

July 21, 1942

Petaawawa incident happening July 1st/1942

*Yokitaro
Tanaka
UBC*

On July 1st between the hours of 1:30 and 3:00 a.m. the sentries fired 3 live bullets into huts occupied by both Japanese and Japanese Canadian internees. The huts in question were huts number 10 and 11 and also the kitchen and ablution room directly adjoining hut 11. The shooting occurred three times in succession with as many as fifteen to sixteen bullets being fired, two of which pierced the front wall of hut 11 barely missing the occupant of the first bed by a matter of two feet and lodging itself in the ceiling. Several shots were fired at the kitchen, one of them piercing same. The one shot I wish to draw your particular attention to is the shot that entered the front entrance of hut 10, which, in order, pierced a blanket on the upper berth of the fourth bed, grazed a pillow on the upper berth of the fifth bed, pierced the wall and finally lodged in the wall of the lavatory. Most fortunately the occupants of the said beds, awakened by the commotion, were out of their beds, therefore escaping certain death. As thus stated the bullets penetrated huts occupied by we internees, which we consider not only as a grave error but also a deadly menace to our lives.

We, civilian internees, are fully aware that we must obey the guards. On the night of the incident, one inmate went outside, but, when ordered to re-enter the hut by a provost guard, he did so. But several, who went out shortly after, saw no sign whatsoever of any guards ordinarily patrolling the camp ground whom they were seeking and were immediately fired upon without warning.

From a distance where sufficient and intelligible warning could not be given the sentries opened fire, by which we were greatly surprised. Even so we made no effort to resist, By this fact it may be clearly understood that we had no hostile intentions whatsoever against the guards.

Is it such a serious offense to go from one hut to another that the sentries had to resort to fire-arms to force obedience? Could not have the provost guards handled the situation more quietly and sanely?

We did not realize so much our danger but more so the outrageous shooting. The following morning during the discussion of the incident the Commandant stated that the shooting on the part of the sentries was natural according to internment operation regulations and that it was not a mistake.

Following the aforementioned reasons and explanations, we, Japanese and Canadian-born Japanese internees, request that you will give your immediate inquiry regarding the incident, and we sincerely hope that we will be given a just and honorable consideration. We also wish to request that more caution be taken in the future so that the aforementioned incident will not occur again. J.J.

Following the incident, we refused to obey regulations for roll call until such a time that we would be formally visited by the Spanish Consul General who is responsible for the welfare of Japanese in Canada. In closing we wish to make clear to you that on the afternoon of July 4th at the request of the Commanding officer of Petawawa Military Operations, we submitted to roll call. J.J.

*Mr. [unclear] [unclear]
1475 [unclear] [unclear]
Montreal, P.Q.*

Angler Internment Camp,
Angler, Ontario,
Oct. 10, 1942.

Spanish Consulate,
Montreal, Canada.

Sirs;

Of all the internees in this camp, there are 40 of we internees who were arrested at the outbreak of the war as suspicious or dangerous enemy aliens. This group has nothing to do with the larger groups of internees who were arrested subsequently either voluntarily or because they refused to submit to the regulations imposed upon them. We were the only ones who were interned because in the opinion of the authority " we cannot consistently with the public safety be permitted his freedom". With the exceptions of the few, all of us are exceedingly anxious to be repatriated to Japan with our families as soon as possible. Will you please inform the Japanese Government by telegraph our desire and wishes to be thus repatriated and request the Japanese Government to ask Canadian Government to have us included in the first exchange of nationals?

In view of the nature and of the diration of our internment, we reasonably expect that we original forty internees woul be given prior consideration in the selection of those to be included in the exchange of nationals.

With regards to the few who desire to remain in this country those who cannot be repatriated, we request you to make your utmost effort to have their cases reviewed by the Advisory Committee so that they ~~may~~ may obtain their freedom without delay. These are the people who have and will cooperate with the authority and follow the regulations imposed upon them.

In the last conversation we had with you, we were told that our cases are now being under considerations and that we will be allowed to join our families at the earliest possible date. Has anything transpired in the meantime concerning this matter? According to Sec. 25, Subsec. 10 of the Defence of Canada Regulations, internees may be allowed to live with their families and their dependents during their internment. If the authority cannot see their way clear to release us at the present time, wer surely would like to be accorded the benefits of the said provisions

A-405-

With regards to a Kotoichi IKEDA, who was arrested e [unclear]s, New Foundland whilst working aboard the Greek ship and who interned with us, we deem it only fair to have him included in first group of nationals to be repatriated. He has no money, nor a friends in Canada like the rest of us. I believe he should be given especial consideration pertaining to his walfare.

*591-1249
[unclear]
TAKAKA TOKIKARU*

September 21, 1943

The Minister of Justice
Ottawa, Canada

Sir:-

At the outbreak of the war on the 7th day of December 1941 the following fifteen internees, myself included, were arrested and have ever since been confined in the internment camp.

In speaking on behalf of the following I hereby wish to make clear that we are unjustly interned, that we have never at any time violated section 24 of the Defence of Canada Regulations, nor are responsible for any cause whatsoever as to deserve internment.

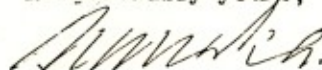
Up until today we have never been told the exact reason for this action against us. We have never undergone the necessary procedures of even a trial. Yet we are being treated in precisely the same manner as those who were interned for their refusal to cooperate with the authorities. We believe that we are entitled to know at least the reason for our internment as we are all positively impeccable persons.

For this reason I am hereby requesting you for the second time for an answer as to the exact reason why we are being interned as soon as possible and oblige.

We are as follows:

<i>Tanaka</i>	254	Abe Shutarō	-	365	Deguchi	Harukichi
	398	Hori Goro	-	440	Kitagawa	Tsunehito
	505	Murakami Waichi	-	449	Kodama	Masayoshi
	512	Nakagawa Kotaro		615	Uyenishi	Kiyota
	591	Tanaka Tokikazu	-	577	Tebata	Yoshizo
	374	Fujioka Masakazu	-	581	Takaoka	Yoichi
	487	Mitsubayashi Eon		626	Yanagida	Kiteru
	363	Atagi Kakugoro				

Respectfully yours,



Tokikazu TANAKA p/w #591
-spokesman for all internees-

I.O.19 forms used.

Copy

In replying to this letter of request, Mr. D. C. Saul, for the Inspector General of Enemy Aliens, visited this Internment Camp "101" on October 5th 1943 and personally made a statement to the Camp Leader and Spokesman, Tokikazu Tanaka, as follows:

"I will answer to your letter of request of the 21st of September. The authorities have thoroughly, carefully and individually investigated the fifteen internees (15) which you mentioned and found that none of them have ever violated Section 24 of the Defence of Canada Regulation nor are responsible for any cause to be interned.

At the outbreak of the war, as you know quite well enough, the people of Canada were so excited and had such a strong hostility against the Japanese, and, so naturally the Government had to do something to maintain the public order and therefore instructed the R. C. M. Police to arrest ~~some~~ some of the Japanese who were supposed to have been dangerous, and some of the Japanese leaders among their organizations. However I am now ready to release the said fifteen Japanese internees if and when they are willing to accept the positions, meaning jobs outside of British Columbia.

Please explain this attitude held by our Government to those fifteen Japanese internees."

Oct. 5, 1943

Witnessed by

Tanaka
Camp Leader and
spokesman

November 10 1943

The Minister of Justice
Ottawa, Canada

Sir :-

I have been instructed by the following internees (nominal roll under separate sheet attached herewith) to transmit the following letter to you.

Respectfully yours,
Sgd Tokikazu TANAKA p/w #591 *Tanaka*,
-spokesman for all internees-

"Sir:-

*The following letter is drafted by Shuichiro Nakagawa
2/11/44*

Ever since our birth here in Canada up to the present time we have been accorded not in the least the various rights as Canadian citizens. Yet, it is an undeniable fact that we have in the past in British Columbia while struggling hard to obtain our full citizenship, devoted our utmost abilities to the interests of Canada in the same manner as any other Canadians of European origin. In peace time, we had, as good Canadians, committed no social or legal crime.

With the outbreak of war between England and Germany, the Canadian Government maintained a very lenient measure against the Germans and Italians and assured them with a safe means of living, in the midst of declaring the Germans as enemy both of the human race and of the democratic nations. Indeed, we viewed this action with admiration as the manifestation of the true ideal of democracy! In contrast to this very liberal action taken against the Germans and Italians, what was the attitude of the British Columbia Security Commission taken against the Japanese and the Japanese Canadian with the outbreak of war between Japan and the Allied Nations! The whole proceeding taken against all persons of Japanese origin can only be said as a deep-rooted racial prejudice and an extremely inhuman action. Although Canada came to the point of regarding Japan, Germany, and Italy as a common enemy, the distinct treatment accorded to the Japanese as the result of racial differences has been the greatest incentive which bred antipathy in us. The fact that Canada treated the Japanese and the Japanese Canadians without differentiation needs no explanation here. When it became necessary for us to evacuate from the coast of British Columbia--the place of our birth and of our beloved homes--no matter how obedient and submissive we may have been, we groaned indeed, with a heart-rendering pain. The inhuman and tragical segregation of the families beggars all description.

In this way, we were treated as enemies of Canada, and as a natural result of this action, it became an important question for us to decide to which country we should convert ourselves in the future. Having arrived at this point, our fatherland, Japan, (~~xxxx~~ please turn to page 2)

inevitably became our true country, and we do not hesitate at all to say that we came to the conclusion of regarding the Japanese flag as the only bright light which can protect us. The blood and spirit of the Japanese race which roused in our bodies is also inevitable. Therefore, based on this pride and honour of being a part of the Japanese race, it is no wonder when we risked ourselves in opposition to that inhuman and discriminating treatment.

When in British Columbia, you deprived us of our positions, forced on us evacuation order and family segregation---we opposed it---but if you consider our opposition to be of some crime, then we uphold the view that since it was the governmental policy which forced us into this, the crime should be imposed upon you. Namely, the fact that a democratic nation came forward with a human attitude towards the common enemy, the Germans and the Italians, and treated the ~~Japanese~~ with racial discrimination as today, most realistically warrants this belief. This racial discrimination ultimately resulted in our internment.

At the present time, we, as subjects of the Japanese Empire, strongly suscepiing the highest honour and pride of being a part of the Japanese race and backed by the Japanese Government, find ourselves in a state of calm resignation. Thereupon, this feeling nothing but leads us to pledge our loyalty and to share our fate with Japan in whom we place all our confidence. It was Canada itself which caused this strong consciousness. If Canada had accorded to us the same treatment as the Germans and the Italians we do not doubt that we probably may have been engaged in Canada's efforts. But as matter stands today, we would not in the least think of contributing to the war efforts of Canada. Our only desire at this time is to return to Japan at the conclusion of hostilities or better still our earnest desire is to be included in an exchange of prisoners during the war if there is a continuance of such a proceeding.

We are living in such a state of mind, it is natural that any act on the part of the authorities to apply to us the Selective Service Act, would be most defiantly opposed. We are expressing here the fact that each one of us strongly pledges his loyalty to Japan together with the refusal of any co-operation with Canada.

Respectfully yours,

(please turn to Page 3)

Feb 9/44

Insp. McC. Saul
 Insp. for the Registrar General of Enemy Aliens
 Ottawa, Canada.

Sir:- I have been requested by the undermentioned internees to transmit the following letter to you:

"Sir:

Last year on October 5, during your visit to this camp, you stated that 'Upon investigation I find that none of you have ever committed any crime to be interned'. Your statement of our innocence clearly confirms our frequent appeals to the authorities proclaiming the injustice of our internment ever since the 7th of December 1941.

Yet notwithstanding this declaration of our innocence we are still obliged to remain behind barbed wire enclosures. This fact can only be construed as not only illegal but also contrary to the laws of humanity. Especially in this democratic country it is only natural that we too should benefit from its policy of fair play, justice and freedom just as any other citizen which, if we are not mistaken, is precisely what this country is fighting for. It should most certainly bring about our release from internment and the subsequent return to our respective families. Albeit it may be impossible at this time to return to the defence area, yet we believe we reserve the right to select the place of our abode as was the case with other Japanese immediate prior to their evacuation.

There is another matter which we should like to bring to your attention which concerns Yoichi TAKAOKA, one of the signatories to this letter. Regarding this internee's release his wife sent a petition to Ottawa to which in November 30th of 1943 she received a reply from H. Darling, Asst. Director Criminal Investigation for the Registrar General of Enemy Aliens, which said, in effect, "At the time of his interview with C. K. Halonen, Placement Officer of the E. C. Security Commission, he refused to be released from internment during the war and expressed his desire to return to Japan. Under this circumstance I can not release him".

However Takaoka vigorously disclaims any knowledge whatsoever of ever having made that sort of statement but rather at that time he had only requested the Placement Officer to be sent back to his family.

This is clearly a case of misunderstanding on the part of the Placement Officer and it is a grave mistake to think that we had refused to be released. On the contrary, we believe, in all sense of justice, that we deserve to be released immediately.

Yours respectfully,

p/w #591 TAKAOKA	Yoichi;	p/w #363 ATAGI	Kakugoro	:	p/w #374 FUJIOKA
p/w #440 KESAEIWA	Tsuneto;	p/w #365 DEGUCHI	Harukichi	:	Masakusu
p/w #449 KODAMA	Masayoshi;	p/w #505 MURAKAMI	Waichi	:	*****

Yours respectfully,

Sgd Tokikazu TANAKA p/w #591
 -spokesman for all internees-

I. O. 19 Form 8

Tokikazu
Tanaka
U.S.C.

CAMP STANDING ORDERS
For
PRISONERS OF WAR

By
Lieut-Col. R. Hamilton Bliss, D.S.O.
Camp Commandant,
INTERMENT CAMP NO. 130

October 22, 1941.

1-3 P.M.
5-6.30 P.M.
to commandant
Telegraph.

1. GENERAL

(a) The following Orders are issued for the information and guidance of Prisoners of War, Class II. These Orders will be strictly adhered to at all times. Any breach of these Orders or of any further or Amended Orders issued from time to time will be dealt with by disciplinary measures and the withdrawal of privileges.

(b) Disobedience of Orders or conduct prejudicial to the safety, good order or discipline of P/W will be liable to punishment. Deliberate disobedience or resistance to Orders or riotous conduct will, if necessary, be dealt with by force of arms.

(c) BOUNDS: On trespass by a P/W in any area previously notified in Camp Orders as "Out of Bounds" to P/W he will be first warned and if the trespass is continued will be fired on. Such "bounds" will be clearly described and marked.

2. DEFINITION

The abbreviation "P/W" where used herein denotes "Prisoner of War".

3. ROUTINE

The following Time Table will be strictly observed.

Reveille (weekdays)	0630 hours
Reveille (Sundays)	0700 hours
Muster Parade (Weekdays)	0730 hours
Breakfast (weekdays)	following Muster Parade.
Breakfast (Sundays)	0800 hours
Parade for Work Parties	0815 hours
Muster Parade (Sundays)	0830 hours
Sick Parade (none on Sundays)	0830 hours
Inspection of Compound by Commandant	1000 hours to 1130 hrs
Return of Work Parties	1115 hours
Dinner	1200 hours
Parade for Work Parties	1300 hours
Return of Work Parties	1500 hours
Muster Parade	1700 hours
Supper	following Muster Parade.
Lock-up and Roll Call in Huts	2100 hours
Lights Out	2210 hours

From dusk until Lock-up time, 2100 hours, no Prisoner of War will leave the immediate vicinity of the Huts. They will be allowed to exercise around Parade Grounds during these hours, but under no conditions must they go near the Warning Wire. Infringement of this Privilege will mean the Lock-up hour will be moved forward to conform with daylight. P/W will be specially warned regarding this.

3. ROUTINE (Cont'd)

All P/W are required to observe the above Time Schedule. Additional Muster Parades will be held when considered necessary.

4. DUTIES

(a) All P/W are required to perform such work for which they may be fitted, as they are detailed to do, unless excused therefrom by the Camp Medical Officer for medical reasons.

P/W placed on "light Duty" by the Camp Medical Officer will perform suitable duties to which they are assigned.

P/W "Excused Duty" for any reason may work in the Kitchens, Mess Halls, etc. should they desire to do so.

(b) COOKS: The Head P/W Cook will be responsible that there is no waste of food and for the cleanliness of the Kitchens and Mess Halls in readiness for the daily inspection and will see that no food is taken from the kitchens to sleeping huts. All cooks will be permitted to leave their sleeping huts one hour before Reveille to attend to their duties in the kitchens.

5. WORK PARTIES

The Camp Sergeant Major will give the Camp Leader a list in detail every afternoon of duties and work parties required the following morning.

The Camp Leader will see that the required number of Prisoners are paraded to the entrance to the Main Gate at the hours stated.

The Camp Leader will see that a correct Nominal Roll is furnished at the Gate for each Party.

6. PAY

For certain types of work which is not part of the Administration of the Camp, Prisoners of War will be paid at regulation rates, subject to the approval of the Camp Commandant.

Prisoners of War will not be paid for work in connection with the Administration and Maintenance of the Camp. (Chap. 5, Article 14).

7. DISCIPLINE

(a) P/W shall march to or from working places in an orderly manner and shall promptly obey any order or instruction given by an Officer or soldier in the execution of his duty.

(b) P/W shall salute all Officers by a military salute. When addressing an Officer a P/W shall stand to attention and address him as "sir", speaking in a respectful manner.

(c) P/W will not move from one sleeping hut to another unless ordered to do so by the Camp Commandant or his representative.

7. DISCIPLINE (Cont'd)

(d) Smoking will be permitted only at such times and in such places as may be set by the Camp Commandant.

(e) Camp Sanitary Regulations will be strictly observed and enforced at all times. After Lock-up time P/W are not allowed to leave their huts until Reveille. P/W who of necessity must go to Ablution Hut may go to the nearest ablation room to their hut. No loitering allowed in Ablution Hut during these hours.

8. DUTIES OF CAMP LEADER

The Camp Leader shall be responsible to the Camp Commandant for -

1. The complete discipline of all prisoners of war in the Camp.

2. To see that all instructions laid down by the Camp Commandant are carried out.

3. The Camp Leader will deal directly with any minor complaints of the Prisoners of War within his power.

4. He will report to the Camp Commandant through the Camp Sergeant Major all matters which should be properly referred to the Camp Commandant.

5. He will accompany the Camp Commandant or his representative on the daily inspection at 1000 hours.

6. The Camp Leader may request an interview with the Camp Commandant on behalf of any Prisoner of War on matters of importance for the general welfare of the Prisoners as a whole.

7. He will attend all Muster Parades. He will accompany the Officer of the Camp and will see that necessary discipline is carried out during all counts of Prisoners of War.

9. AVENUE AND OTHER LEADERS

A Leader for each Avenue of Huts shall be appointed by the Camp Leader. Names of each Leader to be submitted to the Camp Commandant for approval.

A Leader for the Compound Hospital shall be appointed by the Camp Leader. Name to be submitted to the Camp Commandant for approval. The Leader for the Compound Hospital will take his instructions direct from the Camp Medical Officer.

A Leader will be appointed for each Ablution Room by the Camp Leader - names of each Leader to be submitted to the Camp Commandant for approval.

An Administrative Staff, such as Orderly Room, Q.M. Stores, Tailor, Shoemaker, Cooks etc. will be appointed by the Camp Leader. Names of each to be submitted to the Camp Commandant for approval.

10. DUTIES OF LEADERS

A. - Avenue Leaders

- (1) Avenue Leaders will be responsible for the discipline and cleanliness of all huts in his Avenue.
- (2) He will appoint a Leader for each Hut. This Leader will be the first name on the nominal roll of each hut.
- (3) He will be responsible for all Articles listed on the hut "Inventory Board" being kept in good order and that no articles are removed from any hut without permission of the Camp Commandant or his staff.
- (4) He will be responsible that Fire Buckets and Water Pails are kept filled with water in each hut.
- (5) He will see that all huts are properly aired and ventilated for the maintenance of health.
- (6) He will report any complaints of men in his Avenue to the Camp Leader.
- (7) He will report any breach of discipline in his Avenue to the Camp Leader.
- (8) He will see that all tables and forms are scrubbed daily and floors scrubbed at least twice a week.
- (9) He will see that all bedding is aired out of doors once weekly (weather permitting), this to be done after Commandant's Inspection.
- (10) He will see that beds and bedding are arranged in a uniform manner (as laid down) and that each hut is in readiness for the Commandant's Inspection.
- (11) He will hold each Hut Leader responsible to see that the above instructions are carried out.
- (12) He will meet the Camp Commandant at the end of his Avenue and accompany him on his inspection of the huts and area of his Avenue.
- (13) Leaders of other Buildings will be responsible for the cleanliness and discipline of same.
as laid down
- (14) All Leaders will be responsible to see that a nominal roll is on the wall on the left entrance of the door. The Hut Leader's name will be the first on the Roll.

11. RECREATION HUT
The Recreation Hut and Grounds may be used by P/W at any time out of working hours for the purposes of recreation and amusement. All programmes of entertainment will be submitted to Camp Headquarters for approval. Healthful forms of recreation will be encouraged.
12. NOTICES
All notices which it is desired to post must be submitted to Headquarters for approval and written in English and German.
13. LIBRARY:
Censored or approved books and magazines no longer required by the owners will be turned over to a librarian appointed by the P/W with Camp Headquarters approval, for the general use of all P/W.
14. CORRESPONDENCE
(1) All instructions re the handling of all P/W correspondence will be handled direct by the Censor under existing regulations which will be thoroughly explained to the Camp Leader by the Interpreter.
(2) Violation of Orders regarding correspondence issued by the Censor will result in curtailment in letter writing and other disciplinary action seen fit by the Camp Commandant.
15. FIRES
(a) Fires must not be lighted in unauthorized places and Forestry Regulations will be strictly observed.
(b) In case of an outbreak of fire in the Camp Area P/W will immediately "fall in" on their parade ground in accordance with Camp Fire Orders.
16. CLOTHING REGULATIONS
No P/W will be allowed out of the Compound under any circumstances in other than regulation P/W coloured clothing.
17. ESCORT at any time,
No P/W will be allowed out of the Compound without adequate Escort, whether or working party of fatigue.
18. ISSUES OF CLOTHING AND NECESSARIES
Issues of clothing and necessaries will be made under the direction of the Camp Quartermaster.
19. WARNING WIRE
A "Warning Wire" has been placed approximately 15 feet from the wire fence.
Prisoners of War are warned that they must not cross this "warning wire".
If it is necessary to recover a football or other article within this prohibited area the prisoner of war will first halt at the warning wire and get permission of the nearest sentry in the Tower to pass same.

WARNING WIRE (Cont'd)

Prisoners of War are especially warned they must not pass this wire without permission of the sentry.

Sentries have been instructed to fire on Prisoners of War who disobey these instructions.

MUSTER PARADES OR COUNTS OF PRISONERS OF WAR

Muster Parades or Counts of Prisoners of War will be carried out as laid down and on other occasions whenever deemed necessary by the Camp Commandant.

- (1) All outside counts will be held in the square.
- (2) Hospital Patients and Orderlies will be counted in hospital.
- (3) At other nightly counts to be made on the orders of the Commandant P/W will not be awakened but must not cover their heads - faces must be seen. If any obstruction to these nightly counts is made P/W will be awakened up for same.
- (4) If, in the opinion of the Commandant, weather conditions are such that outside musters are not advisable, daylight Musters or Counts will be held in the buildings.

FIRE ORDERS

- (1) A Reel with 500 feet of Hose is located behind 9th Avenue in the Compound.
- (2) The Camp Leader will detail a Fire Crew of twelve (12) men to handle this hose.
- (3) Fire Extinguishers are located in the Provost Hut. The Camp Leader will detail a Crew to be responsible for the handling of these Extinguishers.
- (4) Fire Drill will be practiced twice a month under the Provost Sergeant.
- (5) The Provost Sergeant will submit a statement to the Commandant that these Drills have been carried out.

ORDERS

The Camp Leader will be given sufficient copies of these Standing Orders for distribution to Avenue and Other Leaders and for posting in buildings as designated by the Camp Commandant.

R. Hamilton Bliss
Lieut-Colonel.

(R. Hamilton Bliss),
Camp Commandant,
Internment Camp #130

Issued at
Internment Camp #130,
Edmonton, Alberta.
11 November, 1941.

2751 Pender St., E.,
Vancouver, B.C.
Dec. 21st, 1941.

Dear Wes:

So far as the new war affects us, I really haven't much to say, as it's ~~too~~ ^{too} early to estimate the effects. On the whole we are taking it in our stride. We are so used to wars and alarms, and we have been tempered for the anti-feelings these long years. It has only intensified in overt acts of unthinking hoodlumism like throwing flaming torches into rooming houses and bricks through plate glass.....only in the West End so far. What that does to prove I don't know. We've had blackouts ...bad for the kids, because it frightens them so....the first few nights our lights been lighted. Of course we have to be ready just in case and I sure hope they won't any emergency...not with the kids around

Muriel Kitagawa Papers. PAC NA31E26

Last Sunday, the National President of the IODE, who must live far from contact from the Niseis because she didn't seem to know the first thing about us, made a deliberate attempt to create fear and ill-will among her dominion-wide members by telling them that we were all spies and saboteurs, and that in 1931 there 55,000 of us and that number has been ~~it~~ doubled in the last ten years. Not only a biological absurdity, but the records of the RCMP gives the lie to such round numbers. The trouble is that lots of women would like to believe their president rather than actual figures. Seems to me illogical that women who are the conservers and builders of the human race should be the ones to go all out for savagery and ~~the~~ destruction and ill-will among fellow-humans. They are the ones who are expected to keep the peace with their neighbors in their particular block, but when it comes to black-balling some unfortunate people, they are the first to cast the stone. In times like this I always think of that line:

"If there be any among you that is without sin, let him cast the first stone."

....or words to that effect. And certainly we Niseis are neither harlots nor criminals. We're just people.

But, more to the point, how are you getting along there? Is the feeling worse in Toronto where they don't know the Niseis like B.C. does? How does it affect you personally? Can you get a loan to get through next year and the ~~year~~ year after? After all, you are Canadian-born, and the Army needs MD's. How has it affected living conditions at the Lethbridges? Or your acquaintance with Dent and others? Has it affected the wearing of your uniform? Your standing in class and lab. Have you heard from George Shimo and the other boy? Please let me know fully. So far Doug hasn't let me know by word or line how he is, but he's never one to write, and he's carefree. I think he is all right. If he doesn't lose his job through his, I'll ask him to send you what he can every month. Dad and Nobu are getting along but I think Nobu's kind of sad that he won't see Mom again, and he does miss a home life. But I can't do thing to help as Dad rejects every offer. I knit him a warm sweater, too. I guess that when gas rationing starts Dad won't be able to use that darned car so often in ~~it~~ its really affronting sleekness. He has to report every month to the R.C.P., just because when he first came to B.C., which was over forty years ago, and plenty of time to naturalize, he didn't look far enough ahead to know how it would have helped his children. That! for people who live only day to day. Politics never meant a thing to him, and doesn't yet. So long as he can eat and swank in his car he lets important things slide.

We're getting immune to the hitherto unused term 'Japs' on the radio and on the headlines of the papers. So long as they designate the enemy, and not us, it doesn't matter much. The Chinese here were indecently jubilant...paraded and cheered in their quarters when the war was announced. They are rather childish that way. Of course, now they hope that both U.S. and Canada will fork over a lot more help than they have so far. I think they are naive. War nowadays is too complicated ~~in its nature and~~ and can't be compared simply to a street-fight. I am glad however that the Russian army is licking something out of Hitler's troops. The sooner Hitler stops his enslaving of conquered people ... you know ship-loading them into Poland or into Germany proper to work for nothing in the fields and factories far from home and children.; his way of steal-

2.

All three Japanese papers have been closed down. We never needed so many anyway. It is good for the New Canadian though, as it can now go ahead with full responsibility, though at first it is bound to be hard on the inexperienced staff. All Japanese schools have been closed too, and are the kids glad! Sammy was jubilant. Of course I have never intended my kids to go anyway so it doesn't affect us in the least. I am glad in a way that they have been closed down. I hope for good. Though it is hard on the teachers who depended on it for a living. There have been the usual anti-letters-to-the-editor in the papers. Some of them are rank nonsense, and some of the writers think like that anyhow, whatever the provocation. The majority of the people are decent and fair-minded and they say so in letter, too, and in opinions in editorials. The RCMP is our friend too, for they, more than anyone else know how blameless and helpless we are, and they have already in one instance prevented tragedy when the City Father proposed cancelling all business licenses to say that we did not rate such harsh treatment. Now the North Vancouver Board of Trade goes on record to demand that all our autos be confiscated, but I hardly think that could be practical as than what would our doctors and businessmen do? Also, it is hard to take everything away from 23000 people without the rest of B.C. feeling some of the bad effects. Already the dog salmon industry is short-handed because the Japanese cannot fish anymore. How they will make up the lack in the next season I don't know, though the 'white' fishermen seem to be confident if they could use the fishingboats now tied up in New Westminster somewhere. There was one letter in the Province protesting against his confiscation of the right to earn a living from 1800 people...said it wasn't democracy. Yessir, when a people get panicky democracy and humanity and Christian principles go by the board. Rather inconsistent, but human nature I guess. Some silly mothers even go so far as to say what right has the black-haired kids to go to school with her own precious? One school teacher had the courage to say to one of the 'white' pupils who wanted all Japs to be kicked out of school....how they reflect their parents' attitude!.....that there were no Japs, and in any case they were far better Canadians than the protester. ~~Strange~~ Strange how these protesters are much more vehement against the Canadian-born Japanese than they are against German-born Germans, who might have a real loyalty to their land of birth, as we have for Canada. I guess it is just because we look ~~different~~ different. Anyway it all boils down to racial antagonism which the democracies are fighting. Who said it was Woman....or the Moon that was inconstant? Oh well, it is only the occasional one here and there. I personally have had no change in my relationship with my neighbors, or my egg-man, who told me not to worry. Most of the Nipponjin deplore the war but do not change to their known Japanese friends. It is the small businesses that are most affected....like the dressmakers, the corner store, etc, because the clientele are rather shy of patronising in public such places whatever their private thoughts may be. Powell Street is affected too in that they have a slightly increased volume of sales to people who usually go to Woodwards etc. But so many have been fired from jobs that belts are tightening everywhere. I don't know yet how all this is going to affect Dad. Most of his patients are fishermen or farmers. So far the farmers haven't been touched.

ing food from the conquered peoples; his system of captive labor; shooting hundreds in reprisal for one....then the sooner will the little peoples have a chance at life again.

Ugh! I hate wars, and I've had one already though I wasn't old enough to know anything then. Now I'm going through a worse one. War...active war is easier to bear with courage than this surging up of mass ~~in~~ mass hatred against us simply because we are of Japanese origin. I hope fervently that it will not affect the lives of Shirley and Meiko and the unborn.....son, as the doctor believes. After all, my kids, as only ~~my~~ proper being my kids, are so thoroughly Canadian they would never understand being persecuted by people they ~~reagr~~ regard as one of themselves. Already Meiko came crying home once because some kid on the block whose father is anti, said something. Yet I try to rationalize things for them, so that they won't be inundated by self-consciousness. Children are so innocent, but they are savages, too, and reflect faithfully their parent's attitudes. That was the one thing my doctor was worried about. Otherwise hex, with most of the others, tell us not to worry. We're Canadians and can expect decent treatment from decent people.

Remember when Shirley was little she was more shy of Japanese strangers than she was of the hakujins? She used to stare goggle-eyed at them. Because they, even now, rarely see Japanese people out here, and the ones they see they are so used to that they don't even see the difference in color. One day they asked me whether they were Japanese or Chinese or English or Scotch or what in the world they. It made me laugh. I told them they were Canadians, and that is what they sincerely believe. They are a couple of the most reasonable kids you ever saw. Barring Meiko's lapses into 'yancha'. We haven't picked a name for the newcomer yet, but if it is a boy he will be Jon....without the 'h'. I'dx like a girl to be named Jennifer, if the opposition won't be too loud. Can't think of a Japanese name at all. I like Philip, too. Jon is short for Jonathan, you know. While I'm not fussy about the longer one, I do like Jon. What do you think?

Gosh! I never knitted so much in all my life! Guess what: I made three sweaters for Shirley, two for Meiko, one heavy wolf cardigan for Eddie, one for Nobi, one for you, those two toques and two pairs mitts, a scarf for Eddie...tho' this last is a secret yet, three jackets (Infant), two pants (also infant), two bonnets (ditto), four socks (ditto), one vest (ditto), ...all in this last couple of months. I'm slightly surprised myself.

However, don't let things get you down. You've got to get through, you know. You are far from home, but you know we are backing you up, and we'll never let you down. You are a decent Canadian-born citizen and can depend on it that decent people will always be decent. Let us not think of the dark side, but hope for the best.

We are giving the kids a real Christmas as usual. So have yourself one, too. I have written a special column for the Christmas issue of the NC. If it comes out, read it well. Also I hope they will print the slightly inebriated verse about the milkman. We can do with some laughs.

Cheerio and thumbs up! A merry Christmas and a Happier new Year to you and all of us.

Love, Mur.

Uchibori Papers UBC Shigeichi
Uchibori

pass. Uchibori lives in Oakville.

17-7.
Jps Committee (Leman Creek)

12/8/42 Demands

① no more farms be called into
tent houses.

② System of reservations be
abolished (for housing) & in the
future the Working Committee take
full responsibility."

③ "All matters concerning the
Employment Dept be looked after
by the Working Comm - privilege
be granted to the Working Com and looky
after emp. of any Jps, so that
a person best suited to that
particular position would be employed
who would be of the best benefit
to both the Jps community & the Com!"

④ truck (for distub wood & fuel)

⑤ When gyps ~~sent from~~ ^{leave} Van date of departure & # in group should be sent ahead

17-8 → got right to alot houses - who to get houses of families first then rest.

25/8/42 Jp3 Coms petition Officer Commanding "C" Division, ~~the~~ RCMP, Van BC. to leave Const. A.W. Brummitt as sp Constable in Slokan City & District.

"he has won the complete confidence of the townspeople as well as the Jp3. We feel that a better man could not have been picked for this spot."

Slokan Mass Evacuation Kai

4/4/46 Yehibori to Rev. W.H.H. Norman Van Consultative Council. Thanking for help re deportation ~~of~~ ^{of} quarters now that it is sure Cdn Gov will remain. Expresses confident deportation will be abandoned.

List of National & CB Wives = 20 in all. at Lemon Creek,

Sunakara	Yamatsu	06685
	Miwa	05155.

Jp3 Committee heads
Rosebery.
Kaslo
Kelowna
Lillooet.
Christina Lk

R. Yoshida
Dr. E. C. Banno
Iizawa
S. Yasunaka
T. Ode

Greenwood
New Denver
Vernon
Salmon Arm
Okanagan Centre
Taylor Lake
Minto Mine
Grand Forks
Lashme
Kamloops
Midway

J. Miyashita
J. Kawajiri
H. Isono
Chisuke Okamura
D. Kobayashi
K. Mori
Tetsuji Mori
S. Hayakami
R. Shirakawa
K. Miyazawa
S. Kamikura

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY
COMMISSION

N O T I C E

Winnipeg, Man.

Date 9th June, 1942.

TO Hirose, T., Serial No. 580.

a person of Japanese race, evacuated from restricted area of British
Columbia, under P. C. 1665 - You are hereby ordered to report with
your family to Geo. Schroeder, St Jean, Man.
and remain there until further orders.

(Sgd.) B. C. SECURITY COMMISSION

B. C. Chahany
Representative

Note: This Notice has been served by me personally on the above named
this 9th day of June, 1942 at Winnipeg, Man.

B. C. Chahany

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER MAKES YOU LIABLE FOR DETENTION AND
TO BE FURTHER DEALT WITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.

Beet Grower's Agreement for Hand Labor on Sugar Beets

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT, made this _____ day of _____

BETWEEN: _____

of the Post Office of _____, in Manitoba, HEREINAFTER CALLED "THE GROWER"
OF THE FIRST PART:
— and —

of the Post Office of _____, in Manitoba, HEREINAFTER CALLED "THE CONTRACTOR"
OF THE SECOND PART:

WHEREAS the Grower has entered into a beet growing contract with The Manitoba Sugar Company, Limited (hereinafter called "the Company") to grow _____ acres of sugar beets in the season of _____, and has requested the Contractor to perform certain handwork for him as hereinafter set forth, which the Contractor has agreed to do;

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH:

1. The Contractor agrees with the Grower that he will perform the following handwork operations on the said lands and to the said beet crop on _____ acres more or less of sugar beets planted or to be planted under the growing contract aforesaid, namely:—

All blocking, thinning, hoeing, topping and piling in the proper seasons and at the proper times respectively in accordance with the methods hereinafter set forth and the conditions printed on the back hereof, which are expressly made a part of this contract.

2. The Grower agrees to pay the Contractor for the said work at the following rates on acreage where blocking, thinning and hoeing is performed and field is kept free of weeds until August 1st, figured to the nearest one-tenth of an acre:

- (a) Check row cross cultivated _____ \$11.00 per acre
- (b) (1) Check row, not cross cultivated _____ \$12.00 per acre
- (2) Straight drill, cross cultivated _____ \$12.00 per acre
- (c) Straight drill, hand blocked _____ \$13.00 per acre

Where thinning only is performed _____ (a) \$8.00, (b) \$9.00 or (c) \$10.00 per acre

Where hoeing only is performed _____ \$3.00 per acre

Harvesting:—

\$1.50 per ton on net yield with a guaranteed minimum of \$8.00 per acre, figured to the nearest one-tenth of a ton, and in addition to the said \$1.50 per ton, the grower will pay on yields of nine tons per acre and over, an additional 15c per ton to encourage better and more timely work. In case the harvesting is partly done by extra labor, this bonus will be paid to the party doing the contract thinning and hoeing.

3. Upon the said work being performed in manner satisfactory to the Grower and upon the same being approved by a fieldman of the Sugar Company the Grower will pay the Contractor therefor the amount due at the rates hereinbefore provided, less a hold-back of \$1.00 from thinning and \$1.00 from hoeing which will not be paid unless the contractor completes a reasonable portion of the fall work.

4. It is agreed between the parties herto that the conditions printed on the back of this contract or attached hereto relating to the handwork to be performed by the Contractor form a part of this contract as fully and effectually as though the same were embodied herein, and are binding on the parties hereto.

5. It is agreed between the parties hereto that the Grower shall have the right to cancel all or any part of the contract for such portions of the land as will not in his judgment or in the judgment of a fieldman of the Company pay to harvest; provided that the Grower shall make payment in full to the Contractor for all work done by him on such portions of the land.

6. Should the Contractor at any time fail to perform the work at the proper times and in the manner agreed to be performed, the Grower shall consult and obtain approval of the Contractor to have such work performed and deduct the cost thereof from any amount due to the Contractor at the same price. Any difference in cost to be borne by the Grower.

7. It is understood and agreed that only work performed as aforesaid and pursuant to the conditions printed on the back of this Agreement will be paid for and that if conditions beyond the control of either party prevent the Grower from securing a satisfactory stand of beets, this contract shall be considered void, and that if at any time during the growth of said crop its condition shall be such as not to justify a continuance of the work hereunder on the crop, this Agreement shall be considered null and void as to the unfilled portion of it, and the Contractor shall be paid by the Grower only for what has been done and performed.

8. It is further understood and agreed that in the event of any dispute between the parties hereto with respect to the interpretation of any of the provisions of this contract including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the conditions printed on the back hereof, or the amount of character or timeliness of work performed hereunder or the compensation due therefor, or respecting any claim by either party, or any dispute over working conditions in the field, such dispute shall be referred to a fieldman of the Company, who in conjunction with the Grower and the Contractor shall arbitrate a settlement; their decision, when confirmed by the Company's Agricultural Superintendent, shall be final and binding upon both the Grower and the Contractor.

9. It is further understood and agreed that where loading of trucks from ground piles is performed by the contract labor, the price for such loading shall be 35c per ton.

The Contractor agrees to conform with all laws and regulations as set out by the Minister of Labour.

 Witness Grower

Contractor

CONDITIONS COVERING THE HANDWORK IN THE WITHIN CONTRACT

METHODS OF CULTIVATION

Check row—Cross cultivated fields shall be those fields which have been cultivated with the row and across the row at least once before thinning and at least once with the row immediately before hoeing.

Straight drill—(A) Cross cultivated fields shall be those fields which have been cross cultivated only before thinning with no further cross cultivating, and cultivated with the row before hoeing, or (B) Check row beets not cross cultivated.

Straight drill—Hand blocked fields shall be those fields blocked by hand, where no cross cultivation has been done.

BLOCKING AND THINNING

This operation must be commenced by the Contractor just as soon as the beets show four leaves and the Grower has them properly cultivated and must be completed as rapidly as possible in the following manner, to wit: Leaving only the strongest plant in each place; no double beets shall be left; in splitting doubles the stronger plant must be left; care must be used not to hoe away an excessive amount of dirt from the plants left. The grower must keep the crop cultivated so at least twelve inches of the centre of the row remains clear of weeds and foul growth up to the time when the damage done to the leaves by the cultivator prevents further use of that implement. The operations in connection with thinning and hoeing must free the remaining land entirely from weeds and keep it free from weeds until August 1st.

HOEING

This operation must be commenced by the Contractor just as soon as the Grower orders and he has again properly cultivated the field and must be completed as rapidly as possible in the following manner, to wit: by killing and removing all weeds in the land mentioned in the preceding paragraph, occasional weeds in centre of row, and reducing any double plants to singles.

HARVESTING CONSISTING OF PULLING, TOPPING AND PILING

The harvesting of the sugar beets shall commence at the time specified by the Company in its notice to the Grower to commence digging. The Contractor shall report his readiness to commence work to the Grower by letter or in person not later than September 15th. If the Contractor is not personally on hand and ready for work by September 25th, the Grower may treat the Contract as terminated and the holdback forfeited and hire other help to complete harvesting. If the Grower has not commenced digging beets by October 5th, unless prevented by adverse weather conditions, the Contractor may treat the contract as cancelled and require payment from the Grower of any holdbacks. The beets shall be pulled by the Contractor, cleaned reasonably well of adhering dirt by knocking beets together and thrown into piles. No beets shall be piled on top of beets that have not been pulled. Beets shall be topped by the Contractor in the following manner,—the same shall be cleaned of excess dirt, stones, trash or foreign substances and all leaves removed, leaf structure of average beets to be completely cut off at the base of the crown, leaf structure of extra large beets to be trimmed. If required by the Grower the beets shall be topped and thrown into low wagons at no extra expense.

All beets left in the fields over-night must be properly protected from the frost by the Contractor by covering the piles with beet tops to be removed by the loaders before the beets are loaded.

All tools for handwork shall be furnished by the Grower.

In the event the handwork is not done with sufficient rapidity for the proper and timely harvesting of the crop by the Contractor, the Grower may on appeal to and sanction of the Company's Agricultural Superintendent, employ additional labour and the Grower is hereby authorized to deduct the amount paid additional labour so sanctioned from the account of the Contractor.

If the Grower shall advance any moneys or supply or sell any articles or commodities to the Contractor he shall thereupon furnish the Contractor with a written statement shewing the amount and purpose of the charge.

The Fieldman shall, on request, furnish the Contractor or the Grower a written statement shewing the acreage of the respective classes of work when completed by the Contractor.

The above conditions shall be binding upon both parties unless changed by mutual agreement and noted in writing on the contract.

Final settlement according to the terms of the contract to be made as soon as practicable after the beets have been delivered and the net weight per measured acre is determined.

MEMORANDUM OF SPECIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN GROWER AND CONTRACTOR, APPROVED BY COMPANY

REPRESENTATIVE: _____

Grower

Contractor

Representative

Harold Hirose Papers

TO ALL PERSONS OF THE JAPANESE RACE

For the purpose of final registration and evacuation, you will be given the choice of one of the two programmes as set forth below:-

FIRST: You may volunteer for the Farm Placement Programme of Manitoba, which programme may include the entire family unit, including young, unmarried male members of your family. This group will leave from the C.P.R. station at Hammond on the night of August 27th and you must be on hand not later than six o'clock at the station.

SECOND: The programme is to come in to Hastings Park in complete family units, where the women and children, the young boys under 17 and the older men over 65 will remain for evacuation at a later date to Interior Housing, while all men between 18 and 65 inclusive, (if they are physically fit), will go out on construction work; the married men to the housing construction programme at Tashme, Slokan and New Denver and the unmarried men to the highway construction programme on the Hope Princeton Highway and on the Revelstoke Sicamous.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE PITT MEADOWS AND HAMMOND DISTRICTS REFERRED TO IN THE ORIGINAL NOTICE, ORDER NO. 32 AND 33, WILL BE RESTRICTED AREAS FROM - ON AND AFTER SUN UP ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 28TH.

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

AUSTIN C. TAYLOR

CHAIRMAN

WHEREAS under and by virtue of the powers conferred on the British Columbia Security Commission by Orders of the Governor General in Council, P.C. 1665 and P.C. 1666, both dated the 4th day of March, 1942;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient for the security and defence of Canada for the British Columbia Security Commission to restrict the movement of all persons of the Japanese race evacuated from the protected areas of British Columbia.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred on the Commission, IT IS ORDERED:-

- (1) THAT EVERY PERSON OF THE JAPANESE RACE EVACUATED BY THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION FROM ANY PROTECTED AREA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, OR WHO IS ORDINARILY RESIDENT WITHIN ANY SUCH PROTECTED AREA AND WHO LEFT SUCH AREA AFTER FEBRUARY 5TH, 1942, SHALL REMAIN IN THE CITY, VILLAGE, TOWN OR LOCALITY IN WHICH ANY SUCH PERSON WAS PLACED OR IS RESIDING, WHETHER TEMPORARILY OR OTHERWISE, AND SHALL NOT TRAVEL NOR MOVE FROM ANY SUCH CITY, VILLAGE, TOWN OR LOCALITY IN WHICH ANY SUCH PERSON WAS PLACED OR IS RESIDING, WITHOUT A WRITTEN PERMIT FROM THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION, OR FROM THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE OR THE BRITISH COLUMBIA POLICE DULY AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE ANY SUCH PERMIT.
- (2) This Order shall apply to all persons of the Japanese race and anyone failing to comply with its provisions will be liable to the penalties provided under P.C. 1665 for the breach of an Order of the British Columbia Security Commission.

DATED at Vancouver, British Columbia, this 25th day of August, A.D. 1942.

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION,

"AUSTIN C. TAYLOR."
Chairman.

Angler Internment Camp, Ont
October 6, 1943.

*R. Shimoda
papers
USC*

Interview Between Inspector Saul and Major Barbara
of the Registrar General of Enemy Aliens with Internees
Masaru Sora, Hideo Takahashi and myself. (YUKIO SHIMODA)

I was born in a small town of Port Moody and having as my friends and associates Occidental children with whom I went to school enjoyed sports and lived a happy and smooth life. I learned in school and in my association to believe in British fair play and Democratic principles. Incidentally, my brother, one of the two brothers here with me now, won a pair of silver cuff-links contributed by the Governor of Peru for Citizenship. Although we suffered a great deal during the depression, with no work for my father or myself and came to a point of starvation many times in the course of three or four years, we never became public charges. We have never broken a single law and took great pride in being law abiding members of the community. There were only a few families of Japanese ancestry living in Port Moody, eventually the citizens of the community recognized our sincerity. They came to point at us as being models and good examples of good citizenship and an asset to a community.

I left school and in the due course of time starting working for Thurston-Flavelle Lumber Co., whose owners brother we knew personally and greatly respected. We came to know the mayor and bank manager and others who took a leading part in our community life.

Then came the war with Germany and we tried to do our utmost towards Canada's war effort. Accordingly, we bought as much war savings certificates and victory bonds as we could afford and records should show that our contribution was amongst the highest in the firm for our wages. Incidentally many of my friends joined the Armed Forces and I followed with keen interest the efforts of Canadians of Japanese origin to also enlist in the armed forces. And gave it up in disappointment in seeing their efforts fail.

Then a state of war was declared between Canada and Japan and in time we received news of the orders of evacuation out of the restricted area. I travelled into Vancouver to receive further news concerning the evacuation and became acquainted with fellow niseis who had already received a personal notice of immediate entrainment to Schrieber and other points out of the restricted area. There was turmoil and apprehension and worry all over the Japanese community and orders, nothing but orders. Orders to turn in our property, stores, houses, business, farms, for most of us a lifetime of sweat, toil and hope, our radios, cars, boats and personal belongings. I too, had a home, a business recently started, and a car but its all gone now with nothing to show for it. More orders, orders for all men to leave their wives and children, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters and the aged and sick and entrain to different road projects. First, we were deprived of all we had, and now our families, where was the so-called democratic principles and British fair play which I was taught to believe

To find some way of obtaining permission to evacuate en-masse in family groups, my colleagues and I started the Mass Evacuation Group. Also, I was an active member of the Nisei Council of which you have probably heard.

After all considering the fact that we had given all that we had ever had, ~~isn't it~~ isn't it only just for the authorities to acquiesce to such an only too human request. We interviewed the Members of the B. C.S.C. and was informed that the order of evacuation was in the hands of the Canadian Government. In one of my interviews with Mr. Taylor when I had presented a feasible plan of evacuations as a rep. of the M.E.G., he threatened me thus. "I don't give a damn if you are second generation, 10th generation or 50th generation, as far as I'm concerned you're all Japs and if you don't obey my orders, I'll intern you in carload lots." We retained Murphy Bros. lawyers of Vancouver to travel to Ottawa on our behalf since the B.C.S.C. had told us that the entire policy lay with the Can. Gov't. Mr. Murphy interviewed many public officials including the secretary of Labour. He came back to us with the answer that the matter was entirely in the hands of the B.C.S.C.--Passing the buck, so to say.

We continued our negotiations by personal interviews with different officials and through our lawyers and in the course of time was apprehended and sent here. Incidentally I was apprehended on May 28th, just two weeks before order of evacuation was received in my home town. The M.E.G. here, have written letters to the Minister of Justice requesting for release to ghost towns, but as yet we have received no answer. I would like to know what we are guilty of. If we are under suspicion, why are we not tried in the proper manner? If we are not guilty, why are we not treated accordingly?

Saul: You are not guilty or under suspicion whatsoever. You may obtain your release and go to work as a Canadian with the full rights of citizenship.

We: If we are Can. citizens and not under suspicion, we should not have been accorded the treatment of enemy aliens as have been done, and we should be able to go back to our families in B.C. if we choose.

Saul: That is at present against the policy of the Canadian Gov't.

We: Then the Can. Gov't. goes not intend to accord us with full rights.

Saul: You must realize that even white Canadians are subjected to government orders and are jailed if they are not obeyed during wartime and some are forced to report regularly as suspicious characters or potentialities.

We: But you just mentioned that we were not under suspicion and you must realize sir, that occidental Canadians have not been confiscated of their property nor chased out of their native homes nor interned for 18 months, nor have been forcibly separated from their families. (No answer, just a nod).

We: Why has the Can. Gov't treated us in such a manner knowing that it is against our will as Can. citizens.

Saul: It is the purpose of the Can. Gov't. to scatter the Jap. people all over Canada for their own good and for the purpose of assimilation.

We: Even against our will and right as Can. citizens to live to-gether if we choose.

Saul: Yes, if it is for your own good.

We: Personally, I'd rather eat bread than forced to eat cake.

Saul: What do you mean by that?

We: Would you rather have cake that you did not want shoved down your throat or eat bread willingly, sir?

Saul: Well----?(No answer.)

We: Why is it that Germans and Italians, Chinese and every other nationality in Canada is allowed to live a community life of their own and we are to be scattered over all ends of Canada? I have studied this quite deeply and the fact holds that all nationalities even Doukhobors have their own communities with their own customs and beliefs.

Saul: It is not a good thing and after all there are many who do assimilate, look at the American Indian, they have intermarried with the white and have produced many great men.

We: Supposing I was settled in some occidental community if I did not have Japanese families around me, how would I marry? Is it the intention of the Can. Gov't for us to gradually become extinct or die out?

Saul: Oh no! And anyway you should be able to marry some nice white girl, maybe you've never given them a chance.

We: Would you marry a Japanese girl?

Saul: Well---- I'm no young man now but I've certainly met some very nice Japanese girls.

We: I've met some very nice occidental girls too but they've never given me the chance to ah-h-h, well-l-l, become serious.

Saul: Perhaps you have inferiority complex.

We: Oh no, as a matter of fact I have superiority complex but although I've often tried to be on friendly terms with former feminine school acquaintances, the girls themselves were not so keen and their parents and neighbours frowned upon it. I've studied the matter too much to know that although possibility of assimilation may be great as far as ordinary community life goes there can be no marriage between the white and yellow in any great scale,--- perhaps a thousand years from to-day.

Saul: I don't agree with you there. (So on and so forth). You should go out and start some sansei stock.

We: Will you find me a nice Occidental girl, object matrimony if I do, sir? (He smiles).

We: The conversation seems to be straying from the point. Why were we so forcibly removed from the coast considering the fact that we are not under suspicion and that as you say we are Canadian citizens? And as such should have been allowed to stay there.

Saul: Do you remember the treachery of the Japanese at Pearl Harbour? I think that you'll believe with me there that it was treachery. The citizens in B.C. who have long been envious of you people in your success in various forms of your living such as trade, labour, business, education etc. put pressure on the gov't and the gov't naturally had to act accordingly.

- We: In other words if the people wish the gov't to do something even so undemocratic and un-British it must do so.
- Saul: Yes, because a democracy is a gov't of the people by the vote and such unfortunate incidents as in your case cannot be helped.
- We: A victim of unfair democratic oppression of a minority group.
- Saul: No, a victim of unfortunate circumstances.
- We: I know for a fact that second generation Germans and Italians still have their freedom and can do as they choose as other white Canadians on the Atlantic and Pacific coast. Why is it that we are not accorded a like treatment? After all don't you think it only fair?
- Saul: Yes, but no pressure has been brought to bear on the gov't by the people because they are not so noticeable as you fellows are.
- We: In other words because my hair is black and my skin yellow?
- Saul: Well, if you put it that way-----
-
- We: What is the intention of the Canadian Gov't towards us in the future? That is to say, are we to stay here till the end of the war if we do not accept release or does the gov't have other plans.
- Saul: I couldn't say but you may be subjected to the Selective service or you may be left here depending on your behaviour and time.
- We: Supposing the gov't planned Selective service for us and we refused, what then?
- Saul: ~~As~~ it is outside you will be tried and imprisoned, but why go through all that, why don't you accept your release and go out as a Canadian and become a credit to some community? You have our full support and perhaps you can forget all that you've gone through and lead a new life in some new surrounding.
- We: Its a matter of pride, sir.
- Saul: You mention pride before, don't you think it would be much better to go out and work and help out your family, buy things for them and settle yourself substantially somewhere and forget your pride for a change.
- We: What would you think of a person who hadn't the guts to fight for the unity of his family for their protection and safeguard, who didn't care what happened to the family of his friends? Who would take the easiest way out to gain materially and financially? Would such a person be a credit to any country? I don't think so, sir.
- Saul: That's right.
- We: If you had a son, what would you think of him if he refused to don a uniform in the service of his country and tried to shirk his duty and honour because it would be the easiest way out and he would gain materially and financially. Or any other person who acted in such a manner.
- Saul: Well, if you put it that way-----

NOR THE PRIDE

- things
- We: Precisely, sir. If I took the easiest way out now as a Canadian, I would lose all respect for myself. What would I say to my future children or to my brothers and sisters who consider the sacrifice of a part of my life for a duty towards my family and fellowmen an action of pride and honour? What would you think, sir?
- Saul: Well---, its a very unfortunate situation indeed, I wish I could do something. You know, I wish I could understand you fellows better and I'd also like to learn the Japanese language. I am very sincere, you believe me don't you?
- We: I've never had Japanese schooling and could never read nor write Japanese personally, however, I certainly appreciate your feeling towards us and I believe that if you were in the place of Austin Taylor perhaps the evacuation problem could have been settled in much more a humane way.
- Saul: I am not much at accomplishing things but I believe so, I would certainly do my best to get you a square deal. I would sincerely try to understand you and indeed. You believe me don't you?
- We: Certainly sir, and I certainly am grateful to you for your frank and sincere attitude, Its more than we've been accorded in a long time.

- We: Now sir, the actions of the Can. Gov't has caused us to lose all our material possessions and most of our pride and has caused us physical and mental suffering in no small degree, don't you think that they should now listen to our only too human and just request? That is, union with our families in the ghost towns and guarantee of a living in the said community until such time when we should feel ready to move.
- Saul: As I told you it is the intention of the Can. Gov't to scatter the Japanese over a wide area, so that you will not congregate into Japanese communities. This is for your own protection. Supposing we knew that a certain community was anti-Japanese, and that your life would be endangered if you went there, then it is our duty to forbid you to enter that district for your own protection and not only that, the Can. Gov't doesn't want you settled out there. We want to see you settled in communities out east where they will welcome you. After all don't you see that this is for your own protection and in your best interests?
- We: And deprive him the freedom of other Canadians, and force him to do what he does not wish to do? How would you like it if someone forced cake which you did not like down your throat, as I said before, I would sooner eat bread willingly. Personally, I believe that we are the victims of racial prejudice which should not be allowed to exist in a land professing of democratic principles and British fair play.

- Saul: You people are certainly the unfortunate victims of circumstances. Your talk has been very illuminating and I wish I could know how an oriental mind works.
- We: That is it sir, if the authorities cared to delve into ^{our minds} and could really understand us, then it would not have made so many great mistakes and caused so much suffering. We love freedom and have a very high standard of honour and pride and loyalty. And those should not be abused as they have been.
- Saul: I realize that force of circumstances has unfortunately caused you much suffering and hardship. And I sincerely sympathize with you. However, when you talk of loss of personal property, separation from your family or even deprivation of freedom, what about the soldiers who have on top of all that given their lives?
- We: It is my belief that it is the right and privilege of a citizen to give his life for his country if need be, providing of course that he is a citizen actually as well as technically. Giving ones life or suffering for ones country should not be confused with losing ones life or suffering because of ones country. One should be proud to do the former, as for the latter, I leave to your own discretion.
- Saul: Supposing the Can. Gov't. saw fit to leave you here for the duration and then release you without any help whatsoever as an incorrigible, what would you do?
- We: After all that the Can. Gov't has done to me, deprivation of all that I've ever had, my freedom, my family, my pride and forcing me to lead such a life as this behind these barbed wires, away from my family, who must also be suffering and leading an unhappy life and if the Can. Gov't. should not recognize the injustice done me before my patience wears out then sir, I don't want any part of such a country. I'll find myself another country that may treat me as a loyal citizen should be treated.
- Saul: Its too bad certain public elements turned against you in B. C. because we here, near Ottawa thought it just a bunch of utter nonsense. If the public really knew the situation as it was, perhaps-----
- We: We tried to contact the public through the medium of daily papers and although the editors were very willing and sympathetic with us, Mr. Austin Taylor brought pressure to bear on the paper and the article was suppressed. Incidentally, there have been many injustices we have had to put up with the members of the B.C.S.C. I will tell you of an incident (relates Uchida accident incident).
- Saul: Yes, that is one of the few unfortunate incidents.
- We: No, one of the many sir, for I have knowledge of them.
- Saul: However, such unfortunate incidents, mind you, I greatly sympathize with them and such things should not have been allowed to happen, attribute them to irresponsible officials in authoritative office. Such things happen however, in all countries in the world during wartime and cannot be attributed only to us.

We: I thought democratic Canada was better than the other countries in the world sir, and with such wonderful principles would not expect it to use tactics or allow action such as has happened in other nations. It seems to me that Canada is not so different from other countries with unreputable reputations.

Saul: Oh yes, I think you will find that Canada is a little bit better than others.

We: There is another question I would like to ask you. Prior to my apprehension, Mr. Ian MacKenzie made a statement that as long as he was in office, he would see that not a single person of Japanese origin will come back to B.C. again.

Saul: Yes, but you remember he retracted his statement.

We: Yes, after the argument with Austin Taylor, since such a statement hindered the work of the B.C.S.C. at the time and after all shouldn't a man of his position be responsible for his statement. It seems to me that if there were no such idea in the upper circles, such a statement would not have escaped the lips of Mr. Ian MacKenzie.

Saul: Far be it from me to criticize a member of the cabinet, however, there are irresponsible politicians who take advantage of such problems for their political benefit.

We: Do you mean to imply sir, that we were also the victims of political foot-ball?

Saul: Well-----, no not exactly, but there are such men.

RE:-PERSONS REFUSED RELEASE BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL CONDITION. Any person refused release to work because of his physical condition should have the medical officer send the results of the physical examination with advice as to return to Ghost Town, otherwise, to Major Barbara, through the Camp Commandant.

Red Pass, B.C.

Tues. Sept 8-42

Dearest Jerry:

I received your note via Red Book - thank's a lot. It made very good time that way - Sat. Sept 5th to Mon. Sept 7, just three days.

You write about that job advertisement in Montreal. I am sure it won't hurt to make enquiries about the work for you will be satisfied that you are not passing up any possible opportunities. I don't know what the conditions would be like in that hospital nor just what the possibilities are, therefore it would be rather hard to pass thorough consideration on its advantages and disadvantages. We could guess and take the pros and cons. Montreal is in Quebec and Quebec is a predominately French speaking province and its patients and nurses would in all likelihood be French and French speaking. Therefore to advance to the

Red Pass, B.C.
Tues Sept 8-42

our note via
side very

Hospital Staff, It would be almost certain you would need to speak the language. Quebec has long been known for its conservatism and backwardness in progressive labour legislature. It has one of the lowest wage standards in the Dominion of Canada and this fact has always in the past caused conflict with other more progressive provinces like Ontario and B.C. B.C. as you must know has the highest wage scale in the Dominion, Ontario comes next.

The Roman Catholic church is of course very strong in Quebec and it plays a very influential part in the governing of that province. It has been known that this situation has rather hindered the progress of the people and has made it difficult for the advancement of the labouring class. I should think that this church would also play an important part in all the hospitals and institutions. Of course it may not be the case of this particular hospital, although

Red Pass, B.C.

similar conditions may exist because of the strong predominance of the other. Quebec cannot see things in the broad view of our province, B.C. This is perhaps due to the fact that it is not so cosmopolitan and also because ~~at~~ B.C. is not controlled by any single religious group. We in B.C. have been discriminated in the past and we are passing through a rather trying time. However I am sure you will agree with me when I say that a great deal of the cause for discrimination is because the fault lies with us. You know yourself that the majority of the people in B.C. are quite tolerant and fair. You have experienced that during your lifetime here. Being at war with Japan has made it difficult for us. Even the hue and cry to send all Japanese back to Japan after the war has a little justification if we judge by surface standards and values. It would be a very good thing to send some of them back and have

Red Pass, BC
Dues Sept 8-12

of advancement could I see. I disliked the idea of having to be closely associated with older Japanese Nationals not of my understanding and upbringing. However, since coming out here I have found out that every person must make his own opportunity by being capable for advancement. One's own character is most important and it is ^{vital} when placed in strange or unknown environments. Since coming out here I have learned a great deal and I believe I have benefited by it. Had I gone with the Nisei to Ontario Road Camps, I do not think my advantages would have been as much. Because of the circumstances of these camps I have had the opportunity to get into a key position with helpful advantages. I don't consider my time as being wasted and that fact is most important. I don't know what things will be like for me after I leave this job or after this project is finished, but I feel confident that I can turn any condition

August 25, 1942.

Dearest little Pal:

Received your letter of August 19 yesterday . You seemed so tired when you wrote it, I believe you really were like you have been sometimes when we were in Vancouver. I do hope you will not do so much that it will impair your health as you did ~~in~~ when working in town. You should take this opportunity to build up your self and so make your body strong and healthy for future days and years. I want my little Pal to be always happy and healthy even under difficult circumstances, so take good care of yourself--please.

You say that you have a chance of going into the Slovan Hospital. Well I hope that is what you want and it does seem so, I am glad for you. Make the best of your chances to learn all you can for all that you desire. Never before have you had the opportunity of doing just the thing you always wanted to do without paying a lot of maney for it. I hope so much that it will make you really happy, I hope it will satisfy your every longing that all your younger years called out for. When you were working in Vancouver and all your ambitions seemed frustrated by so many obstacles, when earning a living took up so much of your time, when your tired little body just couldn't do the things that you wished to do, you didn't dream that circumstances would in a very short time put you in a position where many of your dreams became true. I am happy that you now have something to live and work for, all of us need some horizon always Before us so that we can continually look ahead and strive for that which lies beyond. I know that when you are occupied and busy with the work that you love , you will have no time to feel lonely and lost. You will have no time to brood over unhappy thoughts, you will not feel the need of a companion to keep your spirit up. This period is only part of a certain breadth of time, but it is a very important part, do and learn what you can and build yourself up so that you will be able to carry on later. You must strengthen your character and judgement so that you will be able to make decisions and carry them out with solid conviction knowing the direction you take is right. I want my little Pal to be able to be entirely independent if needs be, I want her to be strong in good judgement, I want her to be able to lead the way and so show that she is something to look up to, I want her to make other people recognize that she is a real women. You may have to do this all alone, but be not afraid nor underestimate your courage, you can do it if you want to and I know you want to. Make this part of your life go down in the history of yourself, something that will always give you great satisfaction in later years to look back to, make it so that you will always be very proud of these times and glad and thankful that you were privileged to pass through them. You will be ever so happy to know that you did not waste your precious time, you will be thankful that fate gave you this opportunity.

It rains outside as I type, it feels like fall, it makes me a little melancholy. Sometimes I reel verylonely for those that I love. Sometimes I wish that I were near them but knowing the circumstances I must bbdily brush them aside from my self that I can work on with life. Someday I will see them again and that someday will be a such a happy dawn. Until then I will keep happy in spirit seeing always that lovely horizon that gives life to ones living.

Red Pass, B.C.
August 20, 1942.

Hello little Pal!

Well how's my favourite little clinic worker? I wonder if I could manage to contract some malady just in order to have you look after me. You know I think I would enjoy that. What do you say? I haven't received a letter from you for a week and it seems like ages. I am an awful expectent sort of creature and I feel sort of blue when I don't get some mail. However don't take that too seriously for I am a pretty tough sort of fellow. But I'll bet you feel sort of blue when you don't get mail, well I feel the same way. Anyway it is raining outside now and that make the matter worse. The time right now is just 7 PM and here I am writing to someone somewhere.

Now lets see what I can tell you about this place this time. It seems that I have written so much there is little left to write about. I must have written thousands and thousands of words up till now. Have I not my little Pal? Well any way I shall write some more and before this project is entirely closed down I guess I will have written thousands of words more. To begin they have closed down eight of the camps now. Geikie, Decoigne, Yellowhead, Lucerne, Grantbrook, Rainbow, Black's Smpur Gosnell, this leaves just seven camps with a total of 299 men. They are distributed in this way: 23 at Fitzwilliam; 73 at Red Pass; 34 at Tete Jaune; 49 at Albreda; 46 at Thunder River and 31 at Red Sands. So you see we are getting down pretty small. Our camp here had only 26 men last week but they brought in the remainder of Grantbrook and Lucerne here so swelling our number to 73. When they start moving the rest of us to other parts of B.C., I do not know. There are always ~~rumours~~ rumours, but its no use taking much stock in them. In the meantime I am still here and enjoying my stay, working well and learning what I can. A lot of the white workers are leaving now to go to other work. Some of the office staff have left and others are going soon. Three have jobs on the Alaska Highway up at Dawson Creek and Fort St. John. So you see that this project is gradually falling apart. It wont be very long when yours very respectfully will also be on his way to parts unknown. I hope very much that I will be able to get into one of the towns for the winter months. I certainly hate to think ~~of~~ of the idea of spending the cold winter in some road camp. But who knows what will happen and when it will happen.

I am very interested in what you are doing, so please write me all your time will allow. Tell me about you studies and about your work and about your friends and what you do on your days off and about your Sundays, about your recreation, about your evenings about anything that you might think would interest me. I am all ears. I have big ears at that, haven't I?? Darn it, I feel that I have been jipped because I haven't been able to go for walks with you this summer, and here it is drawing to a close and I haven't even seen you for five months. I am going to make up for it someday, you just wait and see.

Nothing very exciting has happened since last I wrote so I haven't very much to say as far as this end of the country is concerned.

It is certainly too bad that you cannot take anymore pictures. I think that law is silly and absolutely and positively and decidedly the bunks. I looked forward to those snaps you sent, they mean a lot these days. However I will continue taking pictures. I long for you to see what I am up to. You must tell me when you write how you like them or don't like them.

Terry, about your work, I am really very glad that you are doing work that you love. I don't mind taking a back seat as long as you are doing what you always have wanted to do. You are learning by doing and studying, which is a very good way to do things. I am glad for you, really very glad. I know you will never be satisfied with life until you have done this kind of work and done it to your hearts content. I will never interfere with what you desire to do, for after all, a persons ambition is a very important thing in that persons life. Now that the importance of women is coming more and more to the fore in this world during this struggle, I am fully in accord for women to put their equal weight against the burden in all walks of life. They have a very big job ahead of them and it is going to take some very strong charactered women to carry it through. No willy nilly, wishy washy, sentimental females will do. We will need women of solid characters. Women who know that the future of this world is largely dependent upon them for its reconstruction. Women who can build along with the men. Women that all humans respect. They will necessarily have to take lots of real hardships and it will take women whos foundations are solid.

Did it ever occur to you dear little Pal, that I may never see you again for a long time. Did it ever occur to you that fate and circumstance may alter our course of life in such a way that our paths may never meet again for some time. What would you do and how would you feel ?? Take these soldiers that leave their families, their children and wife to go to join this terrible conflict, many of them will never will see their happy little faces again. How are these women taking it ??? Just what strength of character have they got to carry on ??? Every time the warring forces clash, many lives are lost. Every time a soldier is killed, ~~xxx~~ someone is grieving for him. This separation of the Japanese is very very easy compared to the separation of these soldiers and their families. Our lives at present are not endangered at all, we have every hope in the world of seeing our loved ones again. But those soldiers of every country are not sure that they will ever see their loved ones again. This war is one volcanic page in the history of our time. Just think of the thousands of men that are being killed every day in the battle of the Don valley. Those Russian soldiers that are dying daily for their country and their fellow men, just think of the magnitude of this terrible time. What has caused it to become a fact ?? Who are responsible for this crime ?? What sort of people help such a thing to become a reality??? Just think about a few of these things and then examine your own charater and life and see if you are doing all you can to be sure that you are not guilty in the least for helping such a tragedy to come to pass. It may sound very big and large this war, but men make wars and every man has a character and every character is either working for the advancement and progress of mankind or ~~itx~~ is working for its destruction. You and I as two people of this world must be sure in ourselves that we are doing all we can in building up our characters that we will not be guilty of ever causing another catastrophe to happen. Can you see what I mean dear little Pal? Good-bye for now,

Kuzie

Red Pass, B.C.
Tues. Sept 8-12

via

We know however, that there are many of us who are good Canadians and in some cases better than the average Canadian. These people who want to continue their existence in this country can at the end of the war ~~can~~ maintain that desire and have every right to fight for it. Other Canadians of broader logic and understanding than our race hating politicians will help us. In fact the future of this country and other like countries depends upon these people taking greater interest in the welfare of the country and wresting control from these others. So I believe it is not so wise to flee B.C. because of present conditions of discrimination. However, of course, should opportunity arise that would help one get ahead for the future, there would be little sense in passing it up even though it meant going to a Province like Quebec.

Before I left Vancouver, I dreaded the thought of going out to these road camps because no opportunity for study

to some way that would be advantageous for me. This is not idle boasting, but honest, sincere consideration.

Now you say that you have a chance to get into the Slocan hospital. I don't know what your wages are at present nor what you would get in the new job, but that is secondary to the advantages that each would offer. At the present time I believe you would have greater opportunity to learn in a hospital where the patients are Japanese. This is my belief and whether it is correct or not I do not know. When you are dealing with your own racial people, the authorities give you more responsibility than you would otherwise get, and thus you have a better chance to learn. I don't think that job in Montreal would give you that freedom to learn. The east and the new always looks good to the uninitiated, but oftentimes "familiarity breeds contempt". If you think you have a good opportunity to learn in the Slocan hospital, I would certainly advise

you to stay there, at least for the time being for you would be among friends and helpful influences. About going east, don't get the idea that if you once got over there, other opportunities would or may arise and you could move into them. That is rather fallacious at the present time. So when considering the east, be very sure of what kind of job you would be getting - take great pains in finding out all you can about the work so that should you go, you will not be sorely disappointed. Don't ever be satisfied with vague or cursory answers and descriptions for once you leave the west, it would be difficult to return.

Dear Jerry, you may think that I don't want you to go east. Well that would be partly true for I don't like to see you get any further away than you are now. However that is purely selfish on my part. On the other hand I am greatly concerned over your future and well being and I don't want to see you hurt in people could take advantage of

your alone-ness and I don't want that to happen. However should the eastern job be advantageous to you, I would certainly wish you good-luck, even though it would mean another 2000 miles or more between us. I say this because should I later on get an opportunity of a suitable job back east, I know you would want me to go. So whatever you do, consider it well, and by that I mean asking yourself very thoroughly on the wiseness of the step you may propose to take. After you have done all this and later find out that you had erred, you will ^{at least} have the satisfaction that you did your very best - that is all anyone can expect.

Your life's destiny is achieved through the power of your ever growing character and the building of that is above all. From this your qualities flow and to this your satisfactions will ~~also~~ inevitably come.

Good-bye for now

Kingie

84 Gerrard Street, East.,
Toronto, Ont.,
Monday, March 29th, 1943.

Dear Terry:

Hello there my fine one. I just want to drop you a few lines to tell you how I am and how I am progressing. I received your letter of the 27th and the two snaps. Say where did you get the coat you were wearing in the pictures? You look quite different in it. It was very nice hearing from you and I am thankful that letters only take a short time to reach here from Belleville. No more of those long days that it used to take to reach Lempriere. Now I can write you and the letter will get to you in a short time of two days or three. I also received a letter you wrote in the little black book that you mailed to Lempriere. It arrived today too as it was re-addressed.

Since writing you last I have started work and I shall tell you about it. I started work on Thursday morning of March 25th. This radio store is something like Hygrade Radio of Vancouver only they do a greater amount of business. It is a radio wholesale and retail establishment. They cater to the radio trade a great deal. Some radios that the other radio stores cannot handle or cannot fix, they send them to this place to be repaired. So you see I get all kinds of radios to fix. This is good experience for me as I shall learn more and more as I work along.

Mr. Weir the manager is a tall fellow of about 40 or so and quite a nice fellow, there are also two other fellows on the counter and these men are very nice fellows too. I get along very well with them. There is a young lady stenographer that looks after the office work. My service bench is down in the basement of the store. The upstairs is just full of radio parts and stock and the basement is used for the radio repair work. They have been having a very hard time getting a radio man for the armed forces have taken most of them so they were not so glad to get me. The place in the basement right now is rather crowded and a bit dusty for they have not had the time to clean it up and sort the radio parts and radios that clutter the place up. I never saw a place with so much radio stuff piled up before in my life. There are four benches there and each one of them is just piled up with radios and parts and other stuff. Mr. Weir was rather apologetic about the appearance of the place when he first showed me around and explained the circumstances. I tried to put him at his ease by saying that I knew how radio parts could get piled up.

There is another fellow working down there with me. He is about 45 or so and is not a regular serviceman but he calls himself an inventor. Right now he is working on an invention of his own and expects to have it completed soon. He knows radio in certain lines but is not a real serviceman. However he helps me sometimes when I am rushed although he has been working mostly on his own work. He has some sort of an arrangement with the boss that he works on his own work and also helps do radio service work sometimes. Now that I am here steady he has been devoting nearly all his time to his own work. He is from Vancouver too, and likes Vancouver much better than Toronto. He doesn't like the people of this city.

Now when supper time rolls around, George who quits work at five, buys the food and gets back and starts the meal. I work till six and by the time I arrive home he has the supper well under way. Now all we have for cooking is a two plate gas burner but it does very well. We have an ten inch Dutch Oven that we do a lot of our cooking in. We also have an enamel pot and a aluminum pan. These have served very nobly up to now but I think we could do with a couple more pots and pans. Oh yes we have a couple of frying pans too. One is a good heavy cast iron one, the other just a little two egg affair. The easiest meals to prepare are ones that can be cooked in one pot all at the same time. For instance, cabbage cooked with some weiners or frankfurters, stew with lots of vegetables, fish or clam chowder, etc. On Sunday the three of us contribute towards a roast. Yesterday we had a nice pork roast with roast potatoes and boiled carrots and an sauce. It was a grand meal and we eat enormously. I find however that my stomach is smaller than either George's or Dave's. To wash the dishes we have a small galvanized iron tub that we fill with hot water and also an enamel dishpan for rinsing the dishes in. If George cooks the meal I wash the dishes or Dave does. We have no trouble in that respect for the three of us get along very well as we are all conscious of our individual duties and responsibilities. George is getting to be quite a cook for he puts up some very tasty meals. However you know how it is with men doing the cooking and washing up, it takes so much time that there is little time left for anything else. Well that's how we eat.

Last week George and I went out for supper one night to a Jewish restaurant and had a real Jewish meal. It was rather interesting and quite nice too. They start you off with an appetizer. Mine in this case was some sort of blood sausage about two inches thick stuffed with some sort of stuffing that I could not guess. They give you a piece about half an inch thick with some sort of sauce. It certainly tasted different and nice for the novelty. Next came some soup that was also different. It was some sort of broth that had a lot of cereal in it. The main course was roast beef and carrots and potatoes. Now even the meat was different and so was the carrots, the spuds were the only thing that tasted ordinary. We finished up the meal with just apple pie and coffee. The whole meal was 60¢ each and quite ok for the service and price. After the dinner we went to a theatre that was showing a Russian picture called "Meshenka". It was about a young Russian girl and a young Russian man just before the outbreak of the present war and also about them going into the conflict. It was a Russian love story in a very natural setting and very well portrayed. It was simple and sincere and could be very true of perhaps many similar people of the present time in Russia. They also showed on the same program a couple of Russian shorts, one of Russian Folk Dances at their annual Folk Festival, this was very good too. The other was a short showing the Russian youth on parade in front of the Red Square. This was truly magnificent showing the splendid health of the youth of Russia. It made you feel that you were looking at another age or another epoch of time.

George and I really enjoyed the evening together. I have thought many times how nice it would be if you were here that I could go out with you to the theatre sometimes and have dinner like we used to do in Vancouver. It sure is too bad that you were not in a position that we could enjoy such times together now. However we have to take what is given us in these times and make the very best of it.

It is nearly eleven in the evening now and I must stop as we are not allowed to do typing after eleven for it would disturb others in the building. It is some sort of rule. So I will have to close for now. Some nights I get to bed in good time and other nights about 1 AM especially Saturday nights. However on the whole I get to bed by eleven every night. I am still planning to visit you on the Easter holiday if at all possible. I have not found out if I will be able to get Good Friday and Saturday morning off yet, but I am hoping that I will be able to. I will let you know as soon as I am sure. I was wondering about the hotel accommodation over there during Easter weekend. I'll bet there will be very little room available around that time. It might make it difficult for me to go there if there is no rooms available. That is the only thing that bothers me right now. Let me know how things are in that line if you can find out. I don't suppose there is any place I could stay for a couple of nights outside of hotels is there? I hardly think there is on account of the many air-force families there. Well drop me a line about it anyway.

All my love,

84 Gerrard St., E.,
Toronto, Ont.,
Monday, April 12th.

Dearest Terry:

Hello there! How is my fine one today? It was very nice to arrive home from work this noon and see a couple of letters waiting, ~~from~~ for me from you. I also received a letter from Ed and I enclose it for you to read and enjoy. Please return it by return mail as I wish to write him soon again.

Well let's see what I have to write about this time. To start out with I have been here just over three weeks now. The time is starting to go by very quickly now for the week seems to just spin by. I still get up at eight in the morning as the weather is still too unsettled for earlier rising. In fact today I went to work in the morning and it was rather dull. When I came out for lunch, low and behold it was snowing. A rather soft slushy snow, however it did not keep up for very long and towards evening it was clear again.

You were wondering how we bachelors make out in our meals here. Well let me tell you in a few words just how we manage. We do all the cooking in George and Dave's ~~wx~~ room as it is larger and has the cupboards, etc. My room that I share with a young fellow is much smaller and not large enough to do any cooking in with comfort or convenience. Neither George or I eat any breakfast and Dave does not either, so that eliminates the morning meal. Lunch time George eats in a nearby restaurant where he works and so does Dave. I still come home and have a can of Campbell's soup heated on the gas plate. I have quite a stock of soup now, about ten cans in fact. I have Vegetable soup, Cream of Mushroom soup, Chicken noodle soup, Chicken Gumbo soup, Vegetable-Beef soup. I go to the local chain store and browse around on Saturday afternoon and buy what I want for the week. But I have an extra amount now and that should last for two weeks under ordinary use.

I'll tell you exactly what I do when lunch time rolls around. I usually do not leave work till after twelve sometime. Anywhere from ten after to half past. It takes me just ten minutes to walk home, but sometimes I drop into the Women's Bakery and buy some buns or muffins, etc and that takes up an extra five or ten minutes. It takes me another ten or fifteen minutes to open the can of soup and put it on the stove and heat it up. If there is any mail I read it while I am eating the soup. By this time I have about fifteen minutes left to get back to work. If I have to go to the post office I go on my way back to work. The post office is not open before nine in the morning so I cannot go while going to work in the morning.

At the present time George and I send our shirts to a nearby laundry as we have not the iron to iron the shirts even if we did wash them ourselves. They charge 12¢ per shirt and as I only use about one shirt per week it does not cost me very much. I wash my underwear and hankies, etc myself. We have to do the washing in the bathroom. We also have to get the water from the bathroom for our cooking as we have no basin in our room for water.

and get the place cleaned out and tidied. It is nice being a useful part of a concern-like that. They will soon get to depend on me and I will make sure that I am paid according to my worth.

At lunch hour today as I was walking down toward home, I met Violet Fushikawa on the corner opposite Eaton's College Store. She asked me when I had arrived in Toronto and I told her just one week Sunday. She said that she has been here just three weeks now. She and her younger sister are here and they are both doing housework I believe. This day she said she had a cold and was taking the day off and doing some shopping. That was not very good for a cold I thought, but what could you say to the female of the species in this regard. I walked with her till I came to my street and bid her goodbye saying that I would see her again. She looked rather on the woozy side so I guess she really was not in the best of health. When I got back to the rooms I found your letter to me which I was glad to receive.

Well this brings me up to date again. You write about Ed in your letter. Yes can write to him at 900 East Hasting Street for he is still working there. I am enclosing some pictures that I took just before leaving Lempriere. They are not very good and some of them do not look like me at all, that is they distort my real appearance. I have changed very little since last you saw me in Vancouver. If I were to see you tomorrow you would not notice any real change, this I am quite sure. Anyway one year is not so very long and I would not change much in such a short time. However I thought you would like to see these pictures as I cannot go over there to visit you just yet.

When I left Blue River there was a letter for Young Freddie offering fruit farm work in Winona which is a place not very far from Hamilton. Now I do not know if he has taken that of up or not as I have not heard from him yet. I hope he did as that kind of work will do him good for awhile and it would be a good opportunity to get out of the camps as he so wanted to do.

Terry I hope this Easter holiday weekend I will be able to go over there and visit you. I am going to plan it that way anyhow so you can think about it too. I believe Good Friday is on the 29th of April this year. I do not know yet if I will be able to get Friday and Saturday off, but I will try to work it that way so that I can have three days over there with you. The weather should be much nicer by that time and we can enjoy ourselves. I'll have to do some saving though. Living expenses are quite high in this old city and I can see that it is going to be a xxn lot harder to save money here than it did in Lempriere. However I am making better money and so should be able to get along by careful management. I sure would like to see you again after a whole year. I am looking forward to my visit to you next month, for I am going to arrange it somehow by hook or by crook.

Well dear Terry I must close now as I have much to do. This bachelor business in a city makes one have to look after a lot of things. I am glad to hear that Buck is going to come to town in the near future. I hope they get married too if they can manage it. Give my best regards to Jean and tell her that I will drop her a line when I can get myself straightened out. All my love,



and get the place cleaned out and tidied. It is nice being a use-
full part of a concern like that. They will soon get to depend on
me and I will make sure that I am paid according to my worth.

At lunch hour today as I was walking down toward home,
I met Violet Fushikawa on the corner opposite Eaton's College Store.
She asked me when I had arrived in Toronto and I told her just one
week Sunday. She said that she has been here just three weeks now.
She and her younger sister are here and they are both doing house-
work I believe. This day she said she had a cold and was taking
the day off and doing some shopping. That was not very good for a
cold I thought, but what could you say to the female of the species
in this regard. I walked with her till I came to my street and bid
her goodbye saying that I would see her again. She looked rather
on the woozy side so I guess she really was not in the best of health.
When I got back to the rooms I found your letter to me which I was
glad to receive.

Well this brings me up to date again. You write about
Ed in your letter. Yes can write to him at 900 East Hasting Street
for he is still working there. I am enclosing some pictures that I
took just before leaving Lempriere. They are not very good and some
of them do not look like me at all, that is they distort my real
appearance. I have changed very little since last you saw me in
Vancouver. If I were to see you tomorrow you would not notice any
real change, this I am quite sure. Anyway one year is not so very
long and I would not change much in such a short time. However I
thought you would like to see these pictures as I cannot go over
there to visit you just yet.

When I left Blue River there was a letter for Young
Freddie offering fruit farm work in Winona which is a place not
very far from Hamilton. Now I do not know if he has taken that offer
up or not as I have not heard from him yet. I hope he did as that
kind of work will do him good for awhile and it would be a good
opportunity to get out of the camps as he so wanted to do.

Terry I hope this Easter holiday weekend I will be able
to go over there and visit you. I am going to plan it that way
anyhow so you can think about it too. I believe Good Friday is on
the 23rd of April this year. I do not know yet if I will be able to
get Friday and Saturday off, but I will try to work it that way so
that I can have three days over there with you. The weather should
be much nicer by that time and we can enjoy ourselves. I'll have to
do some saving though. Living expenses are quite high in this old
city and I can see that it is going to be a xxx lot harder to save
money here than it did in Lempriere. However I am making better
money and so should be able to get along by careful management.
I sure would like to see you again after a whole year. I am looking
forward to my visit to you next month, for I am going to arrange it
somehow by hook or by crook.

Well dear Terry I must close now as I have much to do.
This bachelor business in a city makes one have to look after a lot
of things. I am glad to hear that Buck is going to come to town
in the near future. I hope they get married too if they can manage
it. Give my best regards to Jean and tell her that I will drop her
I line when I can get myself straightened out. All my love,



84 Gerrard Street East.,
Toronto, Ont.,
Tuesday, April 6th, 1943.

Dearest Terry:

Hello my fine one. Just to drop in on you with a few words from the big city of Toronto. I received your letter of April 2nd yesterday. Glad to hear from you and I am always looking forward to your letters.

Yes Terry I find this a new experience in many ways. It is the first time in my life that I have worked for a commercial concern. It is the first time that I have ever received my pay in a weekly envelope. It is the first time that I start my day off at 9 AM. Oh, there are many firsts that I cannot just think of at this moment. Indeed I find both pleasure and enjoyment in my work and I feel fortunate that I was able to step into such a job right off the bat after coming from the road camps. I know many of the "isei" that came from the farms and other adjacent places did not step into jobs nearly as good as mine so I consider myself quite fortunate. However I hope to progress and get ahead as I go along.

You talk about the spring weather, well let me tell you that this Toronto weather is terrific. Do you know that last week it snowed here and on Sunday it tried to snow too. Yesterday it was quite cold and this morning the wind was blowing quite hard and very cold at that. It just ripped right through your clothes and it made you feel real chilly. When it is like this I think of good old BC and the lovely weather of Vancouver and of all the flowers that would be out in bloom now. However this is Toronto and I must get used to this weather and climate or else I cannot become a good Torontonion. I caught a slight cold and my throat was sore for a day, that was Sunday and then Monday the sore throat left and the cold went to my head. Today it still in my head but I think it is getting better for it is loosening up a bit. I believe it will get better in a couple of days and then I will be back to my old self again. I am taking good care of myself by taking lots of hot water and hot drinks. You see for lunch I always have a can of soup, either Campbell's Tomato or vegetable soup. You see it only takes me ten minutes to get home from work and it takes about fifteen minutes to make the soup and I take about fifteen minutes to eat it and take it easy then I have for work again just ten minutes before I should be back for work.

That time goes so quickly in this job that I cannot help but repeat myself in telling you about it. I start work at nine in the morning and the three hours to noon just whiz by in no time at all. The afternoon likewise goes right merrily along and it is six before I know it. It is because I am so engrossed in my work that I never pay any attention to the time. The only time I look at the watch to see about the time is when I want to get some work done before the hour of closing up my department comes along. No one bothers me in my job and I just do my work and enjoy myself. I have had all kinds of jobs to do as far as repairing radios is concerned. Some of the radios that I have

LAV p. 302.

Forrest E. La Violette The Canadian Japanese and World War II (Toronto: U. of Toronto Press, 1948)

APPENDIX B

A SERIES OF THREE LETTERS ON THE PROPERTY ISSUE

Custodian of Japanese Properties,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

This is to register with you our absolute opposition to the proposed liquidation of our house and lot at 2751 Pender Street East, Vancouver, B.C.

This house, bought out of slender earnings, represents our stake in this country of our birth, but sentiment alone is not for withholding our express and voluntary consent to sell.

Our present earnings are even more slender than before. You are doubtless aware, if you have a family of your own, what it costs in dollars and cents to feed, clothe, and house a family of six, excluding the other expenses incidental to schooling, medical services, etc. With four growing children, that \$25-a-week we receive from the rental of our house is more welcome than you could ever understand. Without that \$25, meagre as it is, we could not meet all our monthly obligations. You know, too, that while cost-of-living rises, salaries do not. But now you purpose to deprive us of that regular income on which we are desperately dependent. We are not among those who can afford the loss of their dear-bought investment.

Our house, a private residence belonging to a private citizen of this country, is in the capable hands of a trustworthy agent; the tenants are pleasant and punctual. They know they have a bargain, as the house is in good shape, with added improvements to the cost of many hundreds of dollars, boosting the saleable value of the house, too. This piece of real estate is not idle, either, housing as it does the family of a soldier, and also keeping poverty and hardship that much further away from the absent owners.

We cannot understand the official claim that it is necessary to sell over our heads the home from which we were forcibly ejected. We do not quarrel with military measure but this act can scarcely be in accordance with any war measure. Please hasten to assure us that our house is inviolate.

Thank you.

Your truly,
T. M. KITAGAWA (signed)
(for Mr. and Mrs. E. Kitagawa.)

Muriel Kitagawa

Canada
Department of the Secretary of State
Office of the Custodian
Japanese Evacuation Section

Phone PAcific 6131
Please refer to
File No. 10004

506 Royal Bank Building,
Hastings and Granville,
Vancouver, B.C.
2nd July, 1943.

Mr. Eizaburo Kitagawa,
Registration #01842,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 26th instant in which you registered your disapproval of the sale of your property.

The proposed liquidation is of course a general one and not only applies to your particular property. The policy has been decided upon at Ottawa and this Office, acting under advice of an independent Advisory Committee, will endeavour to obtain the best possible results.

You are aware I hope that the proceeds of the liquidation will be available to you from time to time as you have need of same.

At the present moment tenders have not been called on your particular property but I am unable to give you the assurance asked for and it will be disposed of in due course if satisfactory offers are received.

Yours truly
F. G. SHEARS (signed)
F. G. Shears,
Acting Director.

FGS/PMH

Toronto, Ont.,
July 8th, 1943.

Mr. F. G. Shears:

I received your letter of July 2nd, File No. 10004, yesterday and must say was not too greatly surprised. The reason for writing you at all was because the government had vested in you the final authority to sell or not to sell our homes, and perhaps I took a vain-hope gamble.

Would you give up a legitimate fight to defend what is yours though the odds are enough to overwhelm you? Britain didn't, did she? This war, for the common soldier, is a war for Principle: the rights and liberties and the pursuit of happiness for every man; and I'm on the side of the common soldier, giving his heart's blood that the oppressed may be free. Who would have thought that one day I would be unable to stand up for my country's government, out of sheer shame and

disillusion, against the slurs of the scornful? The bitterness, the anguish is complete. You, who deal in lifeless figures, files, and statistics could never measure the depth of hurt and outrage dealt out to those of us who love this land. It is because we are Canadians, that we protest the violation of our birthright. If we were not we would not care one jot or tittle whatever you did, for then we could veil our eyes in contempt. You . . . and by "you" I designate all those in authority who have piled indignity upon indignity on us . . . have sought to sully and strain our loyalty but, I'm telling you, you can't do it. You can't undermine our faith in the principles of equal rights and justice for all, with "malice towards none, and charity for all."

Why can't you differentiate between those owners who don't care one way or the other what happens to their homes, and those who, born in this country, hate to lose their homes. If you are worried for our sakes about the depreciation of property values, then why will you not allow the owners a say in the sale price, the choice of prospective buyers? Can you, with a clear conscience, commit this breach of justice, and face the accusing eyes of all bereft and absent owners? Do you think it is logical, after what happened to the boats, the cars, and radios, that we have any faith in any promise of a fair price, which "proceeds of liquidation will be available . . . from time to time?" What will happen is the gradual dribbling away to nothing of the pitiful price, and then what shall we have left to show for our lifetime of struggling and saving and loving the bit of land we call our own? You may rightly say that wartime sacrifices are inevitable and honourable, but can you say with any truth that this sacrifice forced on us will be sanctified by a spirit of voluntary giving? What are platitudes against this humiliation!

Now you understand a little why I must contest the sale to the last bitter ditch, if we are to hold up our heads. You will concede us that, especially as this is the very principle for which the democracies are fighting.

However, if all fails and you are upheld in your purpose, then kindly send us our "proceeds" in one sum that we may personally reinvest it in something solid. . . Victory Bonds, for instance.

There are still a few personal possessions in our home for which I shall send at once. You would not deny us that, I hope.

T. M. KITAGAWA (signed)

APPENDIX C

NOTE ON JAPANESE-CANADIAN STUDENTS IN CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES

1942 - 1946

§ IN VIEW OF the rôle of higher education in a democratic society and the confusion of information regarding Canadians of Japanese ancestry in their efforts to continue or start university work since the commencement of hostilities, it has been felt advisable to present as much information as one has been able to gather without making an intensive study of this aspect of evacuation.¹

The largest enrolment of *nisei* students was naturally at the University of British Columbia. The number of degrees granted was increasing gradually, ten having been the highest number in any one year prior to evacuation. In 1941-42 there were about sixty *nisei* students registered at this university. According to reports nothing especially dramatic happened when war broke out in the Pacific, but when the feelings of anti-Japanese sentiment increased, the *nisei* males enrolled in the Canadian Officers Training Corps were ordered to turn in their uniforms. It was feared that there would be public criticism and possibly undesirable incidents. The Dean of Women called a meeting of women students and explained that, regretful as it was, the University was unable to assist them to remain for educational purposes.

When the order came for enemy aliens to move from the prohibited area, any students who were not Canadian citizens moved out. One, for example, went to Calgary where he received lecture notes from a classmate, and in this manner finished his course work for the year. Another one of this group was Saburo Takahashi, who was picked up as a spy because he had pencilled drawings of homes of his classmates who lived in the interior and who had been asked to visit these homes as he drove through the interior. He was returned to Vancouver but cleared of all charges and later moved east for resettlement.

The British Columbia Security Commission formulated no plan for moving students east. The Student Christian Movement and the International Student Service took an interest in assisting them, but the staff of the Commission was already overloaded with work, and as no

¹The writer wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Kunio Hidaka in gathering much of this information. Correspondence has also been carried on with a number of the Canadian universities.