

C O P Y

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

355 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C.
February 3rd, 1943.

A. MacNamara, Esq.,
Deputy Minister,
Department of Labour,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Dear Mr. MacNamara:

Yesterday I had a meeting with representatives of the Custodian's Department at which Treasury officials attached to this Commission were present. The question arose from the Custodian's Department as to whether or not they should release monies which are available for and have been requested by the Japanese under the jurisdiction of the B.C. Security Commission.

During the discussion, it was brought to light that considerable amounts have been paid through the Custodian and through the Fishing Vessels Disposal Committee to persons residing in our Interior towns. We have an arrangement with the Custodian whereby these cheques which are released by them are cleared through our Treasury Department in order that we have a record of the cash receipts of the Japanese under our jurisdiction.

We are naturally desirous of having this money retained by the Custodian's Department and issued to the parties concerned on a monthly basis. One reason being that we are finding that there is a considerable amount of gambling for quite high stakes going on in some of our Interior towns and the adjoining Road Camps in fact, some of the pots are running as high as \$1,500.00. It is doubtful if such large stakes are the result of monthly earnings as paid in our Work Camps, etc., and we are of the opinion that they must be using money cached away or using current receipts from either the Custodian or the Fishing Vessel's Committee. There is also the fear that they may receive a substantial payment from the Custodian and squander the money and apply for maintenance. We are quite within our rights in refusing

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them maintenance, however, it causes an unhappy experience between the Welfare workers and the Japanese people.

In making our analysis, we took the interior housing of Tashme as a basis and we find that the following amounts were sent to the residents of Tashme and are accounted for by earnings, Assigned pay, pensions and workmen's compensation and payments from the Custodian.

	<u>Nov-Dec.</u>	<u>Dec-Jan.</u>
Labour,	32,106.50	33,759.46
Dependent's Allowance,	2,013.20	1,598.60
Custodian,	358.25	432.50
Pensions and W.C. B.	779.12	693.34
	<u>\$ 35,257.07</u>	<u>\$ 36,483.90</u>

I would appreciate if you would advise me whether or not the Department of External Affairs is prepared to set up a policy whereby only a certain amount would be released each month to any persons who have cash assets with them and are residing in our interior projects.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) George Collins,
General Supervisor.