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1941-42

FILE NO. J-25-1

1941-42

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
CANADA

SUBJECT

JAPAN

Japanese in Canada

(B.C. Security Commission)

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OFFICE CONSOLIDATION

Order in Council authorizing that boats and equipment owned by persons of the Japanese race be vested in and subject to the control of the Custodian of Enemy Property

P.C. 6247

(amended by P.C. 469, January 19, 1943)

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

MONDAY, the 20th day of JULY, 1942.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

Whereas the Minister of Fisheries reports that by virtue of the authority of Order in Council of December 16th, 1941, P.C. 9761, vessels used or operated by persons of the Japanese race within waters adjacent to the West Coast of Canada were seized and detained;

That under the supervision of the Committee, under the chairmanship of Honourable Justice Sidney A. Smith of Vancouver, appointed by Order in Council of January 13th, 1942, P.C. 288, for the disposal of vessels and equipment so seized and detained, 1,027 vessels of a total of 1,265 vessels registered with the Committee have been disposed of;

That under its terms of reference the Committee so organized the disposal arrangements to first assure that boats and equipment would be available to the British Columbia fishing industry as might be needed to maintain essential fisheries production;

That the Committee has reported having achieved this objective up to the point where little further absorption may be immediately expected by the British Columbia fishing industry excepting such vessels as may be disposed of in the course of the next two or three weeks;

That pursuant to the duty attached to its appointment,--

To report on steps that should be taken to dispose of vessels which the present owners are unable to sell, charter, lease or otherwise transfer, the Committee has reported that while the market has not yet been completely exhausted, the bulk of the remaining 238 vessels will have to be stored for a considerable period particularly as in general, the best vessels have already been disposed of;

That the Committee is of the opinion, after consideration of all factors involved, that responsibility for administration of remaining boats and equipment might logically be turned over to the Custodian of Enemy Property, who is now administering other properties of persons of the Japanese race in British Columbia; and

That it is important that personnel of the Department of National Defence for Naval Services, presently employed in the care and maintenance of the remaining vessels, should be released for urgent duties elsewhere at the earliest possible moment;

....

Now, therefore, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Fisheries, concurred in by the Secretary of State and under and by virtue of the powers conferred by the War Measures Act, Chapter 206, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, is pleased, notwithstanding anything contained in the Regulations established by Order in Council of March 4, 1942, P.C. 2483, 1942, as amended by Order in Council of March 27, 1942, P.C. 2483, 1942, to order and it is hereby ordered as follows:--

1. As a protective measure only all vessels and equipment seized and detained under the authority of Order in Council of December 19, 1941, P.C. 9761, which have not been disposed of under the supervision of the Committee appointed by Order in Council of January 13, 1942, P.C. 288, shall on and after August 1, 1942, be vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian, as defined in the Consolidated Regulations Respecting Trading with the Enemy (1939); provided, however, that no commission shall be charged by the Custodian in respect to such control and management.

2. For the purpose of the control and management of such property by the Custodian, the Consolidated Regulations Respecting Trading with the Enemy, 1939, shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the same extent as if the property belonged to an enemy within the meaning of the said Consolidated Regulations.

3. The Custodian may, where he considers it advisable so to do, liquidate, sell or otherwise dispose of any such vessel or equipment on such terms and conditions as he deems advisable, and any agreement entered into or document executed by the Custodian on or after August 1, 1942, and prior to the date of this Order, purporting to be an agreement for, or to be, a transfer, conveyance or other disposition of any such vessel or equipment or of any right, title or interest therein is hereby given full legal validity, force and effect as if the Custodian had full power to enter into such agreement or to execute such document, and as if such vessel or equipment or such right, title or interest therein, as the case may be, had been vested in the Custodian, at the time of the entry into such agreement or the execution of such document. (amended by P.C. 469 January 19, 1943)

4. Without restricting the generality of the powers heretofore conferred, all unfinished business of the said Committee is hereby transferred to the Custodian and shall be deemed to have been so transferred as on and from the 1st August, 1942. (as amended by P.C. 469, January 19, 1943)

A.D.P. Heeney,

Clerk of the Privy Council.

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Certified to be a true copy of a Minute of a Meeting of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General on the 5th May, 1942.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated 2nd May, 1942, from the Minister of Fisheries, stating:-

That the Committee, under the chairmanship of the Honourable Justice Sidney A. Smith, appointed under the authority of the War Measures Act to supervise the disposition of impounded fishing vessels and equipment owned by persons of Japanese racial origin in British Columbia, was authorized, inter alia, -

To report on claims which may be made on the Government for damage to, or deterioration of, the vessels and equipment while under detention;

That the Committee has reported that in the process of immobilizing the vessels, and while such were under impoundment, certain hull damage and equipment losses occurred incidental to the large-scale impounding action under emergent conditions, and in the opinion of the Committee there is a responsibility to the owners to make good such damage or loss as may be judged fair compensation under the circumstances;

That the Committee, based on the joint reports of its Marine Surveyors and those of the Department of National Defence for Naval Services, is in a position to recommend a fair and equitable settlement of such damage claims under general principles, as follows:

- (a) Vessels sunk during impoundment. Cost of raising and reconditioning to place machinery in running condition, making hull reasonably water-tight and providing one priming coat of paint.
- (b) Other hull and engine damage. Cost of reconditioning on satisfactory assurance that damage occurred while under impoundment.
- (c) Equipment losses. Allowance based on a sufficiency for the safe operation of vessel, conditional upon there being satisfactory evidence that such equipment was aboard when vessel was impounded. Due consideration to be given to depreciated values.
- (d) Disallowed items. Claims for skiffs or lifeboats or galley equipment and personal effects to be disallowed.

.....

That the Committee, in its disposal operations to date, has taken steps in collaboration with the Commanding Officer, Pacific Coast, Department of National Defence for Naval Services, following the aforementioned principles, to determine the amount of fair and equitable settlement of damage claims of individual boats to permit disposal negotiations to proceed without interruption and in the interest of enabling release of the vessels as quickly as possible for employment in the fishing industry.

That it is desirable all claims be dealt with as expeditiously as possible to further facilitate the work of the Committee.

The Minister, therefore, with the concurrence of the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, recommends, under the authority of the War Measures Act, Chapter 206, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, that the Minister of Fisheries be granted authority whereby he may approve and make payment in settlement of claims made upon the Government for damage to, and deterioration of, impounded fishing vessels and equipment (including repairs arising from such damage or deterioration) owned by persons of Japanese racial origin that may be recommended, following the principles aforementioned, by the Committee appointed by Order in Council of January 13th, 1942, P.C. 288, for the disposition of such vessels and equipment and that the sum of \$80,000.00 be made available for such purpose from the War Appropriation.

The Committee concur in the foregoing recommendation and submit the same for approval.

A.D.P. Heehey,

Clerk of the Privy Council.

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OFFICE CONSOLIDATION

Order in Council establishing regulations respecting
the British Columbia Security Commission

P.C. 1665

As amended by P.C. 2483, March 27, 1942, P.C. 2541,
March 30, 1942, P.C. 3213, April 21, 1942 and P.C.
946, February 5, 1943.

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

WEDNESDAY, the 4th day of March, 1942.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

Whereas in view of the serious situation prevailing in the
Province of British Columbia arising out of the war with Japan
it is deemed necessary for the security and defence of Canada
to take further steps for the evacuation of persons of the
Japanese race from the protected areas in that Province;

Now, therefore, His Excellency the Governor General in Council,
on the recommendation of the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King,
the Prime Minister, and under and by virtue of the powers confer-
red by the War Measures Act, Chapter 206 of the Revised Statutes
of Canada, 1927, is pleased to make the following regulations and
they are hereby made and established accordingly:--

INTERPRETATION

1. In these Regulations unless the context otherwise requires--
 - (a) "Commission" means the British Columbia Security Commis-
sion established under the provisions of this Order.
 - (b) "Minister" means the Minister of Labour.
 - (bb) "Person of the Japanese race" means any person of the
Japanese race required to leave any protected areas of
British Columbia by Order of the Minister of Justice under
Regulation 4, as amended, of the Defence of Canada Regula-
tions (Consolidation) 1941, (as amended by P.C. 2483, March
27, 1942)
 - (o) Other words and phrases shall have the same meaning as in
the Defence of Canada Regulations.

Paragraphs numbered 2 to 11 inclusive revoked by P.C. 946,

February 5, 1943.

CUSTODY OF JAPANESE PROPERTY

- 12 (1) Subject as hereinafter in this Regulation provided, as
a protective measure only, all property situated in any
protected area of British Columbia belonging to any person
of the Japanese race (excepting fishing vessels subject
to Order in Council P.C. 288 of January 13, 1942, and depos-
its of money, shares of stock, debentures, bonds or other
securities) delivered up to any person by the owner pur-
suant to an order of the Minister of Justice, or which is
turned over to the Custodian by or on behalf of the owner,
or which the owner, on being evacuated from the protected
area, is unable to take with him, shall be vested in and

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(2) The Custodian may, notwithstanding anything contained in this Regulation, order that all or any property whatsoever, situated in any protected area of British Columbia, belonging to any person of the Japanese race shall, for the purpose of protecting the interests of the owner or any other person, be vested in the Custodian, and the Custodian shall have full power to administer such property for the benefit of all such interested persons, and shall release such property upon being satisfied that the interests aforesaid will not be prejudiced thereby.

(3) For the purposes of the control and management of such property by the Custodian, the Consolidated Regulations Respecting Trading with the Enemy, (1938), shall apply mutatis mutandis to the same extent as if the property belonged to an enemy within the meaning of the said Consolidated Regulations, (as amended by P.C. 2483, March 27, 1942)

Paragraphs 13 to 16 inclusive revoked by P.C. 946.

February 5, 1943.

A. D. P. Heeney,

Clerk of the Privy Council.

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PRESS STATEMENT

Ottawa, February 25th, 1942.

The Prime Minister announced this morning that power had been given the Minister of Justice to exclude any or all persons, regardless of their citizenship, from "protected areas" as defined under the Defence of Canada Regulations. The Order-in-Council, which amends Regulation 4 of the Defence of Canada Regulations, will be tabled today. The new Regulation, which corresponds very closely to the Proclamation issued by the President of the United States on Friday, is effective at once.

Under the ~~amended~~ Order, the Minister of Justice may require any or all persons, whether they are British subjects or not, to leave a protected area. He is further authorized to impose such restrictions as he may specify in respect of their employment, business, movements or places of residence. He can prohibit or restrict the possession or use by any or all persons in the protected area of any specified articles and can require the delivery of such articles to the R.C.M.P. In short, the Defence of Canada Regulations as now amended give the Minister of Justice full power to take any required security measure within the Protected Area with regard to any person within that area.

The protected area in British Columbia in which the new order will apply has been defined by the Minister of National Defence as the coastal belt between the Cascade Mountains and the sea including all the islands off the coast of British Columbia.

It is the policy of the Government to use the powers of this order to take all necessary security measures to safeguard the defences of the Pacific Coast of Canada.

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Date (P.C. 1486)

File 558-2551

WHEREAS pursuant to the provisions of regulation 4 of the Defence of Canada Regulations (Consolidation), 1941, as amended by Order in Council P.C. 365 of the 16th day of January, 1942, and by Order in Council P.C. 1486 of the 24th day of February, 1942, the Minister of National Defence, with the concurrence of the Minister of Justice, declared, by order, that an area of the Province of British Columbia west of a line described in the said Order to be a protected area for the purposes of and subject to the provisions of the said regulation 4.

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the undersigned should make the order referred to in said regulation 4 as amended.

NOW KNOW YE that the undersigned, the Minister of Justice, doth, pursuant to the provisions of the said regulation 4, as amended, hereby order ~~that the following persons, namely:-~~

- That*
1. Every male person over the age of sixteen years wholly of the Japanese race, or whose father or mother is of the Japanese race, and who has been required to register pursuant to Order in Council P.C. 9760 of December 16th, 1941, shall leave the protected area hereinafore referred to forthwith.
 2. That no person wholly of the Japanese race, or whose father or mother is of the Japanese race shall have in his possession or use in such

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- 2 -

protected area any camera, radio transmitter,
radio receiving set, firearm, ammunition or
explosive.

Dated at Ottawa this twenty-fifth day of
February, A.D., 1942.

Minister of Justice.

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AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA
MONDAY, the 9th day of FEBRUARY, 1942.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

WHEREAS the Minister of Fisheries reports that the Committee under the Chairmanship of the Honourable Justice Sidney A. Smith of Vancouver, appointed under the authority of the War Measures Act to supervise the disposal of impounded fishing vessels and equipment owned by persons of Japanese racial origin in British Columbia, was empowered inter alia, -

(a) To make such arrangements as will make it possible for the present owners of detained vessels to freely negotiate for charters, leases, or sales of such vessels as they own to persons other than those of Japanese origin, provided that the Committee approve of such charters, leases, or sales, which approval shall be a prerequisite for the use of such vessel under fishing license.

(b) Where necessary, to arbitrate disagreements on price between owners and intending purchasers with a view to preventing advantage being taken of duress.

That the Committee has proposed that a disposal charge of one per centum on all monies involved in transactions for the disposal of the vessels and equipment coming within its terms of reference should be made, having in mind that the expenses of the Committee will be substantially greater than originally estimated, due to the large number of claims for damages to vessels while in custody, necessitating additional expenses for services of competent marine surveyors; and has reported that Mr. Kishizo Kimura, one of the members of the Committee, has stated the Japanese owners are willing to subscribe to this expense.

Now/

NOW, THEREFORE, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Fisheries and under the authority of the War Measures Act, Chapter 206, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, is pleased to authorize and doth hereby authorize the Committee appointed by Order in Council of January 15th, 1942, P.C. 288, for the disposal of immobilized fishing vessels and equipment in British Columbia, owned by persons of Japanese racial origin, to impose and collect a charge of one per centum on all monies involved in transactions for the disposal of such vessels and equipment, whether by charters, leases or sales; and that all such funds shall be remitted promptly to the Receiver General of Canada for inclusion in the Consolidated Revenue Account.

Sgd. A.D.P.Heaney
Clerk of the Privy Council.

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I

The Conference endorses the following principles which underlie Canadian policy in relation to the Japanese problem and by which, in its opinion, all proposals in relation to this matter should be judged:-

- A - National defence and victory are the first and overriding considerations.
- B - In so far as it may be compatible with the requirements of national defence, Canadians of Japanese racial origin and Japanese nationals resident in Canada shall be treated with justice and consideration.
- C - Every feasible step shall be taken to encourage the maintenance of a calm and reasonable attitude among Canadian citizens generally, and it shall again be made known that 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 shall be taken or allowed which would give any possible excuse to the Japanese Government for mistreating Canadians under Japanese control, or which would help the Japanese in their

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present efforts to arouse Asiatic hostility against the white race.

E - The Canadian and United States

authorities should continue to coordinate their policies in relation to persons of Japanese racial origin within their respective jurisdictions.

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II

In accordance with the foregoing principles the Conference recommends that, during the period of the war, for reasons of national defence and security, the Canadian Government should take the following steps:-

- A - Prohibit all persons of Japanese racial origin from fishing or serving on fishing vessels or other vessels operated by Japanese off the coast of British Columbia.
- B - Strictly control the sale of gasoline and of blasting powder to persons of Japanese racial origin, under conditions to be prescribed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
- C - Prohibit the possession or use by Japanese nationals of short-wave radio receiving sets, radio transmitters and cameras.
- D - Continue intensive surveillance of Japanese nationals.

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III

The Conference recommends that, for the furtherance of the Canadian war effort, the Canadian Government should take the following steps:-

- A - Accept at once the offers of various groups of Canadians of Japanese race to perform wartime service for Canada.
- B - Organize for the foregoing purpose a Civilian Corps of Canadian Japanese to be used on projects of value to the national cause, and take such other action as will make most effective use of the abilities of Canadian residents of Japanese race.
- C - Encourage the enlistment in the Canadian Armed Forces, for service outside British Columbia, of Canadian nationals of Japanese racial origin; and call up under the terms of the National Resources Mobilization Act, for service outside British Columbia, all Canadian nationals of Japanese racial origin properly subject to the provisions of the said Act.

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D - Arrange through the immediate 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, and now immobilized on the Pacific Coast.

E - Emphasize to the white fishermen and canners on the Pacific Coast that they must accept responsibility for seeing that the removal of the Japanese fishermen does not reduce the total of fish caught or increase the prices at which the catch is made available to Canada, the United Kingdom and the Allied nations.

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IV

The Conference considered a proposal that all Japanese nationals (or at least all males between 18 and 45) now resident in Canadian territory on or near the Coast of British Columbia, be compulsorily removed to areas lying east of the Rocky mountains. The majority of the Conference did not accept this proposal, for the following reasons:--

- A - The representatives of the Department of National Defence, National Defence for Naval Services, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police assured the Conference that the requirements of national defence and security can be met by the measures already taken or recommended, and do not warrant such action.
- B - The acceptance of this proposal would be a contradiction of Canadian and Allied professions of justice and humanity.
- C - Officers of the Department of External Affairs informed the Conference that in their opinion action of the kind proposed would almost certainly result in cruel retaliation by the Japanese authorities

against Canadians now in their power; and further that such action at this stage would result in the dissipation of the strongest guarantee now possessed by Canada, and the remainder of the British Commonwealth, of continued good treatment for Canadian nationals and British subjects who have or may come under Japanese control.

D - Acceptance of this proposal would result in the Canadian Government following a policy wholly at variance with that being followed by the United States Government under similar or more difficult circumstances in the western States and Hawaii.

In spite of the assurances mentioned in A above, the Honourable G. S. Pearson, Minister of Labour, and Provincial Secretary of British Columbia; His Worship Mayor F. J. Hume, of New Westminster, B.C., Chairman of the Special Committee on Orientals in British Columbia; Lieut.-Colonel Macgregor Macintosh, and Lieut.-Colonel A. W. Sparling, Members of the Standing Committee on Orientals in British Columbia; and Mr. T.W.S. Parsons, Commissioner of the British Columbia Provincial Police, all of whom had come from British Columbia to Ottawa for this Conference, realizing that there will be difficulty in satisfying the residents of British

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Columbia that there is no need to fear subversive activities on the part of Japanese nationals in British Columbia, agreed on the following recommendations:-

1. That arrangements be made by the Canadian Government for the removal of able-bodied adult male Japanese nationals from the coastal area of British Columbia, and that employment of a suitable character be provided for them under conditions which may be considered reasonable under the circumstances; in areas and under conditions which will assure their removal from any suspicion of possibility of subversive activities.
2. That where the circumstances reasonably permit, women and children be allowed to accompany the head of the family.

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Finally the Conference, recognizing the great anxieties imposed on the people of British Columbia as a result of the dangers created by war with Japan, recommends that the Canadian Government should endeavour to secure the full cooperation of the Government of British Columbia, and should make known to the public the details of its policy in relation to the Japanese problem by the following means:-

- A - A statement by radio to the people of British Columbia by the Prime Minister of Canada.
- B - One or two explanatory statements over the radio by participants in this Conference in which the various considerations presented and the reasons for the recommendations made, will be clearly discussed.
- C - Full and complete "off-the-record" discussions with representatives of the press and radio to be held in Victoria, Vancouver and Ottawa, and to be participated in by Members of the Standing Committee, representatives of the Armed Services, and of the Department of External Affairs, with the cooperation of the Director of Public Information.

MEMORANDUM ON PROGRESS WITH RELATION TO THE JAPANESE
PROBLEM IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Since the authoritative statement of Government policy with respect to persons of Japanese racial origin in B.C. was issued by the Prime Minister a number of practical steps have been taken.

A. STATEMENT OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

1. The execution of the policy was assigned to the Federal Department of Labour.
2. A Committee of Cabinet consisting of Messrs. Mackenzie, Gardiner and Mitchell was appointed to deal with questions of policy.
3. The Defence area has been defined by the Minister of National Defence and the order sent to the Minister of Justice for concurrence.
4. The Unemployment Insurance Commission, to whom the task of finding employment outside this area for Japanese nationals was assigned has begun its work by obtaining a classification by occupation of these nationals who are of military age, and is proceeding to transfer them as employment outside the forbidden area is found.
5. Similar steps will be taken with respect to German and Italian nationals, but there may be some delay as records are not so detailed as those secured by Reregistration of Japanese.
6. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are proceeding to notify the Japanese nationals that they will be required to leave the area, and to inform them that unless they can make independent arrangements they must register with the Employment Service.
7. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police will also consider applications for permission to remain in the area. In accordance with the views unanimously accepted in general

discussion these will be given generally to women and children, to men over military age, and in special cases in which the police are satisfied that there are valid reasons for remaining and that no public danger is involved. The same principles will apply to Germans and Italians.

8. Some movement will begin at once but the orderly completion of these arrangements will require some time and the Department of Justice, in consultation with the Department of Labour, will fix a date (probably April 1, 1942) by which all enemy nationals without permits must have left the area. Any not placed in employment will be removed to camps where work will be found for them.

9. Persons of dual nationality are treated by the police as aliens. Persons naturalized since 1932 are required to report to the police, but are not divested of their status as British subjects.

10. Many Canadian nationals of Japanese race are likely to seek employment outside the defence area, and the Unemployment Insurance Commission will endeavour to place them in useful employment, giving priority, however, to the movement of enemy aliens.

11. In addition plans are under way for the voluntary recruitment of a Civilian Corps to be employed "on projects of value to the national cause." It is anticipated, on the basis of the offers of service which have been received, that the response of Canadian Japanese to recruiting for this Corps will be fully comparable to that of non-Canadian Japanese for recruitment for the army.

12. To make enlistment attractive, and to conform to the policy announced by the Prime Minister, certain principles have been accepted:

(a) Enlistment will be treated as a patriotic act corresponding to enlistment in the army. Acceptance will be to confer a privilege; discharge will be a disgrace.

(b) The pay and allowances (like those of the army) must be sufficient for the decent maintenance of dependents but may in many cases involve a financial sacrifice for those who enlist.

(c) The choice of a suitable Commanding Officer will require great care as upon him will depend the preservation of the tone and atmosphere of the Corps.

(d) The type of work chosen should relate directly to the Canadian war effort and it should be plain to the men in the Corps and to the public in Canada and, if possible, in Japan, that the men have enlisted in order to contribute to the defeat of Japan.

13. A telegram has been received from Mayor Hume stating that the Japanese are eager to cooperate but anxious for definite information as to what they should do. The Canadian Japanese Association has asked Mayor Hume to address a meeting and explain the Government's policy.

14. Japan, through the protecting power has enquired as to how Japanese nationals are being treated in British Columbia and a copy of the Prime Minister's statement has been given to the protecting power.

B. : IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS

from Mayor Rennie

15. This telegram brings out some aspects of the policy which have as yet received little practical attention:

- (a) Steps should be taken to stop the "war nerves" by translating into definite terms the Government's declaration that, subject to military requirements, the Japanese are to be treated with justice. This involves certainty as to their occupations and property. Enquiries, for instance, have been received as to whether they should be encouraged to subscribe to Canadian war loan or told to conserve their cash for emergencies.
- (b) When Japanese with small businesses or small farms are required to leave a defence area some provision will have to be made for taking over their establishments. This may be done by the Japanese who are allowed to remain but if so the latter will have to be clearly designated as early as possible.
- (c) A social welfare problem of some magnitude may emerge when men employed (say) in Eastern Canada attempt to maintain families in British Columbia. Responsibilities for dealing with this problem remain to be allocated.

2.1 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDERLYING THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY

16. As this is the first progress report to be placed in the hands of Members of Parliament from British Columbia, it may be useful to bring to their attention a few general considerations and some information as to the character of Governmental discussion, which are not as yet clearly grasped by public opinion.

(a) The dominant consideration is the destruction of the military power of Japan, Germany and Italy.

(b) This consideration requires the observance of all military and naval precautions deemed necessary by the respective services. The Defence Department did not ask for the removal ^{of} either Canadians of Japanese race or Japanese nationals.

(c) Victory also requires the utmost use of Canadian manpower of which that of Canadian Japanese and that of enemy aliens form part.

From the standpoint of the war effort a man is often most useful in his normal employment or in replacing another who has been taken away for military service or for some essential civilian occupation.

(d) Any deviation from this principle has a cost in terms of a longer and more costly war and a diminished chance of victory - in terms, therefore, of the lives of our soldiers and sailors. But even at this cost some deviation has been authorized (e.g. Removal of Japanese nationals).

(e) The dominant consideration of victory requires that we should not give any moral advantages

to Japan, Germany or Italy.

(f) We do give such advantages (particularly when Asiatics are concerned) if we display either fear or anger. It is no inconsiderable advantage to us that Japanese have displayed these degrading emotions to some extent. They will lose "face" accordingly.

(g) We have an enormous interest in this war not becoming racial as it might easily be interpreted (as Japan would wish) into "white" vs. "Asiatic" and so jeopardize the support of China and India. This consideration will become even more important if and when Japan approaches collapse. India and China must not feel that their chief protection against "white domination" is being destroyed.

(h) We are ostensibly fighting in the cause of British liberty, British justice, and Christian ethics. We become exposed to the charge of hypocrisy if we derogate from these principles. Our own morale would be impaired if our government were believed to be departing from them.

(1) It is very dangerous to speak publicly of fear of reprisals because to do so will, in the long run, make Japanese feel that their protection against harsh treatment lies not in British traditions and Christian ethics but in the military strength of Japan, and her power to make reprisals. Chinese and Indians will not be slow to accept the same view.

(j) The natural, justifiable and indeed inevitable, resentment against Japan can easily provide an opportunity in which persons acting from interested motives can create an atmosphere very like that which made possible the German action against the Jews. There is ample evidence from correspondence received that this atmosphere is being created in this way.

(k) In view of the indignant denial by the representative of the Government of British Columbia that there was any wish to use this opportunity to separate Canadian Japanese from their normal means of livelihood or to uproot them economically so that they might be eliminated from our national life, it seems possible to offer some sort of assurance to men and women who are at present very apprehensive. The wisdom of so doing can hardly be in doubt.

(l) We have attempted to deviate as little as possible from the policy of the United States. There are, however, some differences:

1) The United States has never allowed naturalization and has therefore no naturalized Japanese.

2) United States citizens of Japanese race are subject to no disabilities and are drafted like men of other races for the army.

3) The United States had not prepared beforehand, as Canada did with re-registration, and some of the restrictions imposed in the first days of the war on enemy aliens were stricter than ours.

4) The United States has gone further than Canada in urging employers not to draw racial distinctions and in denouncing "racial discrimination in any of its ugly forms."

5) The United States has not removed either United States citizens of Japanese race or Japanese nationals from the fishing fleet or from the coastal areas.

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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.

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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.

3.

2 - 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

canuers 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.

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Certified to be a true copy of a Minute of a Meeting of the
Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His
Excellency the Governor General on the 13th January, 1942.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a
report, dated 13th January, 1942, from the Minister of Fisheries,
representing that the defence and security of Canada has made
necessary the immobilization of fishing vessels owned by people of
Japanese origin and operated in British Columbia waters;

That some 1,100 boats and their equipment, having a value of
between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000, are involved, of which about 950
are impounded near New Westminster and the remainder at Prince Rupert
and other ports;

That the owners of these vessels, though being of Japanese
origin, are Canadian citizens whose productive power, by virtue of
this ownership, contributed significantly to the fishing industry;

That a conference has been held between the Standing Committee
on Orientals in British Columbia and the interested Government
departments, at which it was considered that the war needs of Great
Britain and the Allies make it imperative that the production of
the British Columbian fishing industry be maintained and increased
and that, therefore, a way should be found of putting these vessels
back into production in hands other than those of Japanese origin,
and otherwise consistent with the needs of national defence and
security, as well as with due regard to the equity of the Japanese
Canadian owners;

That it is, therefore, deemed desirable to implement the
release of these Japanese Canadian fishing vessels in accordance
with the above considerations; and

That such a purpose could best be accomplished by the establish-
ment of a committee to consist of three persons, with a jurist to
act as chairman, another to be appointed from the Department of
National Defence (Naval Services), and the third to be chosen to
represent the Japanese Canadian owners.

The Minister, therefore, with the concurrence of the
Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, recommends that,
under the authority of the War Measures Act,-

The Honourable
the Minister of Fisheries

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The Honourable Sidney A. Smith,
Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of
British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.

Commander B.L. Johnson, R.C.N.R.,
Vancouver, B.C.
and
Kishizo Kimura,
Vancouver, B.C.

be hereby constituted a committee on the disposal of Japanese fishing
vessels, the duties of the said committee to be:

- (1) To make such arrangements as will make it possible
for the present owners of detained vessels to freely
negotiate for charters, leases, or sales of such
vessels as they own to persons other than those of
Japanese origin, provided that the committee approve
of such charters, leases, or sales, which approval
shall be a prerequisite for the use of such vessel
under fishing license.
- (2) Where necessary, to arbitrate disagreements on price
between owners and intending purchasers with a view to
preventing advantage being taken of duress.
- (3) To report on claims which may be made on the govern-
ment for damage to, or deterioration of, the vessels and
equipment while under detention.
- (4) To report on claims which may be made on the govern-
ment for the returning of the detained vessels from
their present storage place to places where they were
picked up.
- (5) By consultation with the Department of Fisheries, to
determine which of the detained vessels shall first
come under the arrangements to be put back into
production.
- (6) To report on steps that should be taken to dispose
of vessels which the present owners are unable to
sell, charter, lease or otherwise transfer.

That the committee be authorized to employ stenographic and
other assistance and to incur such other expenses as they find
necessary to facilitate the fulfillment of their function as outlined
above, with actual travelling and living expenses as may be approved
by the Minister of Fisheries;

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3.

That the committee, which shall act without remuneration, be paid travelling and living expenses while away from their place of residence on the work of the committee where these are not already provided for; and

That the cost of the committee be charged against the War Appropriation.

The Committee concur in the foregoing recommendation and submit the same for approval.

(sgd) A.D.P. Heeney,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

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AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

TUESDAY, the 13th day of JANUARY, 1942.

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

WHEREAS the Minister of Fisheries reports that the conference convened at Ottawa on January 8th, 1942, under the chairmanship of the Honourable Ian MacKenzie, Minister of Pensions and National Health, to consider questions concerned with Canadian Japanese and Japanese Nationals in British Columbia, has recommended that during the period of war, for reasons of national defence and security, the Canadian Government should take steps to prohibit all persons of Japanese racial origin from fishing or serving on fishing vessels off the coast of British Columbia.

AND WHEREAS the Minister further reports that while under the Fisheries Act, Chapter 42, 22-23, George V, authority is vested in the Minister of Fisheries whereby he may, in his absolute discretion, issue or authorize to be issued licenses for fisheries and/or fishing wherever situated or carried on, in the extraordinary circumstances governing the above recommendation, it is deemed desirable that action to discontinue the licensing of all persons of Japanese racial origin in fishing activities in British Columbia should be supported by the authority of the War Measures Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Fisheries, under the authority of the War Measures Act, Chapter 206, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, and for reasons of national defence and security during the period of the war, is pleased to order and doth hereby order that no fishing licenses authorizing fishing in or off British Columbia, as contemplated by the Fisheries Act, Chapter 42, 22-23, George V, and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, shall be issued to persons of Japanese racial origin; and also, that no such persons shall be permitted to serve on fishing vessels.

(sgd) A.D.P. Heeney
Clerk of the Privy Council.

The Honourable,
The Minister of Fisheries.

SECRET

January 10, 1942.

CONFERENCE ON THE
JAPANESE PROBLEM IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
January 8 - 9, 1942, Ottawa.

MINUTES

I.
The meetings took place in Room 123 of the East Block of the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa. Three meetings were held: the first meeting from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. on January 8; the second from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon on January 9; the third from 3 p.m. to 4.15 p.m. on January 9.

II.
The following participated in the Conference:

* The Honourable Ian Mackenzie, Minister of Pensions and National Health. CHAIRMAN

* The Honourable J. E. Michaud, Minister of Fisheries.

* The Honourable G. S. Pearson, Minister of Labour, and Provincial Secretary of British Columbia.

Standing Committee on Orientals in British Columbia

* F. J. Hume, - Chairman, and Mayor of New Westminster, B. C.

* H. F. Angus, - Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

* F. J. Mead, - Member of Special Committee on Orientals in British Columbia (1940); and Assistant Commissioner, Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

* Lieut.-Col. Macgregor Macintosh,

* Lieut.-Col. A. W. Sparling, - Chairman, Special Committee (1940).

* Sergeant J. K. Barnes, - R.C.M.P. Secretary.

* N. A. Robertson, (first meeting only) Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

J. E. Read, - Legal Adviser, Department of External Affairs.

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* H. L. Keenleyside,

- Chairman, Board of Review (1938).
- Member, Special Committee (1940)
- Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Escott Reid

- Department of External Affairs.

Major-General L. R. LaFleche
(second meeting only)

- Associate Deputy Minister of National War Services.

* Brigadier S. T. Wood,
(first meeting only)

- Commissioner, Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

* T. W. S. Parsons,

- Commissioner, British Columbia Provincial Police.

* Commodore H. E. Reid,

- Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff.

* Commander J. McCullough,

- Officer in Charge of Auxiliary Vessels, Pacific Coast.

* Paymaster Lieut.-Commander R. Pennington,
(first meeting only)

- Secretary of the Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff.

* Commander E. Johnstone

- Assistant Director of Naval Personnel.

* Major-General Maurice Pope

- Vice-Chief of the General Staff.

Lieut.-Col. J. E. Lyon,

- Acting Director of Military Operations and Intelligence.

* A. J. Whitmore,

- Director Western Fisheries, Department of Fisheries.

* W. J. Couper,

- Department of Labour.

R. W. Baldwin,

- Office of the Press Censor.

* Present or past resident of British Columbia.

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III.

Introductory Statements.

1. At the first meeting the Chairman made an opening statement on the purpose of the Conference. He said that the Government had received numerous representations concerning the problem of persons of Japanese racial origin in British Columbia. One particularly important question was whether fishing licences should be issued to persons of Japanese racial origin. The chief purpose of the meeting was to allay apprehension in British Columbia. This must, however, be done in such a way as to minimize the possibility of retaliation by the Japanese against Canadian prisoners of war and against the coast of British Columbia. The Chairman paid a tribute to the work done by the various committees appointed in the past few years and to the work of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

2. Mr. Angus outlined in the sense of Section 1B of the Agenda the peculiar position of the Japanese population in Canada which is unlike that of the German and Italian population in several ways.

3. Mr. Keenleyside summarized the steps which had been taken by the Federal Government in recent years to deal with the problem. He went back to the riots in Vancouver in 1907, the subsequent establishment of the Japanese immigration quota which was gradually reduced until by 1930 it was limited to 150 persons of special categories. He pointed out that in recent years the quota had ~~been~~ ^{more} filled so that the problem, even before the outbreak of war with Japan, was not one of immigration but of working out satisfactory relations between the permanent Japanese residents of Canada and other residents of Canada. This had become more difficult ever since 1931 because of the constantly widening area of Japanese aggression. An Interdepartmental Committee under Dr. Skelton had been constituted in 1937 and in the following year a Board of Review had been set up to investigate illegal entries. The Board had found that there were a very large number of illegal entrants in the early 20's, but that by 1933 very few illegal entrants remained in British Columbia, and that since then entry had been carefully controlled. Public opinion, however, in British Columbia remained disturbed, especially after Japan entered into an alliance with Germany and Italy in September, 1940. A Special Committee was therefore appointed on October 1 of that year. Mr. Keenleyside drew attention to its report which had been published in December, 1940, and especially to the summary and the recommendations. The recommendations had been approved of by the Canadian Government and had largely been the basis of the Government's actions since. Under recommendation 7 a registration had been made and under recommendation 8 a small Standing Committee had been set up in British Columbia under Mayor Hume to supervise the carrying out of those recommendations of the Committee which were adopted by the Government.

4. Mr. Keenleyside outlined in the sense of Part 3 of the Agenda the basic principles on which Canadian policy has been and should be based. He drew particular attention to the fourth principle, "the coordination of Canadian and United States policies". He said that the Permanent Joint Board on Defence had recommended that the two governments should do their utmost to synchronize their policies since their problems were almost identical. He referred also to the statement made by the Prime Minister in his broadcast speech made on the day following the outbreak of war with Japan. A somewhat similar statement had been made by President Roosevelt in which the President had appealed to employers not to discriminate against aliens and foreign born citizens. He also referred to a statement by the Attorney General of the United States on the necessity of showing tolerance to enemy aliens resident in the United States. On the whole the actions taken against persons of Japanese origin, even in Hawaii, had been less rigorous than those taken by Canada.

5. Mayor Hume then reported on the activities of the Standing Committee which had been appointed almost exactly a year ago. He said that the Japanese had been re-registered and that while re-registration was being made a considerable number had left Canada. When war broke out with Japan the Committee recommended:

1. That Japanese newspapers be closed down.
As a result of this recommendation the Royal Canadian Mounted Police suggested to the Japanese that this be done and the Japanese agreed.
2. That Japanese language schools be closed. *Chio was done by agreement.*
3. That the Royal Canadian Mounted Police pick up disloyal Japanese.
4. That the Japanese fishing fleet be laid up.

The three last recommendations had been made effective. Mayor Hume concluded by saying that the public in British Columbia was demanding that the Japanese be removed from the coastal area.

6. Assistant Commissioner F. J. Mead of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police made a report on the existing situation. He said that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had received excellent cooperation from the leaders of the Japanese population. These leaders had cooperated in the registration and since the outbreak of the war with Japan had pointed out to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Japanese who should be interned as dangerous. As evidence of the excellent attitude of the Japanese population he read three paragraphs from an operative's report of a secret

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meeting of Japanese fishermen in Vancouver which had taken place recently. The fishermen at the meeting had stated that they realized that the seizure of the Japanese fishing fleet was inevitable under war conditions. Since the outbreak of the war it had been necessary to intern only one Japanese because of disloyal remarks.

IV.

Discussion on general principles set out in Item 3 of the Agenda and discussions of the application of these general principles to specific problems as outlined in the Agenda.

A full and frank discussion took place at all three meetings of the Conference. The result of these discussions is embodied in the report of the Conference. In addition to the matters mentioned in the report the following matters of special interest were brought up in the discussion:

1. Commissioner Wood and Assistant Commissioner Mead of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police reported that they had recently been in touch with Mr. Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who reported that the F.B.I. had received no evidence of disloyalty by the Japanese in the United States, Hawaii or the Philippines; espionage had been committed only by persons attached to the Consulates; there was in the United States no important demand that Japanese residents should be moved from the coast.

2. Mr. Whitmore of the Department of Fisheries stated that if fishing licences were refused to the Japanese he did not expect that there would be an influx of many new fishermen, though a few more Indians would probably take out fishing licences. The explanation of this was that in the past the fisheries had been over-staffed. If not enough fish were being caught the Department could take steps to remedy the situation, as, for example, by reducing the weekly closed period or by permitting the use of a different type of fishing gear. He warned, however, that there would be a temporary local shortage of certain types of fish.

3. Mayor Hume reported that the Fishermen's Union had stated to him that they would guarantee that they could get the required amount of fish even if the Japanese were not issued licences and that the canneries had informed him that they could manage without Japanese in the canneries. The canners had also said that they would be willing to buy up the Japanese rights in the fishing boats. The Conference, however, agreed that it would be undesirable to permit the canneries to monopolize ownership of the fishing boats.

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4. It was clear from reports by members of the Conference who had recently come from British Columbia that a serious unemployment situation was being created in British Columbia among the population of Japanese origin. It was not merely a question of unemployed fishermen but persons of Japanese origin in British Columbia were also being dismissed from lumbering, gardening, and domestic service.

5. The members of the Conference who had just arrived from British Columbia found it difficult to accept the assurances of the representatives of the Armed Services and of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police that the measures which had already been taken in British Columbia or which were recommended by a majority of the members of the Conference would be sufficient to meet the requirements of national defence and security. Most of them stated that they did not trust persons of Japanese racial origin and that they considered the continued presence of these persons in British Columbia a menace to public safety. They emphasized particularly their fear that virtually all of these residents would commit positive acts of disloyalty if Japan should land forces in British Columbia. Even, however, if the assurances of the Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police were accepted a serious situation would still continue to exist in British Columbia since it would be impossible to persuade the majority of the people of British Columbia that the Japanese residents did not constitute a menace. The people of British Columbia were definitely alarmed by the Japanese menace. There is grave danger that anti-Japanese riots may break out and that it will be necessary to call out the troops to defend Japanese residents from attack by other Canadians. The Assistant Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Commissioner of the British Columbia Provincial Police agreed that there was a distinct possibility of anti-Japanese riots in Vancouver and General Pope stated that General Alexander had reported to Defence Headquarters that public security in British Columbia may be endangered by the feeling of the white population against the Japanese.

6. Mr. Couper of the Department of Labour and other members of the Conference from Ottawa emphasized that if Canada was to make the utmost possible contribution to victory in the war it was necessary to make the most effective use of the abilities of all residents of Canada including persons of Japanese racial origin. They based their contention on the impending labour shortage in Canada and argued that racial discrimination was not only unjust but inefficient and thus affected detrimentally Canada's war effort. The members of the Conference from British Columbia found it difficult to believe that there was an impending labour shortage in Canada

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since they stated there was considerable unemployment existing at the present time in British Columbia.

7. This difference of opinion over the urgency of the manpower problem in Canada was in part the reason for the difference of opinion between members of the Conference over whether it would be useful and desirable to impress on employers and labour alike throughout Canada the importance, from the point of view of the national war effort, of not discharging or refusing to hire or refusing to work with persons of Japanese origin. Members from British Columbia stated that the public in British Columbia was so convinced that the Japanese were untrustworthy and constituted a menace that white workmen would refuse to work with workmen of Japanese racial origin in spite of any appeal which the Government might make.

8. The possibility of Japan using Canadian treatment of Japanese as an excuse for retaliation against Canadians and other allied nationals under Japanese control was discussed at some length. Mr. J. E. Read, Legal Adviser to the Department of External Affairs, pointed out that Japan was not bound by the Hague Convention and that Canadian prisoners of war in Japan did not, therefore, have the protection of that Convention. Apart, however, from the Convention, the experience of the war hitherto was that both sides gave to prisoners of the other, treatment which was pretty well equivalent to the treatment which their own nationals were being given. If Japan believed that Canada was mistreating Japanese nationals it would probably retaliate, not only against Canadians but against other British subjects and nationals of others of the United Nations. Mr. Keenleyside pointed out that the Commonwealth Governments had tried to follow a common policy of treatment of enemy nationals and that should the Canadian Government decide in favour of a policy of wholesale internment of Japanese nationals the Government, before taking such action, would probably consult with the Government of the United Kingdom. He felt that it was likely that the Government of the United Kingdom would urge Canada not to take such action. Japanese nationals in Canada constituted the largest group of Japanese nationals in the British Commonwealth and it was in the interests of the whole Commonwealth that Japanese nationals in Canada should be made use of to the greatest possible extent in order to secure good treatment for British nationals who fall into Japanese hands.

9. At the request of Mr. R. W. Baldwin of the Office of the Press Censor it was agreed that a Standing Subcommittee of the Conference should be established with which Press Censorship could consult. ~~It is~~ This Committee would consist of Mr. Angus and of a member nominated by the Defence Departments.

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10. The members of the Conference agreed that no publicity should be given to the proceedings or recommendations of the Conference until the Government had dealt with the Conference's recommendations. Mr. Ian Mackenzie stated that he would arrange that they should be dealt with by Cabinet on Monday or Tuesday, January 12 or 13.

11. During the course of the discussions telegrams and letters were read to the Conference from various associations and individuals in British Columbia. Some of these communications were addressed to the Prime Minister, others to individual members of the Conference.

12. While the proposal to remove all persons of Japanese racial origin from the Pacific coast was dropped by General Agreement, the British Columbia representatives demanded that able bodied adult male Japanese nationals should be removed. They appeared to be willing to make an exception for those whose applications for naturalization under section 8 of the Naturalization Act were outstanding. In making this demand they emphasized that in their opinion it was the minimum necessary to satisfy the people of British Columbia and prevent riots and it was pointed out that the assurances of the Armed Forces and of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police did not extend to denying the dangers of anti-Japanese rioting.

13. At the conclusion of the Conference, when it was clear that the Conference could not agree unanimously on measures which should be taken to control Japanese nationals in British Columbia, Mr. Pearson, as representative of the Government of British Columbia, stated that he wished to make it clear that if the Government of Canada ignores the views of the representatives of British Columbia they could not expect the Government of British Columbia to be enthusiastic or very effective in trying to "sell" the ideas supported by the Dominion Government to the people of British Columbia. In that event it would be necessary for the Government of Canada to try to sell their ideas to the people of British Columbia. The Government of Canada, however, could be assured that whatever decision it made, the Government of British Columbia would do their best to see that things go along peacefully in British Columbia.

14. At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairman, the Honourable Ian Mackenzie, thanked all the members of the Conference for their participation in its discussions. He thanked especially members of the Conference who had come all the way from British Columbia to attend. In reply Mayor Hume expressed the thanks of the British Columbia members to the other members of the Conference, especially to the Chairman and to Mr. Keenleyside and Mr. Angus.

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MEMORANDUM

Re: Immobilized Japanese Boats --
British Columbia.

Jan. 10th, 1942

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1. Proposal: Arrange through the immediate establishment of a special office in British Columbia for the sale, to lease, requisition or charter, on equitable terms and to suitable persons, of any or all fishing or other vessels and equipment heretofore used or owned by Canadians of Japanese racial origin and now immobilized on the Pacific Coast.
2. Some 1,100 boats and their equipment are involved, having a valuation of possibly between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000. Approximately 980 of the boats are tied up in the Fraser River near New Westminster and the remainder at Prince Rupert. It has been necessary for the Navy to detail a force of some 60 men to look after this equipment temporarily.
3. This equipment should be disposed of in whole or in part at the earliest possible moment in view of the following,-
 - (a) Even with the precautions already taken for its care, there will be rapid deterioration, and in the event of unfavourable weather, serious damage and loss may arise.
 - (b) To a certain extent the boats and equipment are urgently needed to maintain fisheries production and as the main salmon fishing season approaches, the need will be more urgent.
4. There is reason for expectancy that arrangements can readily be made for release of probably 50 or 60 per cent. of the boats. It is understood that canning and other companies hold a financial interest in these and that these companies are anxious to take over the equity presently held by the fishermen.
5. Under the arrangement by which the boats were picked up and are being detained ownership continues to lie with the Japanese fishermen or operators.

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6. Three possible types of agency to handle disposition of the boats and equipment suggest themselves,--

(a) A board composed of representatives of the Department of Fisheries, National Defence for Navy and External Affairs, together with a representative of the British Columbia Japanese; the chairman of the board to be the representative of the Navy who would act as chief disposal officer.

(b) A board composed of a representative from the Navy who would be chairman and two appointees from the West Coast, one White and one Japanese, to serve on a dollar a year basis.

(c) A one-man disposal board, preferably an appointee from the Navy, who would be assisted by representatives of Lloyd's and insurance adjusters.

7. Arrangements for disposal of boats and equipment would be governed by the following principles,--

(a) The present owners would be free to negotiate their own sales.

(b) Arbitration by the board where negotiations could not be completed owing to disagreement on price.

(c) Boats to be requisitioned for the armed forces as needed, the owners to be recompensed as decided upon by the board or in accordance with prevailing practice.

8. The second alternative of having a board commend itself on the grounds of the small expense attached to its operation. It would avoid surveyor and other expert witness costs to the Government, which under alternatives 1 and 3 would probably be considerable.

9. Other factors for consideration include,--

(a) Responsibility of the Government for damages to or deterioration of vessels and equipment while under detention.

(b) Responsibility of the Government for returning boats from their present storage to places where

3.

they were picked up.

(c) In the event of a breakdown of charter or lease arrangement, the responsibility of the Government in the matter or for further arrangements for disposal.

(d) Authority and powers to be extended to a board such as suggested above.

(e) Arrangements for expenses incidental to functioning of the board.

(f) What steps should be taken by the board to arbitrarily dispose of vessels which present owners are unable to sell or otherwise transfer to other operators.

10. In view of the foregoing, the undersigned suggests that representatives of the following departments be called together to report upon the most effective and desirable course to follow in the matter,-

Department of External Affairs
Department of Fisheries
Department of National Defence for Navy
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Department of Transport
Department of Finance (Comptroller of the Treasury)
Department of Justice.

Distinction

O t t a w a,
January 10th, 1942.
AJW/AEW

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Jan 8 1942. 8-25-1

MEETING TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS CONCERNED WITH CANADIAN
JAPANESE AND JAPANESE NATIONALS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
JANUARY 8TH, 2:30 P.M., ROOM 123
EAST BLOCK

A G E N D A

1. Opening statement by the Honourable Ian Mackenzie
 - A. A statement of the purpose of the meeting.
 - B. A description of the peculiar position of the Japanese population in Canada which is unlike that of the German and Italian populations in several ways:-
 - I. The Japanese are concentrated in one province in proximity to a theatre of war.
 - II. There are probably no strong elements among the Japanese population hostile to the present Government of Japan.
 - III. The tendency of the Canadian public to identify race and Japanese nationality.
 - IV. The widespread belief in Canada that Japanese loyalties are racial rather than national.
 - V. The intense economic jealousy of the Japanese and a wish in some quarters to appropriate their property.
 - VI. Existing political and economical disabilities of persons of Japanese race.
 - VII. The somewhat similar position of persons of Chinese and East Indian race.
 - VIII. The analogy of Japanese in United States.
 - IX. The absence of any long range Canadian policy with respect to the future of the Japanese population in Canada. *Widespread opinion of Gov. Gen. R.C.*
2. Background of the problem. Statement by Mr. Keenleyside

1937	Interdepartmental committee.
1938	Board of Review
1940	Investigation by Special Committee
1941	Registration; collection of firearms; appointment of Standing Committee.
3. Basic principles on which Canadian policy has been and should be based.

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- (a) The primacy of defence considerations.
- (b) In so far as is compatible with (a) just and decent treatment for Canadians of Japanese race.
- (c) In so far as is compatible with (a) the continuation in their normal employments of Japanese nationals resident in Canada.
- (d) The coordination of Canadian and United States policies.
- (e) The maintenance of a reasonable attitude among the civilian population and the use of the full force of the law to prevent anti-Japanese demonstrations and to protect Japanese Canadian communities.
- (f) Avoidance of actions which will lead to retaliation against Canadians under Japanese control.

4. Report on the activities of the Standing Committee by His Worship Mayor Hume

- (i) Prewar.
- (ii) Since the declaration of war.

5. Report on the existing situation, by Assistant Commissioner F. J. Mead

6. Discussion of general principles set out in 3

7. The application of general principles to specific problems

(a) Fishing boats and fishing licences

- (1) What restrictions are imperative in the interests of national defence?
- (2) If some Canadian Japanese are allowed to fish what supervision is adequate in the interests of national defence?
- (3) What methods can be used to reassure the public as to the adequacy of precaution?
- (4) Should our policy be influenced by the importance of not playing Japan's game which is to excite race hatreds?
- (5) What measures are needed to maintain the efficiency of the fishing industry, - for instance, to enable Canada to carry out arrangements for the sale of vitamins from dogfish liver oil to the United Kingdom at agreed prices?
- (6) How can fishermen of Japanese race who are excluded from fishing best be employed in the interests of Canada's war effort?

(7) How can fishermen of Japanese race be replaced with least damage to Canada's war effort?

(8) What measures, if any, should be taken to assure fishermen who are displaced of the just protection of their economic interests which will include compensation for their boats and an assurance of ability to resume their normal occupation after the war?

(b) Gasoline

(1) Should the sale of gasoline in bulk to Japanese nationals and its storage by them be prohibited or controlled?

(2) Should such sales to Japanese Canadians be prohibited or controlled?

(3) If these measures result in putting men out of employment to what activities should they be directed?

(c) Blasting powder

(1) Somewhat similar questions are raised with reference to blasting powder.

(d) Japanese language newspapers

(1) Should the suspension of Japanese language newspapers be continued or not?

(e) Should possession of receiving sets, cameras by Japanese, etc., be controlled?

8. Should consideration be given now to the position which Canadians of Japanese race should be expected to occupy in Canada during and after the war?

9. Should similar consideration be given now to the position of Canadians of Chinese and East Indian race?

10. Is the general policy with respect to Japanese nationals satisfactory?

11. Censorship problems

12. Other problems

13. How can any general policy which may be adopted as the result of recommendations made at this meeting, best be made known to the public of Canada in order to insure their intelligent cooperation?

(a) Declaration by Ministers of the Crown.

(b) Radio addresses (for instance an account of the deliberations of this meeting).

- 4 -

- (c) The Press.
- (d) Informal approach to local Government officials and others.
- (e) Action with respect to Groups promoting race panic for ulterior purposes.

5-25-1

1944-49

MEMORANDUM

Jan. 7, 1942

25-1
D-14

Re: Participation of Persons of Japanese Origin
in the British Columbia Fisheries.

For the purpose of this memorandum, the subject is dealt with under two headings, i.e., (1) participation in actual fishing operations, including vessel activities in buying and collecting fish and (2) participation in shore processing operations.

FISHING OPERATIONS

1. Actual Number of Individuals of
Japanese Origin Participating

The following table gives an analysis of the number of individuals of Japanese origin engaging in fishing in British Columbia in 1940:

Number of subjects of Japanese origin holding fishing licenses	1,464
Number of returned soldiers of Japanese origin holding fishing licenses	44
Number of fishermen engaged in the halibut (black cod) fishery not licensed for other fisheries	20
Oyster fishery	5
Fish buying and collecting on boats	200

For 1941 there is little variance in the number of participants, except in the grayfish and halibut fisheries, which are dealt with in detail later in this memorandum.

2. Licensed Fisheries

These include all fisheries with the exception of halibut (including black cod), clam and oyster. All licensed fishermen are British Subjects. Appendix No. 1 shows the number of the various kinds of licenses issued under the headings of Whites, Indians and Japanese in 1941. It is pointed out that the totals are not representative of the total number of individual fishermen. Individuals in many instances hold licenses for more than one type or kind of fishing. A table summarizing the total licenses issued to

2.

each of these classes of fishermen for 1940 and 1941, is given hereunder:

Class	1940	1941	%
Whites	8,639	7,836	59.2
Indians	3,184	3,240	24.5
Japanese	1,886	2,107	15.9
Returned Japanese Soldiers	48	37	.27
	13,756	13,220	

The extent to which Japanese were licensed in 1941 in each of the several fisheries in relation to Whites and Indians is shown hereunder:

Class of License	Jap.	Whites	Indians	Total	% of Jap.
Salmon Gill-Net	948	2,376	1,248	4,572	20.7
Asst. "	244	1,121	297	1,662	36.8
Salmon Trolling	157	2,380	480	3,017	5.1
Cod	153	238	39	430	35.7
Miscellaneous (shrimp, etc.)	37	77	10	124	29.8
Small Dragger (Groundfish)	10	40	-	50	20.0
Smelt	18	23	-	41	41.0
Herring Gill-Net	8	19	-	27	29.6
Her. Purse-Seine	1	31	-	32	3.1
Capt. Her. Seine	6	35	4	45	13.3
Asst. "	92	331	87	510	18.03
Grayfish	469	336	68	873	53.7
Capt. Hal. Boat	1	9	-	10	10.0
for Bait	-	1,810	1,007	2,817	-
Other Licenses	2,144	7,836	3,240	13,220	16.2

3. Salmon Gill-Net Fishing

Of the 2,144 licensed Japanese Canadians, 1,193, or 55% were engaged in salmon gill-net fishing; 948 salmon gill-net licensees and 244 as boat pullers or assistants. The total number of salmon gill-net licenses issued for the province was 4,572 so that the 948 licenses held by Japanese

constitutes approximately 20% of the total. Data regarding their distribution in the various fishing areas are given hereunder:

3(a) Fraser River (District No.1)

Details of the number of persons licensed in salmon gill-net fishing and as assistants for this area in 1941 follow:

<u>Class of License</u>	<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Whites</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salmon Gill-net	484	1,394	82	1,947
Asst.	181	88	5	340
	605	1,482	87	2,287

The Japanese fleet in this area is generally recognized as being well equipped and efficient with hard-working and experienced personnel. Fishing operations by a predominant part of it are concentrated at the mouth of the Fraser and in the area of the Gulf of Georgia immediately adjacent. The fact that almost half of the Japanese gill-netters employ boat pullers adds to the productive power of this fleet.

Elimination of this fleet would unquestionably bring about some temporary disorganization of the arrangements built up over the years in the handling and processing of the volume of salmon it normally secures. Also, because licenses for other types of fishing elsewhere were denied them, many units of the fleet have applied themselves to fishing in the Fraser at times of the year such as the spring months when the salmon are scarcer and the returns small. These "off" season catches, which in the main went to the fresh and frozen markets, will likely be substantially lost, but in relation to the annual production, the quantity is small. Apart from these factors, it would not appear likely that any serious dislocation in volume of salmon catch and canned pack should arise out of loss of the Japanese fishermen. Under present conditions, it is not to be expected there would be any appreciable influx of Whites or Indians to take the place of the Japanese, and in any event, inexperienced fishermen individually would be far less productive. On the other hand, it may be expected there would be better distribution of the White and Indian fishermen over the commercial fishing area and having in mind the narrow confines of the river channel proper, that their catches would be substantially increased in taking fish that would

normally be intercepted by the Japanese fleet. To enable the reduced number of fishermen to take greater catches, the fishing effort might be accentuated by curtailing the existing 48 hour weekly close season. A further expedient to assure adequate volume of production always lies in the use of purse-seines in the Gulf of Georgia, adjacent to the river mouth, where they are presently not allowed.

Again, as stated above, the Japanese fleet is well equipped in boats, gear and nets. If its personnel is given eliminated, it will be desirable that consideration be given to some arrangement whereby, in assisting to carry on the production effort, this equipment be available to the industry if and when needed.

3. B. Skeena River

The following figures show that 50% of salmon gill-net licensees in this area in 1941 consisted of Japanese:

<u>Class of License</u>	<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Whites</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salmon Gill-net	296	202	465	963

There were also some 60 Canadian Japanese licensed to act as assistants.

Part of the personnel of this Japanese fleet resides all the year round in the vicinity of the mouth of the Skeena at such points as Port Essington. Others return to the lower part of the province at the end of the fishing seasons. These usually operate with boats furnished by Skeena canneries. In this area also there will be some temporary disorganization in arrangements for the salmon ordinarily looked for from the Japanese fishermen. There will also be a loss of production in the spring or late fall months secured by this fleet when the main runs of salmon are not in progress and when returns are low. It is also a fact that the proportion of Japanese fishermen in relation to other classes is higher at the Skeena and this may make maintenance of normal production somewhat more difficult than at other points. Generally speaking, however, there should be a little loss occasioned by their absence in the production volume. There has been a trend in this area for the fishermen to operate farther and farther away from the mouth of the river, which really amounts to their going out to meet the fish en route to the river. This practice has to a large extent been followed by the Japanese. White and Indian fishermen, by remaining at the river mouth, may be expected to

5.

Intercept much of the fish that in recent years has been taken farther out. The cannery operators will likely endeavour to encourage greater participation by Indian fishermen. Expedients are available, such as those suggested in the case of the Fraser, to secure greater fishing effort, if such is found to be necessary.

There will be some disruption in the arrangements for collecting the fish daily from the fishermen. A considerable fleet of collecting boats, pretty well generally manned by Japanese, has existed at this point. If some arrangement could be made whereby these boats, which very likely are amongst those presently detained, could be released for collecting purposes, this difficulty would likely be met.

S.C. Neas River

The following salmon gill-net licenses were operative on the Neas River during 1941:

<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Whites</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Total</u>
75	30	173	278

Very few of the Japanese operators reside all the year round in this area. Hence, to a large extent they secure their fishing boats and equipment from the canneries. Their elimination will mean that gill-net fishing will be preponderantly in the hands of Indians. The loss of the Japanese fishermen will likely result in a small diminution of the salmon pack. The pack of gill-net caught fish in this district is relatively small and any loss in this respect will be quite insignificant. Apart from this, the situation at this point is very similar to that outlined above for the Skeena area.

S. D. Other Salmon Gill-net Areas

Details of the licenses issued in 1941 in other areas of the province, in which there has been participation by Canadian Japanese, are as follows:

	<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Whites</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bella Coola area	28	73	61	161
Namu area	23	22	48	93
Rivers Inlet	63	587	419	1069
Smiths Inlet	18	241	25	282
Vancouver Island area	24	311	119	454

6.

In none of these areas has the extent of participation by Japanese fishermen been such that the volume of salmon production will be affected in other than a minor degree, if such participation is eliminated.

4. Salmon Trolling

Participation in salmon trolling has not been permitted to Japanese fishermen, except in the Vancouver Island area. For licensing purposes, that area is divided into two sections, i.e., East Coast area and West Coast area. Particulars of salmon trolling licenses issued in each during 1941 are given hereunder:

	<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Whites</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Total</u>
East Coast, Vancouver Is.	66	1,394	63	1,523
West Coast, Vancouver Is.	91	268	196	555

Trolling by Japanese in the East Coast area has been confined in the main to waters between Vancouver Island and the mainland lying south of Seymour Harbors. The catch consists of bluebacks, cohoes and springs. Bluebacks form the larger part of the catch. These are immature cohoes. The volume of troll production in the East Coast area would not likely suffer materially if the Japanese trollers were eliminated. The bluebacks they normally take would, if not absorbed into the catches of the White and Indian trollers, mature and would probably enter into the commercial catch of seiners and gill-net fishermen in contiguous waters.

Trolling by Japanese on the West Coast of Vancouver Island is largely undertaken in offshore waters. The spring salmon and cohoes taken, to a substantial extent, are migrating to distant streams; in the case of spring salmon to United States waters. The catch is of high quality fish, being marketed for mild curing or freezing purposes at Seattle. Capable boats and equipment, together with experienced personnel, are needed for this fishery and elimination of the West Coast Japanese trolling fleet will unquestionably mean some loss of production for this export market. On the other hand, there will be very little, if any, direct loss to the cannery pack.

5. Cod

The so-called ling cod is embraced in this fishery and the number of licenses issued in 1941 follows:

<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Whites</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Total</u>
153	238	39	430

7.

While holding but 55% of the licenses issued, the Japanese fishermen secure the larger part of the provincial catch which is taken mostly in the waters between Vancouver Island and the mainland lying south of Seymour Narrows. The Japanese licensees being unable to secure other types of fishing licenses consistently work the ling cod fishery throughout the year, whereas, generally speaking, the white and Indian licensees engage in other fisheries from time to time. To a small extent ling cod are exported in a fresh condition to the United States. Otherwise, the catch is marketed fresh locally. A shortage of supplies on the local markets of ling cod may be expected in the event of elimination of the Japanese fishermen. The volume of landings, however, is not such that this should entail any serious consequence.

6. Grayfish

The returns from grayfish (dogfish) fishing up to last year were not such as to attract any appreciable number of fishermen other than Japanese. These fish were looked upon as a scourge to other fisheries and to encourage their exploitation, no restriction in licensing Japanese Canadians was applied such as has been invoked in other fisheries. During the past year there has been keen demand for grayfish for vitamin "A" oil content of their livers and high prices for the fish or their livers prevailed. This resulted in a marked increase in the number of participants in the fishery, licenses in 1941 being issued as follows:

<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Whites</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Total</u>
469	336	63	873

This fishery is usually carried on during the winter months, which time, generally speaking, is the off-season for other fisheries. Unquestionably, elimination of the Japanese fishermen will mean a reduced production. This is unfortunate at this time in view of the urgent need by the British Government for high potency vitamin "A" oils.

7. Herring Purse-Seine Fishery

Canadian Japanese have not been allowed to engage in herring seining except in the lower East Coast area of the Vancouver Island district. There they have carried on for many years consistent operations using what is commonly known as the "twin-seine" method, which was developed for the particular fishing conditions experienced

at that point. For many years it has been a requirement that the crews of the several seining units operated consist of not more than 50% Japanese. In 1941 there were 92 Japanese crew members. The operations in this area were capable of a production of as much as 30,000 tons of herring per season, the equivalent of 600,000 cases in canned form. During the past season it was demonstrated that reasonable catches could be secured from this area by the single seine method used by Whites; indeed, approximately three-quarters of a total tonnage of 40,000 tons of herring caught there were realized by the single seine method. The White or Indian operators are not familiar with the twin-seine operation, and hence, if the single seine gear were not successful in any season, a substantial loss in the volume of herring production would occur. If the Japanese operations were eliminated. However, in the light of the past season's experience, it may be assumed that the single seine method will be reasonably effective in future operations, and hence, the removal of the Japanese fishermen from the herring purse-seine fishery will not adversely affect the aggregate annual catch.

It will be important that the boats, both seining and carrying, used in the Japanese operations, should be available for continuance in the fishery, if needed, to assist in the major effort being put forth to secure the largest possible pack of canned herring for the British Government.

8. Other Licensed Fisheries

The loss of Japanese operations in other fisheries in which the Japanese Canadians have been licensed to participate will not be serious. The number of individuals involved is comparatively small. In such fisheries as shrimp and smelt the greater part of the production has come from the Japanese operators and the local markets will experience shortages of fresh supplies temporarily or until additional White or Indian fishermen enter these fields.

9. Unlicensed Fisheries

These include halibut, clam and oyster. Japanese participation in the latter two has been quite inconsequential and production will be affected little, if any, if it is withdrawn.

In the halibut fishery several boats manned by Japanese have participated on a full-time basis and it appeared

that Japanese were preparing to extend their operations to this field. Some 30 small boats have also engaged in halibut fishing for a short time each spring while waiting for the fishery in which they normally operated to come into production. The volume of halibut catch from all Japanese operations last year was approximately 500,000 pounds, which is small in relation to the provincial catch of slightly more than 12,000,000 pounds. In 1940 the total number of Japanese fishermen, full-time and part-time, engaged in halibut fishing was 72.

10. Collecting and Buying Boats

In 1940 some 100 persons of Japanese origin were licensed by the Provincial Government to operate vessels for buying and collecting fish. Generally each licensed operator has one assistant, there occasionally being two, so that all told approximately 200 individuals of Japanese origin were employed in this phase of the fishery.

An efficient fish collection service in the salmon gill-net areas is highly essential. Collecting boats contact the smaller fishing boats daily or twice daily, taking off their catches and transferring them to the processing plants or marketing points. Some dislocation in normal arrangements will no doubt be occasioned by the loss of the Japanese personnel of these collecting boats. This dislocation would be much more serious if the collecting boats themselves could not be available, and as many of them are no doubt amongst those under detention, it will be desirable that some arrangement be made so that these boats can be used, if needed, manned by White or Indian crews.

SHORE PROCESSING OPERATIONS

If persons of Japanese origin, male and female, are to be eliminated from coastal points, there immediately arises the question of the possible effect upon the production at the fish processing plants, particularly salmon and herring canneries, from the standpoint of the Japanese labour normally employed.

Very little male Japanese labour is used at these

plants. In the production of all canned herring the cans are filled by hand and to a large degree the pack of salmon is hand filled into the cans. Female help is employed in the hand filling process. In 1940 the services of 5,136 female employees were utilized in British Columbia fish processing establishments. Japanese, Indian and white women are employed, but figures are not available as to the numbers of each, although it is a fact that more Indian women are used than Japanese or Whites. Except for points such as Steveston, where there is a large Japanese population, the Japanese women are available at the canneries because their husbands or relatives are employed locally in fishing operations. If these relatives are not permitted to engage in fishing, the Japanese female labour will not be available for work in the canneries.

One of the greatest difficulties encountered by cannery operators in bringing their herring canneries into peak production recently was the securing of needed female help for can filling. Unquestionably, if the Japanese female help used in the past is not available, these difficulties will be seriously accentuated.

O T T A W A,
January 7th, 1942.
AJW/AMW

5-25-1

1941-42

STATEMENT OF FISHERY LICENSES ISSUED TO BRITISH SUBJECTS
OF JAPANESE ORIGIN; ALSO TO WHITES AND INDIANS
BRITISH COLUMBIA - 1941

License	British of Japanese Origin			Total	Japanese Returned Soldiers	Whites	Indians	Total Issued
	Dist. No. 1	Dist. No. 2	Dist. No. 3					
Salmon Trap-net	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5
Salmon Pur. Seine	-	-	-	-	-	209	50	319
Salmon Drag Seine	-	-	-	-	-	2,576	1,248	4,572
Salmon Gill-Net	400	491x	25	914	-	131	297	4,662
Asst. Sal. "	181	61	2	244	2	390	480	3,027
Salmon Trolling	-	-	155 xx	155	-	111	116	227
Capt. Salmon Seine	-	-	-	-	-	1,110	812	1,922
Asst. "	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	28
Her. Gill-Net	1	-	7	8	-	31	-	32
Her. Purse Seine	-	-	-	-	-	35	4	45
Capt. Her. Seine	-	-	6	6	-	331	87	510
Asst. "	-	-	92	92	-	10	-	10
Herring Pound	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	31
Pil. Purse Seine	-	-	-	-	-	23	4	27
Capt. Pil. "	-	-	-	-	-	170	7	177
Asst. "	-	-	-	-	-	238	39	430
Cod	-	-	153	153	-	70	9	79
Crab	-	-	-	-	-	336	68	873
Grayfish	50	56	363	469	-	77	10	873
Miscellaneous	20	-	16	36	1	40	-	124
Small Dragger	-	-	10	10	-	23	-	50
Smelt	18	-	-	18	-	40	-	41
Capt. Hal. Boat	-	-	1	1	-	9	-	10
for bait	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Capt. Tuna Boat	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	7
Asst. "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	670	608	829	2,107	37	7,856	3,240	13,230

X Salmon Gill-Net, District No. 2

Nass River	75
Skeena River	295
Love Inlet	-
Butedale	-
Bella Coola	28
Namu	22
Rivers Inlets	59
Smiths Inlet	14
Queen Char. Islds	-
	<u>491</u>

XX Salmon Trolling, District No. 3

East Coast V.I.	65
West Coast V.I.	<u>90</u>
	155

N.B. Preliminary figures -- subject to possible minor change.

MEMORANDUM

Jan 7, 1942

8-25-1
D-14

1. Having in mind that the industry should be notified at the earliest possible moment of the conditions that are to govern this season's fishing operations, in order that it may make essential preparations, the Department of Fisheries is anxious to be advised with the least possible delay as to whether or not licenses may continue to be issued to British Subjects of Japanese origin. In view of prevailing conditions, the Department must look to other interested Departments, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Department of National Defence for Navy or the Department of External Affairs for guidance as to whether fishing by Japanese Canadians should be allowed. If it is not to be permitted, there is the question of the desirability of prohibiting all fishing by persons of Japanese origin in or from British Columbia by Order in Council under the War Measures Act. While under the Fisheries Act the Minister of Fisheries has discretionary power in the issue of licenses, it would be desirable to support a decision prohibiting all Canadian Japanese from fishing, ~~extended~~ by the War Measures Act.

2. If fishing by Japanese Canadians is to be prohibited, it is highly important that some decision be reached as quickly as possible regarding disposition of their presently impounded boats. Generally speaking, to a substantial extent these boats should be available for this year's fishery production effort if the volume of production is to be maintained.

3. It is not anticipated that the loss of Japanese fishermen will have the effect of curtailing fisheries production except in a minor way. While it is not expected that there would be any large influx of White or Indian fishermen to take their places, it is believed that the number of fishermen remaining is sufficient to assure normal productions of canned salmon and canned herring, the two commodities from our British Columbia fisheries most urgently needed in the interests of the war effort. There no doubt will be some loss of production, such as in spring salmon and coho salmon taken by the Japanese trollers on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, and which has been largely exported in a fresh state to Seattle. In other minor fisheries, such as shrimp, smelt, ling cod, et cetera, there will also be temporary diminution in catches, causing shortages from the fresh fish markets of Vancouver and other British Columbia centres until additional White and Indian fishermen enter

2.

these fields. There will also be some temporary disorganization in the handling and processing arrangement for the catches normally taken by Japanese. In some areas this will involve the fish collecting organization built up over the years and in which collecting boats manned by Japanese crews have been used.

4. In the fish processing plants, particularly salmon and herring canneries, if persons of coastal extraction are prohibited from residing at coastal points, canning operations may be quite seriously affected by the loss of Japanese female labour used to a considerable extent in filling cans, et cetera.

O t t a w a,
January 7th, 1942,
AJW/AEW

5-25-1

1941-42