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Dates of Meetings.

✓ September 12th, 1945	1
✓ November 5th, 1945	2
✓ December 7th, 1945	3
✓ February 27th, 1946	4
✓ December 13, 1946	5 + Decs
✓ January 10, 1947	6 + Decs
✓ April 17, 1947	7 + Decs
✓ April 21, 1947	8 + Decs
✓ September 3, 1947	9 + Decs
✓ November 25, 1947	10 + Decs
January 15, 1948	11



1

September 12th, 1945.



Subjects discussed.

Repatriation and re-location of persons of  
Japanese race.



Ottawa, September 12th, 1945.

SPECIAL CABINET COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Special Committee of the Cabinet appointed on September 5th, 1945 to consider the memorandum from the Department of Labour on the repatriation and re-location of persons of Japanese race in Canada was held in the Privy Council Chamber on Wednesday, September 12th, 1945, at 10.00 a.m.

Present:

The Minister of Labour (Mr. Mitchell),  
in the Chair,  
The Minister of Veterans Affairs  
(Mr. Mackenzie),  
The Minister of National Defence  
(Mr. Abbott),  
The Solicitor General of Canada  
(Mr. Jean)

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Robertson),  
The Secretary to the Cabinet (Mr. Heeney),  
The Deputy Minister of Labour (Mr. MacNamara),  
The Deputy Commissioner, R.C.M. Police  
(Commissioner Mead),  
Mr. A. H. Brown, Department of Labour,  
Mr. E. W. Mundell, Department of Justice,  
Mr. R. G. Robertson, Department of External Affairs,  
Mr. B. F. Wood, Privy Council Office.

Repatriation and re-location of persons of Japanese race.

1. The Minister of Labour stated that the Committee had been appointed by the Cabinet to consider and report upon a memorandum submitted by the Department of Labour on questions relating to repatriation and re-location of persons of Japanese race in Canada. It was important that decisions thereon be reached at an early date.

(The following is a summary of the Department's memorandum:

- (a) Introduction. The necessity for immediate decision on future policy relative to persons of Japanese race in Canada.
- (b) Policy of repatriation for Japanese who have signed for repatriation.
- (i) Declarations by Japanese nationals and naturalized Canadian Japanese to be considered as final.
- (ii) Declarations of Canadian-born Japanese subject to review if they have expressed desire to revoke declarations.



- (c) Financial provision for repatriates.
- (i) Free transportation with permission to transfer their funds.
- (ii) Custodian of Enemy Property to manage funds and real property on behalf of repatriates.
- (iii) Repatriates to be provided with maintenance grant of \$200 plus \$50 for dependent children - all to be charged against their own funds.
- (d) Deportation of Japanese nationals - all Japanese nationals not otherwise subject to deportation to be deported.
- (e) Japanese veterans not subject to restrictions.
- (f) Loyalty Commission to be established to pass on all doubtful cases.
- (g) All repatriates to be divested of Canadian citizenship.
- (h) Early removal of restrictions over movement and purchase of property for those remaining in Canada with authority given to Minister of Labour to prohibit or limit movement to any area.

#### Proposals

- (1) Early announcement of government policy with provinces invited to co-operate.
- (2) Government statement to include undertaking to reimburse provinces for cash expenditures, including medical services and old age pensions.
- (3) Redistribution on provincial quota basis considered impracticable.
- (4) Letter from Prime Minister to Provincial Premiers inviting co-operation with discussion at November meeting of co-ordinating committee of the Dominion-Provincial Conference.
- (5) Refusal by British Columbia to accept any evacuated persons might result in similar action by other provinces.)

? [ undated - (Department of Labour memorandum, Cabinet Document No. 47).

2. The Committee, after considerable discussion, agreed to recommend to the Cabinet as follows:

- (1) that the Department of External Affairs communicate immediately with the Supreme Allied Commander in Japan (General MacArthur), through the appropriate channel, stating that the government wished to repatriate, as soon as possible, some 10,000 Japanese and enquiring how soon conditions would be such that this movement could be made;

- (2) that, upon receipt of information from the Supreme Allied Commander in reply to the telegram



mentioned above, immediate steps be taken to effect the repatriation of:

(a) all persons of Japanese race who had requested repatriation, with the exception of Canadian citizens who had made application for revocation of their request for repatriation prior to midnight, September 1st, 1945; and

?

\* [(b) all persons of Japanese race who were interned under the Defence of Canada Regulations;

(3) that immediate action be taken to revoke the status as Canadian citizens and British subjects of all persons of Japanese race who would be repatriated under the procedure recommended in the preceding paragraph;

(4) that the proposals for financial provision for repatriates set out in paragraphs (7), (8) and (9) of the memorandum submitted by the Department of Labour be approved and

(5) that the remaining questions dealt with in the said memorandum, including proposals for the establishment and procedure of a "Loyalty Commission" and relocation of Japanese in Canada be deferred for further consideration.

B. F. Wood,  
Secretary.



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November 5th, 1945



(2) in the case of a person claiming to be a Canadian citizen other than natural-born he did in fact acquire Canadian citizenship and that he has not ceased to be a Canadian citizen

(i) under section 21 or 23 of the Canadian Citizenship Act (Wherever there exist grounds for the issue by the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada of a notice of revocation of naturalization, the Head of the Canadian Liaison Mission shall so report), or

(ii) under P.C. 10773 of November 20, 1942, or  
(iii) under P.C. 7356 of December 15, 1945

(b) The Department of External Affairs shall determine the extent of Consular protection and assistance to be afforded Canadian citizens in Japan in conformity with Canadian practice in other countries and United States practice in Japan.

(c) Where a Canadian citizen of Japanese origin "stood out" in Japan during the war and suffered proven hardship on that account and is desirous of returning to Canada the Head of the Canadian Liaison Mission in Japan may consult the Department of External Affairs to determine what assistance, if any, may be afforded such person to return to Canada.

(d) Passports shall not be issued to Canadian citizens of Japanese origin to enable them to leave Japan unless they are able to produce evidence that they have secured passage for Canada and will be able to obtain the necessary exit permit from Japan.

(e) Visas for travel to Canada shall not be issued to Japanese nationals claiming domicile in Canada without prior reference to the Immigration Branch. In all such cases the Director of Immigration shall determine whether such persons may be deemed to have lost Canadian domicile. Even in approved cases visas shall not be granted unless the persons concerned are able to produce evidence that they have secured passage for Canada and will be able to obtain the necessary exit permit from Japan.

(f) The Department of External Affairs and the Immigration Branch shall be authorized to consider and approve applications for temporary entry into Canada on behalf of Japanese nationals whose visits abroad are approved by Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan and who would be coming to Canada for conference, educational or other approved temporary purposes that would be of assistance in the democratic re-education of Japan.

(Document JAP 3 circulated April 16, 1947)

The Committee, after discussion approved the proposals submitted by the Department of External Affairs and agreed to recommend to the Cabinet that these proposals be implemented immediately with the proviso that the right of Canadian domicile of any Japanese national shall be considered lost after six years' absence from Canada, unless they can show that they maintained their intention throughout the war of returning to Canada at the earliest opportunity.- In the interpretation of the foregoing "maintenance of intention", attention should be paid to the actions of such Japanese nationals throughout



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the period of the war.

4. Displaced Japanese Persons: Arrangements with Provinces

The Chairman explained the present residential status of displaced Japanese in the various provinces. The Government has been reimbursing the provinces for maintenance and welfare costs of indigent Japanese. Furthermore, the Department of Labour operates a Sanatorium in British Columbia. The estimated cost of maintenance cases in this sanatorium run from \$80,000.00 to \$100,000.00 per annum.

It was proposed that all provinces be asked to accept as residents of the province, for the purpose of all welfare acts and regulations, the evacuated Japanese, who have been resident in the province and in self-sustaining employment for a period of twenty-four months, and their dependents.

In connection with the province of British Columbia it was proposed:

- (a) That in the case of all evacuated Japanese and their dependents who are in self-supporting employment in the Province, the Dominion advance the same proposal as was advanced in the case of other provinces, and that,
- (b) that, in the case of the maintenance and T.B. cases at New Denver, who are presently on maintenance, the Department of Labour enter into discussions with the Province to determine whether the Province will accept any financial responsibility in connection with this group; the Provincial authorities expressing themselves as willing to undertake welfare administration for this group as agent for the Dominion but not indicating that they will recognize any financial responsibility in respect thereto.

(Document JAP 8 circulated August 26, 1947)

The Committee, after discussion approved and agreed that the Minister of Labour carry on his negotiations with the provinces regarding the maintenance and welfare of those persons of Japanese origin who had been relocated and to report further to this Committee on the progress of his negotiations.

5. Liquidation -- Properties of Japanese Associations or Societies

Mr. Gibson reported that, in connection with properties vested in an association or other body that is incorporated and whose members are persons of Japanese origin, the Deputy Minister of Justice in a letter dated January 24, 1947 stated that:

- (a) Order in Council P.C. 1665 March 4, 1942 as amended is not applicable to vest the property of such a corporation in the Custodian, and furthermore; and,
- (b) that, the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945, does not authorize the Governor in Council to make an order or regulation vesting the property of these associations in the Custodian.

The Committee, after discussion, approved and agreed:

- (a) that this question be allowed to develop further for a period of six months; and
- (b) that the situation be analyzed with a view of contemplating possible legislative action.

Privy Council Office,  
September 16, 1947.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



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AGENDA

November 25, 1947.



## PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE

## MEMORANDUM

A meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions will be held in the Privy Council Chamber, Tuesday, November 25 at 3:00 p.m. to review and consider Emergency Orders in Council P.C. 946 February 15, 1943 as amended, P.C. 7355 December 15, 1945, P.C. 1665 March 4, 1942, P.C. 469 January 19, 1943 and P.C. 251 January 13, 1942 relating to persons of Japanese race.

Attached herewith is a memorandum which has been prepared in this connection.

November 21, 1947.

Raymond Ranger.



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MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

Re: Japanese Orders in Council

The Transitional Measures Act, 1947, continued in effect a number of Orders in Council relating to persons of the Japanese race in Canada. These Orders included the following:

(a) P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943, as amended.

The Order gives the Minister of Labour authority to provide for the welfare and relocation of Japanese evacuated from the Coastal area of British Columbia and to make orders governing their movement, places of residence, and discipline.

The Order should be extended until March 31, 1948 to carry out the current year's program. The provisions for welfare and relocation can be taken care of after March 31, 1948 by an item in the Annual Estimates of the Department. If, however, it is the policy of the Government to continue restrictions on the movement and residence of Japanese in the Coastal area of British Columbia, it will be necessary to provide for the extension of the life of this Order in Council.

The Department of Labour is of opinion that if the restrictions over movement of Japanese into the Coastal area are lifted there will be a movement of Japanese back into the Coastal area, but that it is probable this movement will not be in the nature of an immediate influx but will extend over a period of time and will not comprise a major percentage of Japanese in Canada. It is probable that the greater majority of those who do return to the Coast over a period of time will be drawn from the group now resident in the interior of British Columbia, who number approximately 6000 persons, the greater majority of whom are in self-supporting employment. There may be some movement over a period of time back from Alberta. On the other hand, our Commissioner of Japanese Placement estimates there may be a movement of 500 Japanese east from British Columbia in the Spring of 1948.

(b) P.C. 7355 of December 15, 1945.

This Order authorizes financial assistance to voluntary repatriates to Japan and gives authority to the Custodian of Enemy Property to take over and liquidate the assets of Japanese repatriated to Japan under this Order and to transmit the proceeds to the Japanese in Japan.

The Government has already made a decision to discontinue financial assistance for repatriation of Japanese under this Order. There is, however, a small amount of assets of Japanese still vested in the Custodian under this Order which will not be liquidated for some months at least. We are advised by the Custodian that this consists of amounts totalling around \$3,000, representing the refundable portion of Income Tax payments for 1942, 1943 and 1944, and a limited quantity of other assets of miscellaneous nature, including various company stocks.

It would appear that the extension of the provisions of this Order, to the extent necessary to continue the authority of the Custodian with respect to the disposition of these assets, will be necessary.



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(c) P.C. 1665 of March 4, 1942, and P.C. 469 of January 19, 1943.

These Orders are administered by the Department of the Secretary of State and give the Custodian of Enemy Property authority to liquidate property of evacuated Japanese vested in him under these Orders.

(d) P.C. 251 of January 13, 1942.

This Order prohibits the issue of fishing licenses on the West Coast to persons of the Japanese race. The decision as to the continuation of this Order is one of policy which is tied in with P.C. 946.

Without further action of Parliament to the contrary, all of the above Orders will expire on December 31, 1947.

Privy Council Office,  
November 21, 1947.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



*Minute*  
November 25th, 1947.

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Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions

Minutes of the 14th meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions held in the Privy Council Chamber, at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 1947.

The Minister of Labour  
(Mr. Mitchell)

The Secretary of State  
(Mr. Oliver)

The Minister of Finance and Accounts  
(Mr. Blair)

The Minister of Health  
(Mr. Brown)

The Minister of Education  
(Mr. Gault)

The Privy Council Secretary to the Minister of Finance  
(Mr. Brown)

The Privy Council Secretary  
(Mr. Brown)

The Deputy Minister of Labour  
(Mr. J. Macdonald)

The Deputy Minister of Finance and Accounts  
(Mr. J. Macdonald)

From the Minister of Labour  
(Mr. J. Macdonald)

From the Minister of Finance  
(Mr. J. Macdonald)

From the Department of Justice  
(Mr. J. Macdonald)

From the Prime Minister's Office  
(Mr. J. Macdonald)

AGENDA: JAPANESE IN CANADA - 1947 TO 1948

The Committee had a preliminary session with the Minister of Labour at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 1947. The Minister of Labour stated that he was very anxious to see that the Japanese in Canada were treated as human beings and that they were given the same rights and privileges as the Canadian citizens.



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## CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

Minutes of the tenth meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions held in the Privy Council Chamber, at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 1947.

Present

The Minister of Labour (Mr. Mitchell)	in the chair
The Secretary of State (Mr. Gibson)	
The Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. Glen)	
The Solicitor General (Mr. Jean)	
The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Gregg)	
The Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Mayhew)	

From Privy Council Office (Mr. Raymond Ranger)	Secretary
---	-----------

Also Present

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Dr. A. MacNamara)
The Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources (Dr. H.L. Keenleyside)
From Department of Labour (Mr. A.H. Brown)
From External Affairs (Mr. A.R. Menzies)
From Department of Justice (Mr. D.H.W. Henry)
From Prime Minister's Office (Mr. R.G. Robertson)

1. EMERGENCY ORDERS IN COUNCIL RELATING TO JAPANESE

The Secretary read a communication from the Minister of Veterans Affairs in which he very strongly desires that no action be taken on the revision of emergency Japanese Orders in Council until his return to Ottawa, November 30, 1947.



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The Chairman explained that the following emergency Orders in Council relating to Japanese will automatically lapse on December 31, 1947, and that the problem under consideration was whether they should be extended:

P.C. 251	of January 13, 1942-
P.C. 1665	of March 4, 1942-
P.C. 469	of January 19, 1943-
P.C. 946	of February 5, 1943-as amended
P.C. 7355	of December 15, 1945-

(Memorandum, dated November 21, 1947, from the Secretary:  
JAP Document No. 9, circulated November 21, 1947)

The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recommend to the Cabinet that the five Orders in Council referred to above be extended until March 31, 1948. why?  
no  
yes

## II. ISSUANCE OF FISHING LICENCES TO PERSONS OF JAPANESE RACE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

The Chairman reported that the Department of Fisheries referring to the existing restrictions on the granting of fishing licences to persons of Japanese race in British Columbia had raised the question of whether similar restrictions should be imposed in the Northwest Territories.

The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recommend to the Cabinet that no restrictions on the granting of fishing licences to persons of Japanese race in the Northwest Territories be imposed except as otherwise provided for in the Fisheries Act.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
November 26, 1947.



*Minutes*  
January 15, 1948



Subjects discussed.

I. Transportation for repatriation of persons of  
Japanese race.

II. Legislation.



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CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

Minutes of the eleventh meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese questions held in the Privy Council Chamber, Thursday, January 15, 1948, at 11:00 a.m.

Present

The Minister of Labour (Mr. Mitchell)	in the chair
The Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. Mackenzie)	
The Minister of Justice (Mr. Ilesley)	
The Secretary of State (Mr. Gibson)	
The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Gregg)	
<hr/>	
From Privy Council Office (Mr. Raymond Ranger)	Secretary

Also Present

The Deputy Minister of Fisheries  
(Mr. Stewart Bates)

From Department of Labour  
(Mr. A. H. Brown)

From External Affairs  
(Mr. A. R. Menzies)

From Department of Justice  
(Mr. D. H. W. Henry)

From Prime Minister's Office  
(Mr. R. G. Robertson)

From Custodian's Office  
(Mr. K. W. Wright)

I. EMERGENCY ORDERS IN COUNCIL RELATING TO JAPANESE

The Chairman reported that, at the Cabinet meeting Tuesday, January 13th, in respect to the report of the Solicitor General on Emergency Legislation, it was agreed:



- 2 -

- (a) that the Cabinet Committee on Japanese questions consider the advisability of allowing all Orders in Council relating to the Japanese to lapse on March 31st, with the exception of those required by the Custodian of Enemy Property for fulfilment of his responsibilities in relation to settlement of Japanese properties;
- (b) that the Custodian prepare, for consideration, draft legislation to replace the above Orders pending final decision on their retention.

Mr. Mitchell pointed out that the Transitional Measures Act, 1947, and Order in Council P.C. 5304 of December 30, 1947, continued in effect until March 31, 1948, the following Orders in Council relating to persons of the Japanese race in Canada:

- (a) P.C. 251 of January 13, 1942 - This Order prohibits the issue of fishing licences on the West Coast to persons of the Japanese race and also prohibits these persons from serving on fishing vessels.
- (b) P.C. 1665 of March 4, 1942 and P.C. 469 of January 19, 1943 - These Orders give the Custodian of Enemy property authority to liquidate property of evacuated Japanese vested in him under these Orders.
- (c) P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943, as amended - This Order gives the Minister of Labour authority to provide for the welfare and relocation of Japanese evacuated from the Coastal area of British Columbia and to make orders governing their movement, places of residence, and discipline.
- (d) P.C. 7355 of December 15, 1945 - This Order authorizes financial assistance to voluntary repatriates to Japan and gives authority to the Custodian of Enemy Property to take over and liquidate the assets of Japanese repatriated to Japan under this Order and to transmit the proceeds to the Japanese in Japan. The Government has already made a decision to discontinue financial assistance for repatriation of Japanese under this Order.

(Memorandum dated January 10, 1948, from the Secretary:  
JAF Document No. 11, circulated January 10, 1948)

The Committee, after considerable discussion, agreed to refer back to the Cabinet for decision the five Orders in Council referred to above.

## II. AGREEMENT WITH PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA - MAINTENANCE AND WELFARE OF RELOCATED PERSONS OF JAPANESE RACE

The Chairman, referring to the minutes of the meeting of September 3, 1947, reported that the Department of Labour has been negotiating with the provincial authorities of British Columbia with a view to having the Province take over the responsibility for the welfare and maintenance of evacuated Japanese resident in the Province.

Mr. Mitchell recommended the following proposal which has been agreed to by the British Columbia Government:

- (a) that from March 31, 1948, all expenses relating to welfare and maintenance of the Japanese in the province, including maintenance, sickness and administration, will be shared by the Province and the Dominion on a dollar-for-dollar basis;



- (b) that the British Columbia authorities will assume complete responsibility for administration, but will set up a joint administrative committee on which the Dominion will be represented;
- (c) that the buildings presently owned by the Dominion in the New Denver Project will continue to be available for the care and treatment of Japanese;
- (d) that the Commissioner of Japanese Administration will be the Dominion representative on the joint committee, and the Department of Labour will continue to pay his remuneration; other members of the Japanese Division staff, Department of Labour, who have been engaged in administration and care of Japanese indigent and invalid cases in British Columbia, will be transferred to the provincial payroll;
- (e) that this arrangement will continue in effect until March 31, 1950, after which date the Dominion contribution will cease;
- (f) that in the cases of Japanese who have moved outside of British Columbia and who claim old age pensions, the residential period in the new Province for the purposes of the Old Age Pensions Act will not start until April 1, 1948, so that such applicants will not be considered to have changed their British Columbia residence until eighteen months have passed following April 1, 1948, i.e., until October 1, 1949.

The Dominion cost for assistance and administration of assistance to Japanese in British Columbia for maintenance and illness during the current fiscal year 1947-48 is estimated at \$175,000, and in the next fiscal year 1948-49 is estimated at approximately the same, since while the number of Japanese to be assisted is decreasing, operating costs are steadily increasing. These estimates do not include headquarters administrative costs of the Japanese Division at Vancouver.

(Memorandum from the Minister of Labour dated January 10, 1948: JAP Document No. 10, circulated January 10, 1948)

The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recommend to the Cabinet the approval of the proposed agreement between the Department of Labour and the Province of British Columbia outlined above.

### III. AGREEMENT WITH PROVINCE OF ALBERTA - JAPANESE EVACUEES

The Chairman, referring to the minutes of the meeting of September 3, 1947, reported that the Department of Labour has been negotiating with the provincial authorities of Alberta with a view to having the Province declare those Japanese evacuees who intend to remain in the Province as bona fide residents of Alberta, and to having the Province therewith take over full responsibility for the education and welfare of such Japanese evacuees.

Mr. Mitchell recommended the following proposal, which has been agreed to by the Alberta Government:

- (a) that after March 31, 1948, the Alberta Government would announce that Japanese in Alberta would receive the same status and treatment as any other residents of the Province;



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- (b) that the Province would continue the administration of education and welfare for Japanese evacuees, and would appoint a provincial official to work with the departmental representative, Mr. J. F. MacKinnon, the Commissioner of Japanese Placement;
- (c) that the Dominion and the Province would divide the cost of education and welfare assistance for Japanese evacuees in Alberta on a dollar-for-dollar basis, for a period of two years from March 31, 1948, and that the Dominion would step out of the picture completely at March 31, 1950;
- (d) that in the case of Japanese evacuees who are now in Alberta and who may claim old age pensions, the residential period in Alberta for the purposes of the Old Age Pensions Act will not start until April 1, 1948, so that such applicants will not be considered to have changed from British Columbia residence until eighteen months have passed following April 1, 1948, i.e., until October 1, 1949. This is the arrangement to which the Province of British Columbia has also agreed.

The Dominion cost of assistance to Alberta Japanese covering education and welfare during the current fiscal year is estimated at \$50,000.00, and for the fiscal year 1948-49 is estimated at approximately the same. The Province will assume half of this cost for the two years April 1, 1948 - March 31, 1950, after which the Province will assume the full cost.

(Memorandum from the Minister of Labour dated January 13, 1948: JAP Document No. 12, circulated January 13, 1948)

The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recommend to the Cabinet the approval of the proposed agreement between the Department of Labour and the Province of Alberta as outlined above.

#### IV. CLAIMS OF JAPANESE EVACUEES

##### 1. Extension to Corporations

The Secretary of State, referring to the minutes of the meeting of April 21, 1947, recommended that the terms of reference contained in Order in Council P.C. 1810 of July 18, 1947, as amended by Order in Council P.C. 3737 of September 17, 1947, be extended to include claims of corporations of which the majority of the shares were formerly owned by persons of the Japanese race resident in Canada and evacuated from the Coast of British Columbia as a war measure.

(Submission to Council from the Secretary of State dated January 14, 1948: JAP Document No. 13 circulated January 15, 1948)

The Committee, after discussion, approved the recommendation of the Secretary of State as outlined above and agreed that in consultation with the Department of Justice a submission to Council be prepared accordingly.

##### 2. Appointment of Deputy Commissioners

The Secretary of State, referring to the minutes of the meeting of April 21, 1947, recommended that Order in Council



- 5 -

P.C. 1810 of July 18, 1947, as amended by Order in Council P.C. 3737 of September 17, 1947, be further amended so that the Commissioner be authorized to depute certain qualified persons to enquire into and hear the testimony of the claimants in person and of witnesses on their behalf other than those called to give expert or technical evidence at sessions of the Commission at certain places.

(Submission to Council from the Secretary of State dated January 14, 1948, JAP Document No. 14 circulated January 15, 1948)

The Committee, after discussion, approved the recommendation of the Secretary of State as outlined above and agreed that in consultation with the Department of Justice a submission to Council be prepared accordingly.

Privy Council Office,  
January 17, 1948.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



11

A G E N D A

January 15, 1948



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SECRET

COPY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

AGENDA for eleventh meeting to be held in the  
Privy Council Chamber, Thursday, January 15,  
1948, at 11:00 a.m.

1. Arrangement with province of British Columbia  
maintenance and welfare of relocated Japanese  
persons  
(Document JAP No. 10, January 10, 1948, attached)
2. Emergency orders in council relating to Japanese  
expiring on March 31, 1948  
(Document JAP No. 11, January 10, 1948, attached)

Privy Council Office,  
January 10, 1948.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



CONFIDENTIAL

Document JAP 10

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA  
MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

Re: Proposed Agreement with the Province of  
British Columbia covering indigent and  
invalid Japanese resident in that Province

1. The Department of Labour has a residue of 543 indigent and invalid Japanese evacuated from the coastal area of British Columbia, whom it is maintaining in a Departmental Housing Centre at New Denver, B. C. These consist mostly of aged persons and families without breadwinners. The Department also owns and operates a Tuberculosis Sanatorium for Japanese at New Denver in which there are at present 52 patients.
2. In order to expedite the winding up of Japanese administration in British Columbia, the Department has been negotiating with the provincial authorities with a view to having the Province take over the responsibility for the welfare and maintenance of the evacuated Japanese resident in the province including therewith the operation of the Sanatorium.
3. The following proposal has been agreed to by the British Columbia Government:
  - (a) That from March 31, 1948, all expenses relating to welfare and maintenance of the Japanese in the province, including maintenance, sickness and administration, will be shared by the Province and the Dominion on a dollar-for-dollar basis;
  - (b) That the British Columbia authorities will assume complete responsibility for administration, but will set up a joint administrative committee on which the Dominion will be represented;
  - (c) That the buildings presently owned by the Dominion in the New Denver Project will continue to be available for the care and treatment of Japanese;



- 2 -

- (d) That the Commissioner of Japanese Administration will be the Dominion representative on the joint committee, and the Department of Labour will continue to pay his remuneration; other members of the Japanese Division staff, Department of Labour, who have been engaged in administration and care of Japanese indigent and invalid cases in British Columbia, will be transferred to the provincial payroll;
- (e) That this arrangement will continue in effect until March 31, 1950, after which date the Dominion contribution will cease.
4. In addition to the foregoing the provincial authorities have agreed that in the cases of Japanese who have moved outside of British Columbia and who claim old age pensions, the residential period in the new Province for the purposes of the Old Age Pensions Act will not start until April 1, 1948, so that such applicants will not be considered to have changed their British Columbia residence until eighteen months have passed following April 1, 1948, i.e., until October 1, 1949.
5. The Dominion cost for assistance and administration of assistance to Japanese in British Columbia for maintenance and illness during the current fiscal year 1947-48 is estimated at \$175,000, and in the next fiscal year 1948-49 is estimated at approximately the same, since while the number of Japanese to be assisted is decreasing, operating costs are steadily increasing. These estimates do not include headquarters administrative costs of the Japanese Division at Vancouver.
6. Cabinet approval of the proposed agreement between the Department of Labour and the Province of British Columbia outlined above is hereby recommended.

January 10, 1948.

Humphrey Mitchell,  
Minister of Labour.



Document JAP No. 11

## THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

SECRET

## MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

Re: Japanese Orders in Council

The Transitional Measures Act, 1947, and Order in Council P.C. 5304 of December 30, 1947, continued in effect until March 31, 1948, a number of Orders in Council relating to persons of the Japanese race in Canada. These Orders included the following:

- (a) P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943, as amended *revised as of 28-2-49 by P.C. 5638 of 23-1-49*

The Order gives the Minister of Labour authority to provide for the welfare and relocation of Japanese evacuated from the Coastal area of British Columbia and to make orders governing their movement, places of residence, and discipline.

The Order has been extended until March 31, 1948, to carry out the current year's program. The provisions for welfare and relocation might be taken care of after March 31, 1948, by an item in the Annual Estimates of the Department, if it is the policy of the Government to continue restrictions on the movement and residence of Japanese in the Coastal area of British Columbia.

The Department of Labour is of the opinion that if the restrictions over movement of Japanese into the Coastal area are lifted there will be a limited movement of Japanese back into the Coastal area, but that it is probable this movement will not be in the nature of an immediate influx but will extend over a period of time and will not comprise a major percentage of Japanese in Canada. It is probable that the greater majority of those who do return to the Coast over a period of time will be drawn from the group now resident in the interior of British Columbia, who number approximately 6,000 persons, the greater majority of whom are in self-supporting employment. There may be some movement over a period of time back from Alberta. On the other hand, our Commissioner of Japanese Placement estimates there may be a movement of 500 Japanese east from British Columbia in the Spring of 1948.

- (b) P.C. 7355 of December 15, 1945 *revised as of 28-2-49 by P.C. 5638 of 23-1-49*

This Order authorizes financial assistance to voluntary repatriates to Japan and gives authority to the Custodian of Enemy Property to take over and liquidate the assets of Japanese repatriated to Japan under this Order and to transmit the proceeds to the Japanese in Japan.

The Government has already made a decision to discontinue financial assistance for repatriation of Japanese under this Order. There is, however, a small amount of assets of Japanese still vested in the Custodian under this Order which will not be liquidated for some months at least. We are advised by the Custodian that this consists of amounts totalling around \$3,000, representing the refundable portion of Income Tax payments for 1942, 1943 and 1944, and a limited quantity of other assets of a miscellaneous nature, including various company stocks.

It would appear that the extension of the provisions of this Order, to the extent necessary to continue the authority of the Custodian with respect to the disposition of these assets, will be necessary.



TOP SECRET

A meeting of the Special Committee of the Cabinet appointed to consider the repatriation and relocation of persons of Japanese race in Canada was held in the Privy Council Chamber on Monday, November 5th, 1945, at 11.30 a.m.

Present:

The Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. Mitchell) - Chairman

The Minister of Veterans Affairs,  
(Mr. Mackenzie)

The Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Wrong).

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Secretary (Mr. B. F. Wood), Privy Council Office.

Also present:

Deputy Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. MacNamara)

Mr. A. H. Brown,  
Department of Labour

Captain Arthur Randles,  
Department of Transport

Brigadier H. J. B. Keating,  
Department of National Defence

Mr. R. G. Robertson,  
Department of External Affairs.

I. TRANSPORTATION FOR REPATRIATION OF PERSONS OF JAPANESE RACE.

1. The Minister of Labour stated that the Canadian Ambassador in Washington had asked the Canadian Government if he could offer United States authorities any assurance of assistance in the provision of transportation for the repatriation of persons of Japanese race.
2. Captain Randles and Brigadier Keating stated that no Canadian shipping was available unless some of our Victory ships were converted for passenger service.
3. The Committee, after discussion, agreed that:
  - (a) before any action was taken to convert Victory ships, a representative of the Canadian Government



- 2 -

(c) Revoked as of 28.2-49 by PC 5638 of 23-2-49  
P.C. 1665 of March 4, 1942, and P.C. 469 of January 19, 1943

These Orders are administered by the Department of the Secretary of State and give the Custodian of Enemy Property authority to liquidate property of evacuated Japanese vested in him under these Orders.

It would appear that the extension of the provisions of these Orders will be necessary.

(d) P.C. 251 of January 13, 1942

This Order prohibits the issue of fishing licenses on the West Coast to persons of the Japanese race and also prohibits these persons from serving on fishing vessels. The decision as to the continuation of this Order is one of policy which is tied in with P.C. 946.

The Minister of Fisheries possesses under the Fisheries Act powers to grant or withhold the issuance of fishing licenses.

Without further action of Parliament to the contrary, all of the above Orders will expire on March 31, 1948.

Privy Council Office,  
 January 10, 1948.

Raymond Ranger,  
 Secretary.



should be sent to Washington to explore the availability of American shipping, and to advise the Canadian Ambassador and American authorities of the number and categories to be repatriated;

- (b) the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs would ask the Canadian Ambassador in Washington to arrange the necessary meetings between appropriate United States officials and the Canadian representative.

## II. LEGISLATION.

4. Mr. Brown stated that the Department of Labour had prepared a draft Order for deportation of those to be repatriated, and that the Secretary of State had prepared a draft Order for revocation of citizenship rights of deportees.

5. Mr. Wrong stated that officials of his department had suggested certain changes in these Orders in Council which would meet most of the objections which had been raised regarding this legislation.

6. The Committee, after discussion, agreed that:

- (a) a sub-committee of representatives from the Departments of Justice, Labour, External Affairs, and the Secretary of State should be appointed to draft the necessary Orders in Council;
- (b) immediate action be taken on the legislation necessary to provide transportation and financial provision for repatriates;
- (c) the first Orders in Council on deportation and revocation of citizenship rights should cover Japanese nationals and voluntary repatriates.

The meeting adjourned at 12.10 p.m.

B. F. Wood,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
Ottawa, November 5, 1945.



3

December 7th, 1945



Subjects discussed

- I. Legislation.
- II. Establishment of Loyalty Commission.



**MOST SECRET**

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**TOP SECRET**

A meeting of the Special Committee of the Cabinet appointed to consider the repatriation and re-location of persons of Japanese race in Canada was held in the office of the Minister of Veterans Affairs, Room 273, House of Commons, on Friday, December 7th, 1945, at 10.00 a.m.

Present:

The Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. Mitchell), - Chairman

The Minister of Veterans Affairs,  
(Mr. Mackenzie),

The Minister of National Defence,  
(Mr. Abbott).

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The Secretary (Mr. B.F. Wood), Privy Council Office.

Also present:

Deputy Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. MacNamara),

Mr. R. G. Robertson,  
Department of External Affairs,

Mr. P. M. Anderson, K.C.,  
Department of Justice,

Mr. A. H. Brown,  
Department of Labour.

I. LEGISLATION

1. The Committee considered two Orders in Council, copies of which had been circulated, which had been prepared by the sub-committee established for this purpose. The first Order, to be submitted by the Secretary of State, provides for the deprivation of citizenship rights of British subjects and Canadian nationals deported from Canada under the provisions of the second Order in Council. The second Order, to be submitted by the Minister of Labour, provides for the repatriation and deportation of residents of Canada of the Japanese race in accordance with the previous decision of the Cabinet.



- 2 -

2. The Committee after discussion agreed that both Orders should be submitted to Council at the earliest possible moment with a view to tabling them in the House prior to the close of the present session.

## II. TRANSPORTATION

3. Mr. MacNamara enquired regarding the availability of the aircraft carrier, Puncher, to transport at least one group of Japanese.
4. Mr. Abbott stated that this was an American ship and was not considered very sea-worthy but agreed to discuss the matter with officials of the Naval Service.
5. The Committee agreed that the Puncher should be made available if possible but that in any event plans should proceed for the use of American shipping in accordance with arrangements recently completed in Washington.

## III. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOYALTY COMMISSION

6. The Chairman stated that legislation should be drawn up providing for the establishment of a Loyalty Commission.
7. The Committee after discussion agreed that the sub-committee previously appointed to draft legislation should draft an Order in Council establishing a Loyalty Commission and also make recommendations relative to the scope of this Commission. This sub-committee is to report directly to the Minister of Labour who will bring any necessary recommendations before Cabinet without further reference to the Cabinet Committee.

\*

The meeting adjourned at 11.00 a.m.

B. F. Wood,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
Ottawa, December 7, 1945.



4

February 27th, 1946



Subjects discussed

Method of deportation.

The Minister of Labour,  
Mr. J. G. Thompson.

The Minister of National Defence,  
Mr. J. G. Thompson.

Also present:

The Minister of State for External Affairs,  
Mr. J. G. Thompson.

The Deputy Minister of Labour,  
Mr. J. G. Thompson.

The Deputy Minister of Labour,  
Mr. J. G. Thompson.

The Deputy Minister of Labour,  
Mr. J. G. Thompson.

The Deputy Minister of Labour,  
Mr. J. G. Thompson.

The Minister of Labour, Mr. J. G. Thompson, opened the meeting by stating that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the method of deportation of Japanese from Canada. He stated that the Government was of the opinion that the most effective method of deportation was by sea, and that the Government was of the opinion that the most effective method of deportation was by sea.

The Minister of Labour, Mr. J. G. Thompson, stated that the Government was of the opinion that the most effective method of deportation was by sea, and that the Government was of the opinion that the most effective method of deportation was by sea.

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MOST SECRET

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SECRET

A meeting of the Special Committee of the Cabinet appointed to consider the repatriation and re-location of persons of Japanese race in Canada was held in the Privy Council office on Wednesday, February 27th, 1946, at 10.30 a.m.

Present:

The Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. Mitchell), - Chairman

The Minister of National Defence,  
(Mr. Abbott).

Also present:

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
(Mr. N.... Robertson)

The Deputy Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. A. MacNamara)

Mr. A.H. Brown  
Department of Labour,

Mr. R.G. Robertson  
Prime Minister's Office,

Mr. B.F. Wood,  
Secretary,  
Privy Council Office.

1. The Minister of Labour reviewed a memorandum, copies of which had been circulated, in which it was suggested that in the light of the decisions of the Supreme Court the following principles should govern the issue of deportation orders:

- (a) Husbands and wives will not be separated by forced deportation measures except in instances where the domestic relations of a man and wife have already been broken up in which case each will be dealt with as a single individual.
  - (b) Canadian born persons will not be deported against their wishes. (Department of Labour memorandum undated).
2. The Chairman reviewed a letter which he had sent to some of his colleagues in which he suggested three possible courses of action which might be followed:
- (1) That the appeal to the Privy Council be proceeded with if the parties so desire and that the hearing be expedited. In the meantime that we content ourselves with making preliminary arrangements and if possible by despatching Japanese nationals who have no minor children and voluntary repatriates.



/ 2

(2) That those who are interesting themselves in the case be told of the plan which the government proposes to follow. It is possible that their acceptance of the policy might be obtained and the reference to the Privy Council would then become unnecessary.

(3) To proceed with deportation within the limits of the Supreme Court decision and notwithstanding that an appeal is taken.

3. Mr. R.G. Robertson stated that a delegation of six or seven persons from Toronto was desirous of discussing the Japanese question with the government. They were particularly anxious to have the government consider the following three points:

(1) In view of the difference in opinion in the Supreme Court judgements the Japanese orders be withdrawn and the matter dropped.

(2) Failing an abandonment of the orders they would regard it as a satisfactory solution if the government would agree that all those who are subject to deportation and who are not willing to go should have the right to have their cases heard by the Loyalty Commission which is to be established.

(5) If there is to be no change in government policy the Committee would like to have assurance that the matter would not be proceeded with pending the outcome of an appeal to the Privy Council.

4. The Deputy Minister of Labour stated that if we were to strictly follow the decision of the Supreme Court approximately 7,000 Japanese would be liable to deportation. If, however, it was decided not to separate parents from their children this number might be reduced to approximately 1,500.

5. The Committee after lengthy discussion agreed to make the following recommendations to Cabinet:

(1) That the government facilitate an appeal to the Privy Council.

(2) Pending the outcome of the appeal the government would repatriate only those who still expressed a desire to be returned to Japan.

\* (3) The government would proceed with efforts at dispersal of Japanese to all parts of Canada other than the Pacific Coast.

(4) The setting up of a Commission of Appeal would be deferred until the decision of the Privy Council had been announced and the government would reconsider the terms of reference of this Commission in the light of Privy Council decision.

The meeting adjourned at 12.45 p.m.

B.F. Wood,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
Ottawa, February 27th, 1946.



Agenda - December 13, 1946



SECRET

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COMMITTEE OF CABINET ON

JAPANESE PROBLEMS

AGENDA FOR MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE PRIVY COUNCIL  
OFFICE AT 2.45 P.M. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1946

1. Report on activities of Japanese Division. (Reference Document 'A')
2. Future Policy on Deportation and Repatriation. (Reference Document 'B')
3. Future Policy on Relocation and Controls in Canada. (Reference Document 'B')
4. Future Policy on Status of Canadian-born Japanese in Japan.  
(Reference Document 'C')
5. Review of existing Orders in Council relating to  
Japanese to determine what continuing powers  
required to carry out policy decisions. (Reference Document 'D')
6. Report on activities of Custodian. (Reference Document 'E')

Eric Stangroom,  
A/Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
December 11, 1946.



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SECRET

Ref. Document 'A'

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMSRE: Report on Japanese Repatriation and Relocation1. Distribution of Japanese in Canada at November 30, 1946

British Columbia.....	6981
Alberta.....	4262
Saskatchewan.....	503
Manitoba.....	1193
Ontario.....	6617
Quebec.....	1210
Nova Scotia.....	1
New Brunswick.....	10
Prince Edward Island.....	6
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	31

Total 20,814

2. Of the 6,981 persons of Japanese origin in British Columbia, only 1000 remain in Departmental Housing Projects in the Kootenay Valley, the rest being widely distributed in self-sustaining employment scattered throughout the interior. By the end of December, the Department will be maintaining only one Housing Centre at New Denver, B.C., with a maximum of 700 or 800 people, mostly invalids and other unemployables.

3. Relocation

In the first eleven months of 1946 approximately 4,600 Japanese relocated from British Columbia east of the Rockies. For all practical purposes, movement eastward from British Columbia is completed except for isolated individual families and single persons.

It is proposed to continue to provide assistance for the movement of these people from British Columbia and for Japanese from Southern Alberta eastward on a voluntary basis during the year 1947 by provision of free transportation and subsistence allowances. The Japanese Placement Offices east of the Rockies will be maintained during 1947 to facilitate placement and re-establishment in areas from Saskatchewan east.

In addition to those in the departmental settlements in B.C., there are now approximately 825 Japanese in seven hostels operated by the Department at points between Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and Farnham, Quebec. These people are in the process of placement, which should permit a gradual consolidation and closing of these hostels during 1947 as placement is accomplished.

4. Repatriation

A total of 3,674 Japanese have repatriated up to date in 1946 on a completely voluntary basis. The fifth ship, sailing December 23, 1946, will take from 270 to 300 more, who will probably be the last voluntary group of repatriates.

The Privy Council decision on the Japanese Orders was handed down a few days ago and holds that these Orders are *intra vires in toto*. This means that the Government may proceed with the deportation of Japanese Nationals who signed requests for repatriation (together with their dependents); naturalized Canadians who signed



(together with their dependents), and providing that they did not revoke before the end of hostilities with Japan; and Japanese Nationals who were interned (together with their dependents).

5. Conditions have, however, changed greatly since the Orders were enacted in December, 1945. The problem at that time consisted of a total of about 9,500 Japanese in our B.C. Housing Centres who resisted all efforts to relocate them and whose attitude was uncertain. In the last year this problem has been practically solved - firstly, by the repatriation on a voluntary basis of almost 4,000; and secondly, by the movement east of almost 4,600.

6. There is, however, a small group of approximately 30 Japanese Nationals who were interned for more than four years up to the end of June, 1946, because of resistance to evacuation and refusal to take self-sustaining employment. This group is now at the Moose Jaw Hostel and is still resisting placement, demanding in some cases to be sent back to British Columbia and in other cases to be deported by Government Order. In each individual case the records of the R.C.M.P. and the Department of Labour indicate reasonable grounds for deportation.

7. Arising out of the repatriation to Japan, the Department of External Affairs report that a number of Canadian-born persons of the Japanese race who were caught in Japan at the start of the war or who have repatriated along with their parents to Japan during the current year, may apply for admission into Canada in the near future. This raises the question as to future government policy with respect to these people.



- 3 -

8.

JAPANESE REQUESTING REPATRIATION

	ADULTS			CHILDREN			TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
	JN	NC	CB	TOTAL	JN	NC	CB	
Number of Declarations for Repatriation Signed	2982	1460	2554	6996	12	2	3803	10813
Of Signers, those repatriated to Japan up to Dec. 7, 1946	1169	534	560	2263	8	1	1198	3470
Of Signers, those self-supporting in British Columbia	607	358	544	1509	2	1	892	2404
Of Signers, those in Interior Housing in British Columbia	156	91	94	341			184	525
Of Signers, those who signed and are still in eastern provinces	213	90	409	712	1		283	996
Of Signers, those who have died since signing	27	23	7	57			15	72
Of Signers, those relocated east of Rockies since signing - Alberta	124	67	155	346			246	592
Sask.	38	14	23	75			83	158
Manitoba	62	22	39	123			96	219
Ontario	516	207	628	1351	1		688	2040
Quebec	69	54	95	218			118	336
Yukon	1			1				1
TOTALS	2982	1460	2554	6996	12	2	3803	10813



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SECRET

Ref. Document 'B'(1)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR  
TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

A. Deportation

The Department of Labour recommends:

1. That no Deportation Orders be issued for deportation of Japanese on the basis of voluntary declarations for repatriation.
2. That, with respect to the small group of Japanese Nationals formerly interned, approximately 30 in number, with dependents, who have shown continued lack of co-operation since release from internment, either of the following courses be pursued:

- (a) Orders for their deportation be issued by the Minister of Labour under the authority of P.C. 7355, and that these persons be deported accordingly on the next ship sailing for Japan on December 23rd, and that their dependents be treated as voluntary repatriates where they elect to go with the deportees, or
- (b) That the present accommodation provided for these Nationals and their dependents in the hostel at Moose Jaw be closed in the Spring of 1947 and if these parties still refuse to make efforts to support their families, they be dealt with under Canadian law relating to non-support, etc.

The Department of Labour is of opinion that the number of persons involved in possible deportation does not warrant the Government carrying through forcible deportation of persons of the Japanese race at this time. It is, therefore, of opinion that alternative (b) is preferable.

B. Relocation and Control of Persons of the Japanese Race in Canada.

The authority to control is given by Order in Council P.C. 946 which Order will lapse on March 31, 1947. The policy of the government has been declared to be one of distribution across Canada.

Relocation and distribution is now reasonably satisfactory. It will be noted that 4,262 are in Alberta and it is desirable that this number be reduced by moving a number to the eastern provinces. The number in British Columbia will be reduced to a total of about 6,500 which is not considered excessive when it is remembered that about 800 will be under the care of the Labour Department in the housing centre and sanitarium at New Denver.

It could be said that the relocation task had been completed and a solution of a problem which has been bothering the British Columbia people for a long period of years had been found.

If any assurance could be obtained that these persons would not move back to British Columbia as soon as Order in Council P.C. 946 lapsed there would be no need to suggest any further control of the movement of persons of the Japanese race. No such assurance can be given.



The opinion of the Labour Department, therefore, is that the safe course to pursue is to continue control of movement for a year or two more until these people become more settled in their new locations.

The recommendation, therefore, is that legislation be introduced in place of P.C. 946 in form as per attached draft (Ref. Doc. No. 'B'(2)). enabling continued control over movement of Japanese in Canada, the lifetime of this Act to be for one year. Any continuing authority required by the Custodian to complete the liquidation and distribution of property of Japanese in the former evacuated area could be incorporated therein.

The introduction of a Bill in the House of Commons will undoubtedly create a critical debate. It is, we believe, a fact that the incentive against controlling the movement of Japanese is becoming stronger. The Manitoba Free Press carried an editorial in this connection on December 9, 1946.

The Department of Labour is of the opinion that the safe course would be to exercise control of movement for a further period; nevertheless, it recognizes the objection inherent in the recommendation for introduction of legislation and refers for consideration of the committee an alternative plan to avoid the necessity of bringing a Bill into the House of Commons which is to rely on keeping a reasonable control by giving assistance in placement, transportation, and welfare. This alternative would mean that no special power would be required and the only authority which would be needed from the House of Commons would be a passing of an item in the estimates providing for an appropriation for placement, transportation and welfare of the evacuated Japanese in Canada, the wording of the item to be so framed as to permit of the continuation of existing administrative arrangements for voluntary relocations.



SECRET

Ref. Document B\*(2)

DRAFT BILL FOR INFORMATION OF CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

An Act to provide for the Resettlement of Displaced  
Persons of the Japanese Race

WHEREAS during the war certain persons of the Japanese race resident on the Pacific Coast manifested sympathy with or support of Japan as a result of which it became necessary as a security measure to remove from the coastal area of British Columbia all persons of the Japanese race;

AND WHEREAS the Governor in Council by Order in Council P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943, enacted under the authority of the War Measures Act has made provision for relocation and resettlement of persons of the Japanese race displaced by removal from the coastal area;

AND WHEREAS the said Order in Council will cease to be operative with the expiration of the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed undesirable in the public interest that persons of the Japanese race displaced by removal from the coastal area should again be permanently settled on the Pacific Coast of Canada;

AND WHEREAS the responsibility for the resettlement of persons of the Japanese race displaced by the aforesaid removal from the coastal area is a responsibility of the people of Canada as a whole;

NOW THEREFORE His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:-

Short Title

1. This Act may be cited as The Japanese Resettlement Act, 1946.

Interpretation

2. In this Act and in any order or regulation made thereunder, unless the context otherwise requires

- (a) "Minister" means the Minister of Labour
- (b) "displaced person" means a person of the Japanese race who left the coastal area of British Columbia during the war after the fifteenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and forty-two
- (c) "person of the Japanese race" means a person who
  - (i) is wholly or partly of the Japanese race,
  - (ii) was, on the fifteenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and forty-two, ordinarily resident in the coastal area of British Columbia, and
  - (iii) left that area on or after the said fifteenth day of February.
- (d) "coastal area" means that area of the Province of British Columbia including all islands west of a line commencing at Boundary Point No. 7 on the International Boundary between the Dominion of

...



Canada and Alaska, thence following the line of the "Cascade Mountains", as defined by paragraph 2 of section 24 of the Interpretation Act of British Columbia, being Chapter 1 of the Revised Statutes of 1936, to the northwest corner of Lot 1410, Range 5, Coast Land District, thence due east to a point due north of the northwest corner of Lot 373, Range 5, Coast Land District, thence due south to said northwest corner of Lot 373 being a point on the aforementioned line of the "Cascade Mountains", (being the area surrounding the village Municipality of Terrace), thence following said line of the "Cascade Mountains" to the western boundary of Township 5, Range 26, west of the sixth Meridian, thence following the northerly, easterly and southerly boundaries of said Township 5, to the southwest corner thereof, being a point on the line of the "Cascade Mountains", (being the area surrounding the Village Municipality of Hope); thence following the "Cascade Mountains" to the southerly Boundary of the Province.

(e) "removal" means the removal of a person of the Japanese race from one place in Canada to another pursuant to this Act.

3. The Minister may

(a) take such measures as he deems advisable to assist persons of the Japanese race to resettle themselves under this Act and to provide for shelter, maintenance, employment, care and welfare of such persons during the period of their resettlement and for such purposes, enter into contracts and acquire real or personal property on behalf of His Majesty or lease or dispose of the same, but no such contract shall be entered into by him for an amount in excess of fifteen thousand dollars nor shall any real property be purchased or disposed of by him pursuant to this Act except with the approval or under the authority of the Governor in Council as to the terms of purchase or disposition.

(b) employ persons of the Japanese race in the operation of any housing or employment projects or hostels administered or operated by the Department of Labour for the purposes of this Act, at such wage rates and terms as he deems advisable;

(c) make rules or regulations governing the welfare, conduct or discipline of persons of the Japanese race in any hostel, camp or housing project administered or operated by the Department of Labour for the purposes of this Act;

(d) make arrangements with any department or agency of the Government of Canada to assist in the administration of this Act;

(e) with the approval of the Governor in Council enter into an agreement with any province with respect to any of the matters enumerated in this section.

4. For the purpose of facilitating the resettlement in Canada of persons of the Japanese race the Governor in Council may make regulations and may authorize the Minister to make orders governing the movement of such persons in any area in Canada or from one place or area to another place or area in Canada.

General

5. The Minister may make such orders, rules or regulations as he deems necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.



6. (1) The Governor in Council shall appoint an officer to be known as the Commissioner of Japanese Placement who under the direction of the Minister is charged with the administration of this Act.

(2) Such other officers, clerks and employees as may be necessary for the administration of this Act shall be appointed or employed in the manner authorized by law.

(3) Notwithstanding this section or any other statute or law, the officers, clerks and employees employed by the Minister pursuant to order of the Governor in Council made on the fifth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and forty-three (P.C. 946) and who immediately prior to the coming into force of this Act were employed under that order, may be employed by the Minister for the purposes of this Act at the rate of remuneration received by them at that time and such officers, clerks and employees shall perform such duties as are assigned to them by the Minister.

7. (1) All real and personal property or any interest therein acquired by or vested in His Majesty in right of Canada by or pursuant to the order of the Governor in Council made on the fifth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and forty-three (P.C. 946) shall be deemed to have been acquired by the Minister on behalf of His Majesty pursuant to this Act.

(2) The Minister may, in the name of the British Columbia Security Commission, established by Order of the Governor in Council made on the fourth day of March, one thousand nine hundred and forty-two (P.C. 1655), execute any conveyance, transfer or other document necessary to transfer to His Majesty in right of Canada the title to any real or personal property or any interest therein held in the name of the said Commission.

8. Any person who resists or obstructs or attempts to resist or obstruct any peace officer or other person from carrying out any order made pursuant to the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of an offence against the Act.

9. Any person who contravenes or omits to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or any regulation or order made or given pursuant thereto is guilty of an offence and liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

10. Every document purporting to be or to contain or to be a copy of an order, certificate or authority made or given by the Minister in pursuance of the provisions of this Act and purporting to be signed by the Minister shall be received as evidence of such order, certificate or authority without proof of the signature or of the official character of the person appearing to have signed the same and without further proof thereof.

11. When any question arises in any prosecution under this Act as to whether the accused person is a person of the Japanese race as defined in this Act, the onus of proof that the accused person is not a person of the Japanese race shall lie upon the accused.

12. The costs and expenses incurred in the administration of this Act shall be paid out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for that purpose.

13. After the close of each fiscal year the Minister shall as soon as possible prepare an annual report respecting the administration of this Act and shall lay the said report before Parliament.

14. This Act shall come into force on a day to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor in Council and shall expire on a day to be fixed by such a proclamation.



THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

SECRET

Ref. Document 'C'

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

RE: Status of Canadian-Born Japanese in Japan  
and Japanese Nationals in Canada.

A.

Under P.C. 7356 Japanese who have either left Canada voluntarily in the past year, or who may be deported in future if policy to this effect is applied, would appear to suffer loss of their Canadian status. On the other hand, this Order in Council does not affect the Canadian nationality of persons born in Canada, and, in the opinion of the Department of Justice, P.C. 10773 of 1942 has no application except to persons who went to Japan in pursuance of an exchange agreement.

This means that there will be a number of Japanese of Canadian birth in Japan who will be Canadian citizens. As such they will have the right of entry into Canada under the Immigration Act.

Therefore, the question of policy with regard to their admissibility arises. In addition, questions as to their diplomatic protection in Japan and probable application for assistance in case of indigence require consideration.

B.

Both Canadian citizens of Japanese origin and Japanese nationals who have domicile in Canada have a legal right of entry into Canada in the future. The policy regarding their admissibility also arises, and our Mission in Tokyo requires instructions on such cases.

The possible courses of action are -

1. To refuse to recognize the right of entry. This would be contrary to existing law, and require legislation of a controversial nature;
2. To instruct the Mission that they should be prepared to grant visas for travel to Canada, but should not give any assistance in securing transportation, or
3. To instruct the Mission that it should issue visas and give assistance in securing accommodation to Canadian citizens, but not to Japanese nationals.



SECRET

Ref. Document 'D'

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMSRE: Orders in Council Relating to Persons  
of the Japanese Race

<u>P.C. No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>
9590	7/12/41	Makes the regulations re trading with the enemy applicable to the Japanese.  <u>Remarks:</u> May be allowed to expire.
9760	16/12/41	This made provision for compulsory re-registration by the R.C.M. Police of all persons of the Japanese race in Canada who had reached their sixteenth birthday and provided penalties for non-compliance. It contained instructions concerning issuance of Registration Certificates to Japanese and the details of registration.  <u>Remarks:</u> Required in connection with control of travel and residence, which would be most difficult without Japanese being required to carry registration cards.
9761	16/12/41	This prohibited any person of the Japanese race from using or operating any vessel in waters adjacent to the west coast of Canada without written authority from the Commissioner of the R.C.M. Police. It also provided for the seizure and detention of any vessel so illegally used by a person of the Japanese race and provided penalties for non-compliance.  <u>Remarks:</u> Has lapsed as vessels have all been sold and Japanese are still prohibited from entering the coastal area.
251	13/1/42	Prohibition of Japanese fishing licences.  <u>Remarks:</u> May be allowed to expire. Department of Fisheries.
1348	19/2/42	Authorizes Department of Mines and Resources to establish road camps for employment of evacuee Japanese. Amended by P.C. 6758 - 31/7/42 P.C. 8173 - 11/9/42
1665	4/3/42	<u>Remarks:</u> May be allowed to expire.  Creates British Columbia Security Commission to evacuate all Japanese from protected area, and to provide housing, welfare and placement for evacuees.



<u>P.C. No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>
		Amended by P.C. 2483 - 27/3/42 P.C. 2541 - 30/3/42 P.C. 3231 - 21/4/42
		Repealed except as to section 12 thereof by P.C. 946 - 9/2/43
		Section 12 vested in the Custodian all property in the protected area of evacuated Japanese except liquid assets.
		Remarks: The complete repeal of this order is a matter for decision of the Department of Secretary of State.
4615	2/6/42	Concurred in agreement of B.C. Security Commission with Province of Alberta for temporary placement of evacuee Japanese in sugar beet culture in Alberta, and containing a provision that at end of war the Commission would at request of province remove the evacuees.
		Remarks: May be allowed to expire. The obligation of the B.C. Security Commission under this agreement has by P.C. 946 of February 9, 1943, been assumed by the Minister of Labour. The obligation under the agreement remains although the order lapses.
6247	20/7/42	As amended by P.C. 469 of January 19, 1943. Revokes P.C. 5523 of June 29, 1942. P.C. 6247 amended to give Custodian authority to complete liquidation of fishing vessels of evacuee Japanese, and authorizes the Custodian to sell and liquidate or otherwise dispose of all property of persons of Japanese race evacuated from protected area which was placed in the custody of the Custodian by any other order. This order is therefore an extension of the powers vested in the Custodian by section 12 of P.C. 1665 of March 4, 1942, as well as amending P.C. 6247 of July 20, 1942, referred to above.
		Remarks: Continuation of this order and of section 12 of P.C. 1665 a matter for Secretary of State. Evidently, however, this authority is required to be continued.
10773	26/11/42	This provides that British subjects who have applied for repatriation to an enemy country during the war shall in leaving Canada lose their Canadian citizenship.



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<u>P.C. No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>
946	5/2/43	<p><u>Remarks:</u> This is an order of the Secretary of State and decision on this order rests with the Secretary of State and Department of External Affairs. Presumably the order may be permitted to lapse.</p> <p>Dissolves B.C. Security Commission, Revokes P.C. 1665 of March 4, 1942, except section 12.</p> <p>Vests in the Minister of Labour power to provide for the welfare, placement, control of movement and discipline of persons of the Japanese race in Canada, to issue licences to Japanese to acquire an interest in real property which is otherwise prohibited. Amended by P.C. 5973 of September 14, 1945, and P.C. 5793 of December 18, 1945, P.C. 5637 of August 16, 1945, and P.C. 9743 of December 24, 1943.</p>
1422	22/2/43	<p><u>Remarks:</u> To be continued in effect by extension of emergency powers or replaced by legislation if continued controls over movement and placement of Japanese in Canada is necessary.</p> <p>This suspends the operation of B.C. legislation which prohibits the employment of Orientals on Crown timberlands.</p>
4002	17/5/43	<p><u>Remarks:</u> May be allowed to expire.</p> <p>This approves of an agreement entered into between the Province of Alberta and the B.C. Security Commission under which the Security Commission agreed to pay for the schooling of Japanese children moved to Alberta at the rate of \$5.00 per pupil per month for Public School education.</p>
4365	28/5/43	<p><u>Remarks:</u> The obligation under this agreement which is now vested in the Minister of Labour by P.C. 946 of February 9, 1942, still exists and will continue to exist even if the order lapses. The order may be permitted to lapse.</p> <p>Authorized the Minister of Labour to operate the fuel cutting project with Japanese labour in B.C. to be financed out of revolving fund.</p>
7355	15/12/45	<p><u>Remarks:</u> This may be allowed to lapse.</p> <p>Provides for deportation of Japanese who requested repatriation to Japan and for payment of repatriation allowances to persons deported or repatriated on a voluntary basis; and payment of transportation expenses for these persons.</p> <p><u>Remarks:</u> Continuation of order beyond expiry date is a matter of Government policy.</p>



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<u>P.C. No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>
7356	15/12/45	<p>Revokes naturalization of naturalized Canadians of Japanese race who are deported or repatriated under P.C. 7355.</p> <p><u>Remarks:</u> See 7355.</p>
7357	15/12/45	<p>Authorizes the establishment of an Inquiry Commission to inquire into the activities of persons of Japanese race with a view to determining whether they should be deported because of disloyalty or lack of co-operation.</p> <p><u>Remarks:</u> See 7355.</p>
219	22/1/46	<p>Establishes the rate of exchange of money turned in by Japanese repatriates for transmission to Japan and authorizes the Controller of the Treasury to make necessary arrangements with U.S. authorities to provide for transfer of funds of Japanese repatriates from Canada via U.S. via a Supreme Allied Commander in Japan to repatriated Japanese.</p> <p><u>Remarks:</u> Will be required as long as funds are being transferred to repatriates, pursuant to provisions of P.C. 7355 above.</p>



SECRET

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Ref. Document 'E'

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

RE: Property of Japanese Evacuated from the Protected Area of B.C.

At the end of July, 1946, the number of Ledger Accounts in the Vancouver Office of the Custodian for Japanese was reduced to 3,842, and the amount of Evacuee money involved was, at that time, \$1,418,671.00. The credit balances now stand at \$1,037,313.17, and every effort is being made to remit the total available funds to all Japanese residing outside of the Department of Labour projects.

While liquidation is mainly complete, there are approximately 35 properties still available for sale and between 30-40 properties owned by Organizations, which, up to the present time have not been liquidated for the reason that amendments to existing Orders in Council are necessary.

Immediately after the proposed evacuation was announced, many Japanese started to sell their property at ridiculously low figures in fear of Government confiscation. Further exploitation of the Japanese was prevented when pursuant to Order in Council P.C. 1665, dated 4th of March, 1942, the Custodian took over the problem of administering the assets of approximately 23,000 people.

The Custodian experienced extreme difficulty in dealing with the large number of substandard buildings and the vast quantity of inferior personal property which the Japanese possessed.

It being well known that the property belonged to Japanese, there were many cases of breaking and entering which resulted in thefts, e.g. plumbing and lighting fixtures, and it was impossible for the Custodian or the local police to give the necessary protection. In addition to this, there were a considerable number of fires.

The Custodian did not know how long the war would last, nor whether the Japanese would ever be permitted to return to the Protected Area. It was therefore impossible to determine if there would be any equity if the Custodian continued to hold the properties during the enforced absence of the Japanese.

As a result of a year's experience, a report was made to a special committee of the Cabinet and the Custodian was instructed to proceed with the policy of liquidation. (P.C. 469), dated 19th January, 1943).

Two independent Committees were established. One is known as the Advisory Committee on Greater Vancouver Properties. The following members were appointed to the Board on the 8th of March, 1943: Honourable Mr. Justice Sidney Smith of the Appellate Court of B.C., Chairman; Alderman Charles Jones; Mr. Kishizo Kimura (resigned 20th July, 1943).

The other Committee is known as Advisory Committee on Rural Properties. The following members were appointed on the 15th of March, 1943: His Honour Judge David Whiteside, New Westminster, Chairman; Messrs. D.E. MacKenzie; J.J. McLellan; Hal Menzies; Yasutaro Yamaga. Mr. McLellan resigned almost immediately and Mayor W. Mott of New Westminster was appointed in his stead. Mr. Yamaga resigned on the 26th of May, 1943. Mr. MacKenzie died on the 11th of October, 1944.

The Custodian asked both Committees whether or not they would recommend liquidation. The members visited many Japanese properties and unanimously endorsed, with the approval of the Japanese members, a policy of liquidation. Shortly afterwards both Japanese members resigned and no new Japanese appointments were made.

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The Committee were asked to report as to the method of liquidation and they recommended that Catalogues be prepared, listing the properties; that the properties be individually appraised by Agents approved by the Boards; that parcels be not sold for less than the fixed value and that public notices be published in the press calling for tenders. The policy, as outlined, was adopted. All offers for land have been referred to the Advisory Committees and their approval obtained before any have been accepted.

Insofar as the rural properties are concerned, a sale of 741 parcels was made to the Director, Veterans' Land Act, as the Government desired to acquire property for the purpose of rehabilitating returned men. The Advisory Committee recommended acceptance of the sale price eventually agreed upon.

Chattels have been sold on the basis of recommendations by the Committees, that is, by public auctions conducted by licenced auctioneers, except in those cases where chattels were essential to the operation of farms, in which case the tenant or owner of the farm was given an opportunity to buy at an appraised value.

The policy of liquidation has resulted in the Custodian paying out large sums of money to the Evacuees and paying debts on their behalf. In co-operation with the Department of Labour, the Custodian releases such funds to Evacuees, still in Interior Housing Schemes operated by the Department of Labour, as are considered necessary. Where Evacuees have moved East from the Province of British Columbia, the Custodian releases the balance.

Sales up to June, 1946, were as follows:

<u>SALES</u>	<u>APPRAISAL</u>	<u>SALES VALUE</u>
Greater Vancouver	462	\$913,712.00
Rural	396	532,907.00
Veterans' Land Act	741	847,878.00
	1,599	\$ 2,294,497.00
		\$2,405,544.00

Proceeds from sales, including farms sold to the Director, Veterans' Land Act, exceeded fixed valuations by \$111,047.00

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- 3 -

STATEMENT OF CASH REALIZATION OF  
EVACUEE ASSETS & REVENUES

Fishing vessels & scows	\$	202,104.96
" nets and gear		101,164.48
Cars		63,583.98
Trucks		94,525.83
Sundry Business assets		187,834.31
Household effects		249,833.03
Radios		17,024.64
Farm Equipment		14,858.33
Life Insurance		48,354.36
Securities		54,538.27
Sundry a/os. Receivable		136,356.28
Sundries		33,377.89
Veterans' Land Act		808,673.22
Real Estate Sales		1,574,350.78
Real Estate Income		491,170.25
Dividends from Securities		8,310.46
Rooming House Rentals & Chattels		33,217.06
Sundry Miscellaneous		
Transfers between Jap.		
a/os. & a/os. Receivable		
		<u>749,092.05</u>
		<u>\$4,868,369.98</u>



Minutes

December 13, 1946



THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

SECRET

A meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems was held in the Privy Council Office, on Friday, December 13, 1946, at 2.30 p.m.

Present:

The Acting Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. McCann),

Chairman

Also Present:

✓ The Deputy Minister of Labour,  
Mr. A. MacNamara

The Under Secretary of State, and Deputy Custodian,  
Dr. E.H. Coleman

Mr. A.H. Brown,  
Department of Labour,

✓ Mr. D.H.W. Henry,  
Department of Justice,

✓ Mr. A.R. Menzies,  
Department of External Affairs,

✓ Mr. R.G. Robertson,  
Prime Minister's Office,

✓ Mr. K.W. Wright,  
Counsel to the Custodian,

Mr. R. Ranger,  
Privy Council Office,

Mr. Eric Stangroom,  
Department of Labour

A/Secretary

1. The Chairman enquired as to the reaction in various parts of the country to the present distribution of persons of Japanese race, and as to measures required to maintain adequate stability.
2. The Deputy Minister of Labour enlarged on the details contained in the reference documents before the Committee, referring to the opposition of the Alberta government to the present concentration of Japanese in that Province; and also the choice between continuing existing Orders in Council under the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, new legislation, and providing only for welfare and voluntary relocation through an item in the estimates.
3. The Under Secretary of State explained the Custodian's position, mentioning that if Japanese were not to be allowed to return to the coast, authority would be required to dispose of halls, churches, etc., owned by Japanese societies. Mr. Wright outlined the process by which, at present, title to the property of individuals was conveyed.
4. Mr. Brown and Mr. Henry agreed that consolidation of present Orders in Council was not feasible, and that new powers could not be obtained under the present National Emergency Transitional Powers Act.



5. Mr. Robertson and Mr. Menzies pointed to the necessity for decision regarding various categories of Japanese who might be entitled to re-admission into Canada. It was agreed that the Secretary of State's Department should discuss the relevant legal issues with the Department of Justice.

6. The Deputy Minister of Labour mentioned that Japanese pensioners of World War I, mostly widows and mothers, would be seeking re-instatement. The Under Secretary of State felt this should be done when feasible, and that the payment of accumulated sums be made in the light of investigations by our mission in Tokyo.

He then read a telegram received by the Clerk of the Privy Council from the Minister of Veterans Affairs:-

"Vancouver, December 12, 1946. Confidential

"Would prefer Japanese question be deferred until my return to Ottawa December Twenty-third STOP Otherwise request that you firmly state my position that I am definitely against any Japanese being allowed back to protected areas of British Columbia.

(signed) Ian Mackenzie."

7. As there was not a quorum of Ministers at the Committee, it was decided to distribute the file of reference documents to all members of the Cabinet for their information, and that an endeavour be made to have the Committee meet again on Wednesday, January 8, 1947, at 2.30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3.30 p.m.

Eric Stangroom,  
A/Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
Ottawa, December 18, 1946.



Agenda - January 10, 1947



SECRET

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

COPY NO. 12

## CABINET COMMITTEE ON

## JAPANESE PROBLEMS

AGENDA FOR SIXTH MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE PRIVY  
COUNCIL OFFICE AT 11 A.M., FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 1947

1. Report on activities of Japanese Division. (Reference Document 'A' circulated December 13, 1946)
2. Future Policy on Deportation and Repatriation. (Reference Document 'B1' circulated December 13, 1946)
3. Future Policy on Relocation and Controls in Canada. (Reference Document 'B2' circulated December 13, 1946)
4. Future Policy on Status of Canadian-born Japanese in Japan. (Reference Document 'C' circulated December 13, 1946)
5. Review of existing Orders in Council relating to Japanese to determine what continuing powers required to carry out policy decisions. (Reference Document 'D' circulated December 13, 1946)
6. Report on activities of Custodian. (Reference Document 'E' circulated December 13, 1946)
7. Disability and Dependent Pensioners World War I - Japanese. (Resolution adopted by Cabinet Committee on Demobilization and Re-establishment, December 27, 1946)
8. Removal of prohibition - Japanese fishing - interior of British Columbia.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.Privy Council Office,  
January 7, 1947.



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Minutes  
January 10, 1947

January 10, 1947



SECRET

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

COPY NO. 12

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

The sixth meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems was held in the Privy Council Chamber, on Friday, January 10, 1947, at 11:00 a.m.

Present:

✓ The Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. H. Mitchell) in the chair,

The Minister of Veterans Affairs,  
(Mr. I.A. Mackenzie),

The Solicitor General,  
(Mr. J. Jean),

Also present:

✓ The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
(Mr. L.B. Pearson),

✓ The Deputy Minister of Labour,  
(Mr. A. MacNamara),

✓ From Prime Minister's Office,  
(Mr. R.G. Robertson),

✓ From Dept. of Labour,  
(Mr. A.H. Brown),

✓ From Dept. of External Affairs,  
(Mr. A.R. Menzies),

✓ From Department of Justice,  
(Mr. D.W. Mundell),  
(Mr. D.H.W. Henry),

Counsel to Custodian of Enemy Property,  
(Mr. K.W. Wright),

From Dept. of Veterans Affairs,  
(Mr. O.C. Elliott),

✓ From Privy Council Office,  
(Mr. Raymond Ranger, Secretary)

I DEPORTATION AND CONTROL OVER MOVEMENT OF JAPANESE

1. The Minister of Labour reviewed the reports (Documents "A" and "B1") on the repatriation and relocation of Japanese and recommended:

- (a) that Japanese who do not wish to be repatriated be not deported; and
- (b) that the control over movement of Japanese be continued for a year or two until these persons had become more settled in their new locations.  
(Documents "A" and "B1" circulated December 13, 1946).

2. The Committee, after considerable discussion, agreed to make the following recommendations to Cabinet:



- (a) that no action be taken to deport any persons of Japanese race under Order-in-Council P.C. 7355, December 15, 1945, but that financial assistance, authorized to voluntary repatriates, be continued under Order-in-Council P.C. 7355; and
- (b) that control over movement in Canada of Japanese persons be continued for a year or two.

## II. LEGISLATION - RE CONTROL OVER MOVEMENT OF JAPANESE

3. Mr. Brown suggested that if recommendation 2 (b) above-mentioned is approved, this control over movement could be continued:

- (a) by authority to be provided in proposed bill to extend for one year the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, by extending the life of Order-in-Council P.C. 946, February 5, 1943; or

- (b) by enacting new legislation.

4. After discussion, the Committee recommended:

- (a) that the procedure of extending the life of Order-in-Council P.C. 946, February 5, 1943, be followed in preference to the enactment of a new act; and

- (b) that the Department of Labour, in consultation with the Department of Justice, review Order-in-Council P.C. 946 to eliminate such provisions as are not required for the above purposes.

## III. STATUS OF CANADIAN JAPANESE RETURNING TO CANADA

5. Mr. Robertson inquired as to the status of Canadian Japanese who, at their request, were repatriated to Japan, and now wished to return to Canada.

6. Mr. Pearson stated that, due to the fact that these persons were Canadian, they could not be refused permission to return to Canada. He explained, however, that it was most difficult to obtain passage to Canada, and that these persons would not be able to return for some time.

7. Mr. Robertson further inquired if naturalized Canadians of Japanese origin, who had been repatriated, could not be considered as having been deported, in which case they would come under Order-in-Council P.C. 7356, December 15, 1945, which provides that all naturalized Canadians of Japanese origin, deported from Canada, lost their citizenship upon deportation.

8. After considerable discussion, the Committee agreed that this question be referred to the Secretary of State Department and Justice Department for further study, and that a report be made to this Committee as soon as possible.

## IV. RE - ORDERS-IN-COUNCIL

9. Mr. Henry, referring to (Document "D"), suggested that the Department of Labour review all Orders-in-Council affecting Japanese, administered by the Department, and recommend to the "Inter-departmental Committee on Orders-in-Council under Emergency Powers" those to be revoked, amended or continued, so as to retain control over movement of Japanese. Mr. Henry suggested further that similar action be taken by the Under-Secretary of State and Deputy Custodian of Enemy Property in relation to the Orders-in-Council administered by him. (Document "D" circulated December 13, 1946).



10. The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recommend that such steps be taken immediately by both the Department of Labour and the Under-Secretary of State and Deputy Custodian.

V.

LIQUIDATION OF JAPANESE PROPERTIES

11. Mr. Wright reviewed the report (Document "E") in connection with the properties of Japanese evacuated from the protected area of British Columbia. Mr. Wright reported that there were approximately 40 properties, scattered along the coast, owned by Japanese organizations which, up to the present time, had not been liquidated, due to the impossibility of locating the members of these organizations and, if located, of obtaining their approval for the sale of these properties. Mr. Wright further stated that the Custodian of Enemy Property had no present authority to liquidate these properties. (Document "E" circulated December 13, 1946).

12. The Committee, after discussion, recommended that the Custodian discuss this matter with Department of Justice and submit a recommendation to the Committee.

VI.

JAPANESE PENSIONERS - WORLD WAR I

13. Mr. Menzies reviewed the problem which had arisen as to what policy should be adopted regarding payment of pensions to Japanese who had been awarded pensions by the Canadian Pension Commission because of disabilities incurred in World War I, payment of which had been suspended since the outbreak of war with Japan.
14. Mr. Mackenzie stated that this problem represented an approximate total amount of \$60,000. owed to 22 pensioners, most of whom were Japanese women nationals; the maximum amount to each pensioner being \$2500.
15. Mr. Mackenzie further advised that at the sixteenth meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Demobilization and Re-establishment, held on December 27, 1946, the following decision had been reached:

"The Committee, after discussion, agreed that the payment of pensions awarded by the Canadian Pension Commission to those Japanese veterans of World War I, now resident in Japan, should be paid as from the date of suspension, provided there is no evidence of anti-allied activities on the part of the pensioners concerned during World War II".

16. After considerable discussion, the Committee agreed to recommend:

- (a) that payment of pensions awarded by the Canadian Pension Commission to those Japanese veterans of World War I, now resident in Japan, should be paid as from the date of suspension, provided there was no evidence of anti-allied activities during World War II on the part of the pensioner concerned;
- (b) that the Department of Justice decide the date on which these payments should be made; and
- (c) that the Department of External Affairs, through the Canadian Mission in Japan, be responsible for investigation as to anti-allied activities during World War II on the part of the pensioners concerned.

VII.

FISHING LICENCES FOR JAPANESE

17. Mr. Mitchell reviewed the situation regarding issuance of fishing licences to Japanese in British Columbia, and recommended:



- 4 -

- (a) that existing orders issued by the Minister of Labour to regulate the issue of fishing licences to Japanese be rescinded; and
- (b) that authority for granting such fishing licences be left to the Federal Department of Fisheries and the Provincial Government.

18. The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recommend that such action be taken.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
January 13, 1947.



Agenda - April 21, 1947



THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

SECRET

COPY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

Agenda for eighth meeting to be held in the  
Privy Council Chamber, Monday, April 21, 1947  
at 10:00 a.m.

1. Claims - Japanese Evacuees (Document JAP 5 attached)
2. Control over movement and residence - persons of Japanese origin - within or into province of British Columbia (Document JAP 4 attached)
3. Issuance of fishing licences in Pacific Coastal waters  
- veterans of Japanese origin (Document JAP 2 circulated April 12, 1947)
4. Return to Canada of Japanese (Canadian-born, naturalized or nationals retaining Canadian domicile)
  - (a) persons who left Canada before the war
  - (b) persons who were repatriated (Document JAP 3 circulated April 16, 1947)
5. Custodian's authority - liquidation of properties of Japanese associations or societies.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
April 17, 1947.



COPY

EAD/CM

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CANADA

Ottawa April 1, 1947

152189  
Your File No. J-175

I have been asked to prepare a draft Report to Council for the appointment of a Commissioner under the Inquiries Act to investigate claims made by persons of the Japanese race in respect of the disposition of their property and also in respect of claims for loss resulting from their evacuation from the protected areas of British Columbia.

I understand that as a matter of policy the Government has not yet decided upon the types of claims that will be admitted; I have, therefore, set out in the schedule the complete list of claims. The schedule can then be amended in accordance with Government decisions on policy.

Encl.

"F. P. Varcoe"

Deputy Minister

The Under Secretary of State

O T T A W A



OTTAWA , April , 1947

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

The undersigned has the honour to report as follows:

That during the war persons of the Japanese race were evacuated from the protected areas of British Columbia and by Order in Council P.C. 1665 of March 4, 1942, as amended by Order in Council P.C. 2483 of March 27, 1942, it was provided that all property situated in any protected area of British Columbia belonging to any person of the Japanese race (except fishing vessels subject to Order in Council P.C. 288 of January 13, 1942, hereinafter referred to, and deposits of money, shares of stock, debentures, bonds or other securities) delivered up to any person by the owner pursuant to an Order of the Minister of Justice or which was turned over to the Custodian by or on behalf of the owner, or which the owner on being evacuated from the protected area, was unable to take with him, should be vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian as defined in the Regulations respecting Trading with the Enemy.

That by Order in Council P.C. 469 of January 19, 1943, it was provided that whenever the Custodian had been vested with the power and responsibility of controlling and managing any property of persons of the Japanese race evacuated from the said protected areas, such power and responsibility should be deemed to include and to have included from the date of the vesting of such property in the Custodian, the power to liquidate, sell or otherwise dispose of such property.

That during the war fishing vessels belonging to persons of the Japanese race were impounded and by Order in Council P.C. 288 of January 13, 1942, a committee on the disposal/



disposal of Japanese fishing vessels was established and was empowered, inter alia, to make such arrangements as would make it possible for the owners of such detained vessels freely to negotiate for sales of such vessels.

That pursuant to the above mentioned Orders real and personal property of persons of the Japanese race was disposed of and claims have been made by persons of the Japanese race that they have suffered pecuniary loss by reason of such disposition of their property and also by reason of their evacuation from the protected areas of British Columbia.

*debate in  
next steps:  
see memo*

That it is deemed advisable to appoint a Commissioner under Part I of the Inquiries Act to investigate the said claims and to make recommendations with respect thereto.

The undersigned, therefore, has the honour to

recommend:

1. That the Honourable . . . . . be appointed a Commissioner pursuant to the Inquiries Act, chapter ninety-nine of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, to inquire into the claims set out in the Schedule hereto of persons of the Japanese race for pecuniary loss sustained by them by reason of their evacuation from the protected areas of British Columbia and the management and disposition of their real and personal property and to report his findings to the Governor in Council.

*the reg  
major  
person*

2. That the Commissioner shall examine into each claim and make a report to the Governor in Council advising as to the amount of compensation that in his opinion would be fair and reasonable.

3. That the Commissioner shall give public notice in such manner as he deems advisable of the time for the filing of claims and for the hearing of evidence and that all claims shall be in writing, verified by statutory declaration and filed in the office of the Custodian at Vancouver, British Columbia.



4. That the Commissioner be authorized to engage the services of such counsel, technical advisers or other experts, clerks, reporters and assistants as he may deem necessary or advisable.
5. That the expenses of and incidental to the said inquiry be paid out of moneys appropriated by Parliament.

SCHEDULE

1. Claims that any real or personal property was sold pursuant to the Orders hereinbefore referred to at a price less than the market value thereof at the time of sale.
2. Claims that any real or personal property was sold pursuant to the Orders hereinbefore referred to at a price less than the market value thereof at the time of the evacuation of the owner.
3. Claims for compensation for loss of revenue by reason of the sale pursuant to the Orders hereinbefore referred to of revenue-producing real or personal property.
4. Claims for compensation for loss of real or personal property by theft while such property was under the control and management of
  - (a) the Custodian, or
  - (b) a person appointed by the owner to control and manage such property.
5. Claims for loss of life insurance policies by reason of failure to pay premiums directly attributable to the evacuation of the policyholder.
6. Claims for loss of income directly attributable to the evacuation.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of State.



March 27, 1947

MEMORANDUM TO THE SPECIAL CABINET COMMITTEE ON CLAIMS BY JAPANESE EVACUEES

The type of claim in which the Custodian is particularly interested relates to the liquidation of real and personal property left in the Protected Area of British Columbia. Representations made indicate that the Japanese claimants feel that the losses they incurred went far beyond this. By reason of evacuation they were required to surrender their businesses and the positions in which they were employed and generally speaking, their chances of earning a livelihood were cut off. All such claims are based upon the economic loss caused by the results of evacuation. Unless the enquiry is strictly confined to claims of the nature mentioned in the Prime Minister's announcement of January 24, 1947, it is reasonable to suggest that claims put forward will go beyond those referred to in the statement. In support of this, I attach copy of a Questionnaire which, I understand, is being used by the Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy in their survey.

Apart from demands for compensation covering economical and personal property losses, claims may be made in regard to parcels of real estate which the Custodian advertised and sold on the basis of valuation and with the approval of the Advisory Committees.

At a meeting of the Special Cabinet Committee on Claims by Japanese Evacuees held in the Privy Council Chamber on Monday, March 24, 1947, it was agreed that it would be advisable to appoint a Commissioner under Part I of the Inquiries Act to recommend the amount, if any, which, in his opinion, should be granted to any Japanese claimant.

The following are matters to be considered in reaching decisions as to the scope of such inquiry:

1. Real Estate - The difference between the sale price and fair market value. It is altogether likely that the Japanese idea of value will not coincide with the market value, but in my opinion, a properly established market value should be the only basis for claim in this connection.

The inquiry should be on the basis set out in Section 47 of the Exchequer Court Act, as follows:

"47. The Court, in determining the amount to be paid to any claimant for any land or property taken for the purpose of any public work, or for injury done



to any land or property, shall estimate or assess the value or amount thereof at the time when the land or property was taken, or the injury complained of was occasioned".

Is this the understanding as to the scope of the inquiry?

2. Real Estate Depreciation - The possibility of the market value having decreased at the time of sale due to depreciation of the property after the Japanese were evacuated.

This would apply chiefly to rural properties and possibly occurred in connection with the Fraser Valley Fruit Farms. It should be noted that the appraisal of these lands was, I believe, made in June of 1942, so that there would not have been an exceptionally long period in which depreciation would have taken place insofar as the actual land and buildings were concerned. Greenhouses quickly fall into disrepair and quite a disparity exists between the Japanese valuation and the amount at which some of this property has been sold.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to review claims arising out of depreciation?

3. Real Estate - Loss of Revenue - Some claims in connection with real estate may be based on the fact that after evacuation, the properties were leased and the income was more than sufficient to carry the overhead and this income was cut off by the sale of the property. The Japanese may claim that they were compelled to expend the capital derived from the liquidation of real estate in order to maintain their families in the Housing Centres and elsewhere.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to review claims falling within this category?

4. Chattels - The difference between the sale price and the market value of the goods actually sold. There are cases where losses were sustained by those who were operating businesses such as stores, dry cleaning plants, garages, shingle and rice mills, drug stores and rooming operations. In a number of cases, stock in trade, plant machinery and equipment were sold by the Custodian on the basis of valuation, but the matter of goodwill or the revenue bearing possibilities of these operations were lost to the Japanese. In addition to this, where the real estate did not belong to the owner of these types of busi-



nesses, dismantling, removing and re-assembling costs entered into the price which the purchaser was prepared to pay for such chattels and equipment.

Certain types of equipment in use by the Japanese were definitely old-fashioned and while capable of producing revenue in the hands of the Japanese, did not have a sale value equivalent to the Japanese idea of its worth.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to review claims of this type?

5. Chattels - The Market value of goods unaccounted for because of loss by theft, depreciation, while in storage warehouses which belonged to the Custodian. This not only concerns household effects, but a certain amount of equipment, the main item of which is most probably that of fishing tackle. The matter to be considered is whether, the Custodian having exercised all reasonable care, there is any responsibility on the Government for shortages which have occurred for the reasons above mentioned.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to entertain such claims?

6. Chattels - The market value of goods unaccounted for because of loss by theft, depreciation, while in storage and under the control of Agents appointed by the Japanese.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to review claims for loss

occasioned as aforesaid?

7. Fishing Vessels - These are referred to (Item 6) in the attached copy of the Questionnaire. In connection with fishing vessels, approximately 90% of these sales were negotiated by the Japanese themselves through the Japanese Fishing Vessels disposal Committee. The boats which were sold by the Custodian were of the poorest type and dissatisfaction has been expressed in some cases in regard to the prices obtained.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to consider claims in respect to sales both by the Japanese Fishing Vessels Disposal Committee and the relatively small number of sales effected by the Custodian after the Fishing Vessels Disposal Committee had been disbanded?

8. Motor Vehicles - Automobiles are referred to (Item 7) in the Questionnaire, copy of which is attached. Complaints have been very considerable in regard to the prices obtained for cars and trucks.

By Government Notice, dated February 26, 1942, the Minister of Justice ordered the Japanese to deliver up motor vehicles, cameras, radios and



firearms to the R.C.M.P., and a notice was published in the press requiring surrender by March 9, 1942. In the interval, many Japanese disposed of their cars at very low prices or by turning them over to friends. It was the opinion of the British Columbia Security Commission that it would not be desirable for Evacuees to be permitted to take their cars out of the Protected Area and as the majority of vehicles were stored at Hastings Park, not under cover, it was considered that due to rapid depreciation, liquidation was necessary. Independent appraisals were obtained on all vehicles and tenders equal to or in excess of the appraised price were accepted. It should be noted that these cars were sold at what was probably the poorest market in used car history. Apart from the Japanese vehicles, all used car dealers were heavily stocked and gasoline and tire shortages created a near panic situation and prices were cut as much as 50% on stocks in the hands of used car dealers.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to review claims within this category?

9. Life Insurance - There have been complaints that life insurance policies have had to be surrendered for cash value or allowed to lapse owing to insufficient earnings by the Japanese.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to entertain this type of claim?

10. Economic Losses - These are referred to in the attached copy of Questionnaire (Items 9 and 10). Due to war conditions, economic loss has been sustained by many citizens altogether apart from nationality and without the factor of evacuation. Business operations were curtailed in many instances due to lack of supplies, to say nothing of the economic disruption caused by enlistment in the forces, sometimes resulting in the supreme sacrifice of life itself. If consideration were to be given to the question of economic loss caused by evacuation, and such loss could be accurately established, this would not, in my opinion, of necessity be a justifiable claim.

Should the Commissioner be empowered to entertain claims coming within this category?

Reference has been made to the fact that a Commissioner should be appointed to consider the Japanese claims and in my opinion the Commissioner so appointed should be a person who holds, or has held, judicial office.



When the matter of the type of claims to which consideration should be given is determined, I recommend that advertisements be inserted in numerous newspapers, including The New Canadian, calling upon the Japanese to file their claims, duly verified, and to address all such claims to the Office of the Custodian, 506 Royal Bank Building, Vancouver, B. C. This will afford the officials in the Custodian's Vancouver Office an opportunity to review files and assemble data which will be helpful to the Commission. A time limit should be fixed for the filing of such claims.

I am informed that the distribution of Japanese in Canada at November 30, 1946, was as follows:

British Columbia	6,981
Alberta	4,262
Saskatchewan	503
Manitoba	1,193
Ontario	6,617
Quebec	1,210
Nova Scotia	1
New Brunswick	10
Prince Edward Island	6
Yukon and Northwest Territories	31
Total	20,814

Representatives of the Japanese have indicated that they desire to be heard in centres of the different provinces, but I am of opinion that it should be left to the Commissioner to determine where such hearings are to take place.

It is very probable that thousands of claims will be filed, but very improbable that the vast majority could be substantiated in a Court of Law. The Japanese have inflated ideas as to the value of their assets and doubtless their claims will be grossly exaggerated.

It is very difficult to estimate the amount that will be required to meet the claims and defer the expenses of the Commission. At all events, it appears necessary to insert an item in the supplementary estimates in order to provide funds.

Secretary of State



CLAIM FOR DAMAGE

1. Current value of land at the time of evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Value of the above, at which the Custodian sold without my consent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the values, to be claimed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
2. Current value of buildings and other improvements with the lot, at the time of evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Value of the above, at which the Custodian sold without my consent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the values, to be claimed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
3. Current value of personal property at the time of evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Value of the above, at which the Custodian sold without my consent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the values, to be claimed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
4. Current value of machinery at the time of evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Value of the above, at which the Custodian sold without my consent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the values, to be claimed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
5. Current value of fishing boat, at the time of evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Value of the above, at which the Custodian sold without my consent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the values, to be claimed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
6. Current value of fishing apparatus at the time of evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Value of the above, at which the Custodian sold without my consent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the values, to be claimed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
7. Current value of automobile at the time of evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Value of the above, at which the Custodian sold without my consent \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the values, to be claimed \$ \_\_\_\_\_
8. Expected four years income from farming, industry, trade, forestry, fishing, and etc., after evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Annual Income received after the evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the Income, to be compensated \$ \_\_\_\_\_
9. Expected four years wage from labour, after the evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Annual wage received, after the evacuation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Difference in the wages, to be compensated \$ \_\_\_\_\_
10. Other Claims:- \$ \_\_\_\_\_



DOCUMENT JAP 4

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT  
OF CANADA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CABINET COMMITTEE  
ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS:

S E C R E T

April 17, 1947.

Controls over Movement and Residence of Persons  
of Japanese Origin in Canada

I. Order in Council P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943, as amended by P.C. 5793 of December 18, 1945 and P.C. 270 of January 23, 1947, gives the Minister of Labour control over the movement and change of residence of all persons of Japanese origin in Canada.

II. Pursuant to the above authority a revised Travel Regulation (Administrative Order No.5) was issued by the Minister of Labour, on April 14, 1947, to the following effect:

No person of the Japanese race shall

- (a) enter or remain in the coastal area of British Columbia, as defined in the Regulation and extending approximately 100 miles inland;
- (b) enter the Province of British Columbia;
- (c) travel a distance of more than fifty miles within the Province of British Columbia;
- (d) if resident in any place in the Province of British Columbia, take up residence elsewhere in the Province of British Columbia;

unless such person has first obtained a permit in writing to do so from a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

III. Persons of Japanese origin who served in the naval, military or air forces of His Majesty in the war of 1914-18 or the war of 1939-45, and their wives and dependent children under sixteen years of age, are exempted from II (b) (c) and (d) above mentioned. With reference to (a) above, they must obtain Travel Permits to enter or remain in the British Columbia coastal area.

IV. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police act as agents of the Department of Labour in the issuance of travel and residence permits to persons of Japanese origin throughout Canada.



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*Minutes*  
April 21, 1947



SECRET

COPY NO. 12

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

The eighth meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions was held in the Privy Council Chamber on Monday, April 21, 1947 at 10:00 a.m.

Present

The Minister of Labour (Mr. H. Mitchell)	in the Chair
The Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. I.A. Mackenzie)	
The Minister of Justice (Mr. J.L. Ilsley)	
The Secretary of State (Mr. C. Gibson)	
The Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. J.A. Glen)	
The Minister of Finance (Mr. D.C. Abbott)	
The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. H.F.G. Bridges)	
<b>From</b> Privy Council Office (Mr. Raymond Ranger)	Secretary

Also Present

The Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources (Dr. H.L. Keenleyside)	
From Department of Labour (Mr. A.H. Brown)	
From Immigration Branch (Mr. A.L. Jolliffe)	
From External Affairs (Mr. A.R. Menzies)	
From Department of Justice (Mr. D.H.W. Henry)	
From Prime Minister's Office (Mr. R.G. Robertson)	
From Custodian's Office (Mr. K.W. Wright) (Mr. F.G. Shears)	

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The Chairman drew attention to the Prime Minister's statements in 1944 and in January of this year that fair



April 25, 1947

Notice sent to:

Hon. Mr. Mitchell  
Rt. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie  
Rt. Hon. Mr. Ilesley  
Hon. Mr. Gibson  
Hon. Mr. Glen  
Hon. Mr. Bridges  
Mr. R.G. Robertson  
Mr. L.B. Pearson  
Mr. Heeney  
Hon. Mr. Abbott

also sent to: Mr. A. MacNamara

Mr. D.H.W. Henry

Mr. K.W. Wright

Dr. H.L. Keenleyside

Mr. A.L. Jolliffe

Mr. W. Halliday (circulation)

for their information



treatment would be granted all loyal Japanese Canadians and that the Government would be prepared to remedy any injustice in cases where it could be shown that sale of property had been made at a loss rather than at a fair market value.

The Secretary of State, in this connection, referred to:

- (a) a draft submission to Council (copies of which had been circulated, document JAP 5) recommending appointment of a Commissioner to inquire into claims, set out in the Schedule hereto, arising from sale of property of Japanese Evacuees by the Custodian of Enemy Property, and
- (b) a memorandum (copies of which had been circulated, document JAP 5) showing the types of all other claims not covered by the draft submission to Council and on which representations might be made for possible extension of the terms of the above submission.

The Committee, after considerable discussion, agreed:

- (a) that a Commissioner be appointed to investigate the said claims of Japanese Evacuees and to make recommendations with respect thereto;
- \* (b) that only those claims submitted by Japanese Evacuees resident in Canada on the date of the passing of the Order be considered; and,
- (c) that the terms of reference mentioned in the draft submission to Council be revised along the lines as indicated in the course of discussion, for further consideration at the next meeting.

Privy Council Office,  
April 24, 1947.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



D R A F T

OTTAWA, April 1947

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

The undersigned has the honour to report as follows:

That during the war persons of the Japanese race were evacuated from the protected areas of British Columbia and by Order in Council P.C. 1665 of March 4, 1942, as amended by Order in Council P.C. 2483 of March 27, 1942, it was provided that all property situated in any protected area of British Columbia belonging to any person of the Japanese race (except fishing vessels subject to Order in Council P.C. 288 of January 15, 1942, hereinafter referred to, and deposits of money, shares of stock, debentures, bonds or other securities) delivered up to any person by the owner pursuant to an Order of the Minister of Justice or which was turned over to the Custodian by or on behalf of the owner, or which the owner on being evacuated from the protected area, was unable to take with him, should be vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian as defined in the Regulations respecting Trading with the Enemy.

That by Order in Council E.C. 469 of January 19, 1943, it was provided that whenever the Custodian had been vested with the power and responsibility of controlling and managing any property of persons of the Japanese race evacuated from the said protected areas, such power and responsibility should be deemed to include and to have included from the date of the vesting of such property in the Custodian, the power to liquidate, sell or otherwise dispose of such property.

That by Order in Council P.C. 6247 of July 20, 1942, it was provided that all vessels and equipment not disposed of by the Committee established by the said Order in Council of January 13, 1942, should on and after the first day of August, 1942, be vested in and be subject to the control of the Custodian.



That pursuant to the above mentioned Orders real and personal property of persons of the Japanese race was disposed of and claims have been made by persons of the Japanese race that by reason of such disposition of their property they have suffered pecuniary loss.

That it is deemed advisable to appoint a Commissioner under Part I of the Inquiries Act to investigate the said claims and to make recommendations with respect thereto.

The undersigned, therefore, has the honour to recommend:

1. That the Honourable ... .. be appointed a Commissioner pursuant to the Inquiries Act, chapter ninety-nine of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, to inquire into claims of <sup>Rec. by</sup> any person of the Japanese race, who was resident in Canada on <sup>etc.</sup> the day of this Order, that the amount received by him for real and personal property vested in the Custodian pursuant to the above mentioned Orders was less than the market value thereof at the time of the evacuation of the owner, but no <sup>market value</sup> inquiry shall be made into claims in respect of any property <sup>even the</sup> for any loss that arose while the property was under the custody, <sup>the value</sup> for <sup>the value</sup> control or management of any person, other than the Custodian <sup>man</sup> appointed by the owner thereof.

ALTERNATIVE TO CLAUSE (1) ABOVE

1. That the Honourable ..... be appointed a Commissioner pursuant to the Inquiries Act, chapter ninety-nine of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, to inquire into claims of any person of the Japanese race, who was resident in Canada on the day of this Order, that, by reason of the failure of the Custodian to exercise reasonable care in the management or <sup>personnel</sup> disposition of the real and personal property vested in the Custodian pursuant to the above mentioned Orders, the amount received by him for such property was less than the <sup>can</sup> market value thereof at the time of the evacuation of the owner, but no inquiry shall be made into claims in respect of any

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property for any loss that arose while the property was under the custody, control or management of any person, other than the Custodian, appointed by the owner thereof.

2. That the Commissioner shall examine into each claim and make a report to the Governor in Council advising as to the amount of compensation that in his opinion would be fair and reasonable.

3. That the Commissioner shall give public notice in such manner as he deems advisable of the time for the filing of claims and for the hearing of evidence and that all claims shall be in writing, verified by statutory declaration and filed in the office of the Custodian at Vancouver, British Columbia.

4. That the Commissioner be authorized to engage the services of such counsel, technical advisers or other experts, clerks, reporters and assistants as he may deem necessary or advisable.

5. That the expenses of and incidental to the said inquiry be paid out of moneys appropriated by Parliament.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of State.



*Minutes*  
April 17, 1947

The Department of State, following to the agenda of items by Japanese Embassy, indicated that, for the purpose of considering this item the members of the Special Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems should be members of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems and a second meeting to be held in the Policy Council Chamber on Monday, April 21, 1947 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Gibson also suggested that the Minister of Finance be invited to attend this meeting.

The Committee, after discussion, agreed to hold

- (a) the meeting to hold on Wednesday, April 23
- (b) the Minister of Finance be asked to attend the meeting.



SECRET

COPY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

The seventh meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems was held in the Privy Council Chamber, on Thursday, April 17, 1947 at 10:30 a.m.

Present

The Minister of Labour (Mr. H. Mitchell)	in the Chair
The Secretary of State (Mr. Colin Gibson)	
The Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. J.A. Glen)	
The Solicitor General of Canada (Mr. Joseph Jean)	
The Minister of <del>Fisheries</del> (Mr. H.F.G. Bridges)	
From Privy Council Office (Mr. Raymond Ranger)	Secretary

Also Present

The Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources  
(Dr. H.L. Keenleyside)

From Department of Labour  
(Mr. A.H. Brown)

From Department of External Affairs  
(Mr. A.R. Menzies)

From Department of Justice  
(Mr. D.H.W. Henry)

From Prime Minister's Office  
(Mr. R.G. Robertson)

From Immigration Branch  
(Mr. A.L. Jolliffe)

From Custodian of Enemy Property's Office  
(Mr. K.W. Wright)  
(Mr. F.G. Shears)

The Secretary of State, referring to the question of claims by Japanese Evacuees, suggested that, for the purpose of considering this item the members of the Special Cabinet Committee on Claims by Japanese Evacuees be members of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems and attend a meeting to be held in the Privy Council Chamber on Monday, April 21, 1947 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Gibson also suggested that the Minister of Finance be invited to attend this meeting.

The Committee, after discussion, agreed that:

- (a) the meeting be held as indicated; and that
- (b) the Minister of Finance be asked to attend the meeting.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



April 18/47

Notice sent to:

Hon. Mr. Mitchell (Chairman)  
Rt. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie  
Hon. Mr. Gibson  
Hon. Mr. Glen  
Hon. Mr. Jean  
Hon. Mr. Bridges  
Mr. L.B. Pearson  
Mr. Robertson  
Mr. Heeney  
Hon. Mr. Claxton

also sent to: Dr. H.L. Keenleyside  
Mr. A.L. Jolliffe

Mr. A. MacNamara  
Mr. A.H. Brown

Mr. Menzies

Mr. D.H.W. Henry

Mr. K.W. Wright

Mr. Halliday (for circulation)

For their information



Agenda - April 17, 1947





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SECRET

COPY NO. —

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

AGENDA FOR SEVENTH MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE  
PRIVY COUNCIL CHAMBER, THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1947  
AT 10:30 A.M.

- I. Control over movement and residence - persons of Japanese origin. (Document JAP 1, March 7, 1947 attached).

(a) Veterans - Canadian citizens

- (i) entry into former protected areas of B.C.

(b) Canadian citizens

- (i) travel of a distance of over 50 miles in B.C.

- (ii) change of residence in B.C.

- (iii) absence from place of residence in B.C. for more than eight days.

- (iv) change of residence outside B.C.

- (v) travel across provincial boundaries

- (vi) absence from place of residence for more than thirty days.

2. Issuance of fishing licences in Pacific Coastal waters - veterans of Japanese origin. (Document JAP 2, April 12, 1947 attached).

3. Return to Canada of Japanese (Canadian-born, naturalized or nationals retaining Canadian domicile)

- (a) persons who left Canada before the war

- (b) persons who were repatriated

(Document JAP 3 to be circulated)

4. Custodian's authority - liquidation of properties of Japanese associations and societies.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
April 12, 1947.



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OF CANADA

SECRET

MEMORANDUM TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF CABINET

ON JAPANESE AFFAIRS:

March 7, 1947.

Controls over Movement and Residence of Persons  
of Japanese Origin in Canada

I. Order in Council P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943, as amended by P.C. 5793 of December 18, 1945 and P.C. 270 of January 23, 1947, gives the Minister of Labour control over the movement and change of residence of all persons of Japanese origin in Canada.

II. Pursuant to the above authority a revised Travel Regulation was issued by the Minister of Labour, dated June 26, 1946, to the following effect:

No person of the Japanese race shall

- (a) enter or remain in the coastal area of British Columbia, as defined in the Regulation and extending approximately 100 miles inland;
- (b) cross any interprovincial boundary line;
- (c) travel a distance of more than fifty miles within British Columbia;
- (d) change his place of residence;
- (e) if resident in British Columbia, be absent from his place of residence for more than eight days;
- (f) if resident elsewhere in Canada, be absent from his place of residence for more than thirty days;

unless such person has first obtained a permit in writing to do so from a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

III. Persons of Japanese origin who served in the naval, military or air forces of His Majesty in the war of 1914-18 or the war of 1939-45, and their wives and dependent children under sixteen years of age, are exempted from all travel restrictions except that they must obtain Travel Permits to enter or remain in the British Columbia coastal area.

IV. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police act as agents of the Department of Labour in the issuance of travel and residence permits to persons of Japanese origin throughout Canada.



DOCUMENT JAP 2

## MEMORANDUM to the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems

Issuance of Fishing Licences to Persons of Japanese Origin

Order in Council P.C. 251, January 13, 1942 (copy attached) prohibits the issuing of fishing licences to fish in or off British Columbia to persons of Japanese origin and also prohibits these persons to serve on fishing vessels.

This Order in Council, which was passed on the recommendation of the Minister of Fisheries and under the authority of the War Measures Act, is one of the 57 Orders in Council which appear in the Schedule to Bill 104 (The Continuation Of Transitional Measures Act 1947) now before Parliament. Therefore, this Order in Council is presently in force and may remain as such until March 31, 1948 at the latest.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,  
April 12, 1947.



P. C. 251

## AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

TUESDAY, the 13th day of JANUARY, 1942.

## PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

## THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

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

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

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

Sgd. A.D.P. Heeney

Clerk of the Privy Council.



SECRET

Ref. Document JAP 3.

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

RE: Questions of Consular protection and assistance in Japan for Canadian citizens of Japanese origin and the re-entry into Canada of such persons and Japanese nationals retaining Canadian domicile.

Present Canadian Policy

1.

At the sixth meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Problems held on January 10, 1947, there was some preliminary discussion of these difficult questions but, as it was observed that no shipping would be available for some time to bring persons from Japan to this continent, no attempt was made to formulate firm recommendations. Accordingly, these matters remained largely governed by a memorandum of August 10, 1946 (attached), approved by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, which recognizes the right under existing law of Canadian citizens and Japanese nationals retaining Canadian domicile to re-enter Canada, but lays down that the Canadian Liaison Mission in Tokyo shall not for the present (a) help persons of Japanese race to obtain exit permits or buy passage, (b) issue visas to Japanese aliens even if they have technically retained Canadian domicile and (c) issue or renew passports to Canadian citizens of Japanese origin, except in special circumstances. It was expected that this memorandum would be reviewed in eight months to a year's time.

Reasons for Reviewing Policy at this Time

2.

Recently the Immigration Branch has been pressed to give rulings on a number of applications of persons of Japanese origin for re-entry into Canada (e.g. letters from Mr. Angus MacInnis, M.P. to the Hon. J. A. Glen regarding Mrs. Tsuru Fujiwara). In addition, the Head of the Canadian Liaison Mission in Japan has been asked by the Japanese Government through the Diplomatic section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers to state how the Canadian Government regards persons of Japanese ancestry born in Canada who went to Japan, before, during or after the war. Persons able to prove Allied nationality are entitled in Japan to special consideration in respect to extra food rations, foreign rates of pay when employed by the occupation authorities, and extra-territorial judicial status. Mr. Norman estimates that there are at least 5000 - 6000 persons in Japan having a prima facie claim to Canadian citizenship. It is assumed that the 2606 Japanese Canadians repatriated after the war would be included in this number. Most of these would be interested in securing the advantages of foreign status in Japan. The number who will make application sooner or later to return to Canada will be considerable because of the difficult economic situation in Japan. Mr. Norman points out the magnitude of the task of interviewing and processing these 5,000 - 6,000 applicants, but urges the desirability of our facing this problem now and reaching decisions that



- 2 -

will enable him to state Canadian Government policy at least on those questions on which United States policy has already been clearly defined. It would seem desirable, therefore, for the Committee to give consideration to these questions now with a view to giving guidance to the Immigration Branch and the Department of External Affairs.

#### United States Policy

3.

The United States faces similar problems with regard to the extension of Consular protection and assistance in Japan for United States citizens of Japanese origin and the re-entry into the United States of such persons. They do not face a problem similar to ours with respect to Japanese nationals retaining Canadian domicile. Any alien leaving the United States for temporary purposes requires a re-entry permit which is only good for one year. All such permits issued to Japanese nationals resident in the United States and returning to Japan before the war for a visit would have expired and there appears to be no disposition to extend the life of these re-entry permits. The United States is prepared to recognize the claims of persons of Japanese origin to United States citizenship with full Constitutional rights. They have opened an office in Yokohama to examine the credentials of such persons. Preferred consideration is given to United States citizens of Japanese origin who "stood out" in Japan during the war and suffered proven discrimination, hardship or imprisonment for being United States citizens. Such persons are being assisted financially and in other ways to return to the United States, some of them this year. During the remaining months in Japan such persons receive the same treatment with regard to rations, pay, etc. as any other United States citizen. (Because of the number of Japanese Americans in the U.S. Army of Occupation special care is taken to avoid any trace of racial discrimination in Japan). Other persons claiming United States citizenship are being gradually screened, their credentials examined, their wartime activities investigated, etc. Persons passing this screening, but who suffered no hardship during the war, will be permitted to return to the United States, but must make their own arrangements when travel becomes normal.

4.

United States officials in Japan have expressed the hope that the Canadian Government would coordinate, so far as its laws permit, its treatment in Japan of persons of Japanese origin claiming Canadian citizenship with United States policy toward similar categories of U.S. citizens of Japanese origin. They are concerned lest Japanese Canadians, without going through the same sort of screening which Japanese Americans are required to undergo, might as a group receive favoured treatment by the Japanese Government and thus cause dissatisfaction amongst those not similarly favoured in the United States group.



- 3 -

Proposed Canadian Policy

5.

The recommendations formulated in the succeeding paragraphs are based on certain assumptions to which the Committee will wish to give prior consideration. In the event that these assumptions require modification the recommendations will also need to be changed. It is the assumption of this memorandum that:

- (a) The Committee would not wish to recommend the introduction of new legislation depriving persons of Japanese origin of any rights they may now possess under The Canadian Citizenship Act and the Immigration Act;
- (b) The Committee would not wish Canadian policy to diverge widely from United States policy in view of the similarity of the problems faced and the predominant role played by the United States in the control of Japan;
- (c) The Committee would not wish to recommend the extension of any more protection or assistance to Japanese Canadians in Japan than they are entitled to by law and than is being accorded Japanese Americans;
- (d) The Committee would not wish to recommend that any assistance be given to persons of Japanese origin to return to Canada, except in exceptional circumstances;

6.

Based on the foregoing assumptions the following recommendations are submitted for the Committee's approval:

- (a) The Canadian Liaison Mission in Japan shall be authorized to accept, from persons claiming to be Canadian citizens, applications for certificates of Canadian citizenship to be forwarded after careful examination to the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada along with such documents or affirmations as the Department may, in the circumstances, consider necessary to determine whether

(1) in the case of a person claiming to be a natural-born Canadian citizen he was in fact born a Canadian citizen, and that he has not ceased to be a Canadian citizen

(i) under section 16, 17(1) or 18 of the Canadian Citizenship Act, or

(ii) under P.C. 10773 of November 26, 1942

(2) in the case of a person claiming to be a Canadian citizen other than natural-born he did in fact acquire Canadian citizenship and that he has not ceased to be a Canadian citizen

(i) under section 21 or 23 of the Canadian Citizenship Act (wherever there exist grounds for the issue by the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada of a notice of

"people who  
low-  
citizenship  
naturalized"



revocation of naturalization, the Head of the Canadian Liaison Mission shall so report), or

(ii) under P.C. 10773 of November 26, 1942, or

(iii) under P.C. 7356 of December 15, 1945

(b) The Department of External Affairs shall determine the extent of Consular protection and assistance to be afforded Canadian citizens in Japan in conformity with Canadian practice in other countries and United States practice in Japan.

(c) Where a Canadian citizen of Japanese origin "stood out" in Japan during the war and suffered proven hardship on that account and is desirous of returning to Canada the Head of the Canadian Liaison Mission in Japan may consult the Department of External Affairs to determine what assistance, if any, may be afforded such person to return to Canada.

(d) Passports shall not be issued to Canadian citizens of Japanese origin to enable them to leave Japan unless they are able to produce evidence that they have secured passage for Canada and will be able to obtain the necessary exit permit from Japan.

(e) Visas for travel to Canada shall not be issued to Japanese nationals claiming domicile in Canada without prior reference to the Immigration Branch. In all such cases the Director of Immigration shall determine whether such persons may be deemed to have lost Canadian domicile. Even in approved cases visas shall not be granted unless the persons concerned are able to produce evidence that they have secured passage for Canada and will be able to obtain the necessary exit permit from Japan.

(f) The Department of External Affairs and the Immigration Branch shall be authorized to consider and approve applications for temporary entry into Canada on behalf of Japanese nationals whose visits abroad are approved by Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan and who would be coming to Canada for conference, educational or other approved temporary purposes that would be of assistance in the democratic re-education of Japan.



August 10, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Re: Applications to Return to Canada from Japan Made  
by Persons of Japanese Race

1. We have received, through the United Kingdom Liaison Mission in Tokyo, a few such applications and will no doubt receive many more. So far they fall into two classes:

- (a) Canadian-born Japanese,
- (b) Japanese nationals who were permanently resident in Canada, who went to Japan shortly before Pearl Harbour on temporary visits, and who have retained Canadian domicile.

A third likely class will be:

- (c) Naturalized persons who went to Japan on temporary visits and who have retained Canadian domicile.

2. Persons in all three classes are entitled to enter Canada under present law. The question therefore is not whether they are to be allowed reentry but whether their endeavours to return to Canada are to be helped by the Canadian Government in any of the following ways:

- (a) By authorizing the Canadian Mission now en route to Tokyo under Mr. E.H. Norman, to give or renew passports to applicants who are British subjects.
- (b) By authorizing the Mission to give visas to those who are not British subjects.

[(c) By helping persons to obtain exit permits and to buy passage. Without positive help from the Canadian Government it is unlikely, under present conditions, that any person of Japanese race could arrange to sail from Japan.]

3. We asked our Embassy in Washington to find out informally how the United States Government was handling similar problems. The answer was that it was unlikely that a Japanese who is not a United States citizen would get a visa; none of this category would have automatic reentry rights under U.S. law. Those who are U.S. citizens would be entitled to passports; but no other positive assistance in arranging return to the U.S. would be given unless the person had voluntarily "stood out" as a U.S. citizen in Japan and had suffered for it.

4. It seems to me that there is in general no reason for the Canadian Government to help persons of Japanese race to obtain exit permits or to buy passage. If we



-2-

should have a case of a Canadian national who insisted on his Canadian status during the war and suffered for it, an exception could be made for his benefit.

5. Nor would I favour at present authorizing the giving of visas to Japanese aliens even if they have technically retained Canadian domicile. This policy would of course require reconsideration in a year or so.

6. Finally, I think that for the present we should generally refuse to give or renew passports to those who are British subjects. Exceptions might be made sparingly in special circumstances e.g. if a Canadian-born person went to Japan for a temporary purpose, if his family in Canada will be staying in Canada, and if the applicant did nothing actively disloyal during the war.

7. Our practice in Germany is not quite as strict as that proposed for Japan. We scrutinize carefully all applications from "Canadians" in Germany who were not interned during the war. However, in a number of cases (a minority), we have ended by giving such persons travel documents and helping them to return to Canada. Most of these cases involve German-born persons naturalized in Canada but some involve Canadian-born persons of German race. We do not seem to have had any cases presented involving German nationals who went to Germany on visits and who clearly retain Canadian domicile.

8. A closely related problem has been submitted to us by the United Kingdom Mission in Tokyo in these words:

"Your letter of May 6th regarding Arthur and Harry Ono (refusing to authorize passports).

"American Occupation Forces have been granting preferential treatment regarding salary and rations to persons who show proof that they have been accepted as Allied nationals by American or British Foreign Service Officers even though they have dual Japanese nationality and are of pure Japanese race. In some cases such certificate has been made the condition of employment.

"2. Total inadequacy of our staff utterly precludes our making investigation of identity of individual cases on scale adopted by Americans and their practice has involved us in much embarrassment. In order to avoid discrimination we have granted certificates in some cases where dual British nationality was well attested and nothing was known to the detriment of the persons concerned.

"3. Should we infer from your letter under reference that even this limited degree of recognition should not be granted in future? Certificates in question are of course utterly useless for all travel purposes."

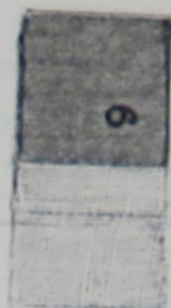


I do not understand why the United States authorities grant such preference to dual nationals over other Japanese. However, perhaps we should follow their example so far as concerns Canadian-born dual nationals.

9. I should be grateful for your instructions.

HUME WRONG





AGENDA - September 3rd, 1947

1. Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (a) Introduction to the Committee  
 (b) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (c) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (d) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (e) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (f) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (g) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (h) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (i) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (j) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (k) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
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 (m) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (n) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (o) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (p) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
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 (t) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (u) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (v) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (w) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (x) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (y) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions  
 (z) Report of the Committee on Japanese Questions



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COPY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

AGENDA for ninth meeting to be held in the Privy Council Chambers, Wednesday, September 3, 1947 at 10:00 a.m.:

1. Representations by University of Toronto Liberal Association:
  - (a) restriction on movement
  - (b) denial of federal franchise
  - (c) Canadian status of deportees  
(Document JAP 6 attached)
2. Control over movement and residence of Japanese persons within or into British Columbia.  
(Document JAP 4 circulated April 17, 1947)
3. Repatriation from Canada to Japan of Japanese persons.  
(Document JAP 7, August 12, 1947 attached)
4. Return to Canada of Japanese (Canadian-born, naturalized or Nationals retaining Canadian domicile):
  - (a) persons who left Canada before the war
  - (b) persons who were repatriated  
(Document JAP 3 circulated April 16, 1947)
5. Displaced Japanese persons: arrangements with provinces.  
(Document JAP 8, August 21, 1947 attached)
6. Custodian's authority - liquidation of properties of Japanese associations or societies.

Privy Council Office,  
August 26, 1947.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



Document JAP 6

Brief of the University of Toronto Liberal Association(Submitted under letter of June 16 to the  
Prime Minister)#1. Restrictions on Movement, Residence and Occupation(a) Statement in Brief -

"We strongly recommend that Orders-in-Council preventing Japanese-Canadian students making use of scholarships won at the University of British Columbia, and making possible the recent Yoskioka incident. The Rev. "Eddie" Yoskioka was a fellow student of ours at the University of Toronto, where he won three prizes for his theological studies. In order to go to Vancouver to be ordained, he was compelled to get a "police permit" (and a return railway fare). His father, who came to Canada in 1919 on a scholarship and who for the last eighteen years has been United Church Minister at Kelowna, B.C., was forced to submit to similar humiliating treatment in order to see his son ordained.

We strongly oppose that type of Canadian "democracy" that permits indefensible and arbitrary restrictions on the movement, residence and means of livelihood of any group of citizens purely on the basis of race."

(b) Note -

Under Order in Council P.C. 946 of February 5, 1945, which is continued in effect under the Continuation of Transitional Measures Act, restrictions on travel and movement by Japanese persons may be imposed by order of the Minister of Labour. At present the orders in force restrict only movement into British Columbia and travel there. There would be nothing to prevent further modification of the travel control orders now in effect without any change in the legislation.

#2. Denial of Federal Franchise(a) Statement in Brief -

"We most emphatically protest against those sections of the Dominion Elections Act which (in effect) not only disfranchises Japanese-Canadians in British Columbia, but also those who were moved East. We feel that democracy is destroyed the instant we start to pick and choose among the electorate those whom we will allow to vote and those whom we will not. The "will of the people" loses all meaning if "the people" can be redefined whenever we feel like it. We therefore wish to stress to you the compelling necessity of righting these wrongs particularly as this disfranchisement is based upon the worst of all bases - racial origin. Also, we hope you will see fit to specifically repeal that section of the Act disfranchising Japanese-Canadians moved East of the Rockies, before it lapses on July 1st."



- 2 -

(b) Note -

There are two sections of the Dominion Elections Act of relevance here. Section 14(2)(i) provides that the following persons are disqualified for the federal franchise:

"Every person who is disqualified by reason of race from voting at an election of a member of the Legislative Assembly of the province in which he or she resides who did not serve in the military, naval or air forces of Canada in the war of 1914-1918, or in the war that began on the 10th day of September, 1939."

The British Columbia legislature has recently enfranchised Chinese and East Indian persons. As a result, the above section disfranchises only Japanese persons resident in British Columbia. In the Special Committee on the Elections Act, Mr. MacInnis moved on May 29 for deletion of this section. The motion was lost by 10 to 6.

The second relevant portion of the Elections Act is section 14(2)(n) which was introduced in 1945 (1944-45, Chapter 26) and which reads as follows:

"Every person residing in Canada whose racial origin is that of a country at war with Canada who, at the time of the passing of this Act, namely July 1st, 1938, and on the date of the declaration of such war, resided in a province in which on those dates a person of his racial **origin** was disqualified from voting at an election of a member of the Legislative Assembly of that province, and who did not serve in the naval, military, or air forces of Canada in the war of 1914-1918 or in any subsequent war in which Canada may be engaged."

On May 22 the Special Committee agreed that this section should be deleted. The reference in the brief to automatic termination of this section on July 1, would seem to be in error.

#3. Canadian Status of Deportees(a) Statement in Brief -

"We would welcome a clear statement that those Canadians deported ("repatriated") between December 15th, 1945 and January 24th 1947, did not lose their Canadian citizenship. Further, we are desirous that serious consideration be given to rendering the repeal of P.C. 7356 retroactive to December 15th, 1945, and enabling Canadian citizenship to be restored to naturalized Canadians deported (subject only to a simple request and to the conditions of the Canadian Citizenship Act)."



- 3 -

(b) Note -

The use of the terms "deportee" and "deported" here is not accurate. Apart from dependent children under eighteen years of age, all Japanese who left Canada did so pursuant to a written statement of desire to leave. There are at present further persons of Japanese origin wishing to leave Canada for whom it has not yet been possible to secure transportation.

Order in Council P.C. 7356, which was revoked on January 24 last, deprived of Canadian status those naturalized persons who left Canada prior to that date. There has not been any strong or general suggestion that this measure was in any sense improper. The naturalized Japanese who were affected by the order had ample opportunity for notice of its existence.



DOCUMENT JAP 7

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CABINET COMMITTEE  
ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

Secret

Repatriation from Canada to Japan of Persons of Japanese Origin

- (1) 3,964 Japanese were assisted during 1946 by the Canadian Government in voluntary return to Japan, at a total cost of \$1,131,733.81, and consisting of

1,355	Japanese Nationals
630	Naturalized Japanese Canadians
658	Canadian Born 16 years and over
<u>1,321</u>	Canadian Born under 16 years
3,964	

- (2) The following assistance is provided by the Government for those volunteering to go to Japan, under the authority of Order in Council P.C. 7355 of December 15, 1945, as amended by P.C. 268 of January 23, 1947:

- a/ Transportation of individuals and reasonable amounts of baggage from present addresses anywhere in Canada to debarkation depot in Japan;
- b/ Medical inspection and necessary inoculations prior to departure;
- c/ Transfer of full proceeds of all assets of an individual in Canada to the Bank of Japan to his credit, at the official U.S. exchange rate;
- d/ Grant sufficient to bring the funds of an individual up to a minimum amount of \$200 for an adult and \$50 for each dependent child.

- (3) The number listed as volunteering to return to Japan on the sixth repatriation ship (scheduled for October next) now stands at 166. These are divided approximately as follows:

Japanese Nationals	76	B.C.	76
Naturalized Canadians	32	Alta.	36
Canadian Born	27	Sask.	6
16 and over		Man.	19
Canadian Born	31	Ont.	25
under 16 years		Que.	4
			<u>166</u>

- (4) It is expected that government assistance in the repatriation of this group will total approximately \$50,000.00.

- (5) Following the repeal of Order in Council P.C. 7356 (dated December 15, 1945) effective January 23, 1947, there is now no means by which the Naturalized Japanese Canadians who repatriate to Japan can be deprived of Canadian citizenship, except under the clauses of the Citizenship Act of 1946 which provide for possible loss of citizenship: e.g. upon acquiring other nationality or after being absent from Canada for at least six consecutive years.



- 2 -

(6) The situation arises therefore that no legal bar remains to prevent the return to Canada of these repatriated Naturalized Japanese Canadians as well as Canadian born of Japanese origin, provided that they can obtain ship accommodation from Japan to Canada. Only repatriated Japanese Nationals can be prohibited from returning to Canada.

(7) There are three alternatives which might be considered:

- a/ To cut off all government assistance of those Japanese in Canada who now desire or in the future may desire to go to Japan;
- b/ To give government assistance only to Japanese Nationals and their dependent children under 16 years of age;
- c/ To continue the present policy of assisting all Japanese in Canada who volunteer to go to Japan, facing the possibility that a certain number may later desire to come back to Canada.

(8) If a/ or b/ is determined upon as future policy, it will also be necessary to decide whether the amended policy will go into effect at once, or after the next sailing in October for which 166 persons have volunteered on the basis of present arrangements.

(9) The Department of Labour favours a/ above - that is to discontinue immediately the policy of granting financial assistance to persons of Japanese race to go to Japan for the reasons:

- (a) that the numbers now involved in such repatriation are so few as to have no appreciable effect in the matter of the disposition of Japanese evacuated from the coastal areas of British Columbia; and,
- (b) that as there is no effective means now available to prevent the return of Canadian citizens who are given assistance in going to Japan, the project is open to valid criticism as involving useless expenditure of public funds.

Privy Council Office  
August 12, 1947.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



## THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

MEMORANDUM RE ARRANGEMENTS WITH PROVINCES TO ACCEPT  
DISPLACED JAPANESE AS RESIDENTS OF THE PROVINCEA. Present residential status of displaced Japanese.1. British Columbia

There are 6500 Japanese in British Columbia all of whom are self-supporting except a group of 400 persons at New Denver, B.C. Of this group of 400, there are 77 T.B. patients in the T.B. sanatorium operated by the Department of Labour; 33 are Old Age Pensioners and the remaining 290 are present or prospective maintenance cases unable to support themselves due to old age or lack of a breadwinner in the family. These persons are housed in small huts on property owned by the Department of Labour and receive a cash maintenance grant monthly plus clothing allowances.

The Sanatorium costs amount to \$125,000.00 per annum and the estimated costs of maintenance cases run from \$80,000.00 to \$100,000.00 per annum.

The Provincial educational authorities have re-assumed the responsibility for education of the Japanese in British Columbia but the Department of Labour, in addition to providing full maintenance for the group in New Denver, also provides a limited amount of assistance for indigent Japanese who are ordinarily in self-supporting employment in the Province.

2. Alberta

There are 4100 Japanese in Alberta of whom 3600 are evacuees from British Columbia. The evacuees were brought in under an agreement by the Dominion with the Province whereby, on the termination of the war with Japan, the Dominion would remove these Japanese if so requested by the Province. Another agreement provides that during the term of temporary residence in the Province, the Dominion will pay to the Province \$65.00 per school year per child for the education of the children of the evacuated Japanese temporarily resident in the Province. The basis upon which the agreement was predicated, namely, that the Japanese would return to the B.C. coast at the end of the war, no longer exists and in the circumstances, it is impracticable to carry out the agreement. The Department, nevertheless, recognizes that the heavy concentration of Japanese in Southern Alberta may give rise to subsequent difficulties and is following the policy of providing free transportation to any Japanese groups moving eastward from Alberta to other employment. It will be obviously necessary to make some arrangements with Alberta whereby the Province will accept the Japanese as provincial residents and thus give the Japanese entitlement to free schooling and the usual welfare services. The Department, at present, is reimbursing the Province for the cost of welfare services supplied to indigent Japanese brought in under the agreement.

3. Saskatchewan

There are no problems here in view of the limited number of 500 Japanese in the Province and no commitments to the Provincial authorities.



4. Manitoba

There are 1200 Japanese in Manitoba, who were moved into the Province at the time of evacuation under arrangements with the Province, covered by an exchange of letters which obligated the Dominion to remove Japanese on request at the end of the war. The Government of the Province, by public statement, indicated that this was no longer regarded by them as a subsisting obligation but the Dominion is still reimbursing the Province for maintenance and the welfare costs of indigent Japanese in the Province in accordance with the arrangements with the Province.

5. Ontario

There are 7,000 Japanese in Ontario. No written agreements were entered into with the Province with respect to this group but following from discussions with the Province in the early stages of evacuation, the Dominion has recognized the responsibility for maintenance and welfare costs of indigent Japanese within the Province.

6. Quebec

There are 1300 Japanese in Quebec, mostly in Montreal. No commitments were made to the Province. The Dominion has provided for the maintenance and welfare costs of indigent Japanese in the Province in conformity with the policy followed in Ontario.

B. Objectives

The objective of the Dominion authorities is to have the relocated Japanese in all provinces accepted by the provincial authorities as provincial residents and as such entitled, upon compliance with the normal residential qualifications, to provincial and municipal maintenance and welfare services to indigent residents of the province. In addition, in British Columbia, there is the group of around 300 maintenance and T.B. cases now in the departmental settlement of New Denver, a large majority of whom, due to age or physical or mental incapacity, are permanently unemployable and require maintenance indefinitely.

An examination of the provincial legislation relating to requirements for provincial and municipal residents for the purpose of qualifying for maintenance and hospitalization shows that in the Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Quebec, a person must have resided for twelve consecutive months in the province to qualify for relief maintenance. The requirements for public hospitalization are less stringent. In some of these Provinces, namely, British Columbia and Alberta, the twelve months' residence is defined as twelve months' self-sustaining residence.

In Ontario, the residence qualifications for maintenance are not too clear but under existing Orders in Council it appears that persons coming to Ontario must reside for three years in the Province before qualifying for maintenance.



Minutes

- 3 -

C. Proposals

1. That all provinces be asked to accept as residents of the province, for the purpose of all welfare acts and regulations, the evacuated Japanese, who have been resident in the province and in self-sustaining employment for a period of twenty-four months, and their dependents.

2. British Columbia --

(a) That in the case of all evacuated Japanese and their dependents who are in self-supporting employment in the Province, the Dominion advance the same proposal as was advanced in the case of other provinces.

(b) In the case of the maintenance and T.B. cases at New Denver, who are presently on maintenance, the Department of Labour enter into discussions with the Province to determine whether the Province will accept any financial responsibility in connection with this group. The Provincial authorities have expressed themselves as willing to undertake welfare administration for this group as agent for the Dominion but have not indicated that they will recognize any financial responsibility in respect thereto.

Privy Council Office,  
August 21, 1947.

Raymond Ranger,  
Secretary.



September 3, 1947

September 3, 1947



SECRET

COPY NO 12

CABINET COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE QUESTIONS

Minutes of the ninth meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions held in the Privy Council Chamber at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 1947.

Present

The Minister of Labour  
(Mr. H. Mitchell) in the chair

The Minister of Veterans Affairs  
(Mr. I.A. Mackenzie)

The Secretary of State  
(Mr. C. Gibson)

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From Privy Council Office  
(Mr. Raymond Ranger) Secretary

also Present

From External Affairs  
(Mr. L.B. Pearson)  
(Mr. A.R. Menzies)

From Department of Labour  
(Mr. A.H. Brown)

From Department of Justice  
(Mr. D.H.W. Henry)

From Custodian's Office  
(Mr. K.W. Wright)

From Department of Finance  
(Mr. M.W. Sharp)

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1. Representations by University of Toronto Liberal Association

The Secretary read a brief of the University of Toronto Liberal Association, submitted under letter of June 16 to the Prime Minister, copies of which had been circulated, making representations regarding persons of Japanese origin on the following subjects:

- (a) Restriction on Movement, Residence and Occupation,
- (b) Denial of Federal Franchise, and
- (c) Canadian Status of Deportees.

It was represented that restriction on movement, residence and occupation of persons of Japanese origin be abolished, that Canadians of Japanese origin resident in British Columbia be enfranchised, and that Canadian Citizenship be restored to naturalized Canadians of Japanese origin who had been repatriated to Japan, (subject only to a simple request and to the conditions of the Canadian Citizenship Act.)



-2-

The Association particularly requested the relaxation of the administrative order regarding students of Japanese origin attending the University of British Columbia.

Mr. Mitchell stated that on April 14, 1947 under the authority of Order in Council P.C. 946 of February 5, 1943 as amended by P.C. 5793 of December 18, 1945 and P.C. 270 of January 25, 1947, he had issued a revised travel regulation (Administrative Order No. 5) to the following effect:

No person of the Japanese race shall:

- (a) enter or reside in the coastal area of British Columbia as defined; or
- (b) enter the Province of British Columbia; or
- (c) travel a distance of more than fifty miles within the Province of British Columbia; or
- (d) if resident in any place in the Province of British Columbia, take up residence elsewhere in the Province of British Columbia

unless such person has obtained a permit in writing to do so from a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the provisions of paragraphs (b) (c) and (d) of this Order shall not apply to any person of the Japanese race who served as a member of the Naval, Military or Air Forces of His Majesty in World War II or in World War I (1914-18) nor to the wife or dependent children of such person and that no other orders affecting residence or movement of Japanese in Canada were in effect under P.C. 946.

Mr. Gibson stated that Section 14 (2) (i) of the Dominion Elections Act provides that the following persons are disqualified for the federal franchise;

"Every person who is disqualified by reason of race from voting at an election of a member of the Legislative Assembly of the province in which he or she is resident, who did not serve in the military, naval, or air forces of Canada in the war of 1914-1918, or in the war that began on the 10th day of September 1939".

Section 14(2) (n) which was introduced in 1945 (1944-45, Chapter 26) also provides that the following persons are disqualified for the federal franchise:

"Every person residing in Canada whose racial origin is that of a country at war with Canada who, at the time of the passing of this Act, namely July 1st, 1938, and on the date of the declaration of such war, resided in a province in which on those dates a person of his racial origin was disqualified from voting at an election of a member of the Legislative Assembly of that province, and who did not serve in the naval, military or air forces of Canada in the war of 1914-1918 or in any subsequent war in which Canada may be engaged".



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Mr. Gibson reported that the Deputy Minister of Justice, in his letter of April 21, 1947 to the Under Secretary of State, had stated that a person of the Japanese race who was naturalized as a British Subject in Canada and who was removed or sent from Canada to Japan pursuant to arrangements made under Order in Council P.C. 7355, following a request for repatriation which remained unrevoked on September 1, 1945, is a person who has been "deported" within the meaning of that term as used in Order in Council P.C. 7355 December 15, 1945 and, also, as used in Order in Council P.C. 7356 of the same date and therefore such person has no right to enter into Canada. A person of the Japanese race who was born in Canada, however, has such a right to enter.

Mr. Menzies pointed out that according to the provisions of Order in Council P.C. 10773 November 26, 1942 and P.C. 7356 December 15, 1945 the Secretary of State shall publish in the Canada Gazette a list of persons of Japanese race who had been repatriated to Japan and had lost their status as Canadians pursuant to these Orders. He said that the publication of such lists would enable the Canadian Liaison Mission in Tokyo and other diplomatic offices in the Far East in identifying the persons who had lost their status as Canadian citizens and British subjects pursuant to the Orders.

(Document JAP #4 circulated April 17, 1947)  
( " " " August 26, 1947)

The Committee, after discussion, agreed to recommend:

- (a) that students of Japanese origin desiring to attend University of British Columbia be given by the Department of Labour through the R.C.M.P. or the Commissioner of Japanese Placement a temporary permit to enter the Province of British Columbia, to enter or remain and take residence in the coastal area of British Columbia, for the duration of their studies, if such students show proof of acceptance by the University of British Columbia;
- (b) that, in view of the fact that the Elections Act is coming up for consideration at the next Session of Parliament, special consideration be given to the suggestion of the Association to enfranchise Japanese persons resident in British Columbia, keeping in mind the fact of the Japanese peace treaty being completed and signed in the next 12 months;
- (c) that no steps be taken to change the status of persons of Japanese origin who were repatriated or deported to Japan and that the Department of Secretary of State in consultation with the Department of Labour and the Immigration Branch prepare a list of persons of Japanese origin who lost their status as Canadian Citizens and British Subjects under P.C. 10773 of November 26, 1942 and, P.C. 7356 December 15, 1945 such lists to be furnished to the Department of External Affairs for transmission to the Canadian Liaison Mission in Tokyo and other interested Consular offices in the Far East; and
- (d) that appropriate steps be taken by the Department of Secretary of State to make note in the records of the Department of the revocation of naturalization of Japanese deported under P.C. 7355 and P.C. 10773.



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## 2. Repatriation to Japan -- Persons of Japanese Race

The Chairman reported that if the present government policy to repatriate to Japan persons of Japanese origin was continued, government assistance would total approximately \$50,000. for the 140-150 persons presently requesting repatriation. He pointed out that following the repeal of Order in Council P.C. 7356 December 15, 1945 effective January 23, 1947 there is now no means by which the Naturalized Japanese Canadian who repatriate to Japan can be deprived of Canadian Citizenship, except under the clauses of the Citizenship Act of 1946 which provide for possible loss of citizenship; e.g. upon acquiring other nationality or after being absent from Canada for at least six consecutive years.

(Document JAP 7 circulated August 26, 1947)

The Committee after discussion agreed to recommend to the Cabinet:

- (a) that, the present policy of granting financial assistance to persons of Japanese race who volunteer or volunteered to be repatriated to Japan be discontinued immediately; and
- (b) that, from now on persons of Japanese origin who wish to be repatriated to Japan will have to do so at their own expense.

## 3. Return to Canada of Persons of Japanese Origin

Mr. Menzies explained in detail the present policy followed regarding persons of Japanese origin (Canadian-born, naturalized or nationals retaining Canadian domicile) who left Canada before the war or who were repatriated and who wish to obtain Consular protection and assistance in Japan and who want to re-enter Canada. The Department of External Affairs recognize the right, under existing law, of Canadian citizens and Japanese nationals retaining Canadian domicile to re-enter Canada, but lays down that the Canadian Liaison Mission in Tokyo shall not for the present (a) help persons of Japanese race to obtain exit permits or buy passage, (b) issue visas to Japanese aliens even if they have technically retained Canadian domicile; and (c) issue or renew passports to Canadian Citizens of Japanese origin except in special circumstances.

It was proposed

- (a) The Canadian Liaison Mission in Japan shall be authorized to accept, from persons claiming to be Canadian citizens, applications for certificates of Canadian citizenship to be forwarded after careful examination to the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada along with such documents or affirmations as the Department may, in the circumstances, consider necessary to determine whether
  - (1) in the case of a person claiming to be a natural-born Canadian citizen he was in fact born a Canadian citizen, and that he has not ceased to be a Canadian citizen
  - (i) under section 16, 17(1) or 18 of the Canadian Citizenship Act, or
  - (ii) under P.C. 10773 of November 26, 1942