

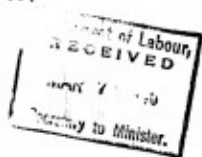
FROM

TOH TAGAMI'S
COLLECTION
OCT 3/58

Slooten City, B. C.,
February 25, 1946.

The Canadian Born Japanese of Slooten
Valley District, who have affixed their
signatures on the following sheets,
pay their respects to:

The Prime Minister of Canada and
The Office of The Minister of External Affairs, and
The Honourable Mackenzie King Esq.



We, who are all Canadian Born, do hereby extend a petition on behalf
of our parents and others some of whom are Naturalized and others who are
Japanese Nationals who have asked for cancellation of repatriation forms signed
by them, and we do this on the following considerations:

Whereas, although our parents as a group have shown characteristic
common to immigrant groups of other races (although not more than other such
groups), such as clumsiness, lack of facility in the use of the English language,
and an anxiety to succeed in an economic sense, yet they have greatly appreciated
the democratic way of life for their children and have urged them to assume the
full obligations of citizenship.

And whereas many who have applied for cancellation have been in Canada
for upwards of forty years, and have assisted in the building of the basic
industries in B. C. (Lumbering, fishing and farming).

And whereas a number of them have signed repatriation forms, not because
of any desire to go back to Japan, but because of their failure to understand the
manner in which they have been treated and the insecurity and fear which they have
suffered as instanced by the following incidents:

- (a) The sale of their property.
- (b) The declaration of the Government in B.C. 3213, Sec. 7, April 21, 1942,
that all persons of Japanese race moved to other provinces from B. C.
would be moved again at the close of the war.
- (c) Government and municipal restrictions on property ownership and business
enterprise.
- (d) Herdly obligations and the responsibility for the maintenance of young
children and infirm persons.
- (e) The failure of negotiations for work and residence in eastern Canada.
- (f) Their own unfitness to do many forms of work offered to them in the
east.
- (g) The lack, at the time of being required to move east or sign for Japan,
of any economic security for their families (at the time of signing
for repatriation there was no explanation of the plan of forming a
settlement at New Denver for families found unsuited for immediate
removal east of the Rockies. The choice at that time was very definitely
one between going to Japan, and going east of the Rockies at a very
early date, anyone not signing, and yet not going east of Rockies would
be considered as "failing to co-operate with the Government").

And whereas, we their children, being as we are their main hope of
support for the future, and feeling strongly the natural ties of blood and
affection are faced with separation from them or exile from our native land,
do hereby earnestly plead with you the Prime Minister of Canada and the people
of Canada that these parents be permitted to remain with us if they so desire,
and we all may become useful citizens and residents of this our country.

We beg to remain, Sirs,

Your faithful petitioners,

A. Furutani 17061
T. Yano
N. Yano 14734
S. Hashimoto 01416
S. Hashimoto 01415
S. Hashimoto 16819
I. Onoto - 05896
I. Onoto - 15543
Y. Haida - 15209
I. Obara 15729
Y. Furukawa - 14273
Y. Nigo 04262
H. Hananaka 07025
M. Hamanaka 07026
T. Nakano 06493
J. Koizumi 15243
M. Miyashita 02545
K. Miyashita 15448
S. Miyashita 16719
B. K. Misumi 01251
B. S. Misumi 11567
K. Misumi 04368
M. Mishimura 02954
S. Tagami 07395
I. Tagami 09031
I. Tagami 09029
R. Maeda 08922
S. Maeda 15437
Y. Maeda 07359
K. Yano 09269

S. H. Yano 09254
Y. H. Yano 0913
D. Hirai 05891
M. Furuda 16667
M. Yano 15242
I. Hashimoto 15815
I. Furukawa 01618
I. Okuda 06141
O. Matsumoto #02726
K. Sakaguchi 06670
A. Furukawa #15180
A. Oye 16742
Y. Okuhara 02713
M. Hashiguchi 09079
~~J. H. Yano~~ 05808
M. Hayashi 04183
K. Kobayashi 01879
I. Izumi 09025
Y. Higashi 08847
K. Wakamori 08080