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234 Cottingham Street,
Toronto 5, Ontario,
April 16, 1944.

Department of the Secretary of State,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir:

The Director of the Office of the Custodian in Vancouver has notified us of your policy of liquidation of Japanese property. Because of this policy my property has now been catalogued for sale. This liquidation is against your promises, and my wishes, furthermore it is utterly undeserved.

Please remind yourselves that before our oppression became politically fashionable, abetted by your evacuation policy and your seemingly tacit approval of all the undemocratic propaganda directed against us who are not your enemies, that the Japanese minority had the best reputation for morals and for civic spirit of any minority in British Columbia. According to the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion, this reputation is still intact in spite of all the loud abuse levelled against it.

The contribution which my husband and I have made to this reputation is more than ordinary. My property at 42 Gorge Road, Victoria, B. C. is tangible evidence of this contribution. My husband has invested heavily in our home and garden. During a period of ten years we have succeeded in collecting many valuable and rare plants, shrubs and trees. Of these the most exotic are two gardenia trees from which my husband coaxed successfully many blooms. They are probably the only non-commercial gardenia trees in Victoria. On one occasion the Parks Superintendent of Victoria approached my husband and obtained for grafting some buds of a rare variety of cherry blossom. Both of us are proud of our collection, not only for its value but also for its endearingly beautiful response to our care and for the deep satisfaction it gave us.

Our unique collection was well known and was widely appreciated by fellow hobbyists. Testimony of this appreciation is shown in the way people would stop to compliment us as they strolled by, many requested permission to walk through our garden, motorists local and tourist would slow down or even stop, and driver of sightseeing busses used to point out our home and garden as they drove by. When the evacuation became a stark reality my husband received many offers from nurseries to buy our collection but he declined. Didn't you promise to keep intact all properties until we returned? Isn't the garden an asset to Victoria just as much as it is a pride and joy to us? As for proof, during a survey conducted by the Victoria Horticultural Society to choose "Gardens that beautify our streets", Mr. Takahashi was granted the Award of Merit, dated August 16, 1935. Two years later during the Royal Visit, Their Majesties the King and Queen drove past our home. We treasure the memory of seeing Her Majesty turn her head to see our garden.

Not only did our home and garden help to establish Victoria as "The Garden City of Canada", it also helped to cheer the sick and crippled. On Remembrance Day 1937, we opened our home to the public. By selling chrysanthemums which we had grown we raised money for the St. Joseph's Hospital. In 1938, 1939, 1940

April 16, 1944.

and 1941, we did the same, with the willing and able help of the Junior Auxiliary of the Queen Alexandra Solarium for Crippled Children. In November 1941, \$233.00 was realized. Until the time of your twenty-four hour notice to leave all these ties, my husband was engaged in the hard work of preparing pots and cuttings for another chrysanthemum show and tea. My husband's objective was to bring the total sum of money raised for the Solarium above the \$1,000.00 mark that fall.

As citizens of Victoria we have participated in such civic affairs as May 24 celebrations and Christmas home lighting contests. These affairs were part of Victoria's constantly extensive and intensive campaign to attract tourists. Furthermore, my husband also worked as a voluntary Victory Bond salesman to the Japanese community during the first and second Loans. Nor were we an expense to you at any time during the evacuation. Our family paid our own fares east and was the first evacuee family to settle in Toronto.

Today my husband isn't the manager of his own incorporated business so we are dependant upon the income from our properties. An undeserved liquidation of my property at 42 Gorge Road, Victoria, B. C. will not only jeopardize our present status but far worse our future welfare as well. This property is our home, the reward for long years of toil and anticipation, a source of recreation, a stake in the future of Victoria, and an insurance for our later welfare. My husband is now too advanced in years to earn a livelihood, his health is beginning to fail, and is looking forward to retirement next year.

After all our efforts in good citizenship we do not deserve to have our retirement jeopardized by the liquidation of our properties.

Yours very truly,

"TOYO TAKAHASHI"

TT/ST

File No.3963

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80 Caroline Ave.
Toronto, Ont.

Received May 15, 1944.

Custodian of Japanese Properties,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: Farm - Nitta #12821.

I received a statement from you that you have sold my farm Lots 51 & 52, Municipality of Langley, for \$1451.00. Was it valued at evacuation or recently? If recently I should be compensated for 2 years' depression. If valued at evacuation the price is far below value. If you look up your record on this farm you will find that in the first year of evacuation the net profit on this farm was around \$2100.00 and your valuation is less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1 year's net profit.

Please give this your attention as I am considering leasing property outside Toronto I would like to have the balance of the money owing to me. Will you please send it to Mr. G. E. Trueman, 174 Spadina Ave.

Thanking you.

Yours truly,

" M. Nitta "

#12821

3963

May 25, 1944.

Mr. Masaru NITTA,
Registration No. 12821,
80 Caroline Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

SEND c/o Mr. E. O. Trueman,
174 Spadina Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

Your letter was received May 15, 1944 and your remarks have been carefully read.

We can appreciate that the disposal of your property will be a matter of personal concern. However, the sale of properties to the Director, The Veterans' Land Act was carried out as a part of a policy of liquidation outlined by Ottawa on the basis of appraised values.

Your letter has been placed upon our files so that your comments in regard to this sale will remain on record but we can only advise you that we are unable to consider any alternative in regard to this matter.

In accordance with your request we have enclosed herewith a cheque in the amount of \$1400.00 pending the settlement of a small legal fee in connection with the conveyance of your property. Upon the settlement of this account the balance will be forwarded to you.

Yours truly,

W. E. Anderson,
Farm Department.

Enc. (cheque)
SEA/EG

Credit Balance - \$51.00

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File No. 6900

19 Bayview Wood,
Toronto, Ontario.
August 3, 1944;

Office of the Custodian,
506 Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

On June 13th, 1944, I received a notification
re sale of my property at Latimer Road, Cloverdale,
B. C.

The price at which you sold the property is
much too low. It is not even the taxation price
of the property. Could you not reconsider the
price and have it made more reasonable?

Mr. & Mrs. Ford Harvie, who are at present
renting the property have asked if it could be sold
to them. Could arrangements be made to transfer the sale
to their name?

I hope this will receive your utmost consideration.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Mrs. T. Watanabe,
Reg. #06858.

per "H. Watanabe"

6900

August 8, 1944.

Mrs. Takiya WATANABE,
Registration No. 06858,
19 Bayview Wood,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Madam:

We are in receipt of your letter of August 3rd, 1944.

Your remarks have been carefully read and we can appreciate that the disposal of your property will be a matter of personal concern. However, the sale of properties to the Director, The Veterans' Land Act was carried out as part of a policy of liquidation outlined by Ottawa on the basis of appraised values.

Your letter has been placed upon our files so that your comments in regard to this sale will remain on record but we can only advise you that we are unable to consider any alternative in regard to this matter.

Yours truly,

W. E. Anderson,
Farm Department.

/EG

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For Mr. Shears.

Harold Maeda
96 St. Joseph
Toronto, Ont.
File #C0525
" C0524

Custodian.

Dear Sir:

Will you please put our names on
your list of people, who do not wish their
property to be sold.

Masao Maeda	house)	
Haruo Maeda	store)	Port Moody

Thank you

Yours truly,

"H. Maeda"

#11037
#11067

W. J. Johnston

St. Augustine's Seminary,
Kingston Road,
Toronto.

Dec. 9, 1944.

Dear Sir:

Regarding to file No. 3315. It is with very deep disappointment that I have learned from your letter to-day that our property of 129 - 10th Street, New Westminster, B. C. have been sold.

I am only writing to inquire about our furnitures which we had stored in one room of the house. It's value is well over five hundred dollars and nothing is mentioned in the sale statement. We like to know just what happened to it.

Hoping to receive your most kind attention and consideration. I remain.

Yours truly

"Masao OHASHI"
Reg. No. 11518.

COPY FOR MR. SHEARS.

File Nos. 3344, 3315, 2377 & 7836

Copy for Mr. Shears.

276 Wellesley St.,
Toronto, Ont.

Dec. 8/46.

Office of the Custodian,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: File #1700.

I received your check for the sum of \$213.00 for a house on Block 88, Port Alberni, B. C.

You claimed there was \$291.35 due to me plus all improvements I put into this place such as flooring, electrical wiring, reconstruction of foundation, general repairing and alterations and wall papering, plus all the labour.

This place was more or less a barn when we bought it but I made it suitable for living and it cost me over \$700.00 for the above mentioned, and when I received the cheque for \$213.00 I'd be losing quite a bit of money. Especially now when I need it most when I just bought another house and this \$213 hardly helps at all. Trusting you will look into this matter to see if you can get me more money for this property.

Yours truly,

"J. Y. Matsui"

J. Y. Matsui
#07463.

Mr. Shears.

File No. 1362.

96 Springhurst Ave.,
Toronto 3, Ont.

Nov. 21, 1946.

Dept. of the Secretary of State,
Office of the Custodian,
Japanese Evacuation Section,
506 Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of Oct. 12. I must say at the outset, I am not at all satisfied with the sum received of my assets.

In particular I feel that you sacrificed the greenhouse glass at an extremely low price. I am informed by the W.P.T.B. officer in charge of the Glass Section, in Toronto, that there has been a great demand for greenhouse glass both new and second hand.

I am further informed that the selling price on new glass in Aug. 1945 was \$9.92 per case. Since 6,000 sq. feet of this glass had never been taken out of the cases, it should have been classified as new glass, and we should therefore have received \$595.20 for this. I am further informed that the selling price for second-hand glass is set at 80% of the cost to the owner. This glass cost me \$7.50 per hundred sq. ft., and the transportation charges from Victoria to Pt. Alberni were \$300.00. This would mean that we would have been entitled to charge \$720.00 for the 9,000 sq. ft. of second-hand glass, including three fifths of the transportation charges. We should therefore have realized something like \$1315.20 for this glass, and even if our tally had been wrong, and there was only 14,500 sq. ft. the amount realized is scarcely half of what it should have been.

For the above reasons I wish to register a most emphatic protest against the way this entire transaction was handled. I might also point out that my tools, which in your opinion were worth \$150.00 for insurance purposes were given to some person for \$8.50.

I have already cashed your cheque in my favour for \$1256.62 but I have accepted it merely on account of your indebtedness to me, and I am looking to you for a further payment of some more reasonable sum for the realization of my assets.

Yours very truly,

"K. Nagata"

Reg. No. 07490.

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103 Humber Blvd.,
Toronto 9, Ont.,
Feb. 27/47.

The Custodian's Office,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:--

File No. 7843 & 12819
Re: Estate of Yusuke Kai, Deceased

Have received both of your letters and cheques of
November 12, 1946, and Dec. 23, 1946.

In the list of shoe repairing equipment you listed,
there were two more items not listed: Singer Shoe sewing machine
which was left at my house 328-11th St., New West'r. and a $\frac{1}{2}$ H.P.
motor which was left at my neighbor's. I would like to know what
became of these because I would need it if I go in business.

The shoe repairing machines are still in care of
Rev. W. R. McWilliams.

During the war I was forced to evacuate from New
Westminster where I was born and was classed as an enemy alien.
Now that I am in Toronto I have no wish to go back to where I'm
not wanted. I intend to make my home in Toronto but find many
difficulties financial and otherwise. I hope to open a shoe
repair shop of my own someday and am living for that day. To my
thinking the Canadian Government should make some kind of
restitution on properties that has been sold and by paying shipping
charges as in my case for the machinery and help us get back on our
own so that we may live as a true Canadian Citizens.

Yours truly,

"Isamu Kai"

File No. 12819
Reg. No. 08408

Copy for Mr. Shears.

Compliment

Copy for Mr. Shears

C
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365 King St. W.,
Toronto, Ont.,

File No. 9053
Office of the Custodian
Department of the
Secretary of the State.

Dear Sir:

Having seen your letter & cheque but I'm refusal to accept the cheque until the government to remedy the injustice. My property 3798 E. Hastings St. Lots 10, Blk. 9 of N. pt. of Lot 116, Map 1236, Municipality of Burnaby. The most busy business district of Vancouver Height which was sold by the Custodian at price far below actual worth.

My land & Building at 3798 E. Hastings St. we (family) first moved in 1937 (25 x 30) only a broken down small building with out any separate rooms or basement the garden was stone and garbage & full of brush. After I bought the place had the whole place changed. The rooms put in floors, partitions, doors, walls, and ceiling all renewed & painted and I made basement concreted and a lighting put in pipes back of store. In 38 built 14 x 28 house with three rooms and garage & connect electricity in pipe all over the house in 40 built the storehouse West side of the building & cleared the back yard and made lovely garden with lovely many flowers & bulbs by gardener. I have spent lots lots of money for the place.

The Custodian was authorized under the War measure act to dispose of my property without authorization from the property owner.

Sales price of my property by Custodian was absurdly low I imagine at about 25 per cent of estimated value (land & building garage etc.) I sincerely hope the injustice will be remedied.

Yours truly
Thanking you

"A. Masuhara"

Complaint

COPY

Department of the Secretary of State,
Office of the Custodian,
Japanese Evacuation Section,
506 Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B.C.

3 Ottawa Street,
Toronto, Ontario.
May 20, 1947

Dear Mr. Dusenbury:

Re:- File No. 12981

San, Secretary of State,
Idg., Section,
Dusenbury:

Re:- File No. 12981

Your cheque of \$35.34 sent to me in your letter of May 7th is enclosed herewith. I find that your cheque is unacceptable until further investigation is made into the past activities of the Custodian and a more equitable treatment is given to my losses caused by such activities. I would like to point out that you did not have my permission to sell my personal and real property. Furthermore, having acted contrary to my wishes you have failed in obtaining a great number of personal effects for my property. Moreover, a great number of goods sold. Because of these and other listed in your inventory of goods sold. Because of these and other reasons, I am returning the aforementioned cheque to you.

Yours truly,
(signed) Hisa Kat
(Mrs.

Yours truly,
(signed) Hisa Kato
(Mrs. Tomatsu Okada)

Enc. 1.