

Mr. Allan Mitchell
No 3 Temporary Policy
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January 14, 1942.

The Prime Minister, on behalf of the Government, today issued the following statement.

1. During recent weeks the Canadian Government has been giving detailed and careful thought to the problems created by the presence in British Columbia of a large number of persons of Japanese racial origin. On the 8th of January a Conference was called in Ottawa to study and report on these problems. At this Conference the Government had the benefit of the advice and assistance of representatives of the Government of British Columbia and of the members of the Standing Committee on Orientals of which Mayor Hume of New Westminster is the Chairman. For the aid thus given the Government is most grateful.
2. Finally the Government has received appreciations of the situation on the Pacific Coast from the representatives of the Defence Services. It has also been advised upon international complications to which certain courses of action might give rise.
3. As a consequence of these various contributions to its knowledge the Government believes it is in possession of all relevant facts and that it is in the best position to judge as to the policy that should be adopted.
4. In announcing its programme the Government accordingly believes that it is justified in asking for, and in expecting to receive, the firm support of all Canadians.

5. The Government has found no disposition in any responsible quarter to question the justice and validity of the fundamental principles upon which its policy in relation to the Japanese problem has been based. These principles are now reaffirmed; in the future, as in the past, they will provide the standard against which all proposals relating to this problem will be measured. In summary form they may be described as follows:-

- A - National defence and victory are the first and overriding considerations.
- B - Canadians of Japanese racial origin and Japanese nationals resident in Canada will be justly treated.
- C - Every feasible step should be taken to encourage the maintenance of a calm and reasonable attitude among Canadian citizens generally. The full force of the law will be invoked to prevent anti-Japanese demonstrations and to protect Canadian residents of Japanese race.
- D - No action will be taken or permitted which would give any excuse to the Government of Japan for mistreating Canadians under Japanese control. Nor will any action be taken or permitted which would help the Japanese anywhere to arouse Asiatic hostility against the white race.

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E - Canada will continue to collaborate with Great Britain and the United States with a view to the substantial coordination of their policies in relation to persons of Japanese racial origin within their respective jurisdictions.



6. In accordance with these principles and in the execution of plans worked out well in advance, the Canadian Government, as a consequence of the new situation created by Japan's treacherous attack upon Pearl Harbour, at once immobilized all fishing vessels operated by persons of Japanese racial origin on the Pacific Coast. All persons of Japanese racial origin will be prohibited, for the duration of the war against Japan, from fishing or serving on fishing vessels; or on other vessels operated by Japanese off the Coast of British Columbia.

7. For the same period the sale of gasoline and explosives to persons of Japanese racial origin will be directly controlled under conditions to be prescribed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

8. Japanese nationals will be forbidden to possess or use short-wave radio receiving sets, radio transmitters and cameras.

9. The present intensive surveillance of Japanese nationals will be continued, and the Defence of Canada Regulations will be strictly enforced.

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10. It is intended to organize a Civilian Corps of Canadian Japanese to be used on projects of value to the national cause, in order to utilize the services of the various groups of Canadian Japanese who have indicated their desire to serve.
11. Steps are being taken to provide for defining Protected Areas in Canada and, subsequent to a date to be announced, all enemy aliens (of whatever origin), except those who possess permits from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, will require to have moved from such Protected Areas on the Pacific Coast as may be defined. Arrangements will be made by the Federal Government to provide accommodation for persons thus removed.
12. A separate organization will be created to provide opportunities for the employment of adult male enemy aliens outside the Protected Areas on work of national value.
13. In order that the Canadian war effort may not suffer because of necessary restrictions placed upon persons of Japanese origin, the Government proposes to arrange at once, through the establishment of a special office in British Columbia, for the sale, lease, requisition or charter, on equitable terms and to suitable persons, of fishing or other vessels and fishing equipment heretofore used or owned by Canadians of Japanese racial origin, now immobilized on the Pacific Coast. The removal of the Japanese fishermen will place upon the white fishermen and

canners of the Pacific Coast a heavy responsibility for seeing that this removal does not reduce the total of fish caught or increase the prices at which the catch is made available to Canada, to the United Kingdom, and to the United Nations.

14. In the working out of its plans the Government proposes to give special consideration to those persons of Japanese race who served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the World War.

15. The Government is of the opinion, and in this it has the concurrence of its technical advisors, that the arrangements outlined above, combined with the steps already taken are very much in the interests of the Japanese residents of British Columbia themselves. It is believed that they will provide adequate safeguards against possible subversive activities, however fomented, in British Columbia. The Government proposes, therefore, to carry through its programme with the utmost expedition and thoroughness. It avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate what has already been said by the Prime Minister that while the utmost precautions will be taken to see that no illegal acts are committed by Japanese or by other enemy aliens resident in Canada, those who conform loyally to the regulations set out for their guidance will be given every protection both for themselves and their property.

16. In conclusion the Government wishes to express thanks to those public officers and private citizens in British Columbia who, without being blind to the dangers and uncertainties with which they are confronted, have nevertheless set so admirable an example of fair play in their attitude towards those persons of Japanese race now resident in that Province. In this connection the Government wishes particularly to thank the Honourable G. S. Pearson, Minister of Labour of the Government of British Columbia, Mayor Hume, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Orientals in British Columbia, and the other members of the Committee, Mayor Cornett of Vancouver, and all others who have contributed to the steadying of public opinion along the Pacific Coast. Similar thanks is due to the newspapers which almost without exception have realized the weight of their responsibility.

17. The Standing Committee on Orientals in British Columbia, to which reference has been made above, is composed of the following persons:-

- Fred J. Hume, Mayor of New Westminster, CHAIRMAN;
- Professor H. F. Angus;
- Lieut.-Colonel Macgregor Macintosh;
- Assistant Commissioner F. J. Lead;
- Lieut.-Colonel A. W. Sparling, D.S.O.

