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NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

FOLDER NO. 8

Roy Miki fonds
RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

213

"E" DIVISION.

L. H. 3A

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

C.I.B.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

DIV. FILE No. M.J. 15 (Pt. 2)

H. Q. FILE No._____

Vancouver, B.C.
April 13, 1943.

RECEIVED
APR 14 1943
British Columbia
Security Commission

Mr. George Collins,
Commissioner of Japanese Placement,
Marine Building,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: Japanese Situation in B.C.

The release of news to the effect that the Custodian would be authorized to dispose of property owned by Japanese who have been evacuated from this area, has caused a reaction amongst the Japanese which has been carefully watched from this office.

Reports have been forwarded to Ottawa in this connection, and for your information I attach hereto reports submitted by Sgt. Barnes dated April 8th, 9th and 13th. These reports cover the situation to date.

We are endeavouring to keep advised of all developments in this connection and copies of further reports regarding this matter will be forwarded to you for your information.

Yours truly,

CHH.11

(C.H.Hill) A/Comm'r.,
Commanding "E" Division.

JKB/G
Encls.

FOLDER NO. 8

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

DIVISION FILE No M.J. 15 (Pt. 2)

AL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

SUB-DIVISION: VANCOUVER C.I.B.

DETACHMENT: Intelligence Section.

PROVINCE: B.C.

DATE: April 8, 1943.

FILE REFERENCES: SECRET

RE: JAPANESE SITUATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

HEADQUARTERS

SUB DIVISION

DETACHMENT

P. C. R.

30-3-43

A. R. V. No.

DIARY DATE

SET FOR

1. In a previous report under this heading, I mentioned that there was a feeling of discontent amongst the Japanese due to the fact that their property was to be sold by the Custodian and that the monies realized from such sales would not be given to the Japanese concerned.

2. This particular topic has apparently been the subject of much discussion amongst the Japanese and I note in the issue of the "NEW CANADIAN" dated April 3rd, 1943, considerable space is devoted to this question. At Kaslo, under the auspices of the "NEW CANADIAN", there has been set up what has been called a temporary committee to represent "Amalgamated Evacue Property Owners' Association". This organization is urging all property owners to communicate with them with a view to petitioning the Federal Government in respect to the proposed sale of property. It appears that this newly formed organization has already secured some legal opinion on the matter and the "NEW CANADIAN" states that the legal opinion has been expressed that the intention of the Federal Government to proceed with arbitrary liquidation of Japanese property is beyond the legal powers of the government, even as a war measure. The logical conclusion one may draw from the formation of this organization, in view of this legal opinion, is that they will endeavour to take some steps to secure an injunction to prevent the sale of such properties. Recognizing that the expense of such litigation might be heavy, the association newly formed and mentioned herein will undoubtedly soon be appealing to all Japanese for funds.

3. Recently KIMURA and YANAGA, two well-known Japanese, were appointed to the committees set up by the Federal Government to advise the Custodian in relation to the disposal of properties. The former is attached to the committee for greater Vancouver properties and the latter is attached to the committee dealing with the rural Japanese properties. These two Japanese, I am confidentially informed, do not wish to serve in such capacities, possibly realizing the difficulties which such positions will place them in, in the eyes of their own people. I do not believe they have officially mentioned their reluctance to serve in these capacities but it is anticipated that in due course some excuse will be found whereby they might resign.

4. The personnel of the two committees as set up at the present time is as follows: Mr. Justice Sidney Smith, Alderman Charles Jones, Vancouver and A.E. McMaster, with Kishizo KIMURA, comprise the advisory committee for the properties in greater Vancouver. His Honour Judge Whiteside, New Westminster, D. MacKenzie, New Westminster, J.J. McLellan, Fort Langley, Mr. H. Menzies of Haney, and Yasutaro YAMAGA will comprise the advisory committee on rural and Fraser Valley properties.

FILE NUMBERS, HEADINGS AND MARGINAL REFERENCES ARE TO BE SHOWN

FOLDER NO. 8

5. Although the Custodian's representative here has endeavoured to point out to the Japanese that their property will not be sacrificed and that the Japanese owner will be credited with the monies realized from such sale and that these monies will be made available to the Japanese owners in such amounts as he may require, in co-operation with the B.C. Security Commission, the Japanese remain quite suspicious of the entire transaction and it has provoked a very strong reaction.

6. The writer will endeavour to keep advised of developments and will submit reports in this connection as promptly as is possible.

(SGD)

Sgt.
(J.K. Barnes) Regt.No. 8788.
i/c Intelligence Section.

THE COMMISSIONER, R.C.M.P., OTTAWA, Ont.

FORWARDED for your information. As was indicated in previous reports, the Japanese are not viewing with complacency the proposed sale of their properties by the Custodian and there is every indication that the strong reaction which has been provoked will result in litigation.

2. Further reports in this connection will be forwarded to you as promptly as is possible.

(SGD)

Vancouver
8-4-43
JKB/G

(C.H.Hill) A/Comm'r.,
Commanding "E" Division.

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

FOLDER NO. 8

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

DIVISION FILE No M.J. 15 (Pt.2)

AL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

SUB-DIVISION: VANCOUVER C.I.B.
DETACHMENT: Intelligence Section.

PROVINCE: B.C.
DATE: April 9, 1943.

FILE REFERENCES: SECRET

RE: JAPANESE SITUATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

HEADQUARTERS / SUB-DIVISION / DETACHMENT / P. C. R. / 8-4-43 / A. R. V. No. / DIARY DATE / SET FOR

1. Further to my report of yesterday's date, in connection with the above, I am now in receipt of a copy of a telegraphic communication to Tommy SHOYAMA, c/o NEW CANADIAN at Kaslo, B.C. dated April 7th, which was supplied by the Cable Censor. This telegram reads as follows:

RETEL ON BASIS RETAIN COUNSEL APPROXIMATE COST SUPREME COURT TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS COURT APPEAL BRITISH COLUMBIA FURTHER TWO THOUSAND SUPREME COURT CANADA TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED STOP BELIEVE GOOD CHANCE SUCCESS RESPECTING PROPERTY NISEIS OR NATURALISED PERSONS AND FAIR CHANCE SUCCESS RESPECTING NATIONALS STOP CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE IS COMPLICATED AND IMPOSSIBLE GIVE FINAL OPINION WITHOUT CONSIDERABLE STUDY OF AUTHORITIES AND RESEARCH BUT STRONG ARGUMENT CAN BE ADVANCED SHOWING PROCEEDINGS UNCONSTITUTIONAL STOP WRITING TANAKA.

2. It was sent to SHOYAMA from Norris & MacLennan, a firm of barristers at 602 West Hastings St., this city and is self-explanatory.

3. Please note the reference therein to TANAKA. This is Jitaro (Charlie) TANAKA, a Canadian born Japanese who was appointed a member of the committee to report on Japanese problems to the Spanish Consul (the high protecting power).

(SGD)
Sgt.
(J.K. Barnes) Regt.No.8788.
i/c Intelligence Section.

THE COMMISSIONER, R.C.M.P., OTTAWA, Ont.

FORWARDED for your information, further to Sgt. Barnes' report of April 8th, forwarded by my minute of the same date.

Vancouver
9-4-43
JKB/G

(SGD)
(C.H.Hill) A/Comm'r.,
Commanding "E" Division.

FILE NUMBERS, HEADING AND MARGINAL REFERENCE ARE TO BE PROPERLY FILLED IN.

FOLDER NO. 8

DIVISION FILE No. M.J. 15 (Pt.2)

AL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

SUB-DIVISION: VANCOUVER C.I.B.

DETACHMENT: Intelligence Section.

PROVINCE: B.C.

DATE: April 13, 1943.

FILE REFERENCES

RE: JAPANESE SITUATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS

SUB-DIVISION

DETACHMENT

P. C. R.

9-4-43

A. R. V. No.

DIARY DATE

SET FOR

1. Further to my report of April 9th, under the above heading, this will advise that the personnel of the committee formed by the Japanese to investigate the legality of the proposed scheme to liquidate property owned by evacuated Japanese is as follows:

(Dr. K. SHIMOTAKAHARA - Chairman

Members:
(Bunjiro UYEDA (All formerly of Vancouver)
(Takayuki ABE

(Z. INOUYE
(S. SATO (Formerly of New Westminster)
(S. MIYAZAKI

(K. NAKUSE
(M. KUBA (Formerly of Steveston)
(R. HAYASHI

(Y. NAKAGAWA
(B. OHASHI (Formerly of New Westminster)
(S. SASAKI

(M. SUZUKI (Formerly of Marpole)

(T. HIDAKA (Formerly of Maple Ridge)

(G. BABA (Formerly of North Arm)

2. This committee is making a survey to list the Japanese owners of real estate and other property and is ascertaining from those concerned whether or not they wish to dispose of their property. The committee is also seeking funds to cover the cost of possible legal action which may result.

3. Messages from Japanese in other parts of the country are being forwarded to this committee, which has its H.Q. in care of the "NEW CANADIAN" at Kaslo. One such message, quoted hereunder, is typical of them all:-

AMALGAMATED EVACUEE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSN
THE NEW CANADIAN KASLO BC

"WE ALL RESIDENTS OF REVELSTOKE DISTRICT ARE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT BACK UP ON YOUR PROPOSAL TO TAKE VERY VERY STRONG STIFF ACTION AGAINST THE SALE OF JAPANESE ORIGINS PROPERTIES STOP ANY FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT US IF NECESSARY"

R. TAGASHIRA
DOWNIE STREET
REVELSTOKE BC

FILE NUMBERS, HEADING AND MARGINAL REFERENCE ARE TO BE PROPERLY FILLED IN.

NAC - REPORT, RCMP RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

FOLDER NO. 8

4. The feeling of the Japanese in this connection is probably best illustrated in an editorial from the "NEW CANADIAN" of April 10th, 1943, which is quoted hereunder:-

ANOTHER BLOW TO FAITH

The most charitable view that broad-minded evacuees in general may take of the Federal Government's announcement of the liquidation of property left to the "protective" care of the Custodian is that Ottawa is going to ram a benevolent paternalism down our respective throats, even if we are in danger of choking to death upon it.

Stress continues to be laid in official announcements upon this far-reaching benevolence. In the Custodian's own words, "he has come to the conclusion that in order to properly protect such interests it is advisable to carry out an orderly liquidation of evacuee properties."

But many questions instantly arise in the minds of evacuees. Why is it necessary or advisable to sell property for which full arrangements have been made by the owners? If adequate arrangements have not been made in some cases, why can they not be made? If they cannot why is it not possible to deal with individual cases in a business-like manner, liquidating with the knowledge and consent of the owner? Is any compensation going to be made for a loss in income which may result from the forced liquidation of revenue -producing property? Why are funds realized from the sale to be arbitrarily held by the Government? Is any rate of interest, equal at least to that on Victory Bonds, going to be paid on funds thus held? What assurance is there that these funds will be eventually released? What safeguard is there that more adequate protection will be available than obtained in the sale of fishing boats or the auction of motor vehicles? What charges are going to be arbitrarily levied upon the funds realized? And finally, but most important of all, on what grounds may the Government dictate to a citizen regardless of his ancestry, that he must surrender his legal possessions against his will, or sell a home which may mean more to him than any sum of money?

These are some of the questions which are being asked, demanding and deserving immediate answers. They are far more important than the soothingly vague words of the official statement. And the answers are needed quickly, for while the most staunchly loyal and tolerant of us may do their best to swallow with good grace this last dose of bitter medicine from their own government, a policy as indefensible as this from any point of view except the dictates of a race war, is certain to provoke a strong reaction.

On the face of it not the slightest shadow of a democratic principle is attached to this action. And in many cases it may well be the last straw which can be added to a war burden which has mounted higher and higher and heavier and heavier upon the backs of Japanese Canadians since Pearl Harbour. For although everyone of common sense was willing cheerfully enough to assume a heavy load because of the extraordinary conditions precipitated by that black day, it is yet to be shown to the satisfaction of any informed and thinking person that that burden has not long since far exceeded the bounds of justice, of reason, or even of necessity.

(SGD) Sgt.
(J.K. Barnes) Regt.No.5788.
I/C INTELLIGENCE SECTION.

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

FOLDER NO. 8

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

55

GIN

Division "E"

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
C.I.B.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

V. FILE No. 42E. 269-469

H. Q. FILE No.

Vancouver, B.C.,
June 1st, 1942.

RECEIVED
JUN 2 1942
British Columbia
Security Commission

B.C.Security Commission,
Marine Building,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Attention Comm'r Mead.√

Dear Sir:

Re: Rod ROCHON
Vancouver, B.C.

With reference to your communication of May 28th, 1942, this will advise you that destruction has been effected of this exhibit in the usual manner.

Yours truly,

AHOJ/ES

CHHill

(C.H.Hill) A/Comm'r.,
Commanding "E" Division.

FOLDER NO. 8

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

May 28th, 1942.

Officer Commanding,
R.C.M. Police,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Re: Rod ROCHON,
Your File #42-E.269-469

Dear Sir:

1. Replying to your letter of the 26th instant, this will be your authority to destroy the quart of Gilby's Dry Gin seized from the above-named who attempted to supply a Japanese with liquor contrary to Order #2, of this Commission.

Yours very truly,

F.J. Mead, Commissioner,
B.C. Security Commission.

FJM/DR

FOLDER NO. 8

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

E" Divis_n

55

L. H. 3A

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

C.I.B.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

V. FILE No. 42E. 269-469

H. Q. FILE No.

Vancouver, B. C.,
May 26th, 1942.

RECEIVED
MAY 27 1942
British Columbia
Security Commission

B.C.Security Commission,
Marine Building,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Attention Comm'r Mead.√

Dear Sir:

Re: ROD ROCHON - Vancouver, B. C.

In connection with the above and my communication of April 28th, 1942, and attachments, please be advised that when reporting to Ottawa this case, we pointed out that to avoid unnecessary bad publicity we did not recommend a prosecution against the taxi driver for attempting to supply this Japanese with liquor.

We asked for instructions regarding the disposition of the liquor and the D.C.I. informed us that it should be turned over to the B.C. Liquor Commission. They, however, pointed out that they could only receive liquor which might be forfeited to the Crown under the Government Liquor Act. The quart of Gilbey's Dry Gin in this case was not seized under the Government Liquor Act and the Secretary of the Liquor Control Board requests us to secure from you instructions regarding its disposition.

I would, therefore, suggest that you instruct us in writing to destroy this exhibit and on receipt of your instructions, it will be destroyed and you so advised for your records.

Yours truly,

(J.Fripps) D/Inspr.,
For Officer Commanding A.O.D.

J.K.B./E.S.

FOLDER NO. 8

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

55

April 30, 1942

Officer Commanding
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Our File. #55
Your File. 42E.269-469
Denkichi SUZUKI
T. MURAKAMI

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 28th instant. The Commission agree with you on views on this matter contained in the last paragraph of your letter.

As you know well, the Commission has power to bar Japanese from the possession of liquor, but it has no power to deal with white men supplying same and it would not be considered advisable to have these Japanese appear as witnesses an an ordinary bootlegging prosecution. The matter can therefore be considered closed as it is noted that Supt. Salt has had the Japanese paraded and warned. Of course, if you deem it advisable yourself to have the taxi driver dealt with in the same manner it might have a good effect.

Yours very truly,

A. H. L. Mellor
B. C. Security Commission

AHLM/AP

FOLDER NO. 8

NAC - REPORT, RCMP. RG 36/27 Vol 9 File 213

"E" DIVISION.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

(C. I. B.)

55

L.H. 6

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

V. FILE No. 42E.269-469

H. Q. FILE No.

Vancouver, B.C.
April 28, 1942.

RECEIVED
APR 30 1942
British Columbia
Security Commission

The B.C. Security Commission,
Marine Building,
Vancouver, B.C.

Attention Commissioner F.J. Mead ✓

Dear Sir:

Re: Denkichi SUZUKI (J.R. 11043)
T. MURAKAMI (J.R.11163)

I attach hereto copy of a report from Cst. Stern, forwarded by Supt. Salt, in connection with the above named two Japanese presently held at Hastings Park Clearing Station.

You will note that liquor was supplied to these two Japanese by a taxi driver and it is suggested that a prosecution against the driver might be undertaken. However, I am of the opinion that you may not wish to see a prosecution in this instance, as it will necessitate the appearance of the two Japanese in question and it may result in publicity which you would not wish to have in view of the present difficulties of evacuating the Japanese from this area.

I would appreciate an expression of opinion from you in this matter before taking any further action. Personally I believe that a severe warning might be more advisable than a prosecution, under the circumstances. In reply please quote our file number.

Yours truly,

C H Hill

(C.H.Hill) A/Comm'r.,
Commanding "E" Division.

JKB/G
Encl.

FOLDER NO. 8

DIVISION FILE N.....

F. 23

CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

SUB-DIVISION

DETACHMENT
Vancouver, B.C.

RECEIVED
APR 30 1942
British Columbia
Security Co...

NCE
B.C.

DATE
April 22nd, 1942.

FILE REFERENCES

RE: Denkichi SUZUKI, J.R. 11043 and T. MURAKAMI, J.R.11163
Hastings Park Clearing Station, Vancouver, B.C.

Regulations respecting Japanese in British Columbia.

22-4-42

HEADQUARTERS

1. At approximately 4.55 P.M. this date the writer, accompanied by Supervisor Grimmett of our Special Constable force, approached the Happyland Gate post on a "round" of the various guard posts.

SUB-DIVISION

2. At this point a civilian approached us and informed us that two Japanese had just dismissed a Star taxi on Oxford Street about 25 yards east of Renfrew Street and had entered the Park through a hole in the fence.

DETACHMENT

3. Immediately the writer and Supervisor GRIMMET went down the laneway along side the Happyland Dance Pavilion and saw two Japanese come from around the corner of the lower end of of the pavilion. They were stopped and questioned as to where they had just come from and we were informed that they had just dismissed a taxi and come through the hole in the fence. I searched both subjects and found the unbroken sealed bottle Gilbey's London Dry Gin on the person of SUZUKI. It was also found that neither man had apass to be out of the Clearing Station for that day. SUZUKI and MURAKAMI were then taken by Supervisor GRIMMET to the building used as a Detention building in the Station.

P. C. R.
nil

4. I then telephoned to the Manager of the Star Taxicab Company and asked if one of his cabs had received a call within the past half hour and had delivered two Japanese to the corner of Oxford and Renfrew Streets. Upon a check being made the Manager informed me that Car #9, driven by driver Rod ROCHON living at 1148 Thurlough Street, Suite #3, had picked up two Japanese at 613 Powell Street at approximately 4.50 P.M. and delivered them to Oxford Street just east of Renfrew Street, and that the driver stated he was under the impression that they were out without a pass or permission to be out of the Station.

A. R. V. No.

5. Later in the P.M. the two Japanese were interrogated as to their movements and how they had come into possession of the bottle of Gin. SUZUKI admitted it was his bottle and that he had called the cab to 613 Powell Street at 4.45P.M. and that he had asked the driver "How's chances of getting a bottle," SUZUKI then states the driver stopped at the Hastings Street Liquor Store just off Main Street and purchased the bottle on hisspermit. They then drove to the location on Oxford Street, where they had left the park through the hole in the fence, and upon alighting had paid the Driver $5.75 which was to cover the purchase of the Liquor and Livery charge.

DIARY DATE

SET FOR.....

(continued)

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