

# Citizenship Defense Committee

39 GRANT STREET  
TORONTO

CHAIRMAN:  
SHUICHI SASAKI  
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SABURO SHINOBU

February 4, 1946.

TREASURER:  
RYOTARO NOBUOKA  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:  
KUNIO HIDAKA

Dear Sir:

This letter is written after discussion with the Toronto Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, and outlines possible courses to take, should the decision of the Supreme Court, which we expect on February 5, be against our expectations and be unfavourable.

There would be three further courses open to us:

1. an appeal to the Privy Council, which would give the matter world wide attention, and put the Government in an embarrassing light, but for us it will have to mean a willingness to meet the financial costs;
2. direct interviews with Mr. King and more pressure through the House of Commons, to have the Government abandon the deportation plan altogether; and
3. individual action through habeas corpus, which is difficult because writs must be served on persons having actual custody of the subject of deportation. Furthermore, as was discussed in Court, the present wording of the orders in council may permit the denial of habeas corpus.

The Co-operative Committee want to study the judgment before deciding the next step to follow. They want to work out a combined strategy for the whole of Canada, and for this reason have contacted their corresponding citizens' committees in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, London, Guelph, Hamilton, Ottawa, and Montreal, to ask them to endorse the action which they should propose.

The Citizenship Defense Committee is also asking that Japanese Committees in various areas not act independently, but await the decision of the Toronto Co-operative Committee. It is our desire to have the activity given some central direction and unity, and not have local areas attempt undertakings which would be more effective when co-ordinated.

To facilitate this desired unity and co-ordination, we shall keep you informed of all decisions of the Co-operative Committee. We also solicit your opinions.

Sincerely yours,

Kunio Hidaka,  
Executive Secretary.