of all persons of Japanese racial origin?
- Dominion and the various provincial governments regarding the evacuated Japanese, that, at the termination of the war, with the subsequent excess of manpower, the Japanese, now dispersed throughout the various provinces, be returned to British Columbia, and we feel reluctant to relocate to localities where we cannot take up permanent residence (as per attachment).
- III If the Government dispersal policy is to apply to all provinces, then it is only natural that British Columbia should also have its quota of Japanese but it is maintained that those who wish to remain in Canada have no preference but to relocate east of the Rockies.
- In the notice issued by the Commissioner of Japanese Placement, it is stated "Several thousand Japanese have already re-established themselves satisfactorily east of the Rockies". The fact is, however, not only are they receiving unsatisfactory treatment but are merely residing "provisionally" for the duration. For instance, they

(a) the right to own land or property.
(b) the right to lease land or property.

(c) the right of free enterprise or business.

(d) equal educational opportunities.

(e) freedom to choose own place of residence, etc.

Officials, in explaining the recently announced program of re-establishment east of the Rockies, maintain that this is "not compulsory." However, the impression we received from the full text of the notices leaves us no alternative. It seems to imply threat rather than compulsion.

It is stated in the notice issued on the authority of the Honorable Minister of Labour, that free passage and transportation will be guaranteed by the Canadian Government to persons voluntarily repatriating to Japan but that "these assurances do not apply to persons repatriated on other than a voluntary basis." Does "other than a voluntary basis" mean those persons deported through lack of co-operation to the present notices? In case of Japanese-Canadian will it mean expulsion from Canada? Is this justified by law?

VII In the notice issued by the Commissioner of Japanese Placement, conditions are set forth for those "Japanese-Canadians who want to remain in Canada." Does this mean that Japanese Nationals are excluded?

Thanking you in advance for your thoughtful attention.

Yours respectfully, JAPANESE COMMITTEE

per (Sgd) R. Shirakawa Chairman

P.S. We attach a copy of letter forwarded to Mr. T. B. Pickersgill, Commissioner, Japanese Placement.

File No.3 464-V-40
Sub.// Chron. //Filed\_

Ottawa, April 2, 1945.

Dear Mr. Black:

I have received your letter of March 23 and have noted the text of the interview which you gave on March 20 over Station CKWX in connection with the Japanese problem.

I think the points that you make in your interview are perfectly valid and I was particularly interested to notice your correction of the misinterpretation that has been placed on the notices posted in the last two weeks or so with regard to repatriation and resettlement of Japanese. As officials of the Department of Labour informed the press shortly after the notices were given out, the policy of the Government has not been changed and it was not intended to imply that the Government was going to move all Japanese out of British Columbia who did not voluntarily indicate a wish to leave this country.

Yours sincerely,

Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Norman F. Black, Esq., 4390 Locarno Crescent, Vancouver, British Columbia.



# THE IMPERIAL ORDER DAUGHTERS OF THE EMPIRE

NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA HEAD OFFICE: 182 LOWTHER AVE., TORONTO 4, ONT.

December 8th, 1944

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

3 464-V-40

11Chron.LL

Dear Sir:

We have your acknowledgment dated November 17th of our letter to you of November 13th in which we enclosed a resolution petitioning the Government with regard to the disposition of the Japanese in Canada. May we ask that your Department be good enough to keep us fully informed of the deliberations of the Government when the problem of the settlement of the Japanese question is under consideration.

Sincerely yours,

NATIONAL SECRETARY (Mrs. L. B. Smart)

The Order of

United Commercial Transelers

E. B. McMaster

PAST SUPREME COUNSELOR

510 SHELLY BLDG.

119 PENDER ST. WEST

VANCOUVER, B. C.

Columbus, Ohio.

October 16th, 1944.

File 110. 3 464-V-40

Sub. 11 Chron. 11 Fine

The Right Honorable William Lyon Mackenzie King KITERNAL AFFAIRS PECOSDS Ottawa, Canada.

Sir:-

I have pleasure in enclosing herewith copy' of a letter that was published in the Vancouver Sun in 1937 - a year or two before eastern Canada realized that there was any menace from our 'Pacific' neighbors.

#### READ IT AND WEEP

This letter " " was rebrigantles provents wa fake.

and please do not permit the Government of the day to make any more suggestions that any white man can 'read' the ORIENTAL mind and say which 'jap' is loyal and which is disloyal.

If avarice and greed and the hope of exploiting the 'japs' for a few years, until they get ready to attack us again, is behind the movement to keep ANY 'jap' in Canada - then God help Canada.

EBMcM: kb ENCLOSURE F. B. McMaster, a life long Liberal, but this is TOO much.

Copies to all members of the Cabinet.

B. C. Canada, Under Date of April 6, 1937 and Read to the Supreme Council of UCT of America, Wednesday, June 28, 1944, by Past Supreme Counselor E. B. McMaster.

Every Canadian and United States citizen should read this carefully so that they may know how to act when the war is won.

#### Imperial Visit

Editor, The Sun: Sir,—We, the undersigned Canadian-born Japanese, hereby register our strong protest against the publication by The Vancouver Sun on Saturday, April 3, 1937, of a cheap and disgusting cartoon designed to bring contempt and ridicule upon and to insult their Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princesses Chichibu.

We refer to the cartoon appearing on the front page of the issue in question depicting their Imperial Highnesses shaking hands, in bowing position, with a so-called Mr. and Mrs. Vancouver (whoever those beings may be), representing just two ordinary common Canadians.

As loyal and patriotic Japanese, it is our duty to remind The Vancouver Sun that we Japanese people regard our Imperial Family as divine and whose sanctity is inviolable. The divine persons of the Imperial Family are not to be profaned by being made subjects of such insulting cartoons or caricatures.

The Vancouver Sun cannot be of such short memory as to forget that not so long ago a cartoon by a contemptible American Red concerning the person of our Emperor was the subject of a sharp and just protest to the American Government by our ambassador and an official apology was obtained from Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

A recent editorial of The Vancouver Sun, unjustly condemning the peace-loving Imperial Japanese Empire of militarism, while at the same time professing to welcome their Imperial Highnesses, goes to prove that the cartoon in question was subtly designed both to insult their Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princess Chichibu, and to offend local Japanese loyal feeling. Taking the most charitable view possible, the cartoon showed very bad taste and a complete ignorance of Japanese traditions

and noble ideals.

If The Vancouver Sun and the Canadian public in general had kept their eyes open during the recent visit of Prince and Princess Chichibu, they would have observed that no Japanese looked down on the august procession of their Imperial Highnesses from the windows above, so great is our respect for the divine persons of our Imperial Family.

That no objection was made to Canadians and other foreigners doing so was merely a concession on the part of the Japanese people concerning those who do not as yet fully appreciate their highly patriotic feelings. The brazen attempt, on board ship, on the part of a motley rabble of news reporters to gain audience with their Imperial Highnesses, and thus interview them, directly and ply them with profane questions, was another unfortunate indication of the complete ignorance of Vancouver's newspaper fraternity concerning matters pertaining to our Ruling Imperial Family.

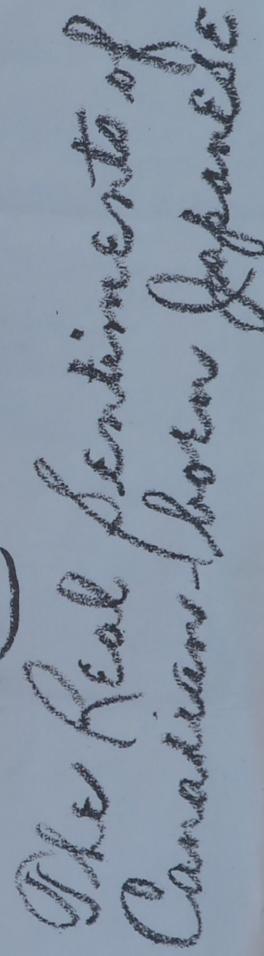
We Japanese are a proud and sensitive people, and the Imperial Japanese Empire has a way of dealing with those peoples and nations who show their insincerity by disregarding and flouting our most sacred sentiments and feelings

However, in conclusion, we beg to say that this letter is written in a true friendly spirit to remove possible misunderstandings for the future, in the end that diplomatic and trade relations between Canada and Japan may be further cemented.

This letter expresses sentiments of various leading Japanese in Vancouver and vicinity to whom we have shown the draft, and therefore trust your paper will in all fairness give it due publicity.

Thanking you, yours very truly,
J. S. TANAKA, 396 Powell St.
F. USHIJUNA, B.A., Steveston, B.C.
K. YADA, Steveston, B.C.
F. HUJAMA, Maple Ridge
GEORGE YAMADA.

New Westminster



To The Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King, P.C., O t t a w a, Ontario TERMAL AFFAIRS RECORDS

Sir,

Two years after the removal of persons of Japanese racial origin from the Pacific Coast regions of British Columbia finds some 7000 of our number resident outside of that province. The majority of us are Canadian citizens by birth or by naturalization. Our experiences of these two years have proven to us the wisdom of the Government's policy of dispersal geographically and occupationally as widely as possible throughout the Dominion.

We have been given to understand that the government may make a statement, if not immediately at least before very long, regarding the disposition after the war of persons of Japanese descent. As members of a committee which represents a considerable part of the Montreal population of Japanese race, we address ourselves to you in order to present the

It is our hope that those of Japanese racial origin who have no desire whatsoever to make their homes in Japan and who wish to remain in Canada will be given an opportunity to do so. This group includes not only those born in Canada to whom this is their native land, but many others whose loyalty to this country is beyond question, and who like the Canadianborn are proponents of the democratic principle of government and are anxious to contribute to the life and development of a community where it is operative.

We believe that the greatest possibilities of Second assimilation are not obtainable when a racial group is concentrated in one area as the Japanese were formerly in the lower mainland of British Columbia. This situation could be helped if the Japanese population were relocated in suitable places throughout the Dominion, including British Columbia, possibly in such a way that the ratio of the Japanese population to the total provincial population might be roughly about the same for all provinces. This would be a continuation and further development of the Government's migration policy which began in 1942 and has been progressing in degrees. We advocate this continuation and further development because our own relocation experience has taught us that we can now become a better integrated part of the total Canadian population than was formerly possible. We urge the acceleration of this policy so that the majority of the Japanese still remaining in British Columbia may be satisfactorily resettled before the vaster task of the general rehabilitation of Canada's service personnel commences. Third

We believe that further exodus from British Columbia

to be desirable and that this relocation should be as nearly as possible on a voluntary basis. This process would be facilitated, in our humble opinion, if the difficulties of migration could be reduced to a minimum by:

- Provision of adequate assistance to migrating 1. families until the time they are reasonably reestablished.
- Removal of as many restrictions as possible that 2. differentiate us from Canadians of other race. It is a matter of deep concern to us that recently the Government failed to follow this policy in connection with the disfranchisement clause of Bill 135. Nothing could be more effective in undermining the faith and interest of Japanese Canadians in relocation than legislation of this nature.

We await with eagerness the promised statement of the Government's policy. We believe that it will be characterized by justice and by the spirit of the brother-hood of man: and that it will provide us with that sense of security which we have lacked since resettlement and now sorely need.

Montreal, P. Q. August 2, 1944.

We have the honour to be,

Your obedient servants,

(Utaka Uyeda, Chairman)

(Kazuko Hidaka, Co-Chairwoman)

Other members of the Standing Committee:

Vrene Tamera. Timmy Morinchi Hije na. Uyear

(Roy Nose, Corresponding Secretary)

(Amy Yamamoto, Recording Secretary)

(K. Suga, Treasurer)

ang 28th, 1944

Right Honorable W. L. McKenzie King, ottawa, out:

to submitte the following: a serious mistoke to ever permit the entry into canada of any Japanese.

to honorably rectify this deplorable error and once and for all times rid Canada of the paparese problem:

I understand that there are slightly less than 25,000 of gapanese origin in Canada.

at the end of Rostribities make these people turn all their assets into cash and have the Canadian Government grant each one regardless of age or sex, a each gratuity of, say, \$2,000. - and then ship them all back to Japan. For the comparative modest sum of 50 million Gallars this could be

accomplished, to the everlasting blessing of been Canadian. manner of objections by the Japanese Fovernment The compulsory acceptance could be made part of the peace - terms. Probably the United Hates would be rolling to adopt a similar policy. compulsory expulsion of anyone only partly Japanese, but if such persons were willing they would also receive this grotnity. Jours very truly

RGR/ET

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER CANADA

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECO

Ottawa, August 7th.19

Dear Mr. Hanbury.

I have received your letter of August 1st concerning the treatment of persons of Japanese race in Canada. Since you wrote it I have had occasion, in the course of the debate on external affairs, to make a statement in the House of Commons on the plans the Government has for the handling of this problem, and I think you will find in that statement that the points you raise and with which you are particularly concerned are, for the most part, taken care of.

In my statement I have made it clear that, in line with your suggestion, the Government is in favour of allowing all persons of Japanese race who wish to leave this country to do so and, in addition, will take steps to deport those who are disloyal to this country. Efforts will also be made to avoid in future the concentration of persons of Japanese origin in British Columbia.

The problem is a difficult one and I want to thank you for the interest you have taken in its solution.

Kind personal regards.
Yours sincerely,

Wilfred Hanbury, Esquire, British Columbia

Monte Lake.

W. L. markenzie Keny

RSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

August 1st, 1944

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, M. P., House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr.King,

The future of the Japanese in Canada continues to be a problem. I am of the opinion a fairly large percentage of them would leave Canada when they can do so and particularly if they are given some assistance. Should a percentage of them agree to leave there would then be less agitation for the intolerance of expulsion.

Through their close contact with the Japanese the B.C. Security Commission could quickly learn what percentage would leave voluntarily. Those Japanese most anxious to remain would bring considerable pressure on the others to leave in order to better the chance that some might remain in Canada.

I suggest that many Japanese would enter into a contract now to leave Canada later.

Provincial Governments control many conditions under which people live and, should they wish to do so, can do much to force emigration from a Province. They have the authority to restrict education, refuse licenses to do business or to practise a profession, to own or operate farms. I would not favor such methods, but offer it as a suggestion that the Provinces are not justified on placing on the Federal Government the responsibility for the Japanese having been hived in one Province.

With my sincere regards, I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. HANBURY

Name of Publication Vancouver Province

July 12/44 Date

Subject

PRESS CLIPPINGSEXTERNAL AFFAIRS REQ The Prime Minister

#### MARK BATTLE OF BOYNE

## Orangemen Ask Repatriation Of War Refugees in Dominion

NEW WESTMINSTER, July 12.—All refugees who came to Canada since the beginning of the war from foreign lands should be returned to their original homes as soon as possible after the war, Vancouver and Royal City Loyal Orange associations declared at the 254th anniversary of the Battle of Boyne today in Queens Park.

Deportation of all Japanese, refusal of the franchise to any Catholic hierarchy of Quebec, and Asiatic and reaffirmation of their if the charges were substantiated stand against a dual national language were other resolutions passed.

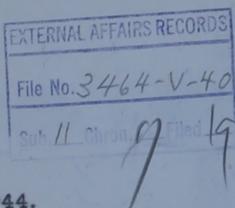
The Pope should never be organizations. given a seat at the peace con-

The government was also urged to suppress the New Canadian, Japanese publication, for attacking men in public life in

The use of French on merchandise marketed outside the Province of Quebec was protested, as was the representation of religious organizations at the peace table or in post-war groups.

#### ASK INVESTIGATION.

Orangemen demanded immediate investigation charges made by Senator T. D. Bouchard against the Order of Jacques Cartier and the Roman they asked immediate action be taken against them as subversive



Ottawa, May 4, 1944.

TO: Arthur MacNamara, Esq., Deputy Minister of Labour, Ottawa.

In case you did not notice it in the newspapers of April 12, you will be interested in the following quotation from the Vancouver Daily Province":

"Complete expulsion of all Japanese from Canada when the war is ended and a rigid barrier to prevent further immigration were advocated by British Columbia Liberals in a resolution passed at the provincial executive meeting in Hotel Vancouver Tuesday.

Charging that failure to treat the Japanese problem promptly and efficiently might result in civil war, the resolution, sponsored by Dr. Jack MacDougall, called on the Dominion Government to enact legislation that would:

- 1. Never again permit Japanese or persons of Japanese ancestry to settle in Canada;
- 2. At the end of the war, or sooner, if possible, prohibit all employers from employing persons of Japanese ancestry;
- 3. Force removal of all persons of Japanese ancestry from Canada at the end of the war;
- 4. Prevent any Japanese from carrying on any business or owning, leasing, or holding any land in Canada."

The attitude expressed here is hardly encouraging, but if the recent Gallup Poll is any indication, at least it is not practical.

9N. 9N. W rong

## THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA.

G.J.A. Reany, C.L.U. Branch Manager.

fured for 4/4.99.

10TH FLOOR PIGOTT BUILDING, HAMILTON, Ont.

December 15th, 1943.

Mr. F.C. Blair, Immigration Department, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Blair:

#### Re: Jampanese in Canada.

You may recall my writing on April 8, 1942, re immigration, education, etc. Your courteous reply of April 14th encourages me to write you again.

Owing to the fact that I have given a couple or three addresses on the "Japanese in Canada", I have been asked to head an organization in Hamilton interested in attempting to find work and housing for Canadian born Japanese who come to the city. I, therefore, would be pleased, (if you feel free to), if you would tell me whether or not the government has plans regarding the absorption of Canadian-born Japanese. I know the story of the Japanese in Canada and of the objection British Columbia has to their returning to that province, and suspect that you have plans to absorb the major portion of the young people in other provinces. If so, first, how many do you propose to allot to Hamilton; and second, have you any instructions or suggestions as to the best method of handling them?

I only agreed yesterday to assume this responsibility and have not thought a great deal about how to proceed. It occurs to me, however, that there are three problems: (1) creating public opinion in favour of giving the Japanese a break both in work and in social opportunities; (2) organization designed to get them employment; (3) housing. You may have something more definite to suggest.

racial characteristics, nor on some of their national aspirations, etc. I am aware that even these young people are a bit cocky as a group, but I fancy your attitude is that we must not send them all back to Japan, partly because of international relations, trade, etc., and partly because of the fact that we brought a good many of them to Canada, and again because of the fact that 13,000 to 15,000 born in Canada may be largely Canadian in spirit.

Any advice you can give me will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

The Prime Minister

Name of Publication

Vancouver Sun

Date

July 29/43

Subject

Dur World

Can We
Deport
The Japs?



By Bruce Hutchison

ACCORDING TO AN OBSCURE item in the public press, which has never been elaborated, the Canadian Japanese now in Ontario will be given the vote in the provincial election next month. This may appear at first sight to be Ontario business only. Actually it deeply concerns us in British Columbia, where the pre-war Japanese problem was concentrated.

If the largest province in Canada gives the Japanese the vote, with hardly a thought, we may expect other eastern provinces to do the same. If those provinces think so lightly of the Japanese menace as to enfranchise the Japanese, what possible chance is there that they will vote for the deportation of the Japanese after the war? None, I should think.

We shall be crazy here on this coast if we count on the deportation of the Japanese. It is my humble opinion that the Canadian Parliament simply will not stand for it, no matter how much fuss we make. I do not think Mr. King has any thought of doing it. I doubt that any alternative government would do it.

The best we can hope for, I should say, is that the Japanese will not be concentrated again on this coast, but will remain distributed widely throughout Canada. Perhaps the granting of the franchise to them in Ontario will attract them from this region, where there is no possibility of our giving them the vote within measurable time.

A MUCH LARGER PROBLEM IS involved in all this than we generally realize in British Columbia.

When the war is over some kind of general peace treaty will have to be signed. It may not be signed immediately, and there is good reason to delay its completion until it can be properly considered, as the Treaty of Versailles was not. But in the end there will be a treaty and, unless all the declarations of

the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms are a cynical hoax, then the treaty will certainly contain clauses protecting racial minorities. In fact, there can be no hope of peace, even if there is a treaty, without protection for racial minorities everywhere.

These clauses in the treaty will be binding on Canada if it accepts the treaty. They may well prevent us directly from deporting the Japanese. If we refuse to sign the treaty we shall isolate ourselves from our allies and the family of victorious nations.

IT ALREADY IS CLEAR THAT IF we deport the Japanese we shall break with the policy of our closest neighbor and most powerful friend, the United States, which apparently has no intention of doing anything of this sort. The United States not only is preparing to keep the Japanese within its borders but is enlisting many of them in its armed forces.

It is thus clear, I think, first, that the problem will not be settled by British Columbia, which is overwhelmingly in favor of deportation, but by Parliament which will probably be overwhelmingly against it; and second, that the problem will not be finally settled by Canada alone but by the united deliberations of the democracies when they attempt to build a new order in the world. This we may like or dislike but it seems to be the fact, and we had better face it.

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONS, IN dealing with the problem of Asiatic minorities, will have to consider a much wider question. It is the question of future peace or war with the Asiatic world. If there is to be any chance of peace we must secure and retain the friendship of the Asiatic peoples or eventually fight them. We must at all costs retain the friendship of China which, after the collapse of Japan, will be the dominant power of Asia, backed by Russia.

In Canada we have followed the utterly insane policy of prohibiting the immigration of Chinese and admitting Japanese. Mr. King hints that he will cure this discrimination and satisfy the Chinese, not by large immigration but by the removal of discrimination against them. Congress is moving now to repeal the American law specifically excluding all Orientals.

Apparently America is going to admit a small token number of Chinese immigrants in pursuit of the larger objective of Chinese friendship and peace on the Pacific. This will be unpopular on the Pacific Coast, but it seems certain to happen.

## PRESS CLIPPINGS

Office of The Prime Minister

Name of Publication	
Date	
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Will it then be possible to repeal our discrimination against one Asiatic race and at the same time deport another Asiatic race without incurring the suspicion and hostility of Oriental peoples generally? Not likely. The objective of the democratic nations will be to prevent any significant immigration of any unassimilable people—and quite rightly—but to prevent also the feeling throughout the Orient that the West is contemptuous of Oriental peoples because of their race and color.

It is a problem of utmost delicacy, and on it grave consequences, the future peace of the world may hang. That is why less than a million white people in British Columbia will not be permitted to settle it, or even that part of it which affects us so directly here. To say that invites the opinion that you are advocating the cause of the Japanese, when in fact, you are only pointing to facts which we shall discover, to our disappointment, when the war is over.