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Shimoda, Yukio

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Japanese Canadian Collection

XXXVII

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Box

Yukio Shimoda Papers

Diary:

12-9 Diary of events relating to the mass evacuation of Japanese Canadians from the Lower Mainland, March 28, 1942 - April 27, 1942.

Interview:

12-9 Interview at Angler Internment Camp, Ontario, between Inspector Saul and Major Barbara of the Registrar General of Enemy Aliens with Internees Masaru Sora, Hideo Takahashi, and Yukio Shimoda relating to the mass evacuation of Japanese Canadians from the West Coast of Canada. October 6, 1943

Letter: Incoming

12-9 Letter from Japanese Canadian Citizens' Council to Robert Y. Shimoda relating to a resolution of the Council. April 14, 1942

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Shimoda, Yukio

Sat Mar 28

Diary of Yukio Shimoda
from Mar 28 to April 27 / 1942

Talked to Sam + Alden Spokesman
Gave reason — gave up. Went
home with James Son +
worked all night on pamphlet
idea of James to be distributed
to-morrow.

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Shimoda, Yuki

(16)

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(1)

Sat Mar 28

Came into town + heard that 140 west coast boys were ready to leave for Ontario. Heard rapturous of different boys + found town in bewilderment. Went to Barracks + wanted to talk to leaders (Sam Kondo) one out of 3. They were incommunicado. Raised hell + went to Chop suey houses + talked to Sam + Alderman Spokesman Gave reason — gave up. Went home with James Son + worked all night on pamphlet idea of. James to be distributed To-morrow.

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Shimoda, Yukio

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(2)

Sun Mar 29

Went to town + had a girl typewrite mimeograph copy of pamphlet. Found one pamphlet of Nisei Canadian out already persuading nisei to go following regulations. Found public resentment against present system of voluntary evacuation. Would not allow us into meeting of evacuating nisei. Distributed pamphlets + found public supported. Solicited + Received over 300 names supporting our idea of mass evacuation in family groups. Public resentment against Shimizu action in not called because of Curfew.

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(3)

Mon Jan 30

Cameras for more names ?
demanded public meeting of Town
Council (24 o'clock) from
Stoyanoff agrees to meeting
? Meeting found public
support but did not to be a
huge majority.

(16)

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Shimoda, Yukio

(16)

(4)
(5)→

Sun April 12

Left at 11 for Iwata's place. Talked of diff things + left for council meeting at Bartlett's. Wants our resig (Tanaka + O). Accused of leaving name of counsel, persuading of denouncing Y. Citizenship. Denied accusation. > back

Drove to Steveston. Naturalized Group here. They left. J. Tanaka. gave summary of Events. Kamimoto talked, Uchibori talked. I talked + Yama + Kamashima — tears. Dr. Nakamishi Sagiyama at Hirai Hospitality. Came back to Chop Suey House + saw Gauntlet of curfew to J Tanaka's home. + worked till late on Summary of events + letter to Taylor plan ad. Slight shave.

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Shimoda, Yukio

(5)

Hot headed boys of our group
broke in on meeting. Had to quiet
them + force them out. One Japanese
said "I'll get you Bob, just you
now". A Japanese makes dog
issue of it. Had to quiet them."

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Shimoda, Yukio

(7) (9) (16)

(6)

Mon. April 13

Up 9. Dan't to Casey's. To province Bld. Carter sympathetic + says he must confer S.S. before putting adv in paper. Came home for dinner + saw mother (worried) dad reported + extended to May 4 for Ghost town. To town. R Ebisugani caught + held. Talked to Yamada of Mangoh offering Saipan but refused. Charlie Sanaba willing to back anti-group. Went to meeting of advertising. Orient to meshiya. had few drinks + had belly-full. Dan't to H. Sanaba. Persuade Ego's friends to stay. worked, ordered bottle + drinks. Last time I have so extravagant as Boys them. Played golf till 4 + slept in bed. Eddie phoned

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Shimoda, Yukio

(7) (9) (16)

Sun April 14

Got up at nine. Dazai to Sasaps
with Tanaka, Okamura, Yoshidera
+ Uchibori. Tanaka + I drove
to Province Bldg for aid for
public sympathy. Mr Carter
(Jap sympathizer) of paper claims
has seen Mr Neilly of S.C.
who advises Japs misunderstand
honest intention per evacuation.
Carter advises against ad may
create resentment instead of
sympathy. But will publish
against judgement. Walked
to Thomson's Store, revised letter
& Summary to Taylor. Dazai
to Casey's + took list of 25-00
donated. Met Mrs Kondo +
Mr. Ujie (to become one of
rep for Mass Evacuation Group
Elected Representatives (Rose
Miyazaki, Mrs Ujie, Okamura, Okuda
+ myself. Could not get in touch

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with Mr Hall. Talked at
Meyazakis. Mr Hall to phone
at 9 to morrow morn. Talked
to boys at Ennis. Home at 8:00.
Damn hen. talked of why I
took $3-0 bonds. good & bad side
of Japs. Eddie phoned, wanted
to talk to me

letters
Summary of Events
letter to Mr Dayton.

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Shimoda, Yukio

April 15th

Capt 9' to Miyazaki, appt with McNeil @ 2 o'clock. Dropped in @ Empire + talked to some boys. Some have intention of following gov orders. Went to Mr Okamura, Osuda, Mrs Tanaka, Mrs Ujie + O ~~[illegible]~~ went to S.C. met fellow finding red tape to get home to Montreal. Rec him to Thompson, Lawyer. Interviewed + presented our plea to McNeil. Said to soon as that internment Tribunals under martial law. In talking found him to be a person to be easily swayed, mil intellectually. Honest perhaps. Interview in 2.30 with Taylor + Mead. Taylor (impression) Cold hearted, dong job + no intention of taking any workable plan. No love for fellow man. Mead (Stooge impression) shy shy, two faced hypocrite. Cannot be trusted.

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Shimoda, Yukio

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Dried again to scare us into submission by threats & in fact (Ex Ishimaru in a crooked way but not exceptionally so. God left him knows how to sway minds. Says Japanese Labour will strike if they are not given ½ of their wages. Japan then economically better for one place to generate thing (labour quotes) + give feed them. Hemmed + hawed (not law) Answer misses)

Came back + M + went to Grey to give info to boys. Ready to lynch now as Japanese. Shimizu + boys came over to accept our resignation (mine + Sasaba) Makamishi wanted to beat them) Stopped possible fight. Drank Fusae San Eats Cases. Sagi Homma asked for his resignation

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I was refused came back with Mrs
Kusaoka & Oveyasu, quarrel with
nakamishi. Asked for meeting
with Tanaka & L. Came home
April 16th Sun

Met to Gasey's. Went to Lawyer Eric
Thompson & told him of meeting with
Taylor. Sympathy is with our cause
promised to see Taylor re evacuation
plan. Returned to Casey's & found
47 Steveston boys who had heard
of our resignation & did not want
us to sacrifice us. Willing to go into
internment with us. Talk
of mass meeting @ Powell Ground
& some with intention of giving
selves up for internment. Talk
with Kusaoka who says he
is all for us & that he wants
to talk with us re our actions
in future. Two faced hypocrite
according to JCC paper to-night

Shimoda, Yukio
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(17)

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I will tell Shichiro & accuse him tomorrow of talking & trying to run with a forbidden tongue. Visited & was with a sorrowful Mother who Saw Jimmy & Doris & Mother who is taking Jimmies detention fairly well. Mrs Onoda wanted me to stay for supper but declined & went home. Visited Dr Moody called to Mothers & Dad had a drink for last time. They really know how working for a good home. Sadashi Yabuki

Shimoda, Yukio

(17)

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10

April 17

Off. Ito went to see Mr Page of Thurston & Travelle for my last page of Segregation Story. Saw Dr Thomas same. Read & CC Paper of 15th Editorial Certain residents are working against the Policy of the Council & Commissioners & Not satisfied Urge resignation from Omaha W.L. Others to remain & be kept with the council. Information from Interview of Shirias & Thompson. We are Japanese National no matter 2nd 3rd 4th or 5th generation. We have signed copy from Thompson saying fact can be made Public. Saw Hasaka & Kinoshita & accused them of shaking Impression Facts. Says editorial directed towards

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More. I sent out pamphlets
in English + Jap of course +
that we will still fight
to the end as Canadians. Just
phoned sis + found that Nippon Club
has phoned to Sis at 9 o'clock this
morn asking for my name in full.
Scared hell out of her so went
to N. Club with bunch of boys
+ asked for reason. no trace phoned
Shiwasho + still no reason. Distributed
pamphlets + talk to boys
+ down to Dentons and
sleeping here tonight +
tomorrow.

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Shimoda, Yukio

(15)

It's a beautiful day. Gave boy Dave
to see Thompson about interview
with Commission + subsequent answer.
We drove across the 2nd narrows
bridge & I felt as if my heart
was uplifted that God had
smiled on us for the air &
the feeling in the air was just
so as to make me feel as if I
could lick the world. Mr
Thompson was out in the garden
with beautiful white collie dog
He welcomed us & subsequently got
down to business. First impression
I got was that he was a nervy
strained person. Taylor had
threatened him with arrest,
blacklist.

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Shimoda, Yukio

(16)

25

Slep @ Casey's

Charlie's last sleep. Got up 2 nite + saw Fuji + Uchibori. Went to see Carter ad manager of Province paper again. Very sympathetic believed in British fair play. but after talking with city editor (who believes that ad would cause publ. resentment instead of sympathy. Refuses in polite way. explains of Sun's anti Jap attitude + Province Politics (Wilson. Carter wishes us good luck. Went to find 2 of de's - @ Lawyers. Tried to publish ad in News Herald + Worth Editor tells us to phone @ 1 after he contacts S.C. Came back to see if boys had gathered for voluntary interment. Fujie weeps after being accused that he + his gang were not dealt by Kondo. Trouble there + Then Lust managed to get 66 boys from Van, Steveston + Fairview. Phoned R.C.M.P but they would not come for them. Phoned Japers but they would not come for news

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(17)

13 taxicabs full of boys willing to sacrifice themselves. 8 or 9 cops cried + cheered them off. They are going to the Immigration Shed. I went down to Meganabashi to drink saki + went to Musajabi to meeting. Put out pamphlet giving people news of boys. Taylor's speaks detention. Harada, Tsurukawa, Okuzawa - Matsushita forces away as spokesmen Assaulted by Monties, but look as if they are going in. Rushed pamphlet out + posted them. Went to Inegawa-machi + met several Japanese home. talked of diff things with Adam + Mike + Emi. Debated with Miss Canby re Democracy + so forth. Quite pleased to sleep.

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Shimoda, Yukio

(20)
(18)

Well they are in. According to
Mr. Taylor came down & refused
them entry. However after
he had gone 4 boys Harada,
Murakawa, Ibuyama & Hayashi
tried to force their way in.
One of the soldiers trained a
machine gun on the boys but
one said "Don't be scared of that
thing - pop gun. There's no bullets
in it". The 4 boys cannot oppose
on their way in & they were beaten
by the marines who blocked
their way. They offered resistance.
However after Hayashi had talked
to the boys & marines & talked them
into silence. They called Mr Read
who after deliberation let them into
the building saying "Well if you
fellows want to go in there
bad will put you in

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(20)
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Well after this & that I went down to the Empress Studio & got our picture taken The whole family & Kimura & brother. Dorothy & left them & wandered here & there again. Well I guess we've about sold the store Mrs Barnes is taking over tomorrow. Rod and Joe taking stock tonight - gosh what a job. Had supper with Sardis & sister & gone to Tsuyuko's to sleep. Usano & K & Chris & I slept in a

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Shimoda, Yukio

27

Helped clean up the back
of the store + left for town.
Heard news that inmate of
Hastings Park had gone on
hunger strike. (1 bowl of rice soup
to most) coffee + slice or two of bread
to few). (Not enough to go around)
2 Men + women refused to eat
+ some come to town for breakfast
3 Labourers on projects refused
to work on starvation rations
4 Gambling widespread amongst
old + young + apparently sponsored
by Mori!
5 Food better at noon however
according to 2 cooks there were not
enough + variety at canteen.
Tried to stop bombing of Tofuri
Kozai + 3 others boy - Gone leaving
Supper now + are going into
voluntary internment. have
phoned them 4 or 5 times @ the mounts

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Shimoda, Yukio

(21)

but they will not appear to pick them up. Finally after 2½ hrs they got tired & went by taxi to Immigration Bld. ~~But~~ they were put in without much trouble. Well I guess that's all. Sleeping at Hayato's tonight

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Japanese Canadian Citizens' Council

215 E. CORDOVA STREET
VANCOUVER, B. C.

April 14th, 1942.

Robert Y. Shimoda, Esq.,
c/o Mr.F. Tanaka,
2568 Wall Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Shimoda,

It is with much regret that we inform you of the following resolution passed by the Japanese Canadian Citizens' Council at the meeting held on Monday, April 13th, 1942.

" Whereas, the two members of the Japanese Canadian Citizens' Council, F. Tanaka and Y. Shimoda, have been engaged in activities contrary to the best interests of the Council,

Be it resolved that the Council ask these two members to submit their resignations from the Council to the Chairman. "

The Council regrets that it finds it necessary to take this action. We sincerely hope that the day will come soon when we can work together again for the welfare of the Japanese people in Canada.

Yours very truly,
Kunio Shimizu
General Secretary,
Japanese Canadian Citizens' Council

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