

1433



## OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN

## JAPANESE SECTION

To be completed by persons of the Japanese race having property in any protected area. The proper administration of this property requires such persons to give full particulars as requested in this form.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

285 - 7

NAME: MURAO Yasukichi

28/5/48

HOME ADDRESS: Steveston, B. C.

Claimant

REGISTRATION NUMBER 03870

SEX: M

AGE: 37

OCCUPATION: Fisherman

(If any business or businesses carried on, state where, under what name and whether carried on by yourself or in partnership with anyone; if partnership, give partner's name.)

EMPLOYER: None

MARRIED? Yes

NAME OF WIFE OR HUSBAND: Hatsue

ADDRESS OF WIFE OR HUSBAND: Steveston, B.C.

NAMES OF ANY LIVING CHILDREN: Shoko(F) Nobuko (F) Mitsuyo(F) Akihiro(M)

ADDRESS OF CHILDREN: Steveston, B. C.

AGE OF CHILDREN: 7, 6, 4, 2 yrs

## STATEMENT OF ALL REAL PROPERTY (Each parcel must be mentioned and particulars given)

## 1. LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:

## 2. BUILDINGS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS:

## 3. INSURANCE (Give particulars; state where policies are)

## 4. TAXES (Amount and where payable)

## 5. ENCUMBRANCES (Including any unregistered claims or deposit of title deed)

## 6. OCCUPANCY AND LEASES (If vacant so state)



7. STATE WHEREABOUTS OF TITLE DOCUMENTS: None
8. STATE IF ANY OTHER PERSON HAS ANY INTEREST: None
9. IF FARM LAND STATE CROPS SOWN None

**STATEMENT OF REAL PROPERTY OCCUPIED**

1. LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION: Steveston, B. C. 4 rooms in Cannery House
2. LANDLORD'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Imperial Cannery, Steveston, B. C.
3. PARTICULARS OF LEASE AND RENT AND DATE TO WHICH PAID: 5¢ per fish delivered
4. STATE WHEREABOUTS OF LEASE: None
5. SUB-TENANTS, IF ANY (Give name, address, rent and to what date paid) None
6. IF FARM LAND, PARTICULARS OF CROPS SOWN: None

**STATEMENT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED:**

1. GIVE BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND STATE LOCATION OF FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, STOCK IN TRADE AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

In custody At New Westminster B.C., 1 Gas Boat 6 H.P., "Ben State" 31 x 7'  
Approx. \$600.00. At Imperial Cannery Steveston, B. C: 5 Nets including lines  
Approx. \$750.00. 1 Row Boat 12' Approx \$10.00.

At Imperial Cannery House:- Furniture, household effects and kitchen utensils  
Approx. \$200.00.

2. HORSES, LIVESTOCK AND OTHER ANIMALS, POULTRY AND PETS None
3. GIVE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF ANY PERSON HAVING ANY INTEREST IN, OR CLAIM ON ANY SUCH PROPERTY None



5. MORTGAGES, LIENS AND OTHER CLAIMS ON PROPERTY IN POSSESSION OF OTHERS:

7. BONDS, DEBENTURES, SHARES, STOCKS OR OTHER SECURITIES (State whereabouts)

#### B. BANK ACCOUNTS:

### 9. LIFE INSURANCE:

**10. INTEREST IN ANY ESTATES OR TRUSTS**

**11. SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX:**

**LIABILITIES:**

**1. PERSONAL DEBTS:**

## 2. TRADE DEBTS:

I, the undersigned, hereby voluntarily turn over to the Custodian all my property in the protected area as set out above, excepting fishing vessels, deposits of money, shares of stock, debentures, bonds or other securities, if any.

I certify that the above information is true and complete and fully discloses all my property of every description in any protected area in British Columbia and sets forth all my liabilities direct and indirect.

Dated this 3rd day of April 194 2

(Signature) **W. Marnon**

"Geo. F. Arab"

**Witness**

I hereby certify that the foregoing words are a true copy of the original whereof they purport to be a copy.

**FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE**

August 19th 1948

M. Scaly  
T.M.



C  
O  
P  
Y

INFORMATION FROM R.C.M.P.

DATE May 14, 1943

Our File No. 1433

Full Name MURAO, Yasukichi  
(Surname in Block Letters)

Registration No. 03870

Male - Female  
(Check)

Age January 3, 1905

Former Address Steveston, B.C.

Date Evacuated April 29, 1942

Naturalized - Canadian-Born - National  
(Check)

Present Address GREENWOOD, B.C. (Dec. 9/46)

Married - Single  
(Check)

Name of Wife (nee NARIWA) Hatsuye #04501

Name of Husband ---

Name of Mother NARIWA, Yone

Name of Father Fukumatsu

Names of Children under 16 Shoko (F) Feb. 24, 1936. Nobuko (F) July 4, 1937.

Mitsuyo (F) Jan. 8, 1939., Akihiro (M) April 16, 1940. Toyoji (M) Oct. 3, 1942.

Requested by E.C.T.

Registered with Custodian YES  
(Yes or No)

Additional Information FISHERMAN



SUMMARY TAKEN FROM VESSELS RECORDS

Date: June 8, 1944

Name: MURAO, Yasukichi

Reg. No. 03870

File: 1433

Boat File No.: JFVDC 642

Name of Vessel: "Y.M." 1182 30'x7'x3' (1931) Bensid 8 HP

Lic. or Reg. No.: (New Westminster 1182) Probably incorrect

Naval No.: NW.079-D (MURAO, YASUKICHI)

Owner's Valuation: \$900.00

JFVDC Valuation: \$489.00 Survey #158 NW

Custodian Valuation: None

Date of Sale: May 27, 1942

Purchaser: Canadian Fishing Company Ltd.

Signature on Sales Papers: Copy unsigned - vendor: Y. Murao

Selling Price: \$600.00

Paid to JFVDC ~~organization~~: 600.00

Supervision Costs: 8.50

Balance due Owner: 591.50

Paid to: Y. Murao, June 1, 1942, per U. Sakamoto

Location of Boat at Sale: New Westminster

Claims Against Canadian Govt.: None- Missing equipment apparently supplied from naval store

Additional Information: The vessel licence NW.1182 was in the name of Rikizo HARADA. No licence number is shown on the sales papers. It is possible that the number 1182 is the fishing licence number not the gasboat licence number.

*J. W. Johnson*  
Dec. 7, 1946



File No. 1433


December 9, 1946

LIABILITY SUMMARY

Re: Yasukichi MURAO  
Registration No. 03870

There are no claims against the above Evacuee  
revealed on the file.

The above Summary is certified to be in  
accordance with the information on file.

  
George Peters,  
Office of the Custodian.

GP/ls



December 9, 1946.

PERSONAL PROPERTY SUMMARY

Re: Yasukichi MURAO

Registration No. 03870

CHATELS:

See Chattel Summary.

SPECIFIED  
ARTICLES:

There are no cameras, radios, motor vehicles or fire  
arms revealed in the registration or the file.

VESSELS:

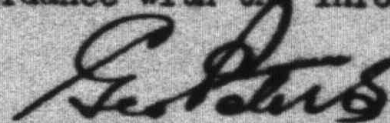
The file reveals the fishing vessel "Y.M." Bensid  
8 HP was sold through the Japanese Fishing Vessel  
Disposal Committee and the proceeds paid direct to  
Y. MURAO on June 1, 1942, per U. Sakamoto.

ACCOUNTS  
RECEIVABLE:

Refund of B. C. Electric Railway Co. Ltd. security  
deposit for light . . . . . \$.74

No personal property interests other than mentioned  
are revealed on the file.

The above Summary is certified to be in  
accordance with the information on file.



George Peters,  
Office of the Custodian.

GP/ic



MURAO, Yasukichi,  
Registration No. 03870,  
File No. 1433.

January 24, 1944.

NET STATEMENT

Ex Imperial Cannery Cold Storage Bldg.

<u>Custodian No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Purchase Price</u>
1413	250 fa. cork line	\$10.00
1414	150 fa. cork line	2.50
TOTAL SALES.....		\$12.50

Transferred to:  
Net Suspense Acct. Y. Murao.  
9/10/44  
C.G.

Note: The above sales may also belong to Yoichi MURAO,  
File No. 4693, who stored nets with the Imperial  
Cannery. Holding funds.

/ms



December 9, 1944.

CHATEL SUMMARY

Re: Yasuichi NARIWA  
Registration No. 04962

In his declaration of April 21, 1942, Yasuichi NARIWA declared no chattels whatsoever left in the protected area. He was interned on June 19, 1942.

The file reveals that on June 26, 1942, the Custodian's agent removed from the Phoenix Cannery House No. 3 to the Custodian's Warehouse No. 3, chattels in the name of Y. NARIWA. There is no such name and it appears that the Custodian's office tried to identify this as the name Yasuichi NARIWA, and this list was placed on his file.

The sewing machine was auctioned by the Custodian on December 10, 1943. This was called to Yasuichi's attention and a reply was received from him on February 8, 1944, in which he states the sewing machine auctioned belonged to his sister Mrs. Hatsu MURAO who he lived with before evacuation. On her own file #5246, Mrs. Hatsu MURAO declared a sewing machine in No. 3 Phoenix Cannery, therefore, the credit derived was transferred to her account.

On checking her husband's file #1433, we find in his original declaration Yasuichi MURAO stated he left his chattels at the Imperial Cannery but in a letter received from him on November 30, 1944, he states this was a mistake that he actually left his effects at the Phoenix Cannery, Stevenson, B.C. We are of the opinion, therefore, that the chattels removed under the name of Y. NARIWA were the effects of MURAO. Therefore, we have transferred the inventory list to MURAO's file #1433, also \$2.64 credit which was derived from the sale of two (2) table lamps.

*Letter Trans. to Suspense Acct.*

Yasuichi NARIWA wrote to this office from the Internment Camp on September 29, 1942, submitting a list of nets and trunks which he claimed he left in the storage rooms of the Phoenix Cannery. Nets were found in his name and sold by the Custodian. Our Net Statement of February 8, 1944, shows their disposal, the total amount being \$244.98.

The above Summary is certified to be in accordance with the information on file.

*G. Peters*

George Peters,  
Office of the Custodian.



December 10, 1946.

CHATTEL SCHEDULE

Re: Yasukichi MURAO  
Registration No. 03870

JAPANESE DECLARATION - APRIL 3, 1942.

Furniture	}	Approximate value \$200.00
Household Effects		
Kitchen Utensils		

Above left at Imperial Cannery, Steveston, B.C.  
 (This is incorrect, see his letter of November 30,  
 1944, in which he states Phoenix Cannery, Steveston.)

GOODS REMOVED FROM PHOENIX CANNERY #. 5 TO CUSTODIAN  
 WAREHOUSE NO. 3 BASEMENT AISLE 4 - JUNE 26, 1942 -  
 UNDER NAME OF Y. NARIWA (See Copy of Chattel Summary  
 for file INT 1031 for explanation).

2 cartons sundries	Missing, see chattel summary.
2 boxes net twine	Missing, see chattel summary.
1 sewing machine	Transferred to file #5246.
1 box dishes	Missing, see chattel summary.
1 carton dishes	Missing, " " "
1 small case books	<del>Suitcase auctioned missing</del>
1 carton clothing	Missing, see chattel summary.
1 pair rubber boots	Missing, " " "
1 pair pants	Missing, " " "
2 Japanese tubs	Missing, " " "
1 lantern	Missing, " " "
1 bowl	Missing, " " "
1 canvas bag	Missing, " " "
1 carton hats	Missing, " " "
1 lantern and globes	Missing, " " "
1 ironing board	Missing, " " "
1 mattress	Missing, " " "
1 quilt	Missing, " " "
1 carton kitchen ware	Missing, " " "
1 carton C.O. lamps	Missing, " " "
1 can 5 gal.	Missing, " " "
	<del>2 Table lamps auctioned missing</del>
	Missing, see chattel summary.

Left in this House:

1 bed complete	}	<i>Missing</i>
2 beds		
2 springs		
4 chairs		
1 heater		
3 Home-made tables		

The above Schedule is certified to be in  
 accordance with the information on file.

*George Peters*  
 George Peters, Office of the Custodian.



File No. INT 1031 and file #1433

December 7, 1946.

MEMORANDUM - Miss C. Girard

Re: Transfer of chattels

Kindly transfer from Yasukichi HAKIIRA, Registration No. 04969, file INT 1031 to Yasukichi MURAO, Registration No. 03870, file 1433, the proceeds of Steveston Auction No. 3.

Table lamp . . . . .	\$1.00
Table lamp . . . . .	2.50
	<u>3.50</u>
Less Expenses. . . . .	<u>.86</u>

NET PROCEEDS \$2.64

These have been identified as belonging to Yasukichi MURAO, file 1433.

*Q.P.*

CG/1c

Accounting Department:

Charge to File Int. 1031 and credit to File 1433:

Statement 31

Realized: \$3.50 — Less Expenses: \$0.86 — Credited: \$2.64.

Transferred, December 9, 1946.

*P. Girard*

*Letter Trans  
to Superintendent  
from 1433*



File No. 1433

December 9, 1946.

MEMORANDUM - Miss C. Girard

Re: Yasukichi MURAO  
Registration No. 03870

Kindly transfer to Net Suspense the following:

Custodian No. 1413 - 250 fa. cork line -	\$10.00	- 19/1/43
Custodian No. 1414 - 150 fa. cork line -	2.50	4/2/43
(Ex Imperial Cannery Cold Storage Bldg.)		
TOTAL SALES.....	\$12.50	

These cannot be identified as belonging to Yasukichi MURAO as Yoichi MURAO (file #4693) also declared nets at the Imperial Cannery.

GP/ic

Accounting Department:

Charge to File 1433, Yasukichi MURAO and credit to Net Suspense Account / Y. Muroo:

No. 1413 - Sold to H. Korus through Nelson Bros. on 3/12/42 -	\$10.00
No. 1414        "        Aloes Shultz                                " 9/1/43 -	\$2.50
	<hr/>
	\$12.50

Transferred, December 9, 1946.

C. Girard



1433, 5246, 5267

December 12th, 1944

Mr. & Mrs. Yasukichi MURAO,  
Reg. Nos. 03870 & 04501,  
Greenwood, D.C.

Dear Sir & Madam:

We acknowledge receipt of your letters of November 30th in which you both declare having given the wrong address of your chattels when filling out your "JP" Registration Forms - and now state they were left at house #2, Phoenix Cannery.

At this date, we may be unable to trace your goods as we removed nothing from house #2, in your name. All the goods from this house were taken to our storage warehouse in the name of Mrs. Kazuo NAKANO.

We enclose a list of these effects and if you can positively identify any of the items as being yours, kindly let us know as until we hear from you all the proceeds from the sale of these goods at our auctions will be frozen, until the rightful owners can be determined.

we are,

Trusting to hear from you promptly,

Yours truly,

R.B. Mackenzie  
Protection Department

RE: 1433  
Encl.

Mar 5/46 I am quite sure that with the exception of one bed, the household goods taken from #5 Phoenix Cannery belong to Mr. & Mrs. Muro - they are confirmed because of yr letter to Mrs. M. dated Nov 22/44. Will.

PP  
9

Please receive proceeds from sale from  
be account of Yasukichi Muro Jan. 10/31.



File No. 1433

March 15th, 1946.

Re: Yasukichi MURAO  
Reg. # 03870

The following table is extracted from record books received from the B.C. Packers Co., covering their IMPERIAL CANNERY (K. SAIMOTO) net house. The Japanese Fish Collectors were instructed to have the Japanese fishermen enter in these record books the nets which were left by them in the company net houses.

The original record books are in the hands of Mr. F.G. Shears, Director.

<u>Description</u>		<u>Value</u>
Cork line - 160 fathoms		\$ 30.00
160 "		30.00
150 "		20.00
150 "		25.00
120 "		15.00
Lead line - 200 fathoms		\$ 35.00
170 "		30.00
170 "		30.00
170 "		30.00
150 "		25.00
100 "		15.00
Nets:-		
Spring - 9 x 150 fathom 40 mesh 9 ply		\$100.00
Seakeys- 5 1/2 x 75 " 50 " 5 "		30.00
6 1/2 x 150 " 40 " 5 "		150.00
7 x 200 " 40 " 5 "		160.00
5 1/2 x 250 " 50 " 5 "		100.00
Japanese 5 1/2 x 150 " 50 " 5 "		30.00

Reported on March 28th, 1942

1/c *Louman*

As there was more than one person by the name of Y. MURAO who had nets and was connected with the IMPERIAL CANNERY, I am placing copies of these nets on the respective files.

Copies: File No. 1693 & 181-1021



Mr. R. B. Mackie  
The Custodian's Office  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear sir:

Re: File No. 1433

Thanking you for your enquiry dated 22nd inst., with reference to my effectives which I declared on April 3rd, 1942 left at Imperial Cannery houses at Steveston, I beg to inform you that I have made mistake upon the place where I left the above stated chattels when I reported on "I.P." form.

Actually, the same have been left at No. 2 house Phoenix Cannery (A. B. C. Packing Co.) - at Steveston. So I would like you kindly have your attention toward this direction in checking up my belongings.

EXHIBIT NO. 285-5  
DATE 28/5/48  
FILED BY Crown

Yours truly,  
Yasukichi Murao,  
Reg. No. 03E70



Greenwood, B.C. Jan. 11th, 1947.

Mr. G. Peters,  
The Custodian's Office  
Vancouver, B.C.

285-6  
28/5/47  
DATE  
FILLED BY Brown

EVACUATION ACT FILE	
Rec'd	JAN 14 1947
File No.	1433
Ans.	<u>G. Peters</u>
Referred	<u>Peters</u>

Dear sir:

Re: File No. 1433

In accordance with your kind advice dated December 12th, 1946, I am enclosing herewith an itemised list of the goods which I actually left in the houses at Steveston, when I evacuated the coast area.

I am also enclosing a list of fishing gears which I left in one of houses belonging to the Imperial Cannery of Steveston, for which I shall be much obliged if you would kindly take proper steps for protection of my interests.

Yours truly,  
Y. Brown



Household Effects, Kitchen Utensils, & Other Goods,  
left at No. 5 house Phoenix Cannery at Steveston,

- 3 Bed (Steel frame, size double) ✓ 6 Char 4 ✓  
3 Bed Spring (for above) ✓  
4 Blind  
2 Cartons Japanese Toy (in paper box) ✓  
3 Table ✓  
1 Box type Heater ✓  
1 small bag Book ✓  
2 Cartons Kitchen Utensils (in wooden box) ✓  
1 Gasoline Stove, (Round Type) ✓  
1 Camp Cook Gasoline Stove, ✓  
1 Carton Carpenter Tools ✓  
6 lbs Salmon Net Twine ✓  
1 Wooden Bath Tank ✓  
8 cords Fire Wood ✓  
2 Row Boat ✓  
12 ft. Electric Drop Cord ✓  
2 Clock ✓  
20 ft. 1/2" Rubber Hose ✓



Salmon Gill Nets and Gears left at one of  
houses owned by The Imperial Cannery at Steveston.

QUANTITIES	ARTICLES	ESTIMATED VALUE
160 fathoms	Cotton Rope (Cork line)	\$ 30.00
160 "	Ditto,	30.00
150 "	Ditto,	20.00
150 "	Ditto,	25.00
120 "	Ditto	15.00
200 "	Cotton Rope (Lead line)	35.00
170 "	Ditto,	30.00
170 "	Ditto,	30.00
170 "	Ditto,	30.00
150 "	Ditto,	25.00
100 "	Ditto,	15.00

1 Spring Net	150 fathoms x 40 mesh by 9 in. (mesh size) 9 Ply	\$ 100.00
1 Sockye "	75 " x 50 " " 5 7/8" (mesh size) 5 "	30.00
1 " "	150 " x 40 " " 6 1/2" ( " " ) 5 "	150.00
1 Dog Salmon Net	200 " x 40 " " 7" ( " " ) 5 "	160.00
1 Sockye Net	250 " x 50 " " 5 1/4" ( " " ) 5 "	100.00
1 " "	150 " x 50 " " 5 7/8" ( " " ) 5 "	30.00

Reported to the Imperial Cannery Office on March 28th 1942.

for above  
Locations of house in which the above Nets <sup>were</sup> left and stored.

One of old houses located right opposite side of old Gold Sturge  
Plant.

855.-



May 7/48  
Greenwood, B.C.

C. H. Reed, Esq.,  
Office of the Custodian  
Vancouver, B.C.

EVACUATION SECTION	
Rec'd.	MAY 10 1948
File No.	1433
Ass.	
Referred	

Dear Sir: Re File # 1433

I am enclosing herewith a copy  
of my personal property which comprises  
household goods & fishing lines & nettings.

Hoping this is the information you  
require & trust the enclosure will meet with  
your approval.

Sincerely,

Yamkichi Mureo.

Done & delivered



# Personal Property owned by Mabel Yasukichi

Cotton Lint Line	160	Furrows	30.00
"	160	"	20.00
"	160	"	20.00
"	150	"	25.00
"	120	"	15.00
Cotton Seed Line	200	Furrows	35.00
"	170	"	30.00
"	170	"	30.00
"	170	"	30.00
"	150	"	25.00
"	100	"	15.00
Total			\$285.00

Sockeye Gill Net 9' 150 FPM	40 Mesh	9' x 7'	100.00
" " " 12' 75' "	50 "	5' x 7'	30.00
" " " 15' 150 "	40 "	5' x 7'	150.00
" " " 7' 200 "	40 "	5' x 7'	160.00
" " " 12' 250 "	50 "	5' x 7'	100.00
" " " 12' 150 "	50 "	5' x 7'	30.00
Total			\$570.00

## Household Goods

2	SPR	IRON Bed Case	90.00
1	only	Refrigerator	25.00
2	"	Tables	5.00
1	"	Table with chairs	5.00
2	Boxes	Japanese Bells	52.85
2	SPR	Wardrobe Chests	5.00
1	"	"	2.50
2	only	Colonial Gas Stove	15.25
1	"	Over Sink Cabinet	8.75
2	Cases	Fuel Wood	15.25
2	SPR	Coat	4.00
1	only	Japanese Glass Pan	1.50
16	ST	Rubber Pipe	3.75
1	Box	Kitchen Utensil	57.51
6	lbs	Japanese Towel	12.00
1	"	"	10.00
1	Box	Catnip for Cats	5.00
1	"	Stove Pipe	4.75
1	only	Rubber Boot	10.50
1	"	Book Case	2.50
1	"	Blender/Processor	40.00
1	"	Skirt	15.00
Total			\$400.00

Copy only



1433

February 7, 1947.

Mr. Yasukichi MURAO,  
Registration No. 03870,  
Greenwood, B. C.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 11th, listing chattels and nets which you claim you left in the Protected Area. We regret very much that no household goods of any value were found in your name by the Custodian's agents. The same situation prevails as far as the nets are concerned

When the Custodian's agent entered the old Ex. Imperial Cannery Cold Storage building, only 400 fathoms of cork line were found, tagged with the name "Y. MURAO", and as Yoichi Murao also declared fishing equipment at the Imperial Cannery, it is impossible for us to identify to whom these belong.

For your information the Imperial Cannery states that the old storage building was badly pilfered during the months of May and June, 1942, before our agents could take over, and we are of the opinion that the nets which you left there were stolen. A record is being placed on our files of the goods you claim to have left in the Protected Area.

In the meantime, we are enclosing herewith our cheque in the amount of 74¢, being your entire balance with the Custodian, derived from a refund of B. C. Electric Railway Co. Ltd., security Deposit for light. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this cheque.

Yours truly,

George Peters,  
Office of the Custodian.

GP/EL  
Enc. - Cheque for 74¢



February 7, 1947. PP  
10CHATTEL SUMMARY

Re: Yasukichi MURAO  
Reg. No. 03870  
Evacuated April 29/42.

In his declaration of April 3, 1942, Yasukichi Murao declared 5 fishing nets, including lines, approximate value \$750.00, and one 12' rowboat, approximate value \$12.00, at the Imperial Cannery, Steveston, B. C. He also declared furniture, household effects and kitchen utensils, approximate value \$200.00, at the Imperial Cannery House, Steveston, B. C.

The only fishing equipment inventoried by the Custodian's agent in the Imperial Cannery was removed under the name of Y. Murao, under Custodian's Nos. 1413, 1414 and 1415. There were two Y. Muraos who declared fishing equipment left at the Imperial Cannery so these items were placed in Custodian's Net Suspense Account as they could not be identified.

We might point out, at this time, that before evacuation, a Y. Murao sold fishing twines and a net to the B. C. Packers, Ltd., for a total amount of \$199.40.

As the Custodian could not find any furniture in the Imperial Cannery under the name of Yasukichi Murao, he was notified, and on November 30, 1944, Mr. Murao stated he had made a mistake in his declaration, that he actually left his furniture and household effects at the Phoenix Cannery, Steveston, B. C., Cannery House No. 5.

On June 26, 1942, the Custodian's agent removed chattels from House No. 5, Phoenix Cannery, under the name of Y. Nariwa. The Custodian wrote to Mr. Nariwa and in reply he stated that the sewing machine which was removed under his name belonged to his sister, Mrs. Hatsu (Yasukichi) Murao. The proceeds from the sale of this item were transferred to her account.

No detailed list of the chattels was received by the Custodian from Yasukichi Murao until January 11, 1947. As the list supplied fits in very well with what was removed under the name of Y. Nariwa, we are of the opinion that the goods removed actually belonged to Yasukichi Murao. Unfortunately the goods that were removed by the Custodian are missing; the only explanation that can be made is that the goods removed were in such condition that they were discarded - by the Custodian's agent and no record kept. X







1433

April 12, 1948.

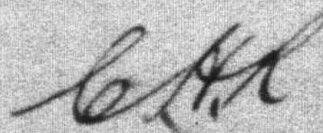
Mr. Yasukichi MURAO,  
Reg. No. 03870  
Greenwood, B. C.

Dear Sir:

The instructions for filing property claims which appeared in various newspapers required claimants to present their personal property claims in an itemized form.

The claim sent by you to the Commissioner has been received, but you did not supply the required information. Before the Custodian can correctly analyse your claim, it will be necessary for you to forward an itemized and detailed description of the personal property for which you are claiming, showing the amount claimed for each separate item. This itemized list, quoting the above file number, must be sent to this office immediately upon receipt of this letter.

Yours truly,



Office of the Custodian.



DEC - 2 1947

IN THE MATTER OF a Commission to Investigate Claims of Japanese Canadians for Property Losses

TO: The Commissioner,  
Office of the Custodian,  
Royal Bank Bldg.,  
Vancouver, B.C.

5246  
1433

Pursuant to the notice issued on the 26th day of September, 1947, I submit the following claim:

per Marao Hatsu (Mrs.) 04601

(RCMP) Reg. No. 93870

- (1) NAME MURAO Yasukichi (Mr.)  
(Print) Surname Given Name
- (2) Pre-Evacuation Address STEVESTON, B.C.
- (3) Present Address GREENWOOD, B.C.

(4) REAL ESTATE

(a) Street Address (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ City or Municipality \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Legal description (lot number, block number, section number, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) Type of Real Property (cross out words which do not apply):

- (i) Farm \_\_\_\_\_ Type of business \_\_\_\_\_  
(ii) Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
(iii) Business \_\_\_\_\_  
(iv) Any other type of property (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

(d) What was your interest in the property (e.g., sole owner, life tenant, joint tenant, owner of one half or one third interest, leasehold, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

(e) Fair market value at date of sale (estimate this to the best of your ability):

(i) Land - - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Buildings - - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(iii) If business, put value on business as going concern (including land and buildings, tenancies, chattels, fixtures, stock-in-trade, goodwill and accounts receivable) - - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(iv) Total value (if you cannot give separate values for lands and buildings just fill in total value) - - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(v) Amount at which Custodian sold property and credited your account - - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(f) Loss (This figure is arrived at by deducting item (v) from item (iv) - - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(5) PERSONAL PROPERTY

(a) Place or places at which property was left by the claimant at date of evacuation  
PHOENIX CANNERY'S (B.C. PACKERS LTD.) STEVESTON, B.C.

(b) Type of premises in which property left (e.g., house, warehouse, garage, shed, church basement, etc.)  
HUT HOUSE

(c) How stored or packed at time of evacuation  
stored with tags attached.

House-hold Goods stored at House #2 Phoenix Cannery, Steveston, B.C.

(over)



- (d) In whose care was property left at date of evacuation by the claimant. (This question refers to the terms of reference which exclude claims where the property was lost, destroyed or stolen while under the custody, control or management of any person other than the Custodian appointed by the owner of the property. It involves some definite arrangement whereby you appointed someone to take care of the property and such person accepted the responsibility of so doing. Unless such an arrangement was made the question should be answered "in no one's care")

**IN CUSTODIAN'S CARE**

- (e) Itemized description of personal property which is the subject of the claim:

1.	Cork Line	Estimated Value \$	120.00
2.	Lead Line	Estimated Value \$	165.00
3.	Nets	Estimated Value \$	570.00
4.	Household Goods	Estimated Value \$	400.00
5.		Estimated Value \$	
6.		Estimated Value \$	
7.		Estimated Value \$	
8.		Estimated Value \$	
9.		Estimated Value \$	
10.		Estimated Value \$	

**TOTAL CLAIM FOR PROPERTY LOSS \$1255.00**

N.B.—If you cannot list all the items here prepare a separate list with values set out opposite each item and attach it to the form. The item "personal property" includes shares, bonds, mortgages, loans, notes and all other forms of property not included in real estate.

- (f) Total claim including real and personal property (this figure can be arrived at by adding items 4(f) and 5(e) - - - - - \$1255.00)

- (6) (a) Place at which claimant prefers to be heard. (b) Do you require the services of an interpreter at the hearing? Yes or no Yes  
(Vancouver, Kamloops, Nelson, Lethbridge, Moose Jaw, Winnipeg, Toronto or Montreal.)

Greenwood, preferred; Nelson, if necessary

N.B.—This Declaration must be sworn before a Commissioner, Notary Public or other person entitled to take declarations. All lawyers are qualified to do so.

DOMINION OF CANADA )  
Province of B. C. )  
TO WIT: )

I, Hatsu Murao, wife of Yasukichi Murao of the City  
of Greenwood in the Province of British Columbia

**DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:**

The information set out in the form above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath, and by virtue of "The Canada Evidence Act".

DECLARED before me at the City )  
of Greenwood )  
in the Province of B. C. )  
this 24th day of November )  
A.D. 1947. L. A. D. 1947 )

Hatsu Murao  
A Commissioner &c.

N.B.—THIS FORM FULLY COMPLETED AND SWORN BEFORE A COMMISSIONER SHOULD BE MAILED BY REGISTERED MAIL TO THE COMMISSIONER, c/o THE OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN, ROYAL BANK BLDG., VANCOUVER, B.C., BEFORE NOVEMBER 30th, 1947. IF YOU CANNOT MAIL IT BEFORE THIS DATE SET OUT BELOW REASONS FOR THE DELAY.

Notary Public in & for the Province of  
British Columbia, Canada,



IN THE MATTER OF THE WINDUPTIES ACT  
PART I. REVISED STATUTES OF CANADA 1927. CHAPTER 92

JAPANESE PROPERTY CLAIMS COMMISSION

B E F O R E  
(HIS HONOUR, JUDGE ERIC P. DAWSON, SUB-COMMISSIONER)

10

Grand Forks, B.C.  
May 28, 1948

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF  
YASUICHI MURAO

PROCEEDINGS AT HEARING

20 APPEARANCES:

HAROLD W. McINNES, Esq.,

appearing for the  
Dominion Government.

A.E. COBURN, Esq.,

appearing for the  
Claimant.

L.A. DODD, Esq.,

Secretary to Grand  
Forks Sub-Commission

G.N.R. UPTON, Esq.,

Official Interpreter

G. HAMBLETON, Esq.,

Official Reporter.

30



MR. COBUS: The claim, your honour, of Murao, Yasukichi, which is No. 48 on the Secretary's list; Case No. 285.

YASUKICHI MURAO, the Claimant herein, being first duly sworn, testified through the official interpreter as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. COBUS:

10 Q: Witness, the claim that was submitted for personal property herein was submitted by Hatsu Murao. Is Hatsu Murao your wife?

A: Yes.

Q: And did you authorize her to submit the claim on your behalf?

A: Yes.

MR. COBUS: I would ask leave, your honour, to amend the claim for personal property which is the subject of this claim.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Are you filing an authority in this case? Is this man acting on behalf of his wife?

MR. COBUS: The claim, your honour, is the claim of the witness present, but the claim form is shown as being that of Mr. Yasukichi Murao per Mrs. Hatsu Murao, who is his wife.

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

MR. COBUS: It was signed by his wife.

THE COMMISSIONER: I see.

30 MR. COBUS: The amendments I would like to make, your honour, would be to combine under one head, cork line, lead line, and nets, and show a value for



these articles of \$750.00 in place of the three amounts typed in on the original claim form. With respect to the household goods, the amount now claimed is \$198.00. The total claim becomes \$948, and we show no credit to the Custodian at all, leaving the total claim \$948.00.

10 Q: Witness, I produce to you a statement concerning personal property of fishing gear nature. Did you instruct Mr. Leckie to prepare this statement for you and is that your signature?

A: Yes.

Q: Are the statements contained therein true to the best of your knowledge and recollection?

A: Yes.

Q: In your statement, witness, you refer to a list attached to the statement. I produce to you a list of cork lines, lead lines and nets. Is this the list to which your statement refers?

A: Yes.

20 Q: In this list, in the final column, you show certain amounts under the heading "Estimated Value." Are those amounts your opinion of a fair market value for the items so valued? A: Yes.

Q: And the remainder of the information contained in the list, is that information correct to the best of your memory? A: Yes.

MR. COBUS: I would ask to file the personal property statement and list, your honour, as one exhibit.

THE COMMISSIONER: Exhibit 1.



MR. COBUS: Referring to the statement and list, your honour, exhibit No. 1, the list has itemised each and every cork line and lead line and net for which claim is being made. It gives details as to the age of the nets and the original value as well and at the bottom he has a recapitulation showing the cotton cork lines to be \$230.00, and I think in error has shown the lead line to be worth \$520.00.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: That is probably the total of both, isn't it?

MR. COBUS: No, your honour.

Q: This \$520.00 item, witness, would appear to be the total estimated value of nets, whereas in your recapitulation you show "Total lead lines, \$520.00.

MR. McINNES: I am agreeable to you amending it yourself.

MR. COBUS: May I do that without any objection?

20 MR. McINNES: Yes.

MR. COBUS: Your honour, I would ask that that recapitulation on the list be amended to read "Total cork lines and lead lines \$230.00, Total nets, \$520.00."

THE COMMISSIONER: Total cork and lead lines \$230.00, and these are the nets, the second lot.

MR. COBUS: Yes in place of lead lines.

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

MR. COBUS: Referring now to the statement, your honour, the witness says that all nets and lines



claimed were left in the net house at Imperial Cannery, B.C. Packers, Steveston, B.C. identified with name tags. "On the cannery list my name, Y. Murao, was given No. 8." He comments that he has never received any money from the Custodian in respect of his nets and lines and that he has allowed for depreciation on the nets and lines claimed.

10 Q: Witness, I produce to you a statement concerning the personal chattels for which you are making claim. Did you instruct Mr. Leckie to prepare this statement for you and is that your signature?

A: Yes.

Q: Are the statements contained therein true to the best of your knowledge and recollection?

A: Yes.

MR. COBUS: I would ask to file the personal chattels statement as the next exhibit, your honour.

(STATEMENT MARKED EXHIBIT NO. 2)

20 MR. COBUS: The statement, your honour, contains an itemized list of all the articles for which claim is being made. In the right hand column is shown the estimated values of the articles claimed and the information concerning the date of purchase and what articles are new and used, when purchased, the price paid therefor, and the condition has been given.

The claimant says that in his J.P. form he was in error in stating that these goods, and  
30 other goods for which he is not now claiming,



were left at the Imperial Cannery, Steveston.  
They were left in No. 5 house, Phoenix Cannery.  
He informed the Custodian in November, 1944, that  
the goods were left in No. 2 house, Phoenix  
Cannery, in error, and when the Custodian ad-  
vised him that he found no goods of his in No.  
2 house, the claimant then realized his error  
and sent him a list of household effects which  
he had left in No. 5 house, Phoenix Cannery. He  
is given to understand that the Custodian found  
and removed those goods to his storage. He  
adds that he has never received any monies from  
the Custodian with respect to any of the goods  
for which he is claiming. He says that he  
has allowed for depreciation on all the articles  
claimed.

I would ask my learned friend to produce the  
analysis of personal property claim.

(Handed to Mr. Cobus)

I have, produced from the Custodian's file,  
your honour, a document headed Analysis of Per-  
sonal Property Claim, which I would ask to file  
on behalf of the Crown.

(ANALYSIS MARKED EXHIBIT NO. 5)

MR. COBUS: Would my learned friend also produce the  
storage list or lists from the Custodian's  
file?

MR. McINNES: May it please your honour, in produc-  
ing this document, which I am doing at the re-  
quest of my learned friend, I wish to submit



that it is not to be taken as any admission that we had any of the goods claimed by this claimant.

10 MR. COBUS: My learned friend has produced what we have been calling storage lists or warehouse lists, which shows that on the 26th of June, 1942, certain goods were removed from Phoenix Cannery, No. 5, to warehouse No. 3 basement, aisle 4. In red pencil the Custodian has made a note to the effect that it is file 1433 or 5248.

THE COMMISSIONER: Does it list in detail what was removed, what it consisted of?

MR. COBUS: It lists in quite minute detail, your honour, items from 1 to 21, and then several other items in a scattered fashion on the right hand side.

THE COMMISSIONER: Is that the list referred to in this statement as "Ref. P.P.1?"

MR. COBUS: It is marked P.P.1.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: That is referred to in this statement: "Chattels as per Ref P.P.1 found and removed to storage, found missing or discarded."

MR. COBUS: That is right, your honour, and I would ask that that be filed, your honour, on behalf of the Crown.

(STORAGE LIST MARKED EXHIBIT NO. 4)

30 MR. COBUS: With respect to the Analysis of Personal Property Claim, your honour, which is Exhibit 3, the only comment I would make concerning it is in regard to the amount shown under "Sales



at Auction of \$35.00. That \$35.00 item was for a Singer sewing machine as indicated by that row of dots across the top of the sheet, and no claim is being made for the sewing machine.

Your witness.

10 MR. McINNES: If it please your honour, it will be submitted that the claim, for both the nets and for the personal goods and chattels does not come within the Terms of Reference as neither of the matters came within the hands or under the control of the Custodian.

With reference to this sewing machine just referred to, I make this statement for the benefit of my friend. It appears that the sewing machine was sold, but it was not sold under the name of this claimant or his wife, it was in the name of someone else, I believe a brother or sister.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: There is no claim made for that, anyway.

MR. COBUS: No.

MR. McINNES: No, but I think the purpose of my friend in introducing that was to show we had part of the goods and therefore we were responsible for them all. I am simply pointing out that that sewing machine was not sold in the name of this claimant, but someone else's name; that it transpired later that it was her machine and she got the money for it.

30 THE COMMISSIONER: It was sold as the property of



someone else.

MR. McINNIS: Yes.

CROSS EXAMINATION BY MR. McINNIS:

Q: I am producing a letter to you. Will you look at that and see if it is your letter?

A: Yes.

MR. McINNIS: I will just read the letter into the record, your honour, and will ask to file it as an exhibit. It is dated at Greenwood, B.C., November 30th, 1944 addressed to Mr. R.B. Mackenzie, the Custodian's Office, Vancouver, B. C. "Dear Sir: Re File No. 1433. Thanking you for your enquiry dated 22nd inst. With reference to my effects which I declared on April 3rd, 1942, left at Imperial Cannery house at Steveston, I beg to inform you that I made mistake upon the place where I left the above stated chattels when I reported on J.P. form. Actually, the  
10  
20  
30  
same have been left at No. 2 house Phoenix Cannery (A.B.C. Packing Co.) at Steveston, so I would like you kindly have your attention toward this direction in checking up my belongings. Yours truly, Yasukichi Murao, Reg. No. 03870."

(LETTER MARKED EXHIBIT NO. 5)

THE COMMISSIONER: What was the date of that?

MR. McINNIS: The date of the letter, Mr. Dodd?

THE SECRETARY: November 30, 1944.

MR. McINNIS: Q: I produce to you another letter.

30 Is that your letter?

A: Yes.



Q: Please look at the pages attached to it. Do those refer to your goods and your nets and lines?

A: Yes.

MR. McINNES: I would like to just read it, your honour.

THE COMMISSIONER: What is the date of that?

MR. McINNES: January 11th, 1947. That is filed as Exhibit 6.

(LETTER MARKED EXHIBIT NO. 6)

10 MR. McINNES: It is addressed to Mr. Peters of the Custodian's office: "In accordance with your kind advice dated December 12th, 1946, I am enclosing herewith an itemized list of the goods which I actually left in the house at Steveston when I evacuated the coast area. I am also enclosing a list of fishing gears which I left in one of houses belonging to the Imperial Cannery of Steveston, for which I shall be much obliged if would kindly take proper steps for protection

20 of my interests. Yours truly, Y. Murao."

Then attached thereto is a list of household goods and a list of nets.

Q: Now, Mr. Murao, this letter of January, 1947, which I have just read is the first occasion upon which you gave the Custodian any detailed information about your nets and lines?

A: Yes.

MR. McINNES: That is all.

MR. COBUS: Could my learned friend advise in whose

30 name the Singer sewing machine was sold?



Y. Murao  
Re-Direct exam

MR. McINNES: I think I can. Nariwa, Y. Nariwa,  
and he is a brother, your honour, of Hatsu  
Murao, the wife of this present witness.

MR. COBUS: Q: Witness, who is Y. Nariwa?

A: My wife's brother.

MR. COBUS: Your honour, with regard to the storage  
list which was filed as an exhibit, I would call  
particular attention to the fact that the stor-  
age list was taken under the name of Y. Nariwa.

10

I would ask my learned friend to advise  
the file number the Custodian has given to the  
present claimant, Y. Murao.

MR. McINNES: The file number?

MR. COBUS: Yes.

MR. McINNES: Yes, 1433.

MR. COBUS: And can he advise me as well the file  
number of Mrs. Hatsu Murao?

MR. McINNES: 5246.

20

MR. COBUS: I point out that on the storage list, your  
honour, both file numbers appear noted thereon.

THE COMMISSIONER: You mean this reference to "File  
1433 or 5246?"

MR. COBUS: Yes. In other words, it was filed in  
either the claimant's file or cross referenced  
to the file of his wife.

Would my learned friend produce the J.P.  
form?

Q: Witness, I produce to you a document known as a  
J.P. form dated the 3rd of April, 1942, and signed  
Y. Murao. Is that your signature?

30



Y. Murao  
Re-Direct exam

A: Yes.

Q: In this form you did in fact declare nets including lines as listed under the statement of personal property owned, is that correct?

A: Yes.

MR. COBUS: I would ask to file the J.P. form on behalf of the Crown, your honour.

(J.P. FORM MARKED EXHIBIT NO. 7)

MR. COBUS: I have nothing more to ask this witness.

10 MR. McINNES: No questions.

THE COMMISSIONER: All right.

(Witness aside)

(PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED SINE DIE)

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings herein.

*Gordon Hambleton*  
G. Hambleton  
Official Reporter

20 I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript purports to be an accurate record of the evidence adduced before me.

E.P. Dawson  
Sub-Commissioner



Yasukichi MURAO

Files No. 1433/5246

Case No. 285

PERSONAL PROPERTY CLAIMS

(All claims shown are Gross)

Ref. Trans. p.7, line 6 - Mr. McInnes submits that this whole claim does not come within the Terms of Reference as neither of the matters (Nets and Chattels) came within the hands or under the control of the Custodian.

1. Nets and Lines ClaimSale Price

\$750.

- (a) Lines valued by claimant  
at \$45.00 (approx.)

\$12.50  
(Held in Suspense Acct.)

Ref. Personal Property Claim  
Summary, 14 April 1948.  
See Claim File.

- (b) Nets and lines valued by claimant  
at \$618.00 (approx.)

Recorded, but now missing.

Ref. Trans. p.9, line 23 - Letter  
of Jan. 11, 1947, first detailed  
information re Nets & Lines.  
Exhibit No. 6.

- (c) Net valued by claimant  
at \$87.00 (Approx.)

No Record at any time.

Witness: 1. F.G. Shears - to prove no record  
and not declared, J.P. Form  
dated 3rd April 1942.  
Exhibit No. 7.  
'Declared 5 nets, now claims  
for 6.'

2. Chattel ClaimSale Price

\$198.00

None Sold.

Ref. Trans. p.9, line 10 - Letter dated  
Jan. 11, 1947, Exhibit No. 6, was  
first indication Custodian had that  
goods valued at \$198.00 belonged to  
the claimant.

Recorded, but now missing.

Ref. Warehouse Inventory, Exhibit No. 4.

Summary of Defence  
Witnesses

Where  
Required

Summary of Documents  
to be filed

Witness Proving  
Same

F. G. Shears

1

HAC/mw



Name of Claimant

MURAO, Yousukei and Hatsu

Case

285

Custodian File

1433 &amp; 5246

REAL PROPERTY										Total
Greater Vancouver		Rural (except V.L.A.)			V.L.A. (except Mission Village)		V.L.A. Mission Village			
Sale Price	5% thereof & 12.50	Sale Price	10% thereof	Charges 12.50 & Comm.	Sale Price	Total Award 80% of all Sale Prices % of Amount Total	Sale Price	Total Award 125% of all Sale Prices % of Amount Total		
PERSONAL PROPERTY										
Motor Vehicles			Boats and Boat Gear							
Sale Price	25% thereof	Sale Price	Nelson Bros. 23.5% of Sale Price	Other Sales 28.5% of Sale Price	Equipment charges paid to purchasers in error. Repay to owners	Amount of Claims for Boat Gear Declared & Not Found & Recorded Now Missing	45% of amount in next preceding column			
NETS										
Total award for Nets plus Sale Price		Total Claim for Nets Sold, Declared Not Found and Recorded Now Missing			Percentage Total Award to Total Claim		Claim for Nets Sold Declared Not Found, & Recorded Now Missing		Apply % ratio to Claim	Deduct Custodian Sale Price
							00 663.00			00
										464.10
MISCELLANEOUS CHATTELS										
Claim for goods Sold By Auction	Sale Price of Goods Sold By Auction	Rebates of charges 30% of Sale Price	Ratio in % of Sale Price to Claim	Claim for goods Declared Not Found, Recorded Now Missing, & Sold Not Paid	Application of % ratio to amount in next preceding column	Sale Price of goods Sold by Tender	12% of Sale Price			
				198.00	91.08				91.08	
TOTAL RECOMMENDATION										555.18



1433 & 5246

October 28th, 1950.

Mr. & Mrs. Yasukichi MURAO,  
Box 420,  
Greenwood, B. C.

Dear Sir & Madam:

Re: Japanese Property Claims Commission

Case No 285

We have received from the Co-Operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, our form of Release which has been executed by yourself covering the award recommended under the above Claims Commission for the sum of ... \$555.18.

Cheque in your favour is enclosed for \$523.07  
and we have paid the Co-Operative Committee .. \$ 32.11  
for legal fees as authorized by you.

Yours truly,

F.G. Shears  
Director

FGS/js  
1 encl.