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NAC-PAC MATERIAL

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Roy Miki fonds

RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

Air Mail

February 13, 1945.

Dear Mr. Pickersgill:

You will by now have had a chance to study the Cabinet Minute of February 2, 1945, approving our repatriation and relocation plans. Our proposals on the present implementation of these plans are outlined herewith, and I would be obliged if you would proceed to put them into effect as soon as possible where you agree, and send us your views on any sections requiring further consideration and consultation:

SEGREGATION FOR REPATRIATION:

1. A signed copy is attached of the Minister's Statement, of this date, explaining the assurances to be given re property to those persons 16 years of age and over who volunteer to go to Japan.
2. We suggest the best way of handling this is for you to prepare a printed Poster along lines of attached draft, incorporating the Minister's Statement as well as an advice for the taking of Applications. This Poster should be displayed on Offices and street-corners in every Project, and in a full-page paid Advertisement inserted in the "New Canadian" to give wider coverage.
3. You should in the meantime consult with the Officer Commanding RCMP at Vancouver, to arrange for the Special Detachment of the RCMP which will tour the Relocation Centres in British Columbia, starting as soon after the display of posters as considered practicable. Arrangements will have to be made to enable those persons in isolated areas in British Columbia, including lumber camps and self-supporting projects, to complete Applications either before the Special Detachment or at the nearest RCMP Police or B.C. Provincial Police Office. We would assume that the settlements could be covered over a few weeks time following the initial call at Tashme.
4. A closing date for Applications, say April 30, 1945, is suggested as advisable to obtain an early decision from the Japanese, but may be extended if necessary later.
5. You will appreciate the dangers involved in any effort at undue pressure to sign up.
6. The actual procedure for taking Applications to be worked out by RCMP Hq here with the Officer Commanding RCMP at Vancouver, who will consult with you. The general procedure will be on the lines of my

letter and memorandum of December 11, 1944. We are getting a rush job done on printing the six Application Forms as desired by the RCMP, seven thousand copies of each except Form No. JND, of which we are getting 16,000 copies. The RCMPolice here wish to keep a few hundred copies of each, and the balance will be shipped to you express at the end of this week.

7. As the Application Forms are completed by the RCMPolice, they will be sent at once to RCMPolice Headquarters at Vancouver for recommendation, then turned over to you for signature signifying approval. Each will be completed in four copies, of which one will be returned to the applicant, one copy kept on the Vancouver Record file, and the other two sent to the Registration of Enemy Aliens Branch at RCMPolice Headquarters, Justice Building, Ottawa. With these should come forward from time to time four copies of tabulated lists, as mentioned in Section 9 of our Dec. 11 memorandum, containing particulars of each applicant in a summarized form.

8. We believe it may be advisable to complete the initial canvass of the settlements to obtain a fair estimate of the total numbers for voluntary return to Japan before initiating the actual transfer of these families to segregation centres and the corresponding transfer of Japanese Canadian families out of the segregation centres. It may be moreover that an earlier movement to segregate before that time may discourage voluntary applications from those who are reluctant to move. On the other hand, early transfer of Japanese Canadians from Tashme may stimulate eastern movement among them. We believe you are in a better position to make an informed decision on this than we are and are simply raising the above for your consideration.

Our maintenance policy with respect to Japanese in the segregation centres will probably have to be revised so as to provide maintenance without recourse to their own assets or outside employment but with the necessity of undertaking employment in the settlement as required. A policy of this nature will probably help the segregation programme. You might discuss this and let us have your views in due course on it.

9. We don't believe any organized effort should be taken to obtain applications for the Japanese now east of the Rockies until British Columbia has been covered as no immediate problem of segregation or relocation is involved. In any event, we would not think it wise to treat this group without distinction from the Group in British Columbia. However in order that applications for repatriation will be available and may be completed by those outside B.C. who want to do so, all placement offices should be advised in due course of the procedure, furnished with necessary forms and arrangements made so that applications may be completed at the nearest R.C.M.P. detachment.

RELOCATION:

1. We suggest that coincident with the taking of applications for return to Japan, the Japanese Canadians in the settlements should be definitely advised that in view of the declared Government policy of dispersal they should take advantage of the employment opportunities east of the Rockies which are offered and that failure to do so may be regarded as evidence of a lack of co-operation or desire to re-establish themselves in Canada.

The issue of a statement by the Commissioner with appropriate publicity in settlements through the "New Canadian" and otherwise at a date shortly after the issue of Poster with the Minister's Statement would probably cover this. Attached draft is for your consideration for this purpose.

2. We would think that at a fairly early date the arrangements for transfer of authority over the issue of licences will be sufficiently advanced to enable us to lay down the policy which will be followed in dealing with such applications. This will be along the lines of restricting the issue of such licenses for the present to Japanese Canadians who by getting out into employment east of the Rockies have shown their acceptance of the policy of relocation and suitability for same.

3. I believe we are agreed that present efforts for relocation of Japanese Nationals should be limited to such as you would reasonably expect would not be recommended for repatriation by a 'Loyalty'

Commission as for example those who have displayed an exceptional degree of co-operation with the Government during and since evacuation and have been long term resident or those who on compassionate grounds such as having a mature Canadian born family, definitely want to remain with the family in Canada.

4. The plan for Church-sponsored farm settlement in Ontario, of which Mr. Trueman has no doubt advised you direct and on which we have also written you, will, we hope, absorb some of these prospective relocatees in farming employment and small-town industry.

If good results are obtained we will look forward to extending same in other areas.

You will appreciate that our suggestions have to be considered by you in the light of the intimate knowledge of the psychology of the Japanese in the settlements which your administration have and their present attitude.

Will you let us have progress reports on the programme as it is proceeded with.

A. MacNamara.

P.S. Suggest you consider what other provision on publicity might reasonably be put into effect to encourage eastern movement. For example, is our present advance of one month's maintenance to such persons at \$12.00 per month adequate or would an increase to say \$35.00 per single person, \$60.00 for married couple and \$12.00 per child with sliding scale up to say \$85 or \$90 help out and be warranted.

Draft Material for Commissioner's Statement re Re-settlement

On February 13th, a statement was issued by the Honourable Mr. Mitchell, Minister of Labour, giving certain assurances as to property interests to persons of the Japanese race making voluntary application for return to Japan. This statement has particular application and interest to persons who were born in Japan.

Canadian-born persons of Japanese ancestry in the settlements, who want to re-establish themselves in Canada and who are capable of taking employment east of the Rockies, should do so ^{now} in their own best interests and as the best evidence of their intentions to ~~do so~~ conform with the Government in its policy of dispersal and re-settlement, as enunciated by the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable W.L. Mackenzie King, in the House of Commons at Ottawa on August 4, 1944:

"There is little doubt that, with co-operation on the part of the provinces, it can be made possible to settle the Japanese more or less evenly throughout Canada. They will have to settle in such a way that they must be able to pursue the settled lives to which they are entitled, and that they do not present themselves as an unassimilable bloc or colony which might again give rise to distrust, fear and dislike. It is the fact of concentration that has given rise to the problem."

The sound policy and the best policy for the Japanese Canadians themselves is to distribute their numbers as widely as possible throughout the country where they will not create feelings of racial hostility."

To assist those who want to re-establish themselves in Canada, the Japanese Division Placement Offices and the Employment & Selective Service Offices, with the assistance of local Advisory Committees, are making special efforts this Spring to open up suitable employment opportunities across Canada in various lines of endeavour, and in areas where prospects of suitable employment and successful settlement are best.

The fact that the great majority of the several thousand of Japanese who have moved from British Columbia to employments in other parts of Canada over the past two years have successfully adjusted themselves to new conditions and earned the respect of the communities in which they have gone, should lend encouragement to those still resident in the settlements or working out from the settlements in British Columbia of their ability to do likewise.

Those who do not take advantage of present opportunities for employment and settlement outside British Columbia at this time, while employment opportunities are favourable, may find conditions of employment and settlement considerably more difficult at a later date and may seriously prejudice their own future by delay.

It is only fair to point out to those capable of employment who remain in the settlements and who continue to refuse suitable openings for employment beyond British Columbia without good cause, that the failure to do so may, at a later date, be looked on as evidence of lack of willingness to co-operate in the Government programme or the lack of any real desire for re-establishment in Canada.

This statement is particularly directed to the attention of Canadian-born Japanese in the settlements and other interior projects in British Columbia.

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The Department of Labour, through this administration, recognizes a continuing responsibility for the welfare of those who have left the settlements and have moved into employment in other parts of Canada

(Feesimile signature)

Vancouver, B.C., 1945.
March _____

Commissioner of Japanese Placement

APPROVED BY THE CABINET FEBRUARY 2nd, 1942

TO THE CLERK OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL

Re: Repatriation and re-settlement
of persons of the Japanese race
now resident in Canada.

In order to achieve the following objectives
and in view of the following considerations --

1. To obtain voluntary applications for repatriation to Japan, either by way of exchange during the war or repatriation at the close of the war, of as many persons of the Japanese race in Canada as possible and to proceed with the immediate segregation of such applicants, and

2. To facilitate re-settlement in Canada of loyal Japanese Canadians and Japanese Nationals, who are subsequently designated by the proposed Japanese Loyalty Commission as eligible to remain in Canada;

The approval by Council of the following policies and procedure is desired:

(1) The Secretary of State for External Affairs to continue to negotiate with the Japanese Government for exchanges of Nationals and in consultation with other departments of the Canadian Government concerned, to make agreements with the Protecting Power for Japanese interests, on the lists of the persons of the Japanese race to be included in such exchanges.

(2) On behalf of the Government of Canada, the Minister of Labour to give assurance to persons of the Japanese race, who make voluntary application to be repatriated to Japan either by way of exchange during the war or following the termination of war, that the net proceeds realized from their property in Canada will be secured to them and may be transferred by them to Japan following the close of the war upon repatriation, and that free passage will be guaranteed by the Canadian Government for repatriated persons.

(3) In the case of persons repatriated under any agreement for the exchange of Nationals between Canada and Japan under which the amount of personal property and funds which may be carried by the repatriates is limited, the Custodian may be authorized, on the advice of the Department of External Affairs, to provide Japanese repatriates with receipts showing the property left behind in Canada with a view to their being permitted to secure possession of the property or the proceeds thereof after the end of hostilities.

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(4) The Minister of Labour may take such measures as he considers necessary for the segregation and settlement of persons of the Japanese race who have been accepted or designated for repatriation to Japan, apart from loyal Japanese.

(5) The attention of the Minister of Justice should be directed to the desirability of amending Section 39E of the Defence of Canada Regulations with a view to vesting in the Minister of Labour the authority presently vested in the Minister of Justice, under this section, for the issue of licences to persons of the Japanese race to hold or acquire land or growing crops in Canada or an interest therein.

(6) On behalf of the Government of Canada, the Minister of Labour be authorized to give assurances to a government of any province that the Government of Canada will be prepared to protect or reimburse the province (including the municipalities therein) for the costs of necessary maintenance, hospitalization or medical services furnished to indigent persons of the Japanese race and their dependents who have left the protected areas of British Columbia since the outbreak of the war with Japan and have re-settled or may hereafter re-settle within the province, provided that such assurance shall not extend beyond a date ten years after January 1st, 1945.

In the view of this Department, early approval of the foregoing is necessary and advisable before substantial progress in the matter of segregation for repatriation purposes and re-settlement of loyal Japanese Canadians can be made.

In considering the above matters, it should be borne in mind that the courses of action proposed are closely related to those which, I am advised, have been dealt with in a memorandum from the Prime Minister dated November 4th, 1944, to which was annexed a submission to Council to provide for the establishment of a Commission to investigate the reliability and loyalty of persons of the Japanese race in Canada.

(Sgd.) HUMPHREY MITCHELL
Minister of Labour

S T A T E M E N T

The Minister of Labour has been authorized by the Government of Canada to make known the following decisions made with respect to persons of Japanese ancestry, now resident in Canada, who make voluntary application to go to Japan after the war, or sooner where this can be arranged:

1. The net proceeds realized from the disposition of their property, real and personal, in Canada, will be secured to them and may be transferred by them to Japan following the close of the war, upon repatriation.
2. In the case of persons sent to Japan under any agreement for exchange of Nationals between Canada and Japan, under which agreement the amount of personal property and funds carried by the repatriates is limited, the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property will be authorized, on the advice of the Department of Secretary of State for External Affairs, to provide such Japanese repatriates with receipts showing the property left behind in Canada, or net proceeds of same if sold, with a view to their being permitted to secure possession of their property or the net proceeds thereof after the end of hostilities.

3. Free passage will be guaranteed by the Canadian Government to all repatriates being sent to Japan, and all their dependents who accompany them, and including free transportation of such of their personal property as they may take with them.

The above assurances will apply to such persons as have already made written application in satisfactory form to the Government of Canada to go to Japan, or who make written application hereafter for that purpose to the Government of Canada within the period of time fixed by the Commissioner of Japanese Placement for the completion and filing of applications.

These assurances do not apply to persons of the Japanese race repatriated on other than a voluntary basis.

Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour.

Date February 1945.

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RG 11, F3, Volume 3566

DATE

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The Spanish Consul General's Questions

(Despatch No. 151 J.110 of March 10, from the Consul General of Spain, asking a number of questions concerning the liquidation of Japanese property and safeguards for property rights.) (Mrs. Schwartz must pass the answer to his Government.)

QUESTIONS

- (1) Many Japanese have left valuable personal belongings at the coast. Are they permitted to obtain repossession of these goods, and what procedure must they follow to do so? I make reference to belongings other than real estate, farms, businesses, automobiles and boats.
- (2) As far as I am aware, no decision has yet been reached by the Canadian Government as to the method to be used in liquidating Japanese assets, but if there is any general information along this line that you could give me I should appreciate receiving it.
- (3) Is the Government considering the sale of properties belonging to Naturalized Canadians and Canadian nationals of Japanese race as well as those of Japanese nationals?
- (4) Is the Government considering the compulsory sale of furniture belonging to Japanese?
- (5) Will any negotiation be entered into with the Japanese owners before sale is consummated, and what control will the Japanese have over the funds realized?
- (6) In cases of repatriated Japanese who have properties and holdings in Canada, must these be forsaken or are they held in trust for them by the Custodian till hostilities cease; and do the owners receive any type of voucher proving ownership, which entitles them to claim upon the properties, or proceeds after the war?
- (7) In cases of repatriation as above, may the repatriated Japanese transfer title to his possession, money, etc., to someone else in Canada before leaving for Japan?

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON ENEMY INTERESTS IN CANADA
AND CANADIAN INTERESTS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Present - Messrs. Read and Scott of External Affairs,
Messrs. Brown and Pammett of Labour Department,
Messrs. McPherson and Mathieu of Custodian's
Branch, Department of Secretary of State,
Mr. Turk of Foreign Exchange Board,
Mr. McPhail of Immigration Branch, Department of
Mines and Resources,
Mr. Wardle of Surveys and Engineering Branch,
Department of Mines and Resources.

Subjects Discussed:

I. Disposition of Japanese Property in Canada

Mr. McPherson outlined the background of the present procedure and stressed the fact that his Branch was merely carrying out a decision made in January last by a Cabinet Committee to liquidate all Japanese real and household property in the interests of the Japanese themselves, because it would deteriorate rapidly otherwise.

The Rural Property Committee consists of Judge Whiteside, Mr. McClellan, Mr. McLennan, Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Yamaga (now resigned). Of the thousand Japanese farms in the Fraser Valley 89% has been rented to Mennonites, Hindus, Chinese, etc., in general a low class of tenant who does not farm satisfactorily or pay regularly.

769 of these farms were valued by field men of the Soldiers' Settlement Board at \$667,000 and by the Western Superintendent at \$837,000. After negotiations these farms have now been sold to the Director of Soldiers' Settlement for \$850,000.

Mr. Yamaga concurred in the policy of disposing these properties, and resigned over the prices received which he considered too low.

The City Property Committee consists of Justice Alderman Jones of Vancouver and Mr. Kimura. A catalogue of this Vancouver property has been prepared and the property is presently being offered for sale, with the concurrence of

Up to January, 1943, no property except fishing and automobiles was sold without the owner's consent, but other goods were sold immediately they were placed in the hands of custodians in order to prevent spoiling.

In property liquidation no distinction has been made between the property of Japanese nationals, naturalized Canadians and Canadian-born Japanese, and Mr. Read considered that it was regrettable that our approach to this problem should be on a racial basis instead of restricting our more severe measures to Japanese nationals, as is done in the United States. Mr. Read pointed out further that in the United States no Japanese property

was being sold, but all was stored at Government expenses.

The chattels of the Japanese have been stored at the expense of the Custodian in warehouses, churches and other buildings, and fire insurance has been placed on all. Radios and cameras have been stored by the R.C.M.P., and the Cabinet Committee decided in January that these would be released to Japanese moving East of the Rockies. Chattels when requested have been shipped to Japanese outside the restricted areas at their expense, and the Custodian's agents have been made available to the British Columbia Security Commission to locate and forward chattels. The policy now, at the request of the B.C.S.C., is to refuse to ship chattels to the Interior Housing Centres, as there is no room for them there. All chattels, except articles of religious and sentimental value, are to be auctioned off as soon as possible.

Mr. McPherson in closing stated that custodians controlled all assets of internees, but not the liquid assets of other Japanese except moneys accruing when property was sold, which is being released to Japanese at \$100 per month and the B.C.S.C. Treasury Office advised accordingly.

II. Maintenance to Japanese

Mr. Wardle pointed out that during the last decade a white reliefee did not have to sell real property in order to get relief, although he had to live on his liquid assets if any. The property of the Japanese is being sold compulsorily however and the question is whether we should force them to use most of the proceeds to live on before granting relief.

Messrs. Brown and Pammett pointed out that employable Japanese, after they refused to work, were being required to live on their own assets above certain limits decided by the Commissioner of Japanese Placement, or if they had no assets to live on the charity of their friends or relatives. It was pointed out that under present labour conditions it was felt unjust to the tax payer to keep employable persons in idleness on relief in the Housing Centres, especially if they had money of their own.

Mr. Read made the following suggestions:

(a) Japanese with capital in the hands of the Custodians producing a fair income should be required to live on this income.

(b) Japanese able to work should be required to work.

(c) Japanese unable to work who have a small capital producing a small income should be required to live on their income down to a certain level, which he suggested as follows:

single men, \$260,
couple, \$520,
children, \$50 - \$100 each.

This amount of \$260 per adult is approximately the amount of 1,000 yen, which a Japanese being repatriated is allowed to take out of the country.

XII. Compulsory Transfer and Employment

The Labour Department Officials explained that except for the actual evacuation and transfer of men to internment camps, no Japanese to date had been compulsorily transferred to

employment, although one undesirable character had been removed from Tashme and ordered to Schreiber, Ontario, under the Commissioner's powers by Order in Council P.C. 946. The point was raised concerning Japanese in highway construction camps who complained that they were forced to remain there, and it was explained by Mr. Wardle that individuals and small groups were permitted to leave these camps for other jobs, but that no mass placements from the road camps were permitted.

As regards compulsory employment, it was pointed out that it had not yet been decided to apply the compulsory features of National Selective Service Civilian Regulations to Japanese, although they are required to follow Selective Service procedure in obtaining and leaving jobs. Employable men in the Housing Centres have been taken off work in most cases as an indirect means of persuading them to move out to private employment, but the dependants of married men still obtain full maintenance, and compulsion has not yet been used to force these men to take outside employment in any special occupation or locality.

IV. Licensing Japanese to Purchase Land

After discussion, it was decided that it would be inadvisable to have Japanese purchase land in any part of Canada, which might inflame local prejudice. It was decided therefore that the present system should continue whereby the Department of Justice when it receives an application from a Japanese for purchase of land refers the matter for opinion to the Provincial Attorney General. Japanese may at present lease land on a yearly basis, and this is felt to be sufficient for the duration.

V. Migration of Japanese from United States to Canada

The War Relocation Authority has inquired whether Canada is prepared to allow the entrance of United States Japanese for temporary residence and employment. After discussion, a negative decision was reached, as it was felt by all concerned that our difficulties were sufficiently great in obtaining employment in Prairie and Eastern Canada for Canadian people.

HFP/JL

H. T. PAMMETT.

SMS/EN
June 15/43DRAFT MEMORANDUM
onJapanese questions in Canada.

This memorandum is prepared merely to introduce these subjects as understood in the Department of External Affairs to those who attend the Interdepartmental meeting. The information given may be out of date and is certainly not complete. The views expressed are those of this Department based on the information possessed here.

Some of these questions are, from the international point of view, urgent ones. For example, as shown on the attached sheet, we were long ago asked certain specific questions by the Consul General of Spain speaking for the Japanese Government. Our failure to answer these questions has in itself a certain result in that it indicates to Japanese that we do not like to tell them what is in our minds.

Further, certain questions respecting repatriates must be answered very soon as we are now making plans for the repatriation of 60 or more Japanese nationals.

.....

SLS/EN
June 15/43

D R A F T M E M O R A N D U M

JAPANESE PROPERTY IN CANADA

I Disposition of personal property and household goods.

1. The present position is understood to be that those Japanese capable of receiving their personal property, may have it sent to them at their own expense. The remainder is being stored in various buildings, few if any of which are proper warehouses. The property is mostly of slight value and is deteriorating rapidly. The present policy is to sell this property (except for articles of religious or sentimental value).

So far as is understood, the policy in Japan is to permit white people to store their goods, presumably at their own expense, in proper warehouses. The Japanese are interning most of our people, if they leave their stuff in their houses, the Japanese store it; the internees turn over a list of it when they reach the camp. Doubtless, this is more true in theory than in practice.

United States policy is apparently to store personal property of evacuees in warehouses at Government expense.

From international viewpoint in order to protect the personal goods of our people in the Far East, either from destruction or from forced sale at low prices, it would seem best to store the personal property of Japanese in Canada in proper warehouses protected against fire, theft and vermin at the expense of the Government. Sales might be made with the permission of the owner. The usual charges might be made for taking goods out of storage and sending it to the owner.

.....

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2. Real Property.

The present position is that the Custodian is entitled under Order in Council to sell real property in his control. His control extends over property which is in the protected area of British Columbia and also over property wherever it is of Japanese who are interned. His control is confined to real property, boats and household effects, and does not cover stocks, bonds and like assets. Presumably the latter are controlled by the Japanese themselves but they are required to make a statement of them. The Japanese propose to dispute in the courts the Custodian's right to sell real property. In the meantime, it is believed that some is being sold.

There is no evidence that real property of British people in Japan is being sold; in fact, we know little about it.

United States policy appears not to permit the sale of property without the consent of the owner.

The international position here seems to dictate policy that real property of Japanese nationals in Canada should not be sold except with their consent. It is against precedent as shown in previous wars for such property to be sold; it would possibly lead to similar measures on the part of the Japanese in all regions under their control.

3. Property of Repatriates.

The Consul General has asked two questions.

First; will the property of repatriates be given up by them or will it be held for them by the Custodian; if the latter, what certificates of ownership can they take away with them. Presumably, the answer is that repatriates will be treated in the same fashion as other Japanese nationals and that the certificate and inventory will be furnished them. It may be mentioned that British subjects of Japanese race ^{who return to Japan are liable}

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to have their citizenship revoked.

The second question is whether before their departure, such repatriates lay transfer title to their possessions.

II. RELIEF.

The present position appears to be that Japanese are obliged to spend most of their own means before they can ask for relief for themselves and for their families. A certain amount of capital is permitted to remain in their possession; beyond that they must spend everything.

Japanese policy in this matter is not known but there is no reason to believe that the Japanese have fed non-interned white people if they had assets of their own or indeed if they had no such assets. The problem here is, what is internment? The Japanese are putting most white people into a situation which may nearly correspond to that in our villages like Kaslo and Tashme. They undertake to feed them and house them while they are there though probably on a pretty low scale; this would presumably be at the expense of the Japanese Government. We have always maintained that the Japanese in our villages are not interned.

United States policy seems to be to feed, clothe and house all persons in their reallocation centres without expense to the evacuees.

No international question here has clearly emerged but a very serious one will emerge if it is supposed by either side that residence in our villages equates with residence in the Japanese concentration centres.

III. COMPULSORY EMPLOYMENT.

The present policy is to take all employable unemployed single men off maintenance. Many have been taken off and the rest will be. The policy will be extended to married men. This applies only to the men themselves and not to their dependents.

The Department of Labour is not applying the Selective Service regulations to persons of Japanese race.

Canadian policy as repeatedly expressed to the Japanese Government has been against compulsory employment. There possibly exists an international understanding that civilians would not be compulsorily employed. There certainly is such an agreement between the United States and Japan as to internees; at any rate, we should behave as though there were such an agreement.

Japanese Government has protested along the following lines: that Canada has deprived the Japanese of their ordinary means of livelihood and has moved them from their former homes and taken control of their property; that we have restricted them to certain regions and certain lines of employment; that we are now depriving them of food unless they will work within the limits set by these restrictions; but this is for practical purposes, compulsory employment.

There is perhaps some logic in this contention; more important there is perhaps some danger that the Japanese will use this item to put British people at compulsory work after internment. There is indeed suspicions that they already do so in some cases; if we receive more evidence of this, we shall have to protest; but can we protest as things stand?

Description of Employment Situation in Works Camps as Reported by Protecting Power to Spain.
(Thunder River, etc., June 2 and 3, 1943)

"WORK: Work is not compulsory, but on the basis, one might say, of a verbal contract between the Canadian Department of Mines and Resources (the employer) and the Japanese (the employees). If any of them refuse to work they receive no pay, although their board is continued; if a man continues in his refusal to work, his case is taken under consideration by the police authorities, and he would probably be transferred to internment camp at Angler, if he had no just cause."

IV. COMPULSORY MOVEMENT OF JAPANESE.

We have repeatedly told the Protecting Power that beyond the Protected regions of British Columbia, the Japanese are not compelled to go to particular places.

The present practice is not known to the Department of External Affairs. Japanese in work camps seem to think that they are compelled to stay there even if employment is offered elsewhere. On the other hand, in at least one test case, a Japanese in a

village has been sent to Schreiber against his will.

There is probably no objection from an international point of view to compulsory movement of Japanese but the information we give the Protecting Power should be consistent with facts.

V. DESIRABILITY OF ISSUING TO JAPANESE LICENSES TO HOLD LAND.

See letter from Deputy Minister of ^{Nystica}~~Labour~~ attached, and note thereon.

VI. MIGRATION OF JAPANESE FROM UNITED STATES TO CANADA.

See despatch No. 1452 of June 21st from Canadian Legation at Washington, enclosing a letter from the War Relocation Authority. The question asked is in substance: will we admit for temporary residence in Canada Japanese who (a) are (b) are not United States citizens, if they are released on indefinite leave from relocation centres.

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DATE NOV 27 1967

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British Columbia Security Commission

VANCOUVER, B.C.

May 26 1942

COMMISSION PERMIT N° 01157

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.)

Columbia Security Commission

VANCOUVER, B. C.

May 26.....1942.....

PERMIT N° 01157

A Series of Three Letters on the Property Issue 305

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.

FCS/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

Canada Security Commission

VANCOUVER, B. C.

May 26 1942

MIT N° 01157

304 The Canadian Japanese and World War II

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)

Vancouver

RECORDS OF THE CUSTODIAN - WORLD WAR II

TITLES, Ledgers and other Documents pertaining to the Administration of Property of Canadian Residents of Japanese Extraction

VANCOUVER OFFICE

T 90 Drawer I - Five packages of Requisitions & Cheques
Miscellaneous (10 documents such as Deeds, Bills of Sale etc.)
The Royal Bank of Canada Cheque Book (No. 1 Account)
Nos. 1188 to 212166
Journal Vouchers 1942/51 for No. 1 Account

The Royal Bank of Canada No. 1 Account
Statement of Account from Jan. 2/50 to Dec. 13/50

No. 1 Account - General Ledger
" " - Journal

Custodian of Enemy Property - Vancouver
Administration Cash Book - Enemy

Drawer II - General Ledger - No. 3 Account - Administration
" " " " - Evacuee Trust

Claims Account re: Japanese Property Claims
" Commission Awards

No. 5 Account - Property Suspense Account
Custodian of Enemy Property - Vancouver
Salaries Account - Individual Ledger sheets

Record of Real Property Sold to V.L.A. (Veterans' Land Act)
(sold by municipalities)

Summary of Japanese Property Claims Awards Case Nos. 1 to 647
" " " " " " 648 to 986
" " " " " " 1087 to 1404
and make-up of V.L.A. over-all awards

Custodian of Enemy Property - Vancouver, B.C.

No. 2 Account - General Ledger - Enemy Trust Fund

Royal Bank of Canada, Vancouver

Custodian of Enemy Property No. 2 Account Nos. 4539 to 4606

Royal Bank of Canada - Statement of Account from March 26, 1942
to September 19, 1951

No. 2 Account - Journal Entries & Miscellaneous Papers
Years 1942/51

Drawer III - Custodian of Enemy Property, Vancouver
Real Estate - Record of Custodian's Time Payment Sales

Safekeeping Ledgers

No. 2 Cash Book - General Entries

No. 3 Account Journal

Cash Book No. 4 Account & Journal

No. 4 Account - Journal

20 Receipts books - years 1942 to 1951

Page 2 of 2

Drawer IV - Vancouver Enemy Trust Cash Receipts
Transfer Binder - Securities Ledger
Securities - Registered - Enemy (Japan)

Register of Securities Received

Custodian of Enemy Property, Vancouver
Real Estate Agents - Cash Journal

Custodian of Enemy Property, Vancouver
Cash Position Ledger Evacuees
No. 3 Administration - Cash Book

T 91 - Vancouver No. 2 Account - Requisitions and Cancelled Cheques

6 Binding Cases - July 1/42 to Nov. 30/43
6 " " - Dec. 1/43 to Dec. 30/45
4 " " - Jan. 1/46 to Oct. 16/51

T 95 - Drawer II - Japanese Matters

Vancouver Staff I
" " II

Japanese Problems dealt with by a Committee appointed by Cabinet
Accounts - Vancouver Office

Vancouver Correspondence - Japanese Claims
" " - Evacuation Centre
" " - Enemy Section

Correspondence re: Transfer to Ottawa from Vancouver Evacuation
Section (Suspense Account - Cash Accounts
transferred -

Files, Films, Ledgers, etc.)

" re. Transfer to Ottawa of Enemy Section Section
from Vancouver

(Cash Accounts, Securities, Files, Ledgers, etc.)

Form Letters - Vancouver

General Correspondence - Vancouver Office - Dr. E. H. Coleman *

Vancouver - Enemy Accounts

Japanese Evacuation

Vancouver - Japanese re Liability of Custodian

Legal Opinion

Report on Examination of Japanese Evacuation Section - Vancouver -

P.S. Ross & Sons

Vancouver Office Reports

*Legal Council 1946-1948 Vol 1
KWingth Council Vol 2*

VESTED ASSETS, ENEMY AND PROSCRIBED-LEDGERS

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | Ledger - Transfer Bond & Share Control to December 1964 | |
| 2 | Annex to complete WAR CLAIMS COMMISSION Progress Report (small black book) | |
| 3 | Ledgers - War Claims Commission Progress Report | |
| 4 | Cheque Blotter - Claims paid 1939-1945 I | |
| 5 | " " " " II | |
| 6 | Gold & Bonds Transfer - prior to 1964 | |
| 7 | " " " " to new ledger 1964 | |
| 8 | Shares transferred to new ledger N-W 1964 | |
| 9 | Journal - Shares - ending 1970 | |
| 10 | Journal - Bonds - " 1970 | |
| 11 | Shares A-C transferred to new ledger 1964 | |
| 12 | Shares D-Mc " " " 1964 | |
| 13 | Transfer - Individuals | |
| 14 | " Securities prior to 1964 | |
| 15 | Release Record #1 to 15032 | |
| 16 | " " 15900 to 46687 Nov. 1947 - Dec. 1954 | |
| 17 | List of Releases as listed on top book | |
| 18 | " #6124 on 15033 on | |
| 19 | Ledger No. 1 - Individual - Germany & Germany Warrant | |
| 20 | Transfer Binder - Securities in Safekeeping with Department of Finance from 1960 | |
| 21 | Foreign Bank Ledger | |
| 22 | Form "C" Claim Ledger - Belligerent Enemies | |
| 23 | General Control Trial Balance - 31/12/43 - 31/12/61 | |
| 24 | Form "A" Register - Collections. | |
| 25 | Claims - Netherlands East Indies, Luxembourg, Norway, Phillippine Islands, Yugoslavia | |
| 26 | Germany - Patents - List of Canadian applications emanating from Germany since 1925 | |
| 27 | International Nickel Company of Canada Ltd. - Certificate Numbers | |
| 28 | Canadian Pacific Railway Company - 4% Debenture Stock as noted on cover | |
| 29 | " " " " Ordinary Capital Stock - New York Register as noted on cover | |
| 30 | Records of Cheques Received - Sundry & Administration - 14/6/51 - 8/1/74 | |
| 31 | " " " " - Vested - 9/1/52 - 1/1/74 | |
| 32 | Value Letters - Jan 2/47 to Jan. 1/74 | |
| 33 | Claims Ledger - Forms "C" - Bulgaria, Hungary & Roumania | |
| 34 | Asset - All Ledger Transfer Administration | |
| 35 | I.A.R.A. - Data re: Category A Assets | |
| 36 | " " " " B " | |
| 37 | Asset Ledger | |
| 38 | Admin. Gen. Ledger Transfer 30/6/41 to 31/12/64 | |
| 39 | Day Book Sept. 1940 to Dec. 1940 | |
| 40 | " " June 1941 to Feb. 1942 | |
| 41 | Disbursements Oct. 1/57 to Dec. 31/65 | |
| 42 | " " 1/12/48 - 30/9/57 | |
| 43 | Purchase Journal 1/12/41 to 30/6/48 | |
| 44 | " " July 1948 to Dec. 1960 | |
| 45 | Administration Disbursements 12/6/41 - 31/12/44 | |
| 46 | Receipts 1/1/50 - 31/12/60 | |
| 47 | " 2/1/45 - 12/9/47 & Disbursements 2/1/45 - 30/11/48 | |
| 48 | " 13/9/47 to 30/10/48 | |
| 49 | " 1/11/48 to 31/12/49 | |
| 50 | Transfer Binder - Record of Incoming & Outgoing Securities 1941 -64 (page 1-528) | |
| 51 | List re: Patents - Austria, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan & Roumania | |
| 52 | Obsolete - Real Estate & Sundry Receivables | |
| 53 | Register of Securities received to 7/9/65 | |
| 54 | Broekmans Administratiekantoor - List of Securities, Certificate Nos. for International Nickel Company of Canada, Ltd. | |
| 55 | Safekeeping (Personal Effects & Documents) Volume I | |
| 56 | " " " " II | |

CASH LEDGERS

C1	Canadian Funds - Japanese Evacuees - Japan Special Closed Accounts
2	Closed Accounts - Canadian, U.S. & Sterling
3	Suspense - Released Assets - Closed
4	Obsolete Transfer Ledger - Canadian, U.S. & Sterling Funds
5	Outstanding Cheques Transfer
6	Germany - Dormant Accounts A-E
7	" " F-I
8	" " J-M
9	" " Mc-S
10	" " T-Z
11	Cash Receipts & Disbursements
12	Transfer Sheets - Cash Receipts & Disbursements - Canadian, U.S. & Sterling
13	Canadian Funds - Disbursements
14	General and Cash Control Transfers
15	Recapitulation
16	Cash - Canadian Funds