

11323

PERSONAL

BUREAU POWELL STREET

FILE No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

NAME: MURA, Teruko (Mrs. Kuniyei).

HOME ADDRESS: 1652 W. 2nd Ave., Vancouver, B. C.

REGISTRATION NUMBER 07193 / SEX: Female AGE: 34

OCCUPATION: Housewife.

(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: Kuniyei. 11529-06724 yellow card

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

NAMES OF ANY LIVING CHILDREN: Yoko (F), Kyoko (F), Ken (M),

Tsumoru (M), Takami (M).

ADDRESS OF CHILDREN: Same.

AGE OF CHILDREN: 10, 9, 7, 5, 3.

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

1. LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION: None.

2. BUILDINGS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS: None.

3. INSURANCE (Give particulars; state where policies are) None.

4. TAXES (Amount and where payable) None.

5. ENCUMBRANCES (Including any unregistered claims or deposit of title deed) None.

6. OCCUPANCY AND LEASES (If vacant so state) None.

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: 1652 W. 2nd Ave., Vancouver, B. C. :-

Wooden frame, three roomed bungalow.

2. LANDLORD'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Mr. H. Ishimura, 1658 W. 2nd Ave.,

Vancouver, B. C. Now at - Kamloops, B. C.

3. PARTICULARS OF LEASE AND RENT AND DATE TO WHICH PAID: \$5.00 per month.

Paid to the end of March, 1942. Landlord states that Declarant need not

pay any more rent, if she will look after water-rates.

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.

Left at - 1642 W. 2nd Ave., Vancouver, B. C. c/o Mr. F. Sumi.

Key has been left with Mr. Sumi.

2 beds; 1 kitchen stove; 1 kitchen table; 5 chairs;

2 chests of drawers; 1 kitchen cupboard.

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.

4. INSURANCE CARRIED ON ABOVE PROPERTY: None.

5. MORTGAGES, LIENS AND OTHER CLAIMS ON PROPERTY IN POSSESSION OF OTHERS: None.

6. MONEYS OWING TO YOU (State if any of these debts assigned and if so, to whom) None.

7. BONDS, DEBENTURES, SHARES, STOCKS OR OTHER SECURITIES (State whereabouts) None.

8. BANK ACCOUNTS: None.

9. LIFE INSURANCE: Prudential Life Ins. Co., Vancouver, B.C. In the name of:- Yoko #112630144; Kyoko #112563512. Pol. in Declarant's possession. Beneficiary - Father, Kuniyei.

10. INTEREST IN ANY ESTATES OR TRUSTS: None.

11. SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX: None.

**LIABILITIES:**

1. PERSONAL DEBTS: None.

2. TRADE DEBTS: None.

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 11th day of July, 1942.

(Signature) Teruko Mura

D. M. Chape  
Witness

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE \_\_\_\_\_

INFORMATION FROM R.C.M.P.

Date 11323  
Aug 26/43

Our File No. 11323

Full Name MURA (Teruko) Mrs. Kuniyei  
(Surname in Block Letters)

Registration No. 09193

Male - Female  
(check)

Age Dec. 15, 1908

Former Address 1652 St. 2nd Ave., City

Date Evacuated Sept. 9/42 Naturalized - Canadian-Born - National  
(check)

Present Address Vashone, B.C.  
40 Manu Jan. Hotel, Manu Jan, Sask. (Camp Sept 16/42)

Married - Single  
(check)

Name of Wife -

Name of Husband Kuniyei #06724

Name of Mother AGAWA Otsuru Name of Father AGAWA, Matsumi  
(Japan) (Japan)

Names of Children under 16 See husband's sheet.

Requested by [Signature] Registered with Custodian (Yes or No)

Additional Information \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Edmonton, Alberta,  
October 24, 1947.

E. Robertson,  
Office of the Custodian.

EVACUATION SECTION	
Rec'd	OCT 27 1947
File No.	113-13
Ans.	
Referred	<i>E. Robertson</i> sent to you

Dear Sir:

No, we did not dispose any of the goods you mentioned, prior to our evacuation from Vancouver.

Yours truly,  
Teruko Mura.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

File No. 12818  
File No. 11277

Toshiaki SUMI (Mr.)  
Osao SUMI (Mrs. Toshiaki)

Reg. No. 07918  
Reg. No. 07926

In his JP form dated September 8, 1942, Toshiaki SUMI declared only a dining room table and a bookcase which he said would be left in one room of 1642 West 2nd Ave., Vancouver, and the key brought to the Custodian. His wife, Osao Sumi, however, declared in her JP form of July 9, 1942 a list of merchandise and fixtures which she stated would be left in the store (confectionery & grocery) which formed the front part of the above property. These files reveal that everything was sold under the husband's name (except 1 cabinet) and the proceeds have been credited to his account. (1 cabinet sold in name of wife - file 11277)

Under date of July 15, 1942 on Mrs. Sumi's file, H. D. Campbell, agent, reported that the disposal arrangements of the fixtures of the store were to lock these up on the premises and leave them there for the duration of the war, and that any stock on hand at the time of closing up would be taken with Mrs. Sumi to Hope, B. C. Mrs. Sumi was evacuated on September 18, 1942 and in a report dated October 5, 1942 (filed at bank of real property section of file 12818), H. D. Campbell advised that all the stock in the store owned by Mrs. Sumi had been removed and the fixtures were left on the premises for the duration of the war. Mr. Campbell also reported that chattels belonging to various tenants were left in different suites, of which there were no lists or records. According to the auctions held of goods removed from 1642 W. 2nd Avenue, it would appear that some of the merchandise was not taken by Mrs. Sumi. The store fixtures were removed and sold at auction in the husband's name and the proceeds credited to his account with this office.

A memo on file dated December 5th, 1942 states these premises were burglarized and the police notified to give special protection to the properties in the 1600 Block West 2nd Avenue, Vancouver.

On December 11, 1942 the Custodian removed the chattels as per Inventory No. 188 from 1642 W. 2nd Avenue to 604 Gardena Street. A footnote to this inventory states "that other goods were left to be listed and signed for" and "this place has been broken into and we believe a great deal of the personal property stolen". The only record of "other goods left to be listed and signed for" appears under date of January 12, 1943 when E.J. Baron, who leased the premises from the Custodian, signed for a kitchen range, 1 bed and spring. The lease on 1642 W. 2nd Avenue was taken over from Mr. Baron by Mr. E. D. McNeill, who in turn signed for the range, bed and spring on February 9, 1943. The kitchen range and bed & spring, however, are missing. A footnote to Mr. Green's memo of October 28, 1944 (file 12818) advises that the range and bed could not be found by the Custodian at 1642 W. 2nd Avenue and the tenants, Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly (who had been there since July 1/43) said they had never seen a range or bed. It was therefore assumed that Mr. Baron or Mr. McNeill, who absconded to regions unknown, had disposed of them. (This stove and bed would appear to have belonged to some of the Japanese tenants in 1642 W. 2nd Avenue, as neither Mr. nor Mrs. Sumi declared such items).

A number of other Japanese left goods at 1642 W. 2nd Avenue, according to their declarations, but in a memo dated August 29, 1945 Mr. Spain said it was quite impossible to reconcile the chattels declared with those sold at auction as the chattels received from the above premises were in a mixed condition and had no identification marks, the buildings had been burglarized in November 1942 and from information obtained from the tenants then in occupation it appeared that Messrs. Baron and McNeill had sold to the tenants anything that would produce cash. He also stated that many articles were received in excess of those declared in the registration forms. All goods removed from 1642 W. 2nd Avenue Vancouver (with the exception of the cabinet mentioned in the first paragraph) were sold at auction in Toshiaki Sumi's name and the proceeds credited to his account. Auctions were as follows:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 2

June 6, 1945 - Vancouver Auction	46¢	\$ 9.47 net	
July 6 " "	48¢	18.77 "	
Sept. 5 " "	51¢	34.25 "	(1 trunk found at 2 Kamahira from this auction)
Dec. 7/45 " "	56¢	3.36 "	
Mar. 29, 1946 " "	59¢	.65 "	(Trans'd to I. Kamahira)
Feb. 28, 1945: Vancouver Auction		41¢	1.13 (credited to wife's account)

Tsutomu KAMAHIRA, File 11677, declared in a letter dated June 1, 1945 that prior to evacuation they removed their property from 1612 W. 4th Avenue to the home of Mr. Toshiaki Sani, 1612 W. 2nd Avenue, namely 2 boxes (kuri) and 1 trunk with their name labelled thereon. (In his SP form these goods were declared to be at 1778 W. 7th Avenue, Vancouver and the trunk and kuri were stated to be full of books). He received a letter from T. Sani dated June 1, 1946 advising that among the chattels at 1612 W. 2nd were a black trunk and two kuri containing books, and that these were the property of I. Kamahira. He requested that the proceeds be sent to Mr. Kamahira if these articles were sold. A transfer was accordingly put through on September 16, 1946, crediting Kamahira's account with the proceeds from the sale of books and a trunk (kuri are missing), and debiting Sani's account accordingly.

On May 14, 1947 we wrote to T. Sani advising that although other Japanese persons had declared goods left at 1612 W. 2nd Avenue, Vancouver, everything was removed and sold at public auction in his name, due to the fact that none of the chattels were marked with the name of the respective owner. We suggested to him that if agreeable to the persons concerned and on receipt of a signed letter from each of them authorizing us to do so, we would forward to him a cheque for the total net proceeds derived from sale of chattels removed from the above address for him to distribute proportionately to the persons concerned. He replied on May 25, 1947, however, that he had no knowledge of the goods left stored by these other persons and that he would like us to distribute the net proceeds as we thought fit. Accordingly letters were written to these persons declaring goods left at these premises (with the exception of certain repairmen mentioned later in this memo), with the following results:

- (a) Mrs. HARA (File 11323): Two letters, one Sept. 6/47 and one Sept. 25/47, were written to Mrs. Hara in an effort to ascertain if any or all of her goods declared in the registration form had been disposed of prior to evacuation. No reply was received to the first and the second was returned marked "not here". However, a wooden stand and a wooden cabinet sold at auction in T. Sani's name but not declared by either Mr. or Mrs. Sani are now being transferred to Mrs. Hara's account as a kitchen cupboard and 2 chests of drawers are shown on her declaration. Mrs. Hara's other effects would appear to be missing. 11323
- (b) Mrs. OKUTANI (File 11254): On writing to Mrs. Okutani stating that no goods were found at 1612 W. 2nd Avenue marked with her name and requesting her to let us know if she disposed of all her goods before leaving Vancouver, she replied on September 23, 1947 stating that she had disposed of everything except an Oak Dining Room Table before leaving Vancouver. Only one table was found and sold at auction by the Custodian and as the owner of the premises, T. Sani, declared a dining room table this was credited to him and Mrs. Okutani is being advised that her table was not found by the Custodian at the time the goods were removed to auction.
- (c) Mrs. YAMADA (File 11221): No chattels were found marked with this Japanese person's name and we wrote to her on September 6, 1947 advising her so and stating that un-



CHATELAIN SUMMARY - 3

less we heard from her to the contrary by Sept. 20, 1947 we would assume she had disposed of her chattels prior to evacuation. No reply has been received and chattels on her file now regarded as closed.

- (4) Mr. and Mrs. Toshihiro MATSUDA (Files 11243 and 11245):  
Mr. Matsuda in his declaration of Apr. 13/47 stated he was leaving household and personal effects in custody of his wife at 1642 W. 2nd Ave and that these would be packed and stored if his wife were ordered away. On July 9/47 Mrs. Matsuda declared goods left at the above address and as none of these could be identified on the auction sheets as belonging to her she was written on September 8th, 1947 and again on September 25/47 to let us know if she disposed of any or all of her goods prior to evacuation. She advised in a letter of Oct. 3/47 that all goods declared by her to have been left at the above premises had been disposed of.

The following Japanese repatriates also declared in their registration forms chattels as having been left at 1642 W. 2nd Avenue, Vancouver. As there is no record of any goods having been found at this address and sold at auction in their names and no inquiry regarding goods left at this address was made by them prior to sailing for Japan, it is being assumed that they disposed of or took with them their goods at the time of evacuation from Vancouver:

Fumiko SUMI, File 11229  
Hirohiko SUMI - File 2498

Yasuyo TERASHIMA, File 11232  
Masako IIDA, File 11266

As will be seen from the Chattels Schedule a number of articles were sold at public auction in Mr. Sumi's name which cannot be identified on the declarations made by Mr. and Mrs. Sumi. These goods are such as might be found in any household with stove attached and a letter is now being written to the Sumis requesting them to let us know if these additional goods were their property, before releasing the proceeds from the sale of all chattels.

The above summary is certified to be in accordance with the information on file at this date:



H. E. Robertson,  
October 11th, 1947.

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN  
JAPANESE EVACUATION SECTION

806 ROYAL BANK BLDG.  
HASTINGS AND GRANVILLE  
VANCOUVER, B. C.

PHONE PACIFIC 8131

PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NO.

12818  
11257  
11323

*Returned  
not here*

September 25, 1947

REGISTERED MAIL

Mrs. Teruko NURA,  
Reg. No. 07193,  
c/o Moose Jaw Hostel,  
Moose Jaw, Sask.

Dear Madam:

At the time of writing no reply has been received to our letter to you of September 8th, 1947, in which we requested you to let us know if you disposed of any or all of the goods listed therein prior to your evacuation from Vancouver.

We are assuming therefore that you disposed of the above-mentioned goods prior to your evacuation and unless we hear from you to the contrary on or before October 20th, 1947, your file in connection with chattels will be closed.

Yours truly,

*E. Robertson*

E. Robertson,  
Office of the Custodian.

/ER

12818,  
3041  
11265  
11294  
11323

May 16th, 1947.

Mr. Toshiaki SUMI,  
Reg. No. 07918,  
329 Clinton Street,  
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

There is standing to your credit in our books the sum of \$64.19, of which \$59.27 represents the net proceeds from sale of chattels from 1672 West 2nd Avenue at public auction in your name. The balance of \$4.92 is the sum which we advised you on August 9, 1946 was being credited to your account as part payment of your claim of \$180.00 against Mr. Yasuda.

As requested by you in your letter of June 1, 1946 we transferred to Iwaichi Kawashiri's account the proceeds derived from the sale of a trunk and books at public auction in your name. We now find that the following Japanese persons also declared chattels left stored at the above address:

Mrs. Teruko NURA, #07193, c/o Moose Jaw Hostel, Moose Jaw, Sask.  
Mr. & Mrs. Toshihiro WATANABE, #05459 & #06708, c/o Farnham  
Hostel, Farnham, Quebec.  
Aki OMOTARI (Mrs. Tomotaro), #06694, c/o Leo Patterson, Cranford,  
Alberta.

but due to the fact that none of these goods were marked with the owner's name they were all removed to public auction and sold in your name.

If agreeable to all persons concerned, we shall forward to you for proportionate distribution among the above people and yourself, all funds derived from sale of these chattels at auction. Before remitting a cheque for the chattel proceeds to you, however, we shall require a signed letter from each of the above-named persons authorizing us to release all chattel funds to you for proportionate distribution among Mrs. Nura, Mrs. Omotani, Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe and yourself.

Kindly give this matter your immediate attention. In the absence of a reply, however, within a reasonable time, say June 30th, 1947, we shall forward to you a cheque for \$4.92 and transfer to Chattel Suspense the sum of \$59.27 until correct ownership of the chattels has been determined.

Yours truly,

E. Robertson,  
Office of the Custodian.

/ER

Files: 11373  
12618  
11257

August 29, 1945.

MEMORANDUM

To: Files

From: Mr. Spain

Box 1612 West 2nd. Ave. - Tenement House.

The undermentioned Japanese declared chattels at the above address:

File 11373 - Mrs. Teruko NURA - *none by husband*  
" 12618 - Mr. Yoshiaki SUMI  
" 11257 - Mrs. Oiso SUMI.

Without identification, the chattels were received at the Custodial Warehouse where they were sold in Vancouver Auctions Nos. 41, 46 and 48 on Files 12618 and 11257.

This property received considerable attention from the Custodian field staff and at the time of removal it was quite impossible to reconcile the chattels declared, with the articles sold at auction, for the following reasons.

1. The chattels received were in a mixed condition without any identification marks.
2. In November 1942 the building was burglarized and chattels removed.
3. The property was leased to Mr. Elliot J. Suran, and on his departure, by him, to Mr. Walter D. McNeill. Both of these men occupied for reasons unknown, and from what I could gather on the spot, interrogating the tenants then in occupation, there were sold to the tenants anything that could produce cash.
4. Notice might be made that the chattels were of very poor quality, in keeping with the neighbourhood.
5. Many articles were received in excess of those declared in the registration forms.

GDS:GG.

*W. G. Spain*