

EBR/BB.

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8th July, 1914.

MEMORANDUM

Hon. C.J. Doherty,  
Acting Minister of the Interior.

I am in receipt of a telegram from Mr.

Malcolm R.J. Reid, Dominion Immigration Agent at Vancouver,  
reading as follows:-

"Bird suggests waiving our rights under forty four and forty five Immigration Act and that we pay costs of return of Hindus by Komagata. Also that ship be docked to load cargo and that twenty thousand dollars be paid by Government for passage money and provisioning ship. I strongly advise against any such concessions or allowing ship dock fearing escape of passenger and disturbance by citizens; otherwise would repeat suggestion to deport by Empress sailing Thursday. Canadian Pacific will quote rates later. Would ask authority to issue pre-emptory order to deport all on board on report of preliminary examination by officer; either by Komagata or Canadian Pacific. Report discloses none are entitled to land as appeal court rules orders in council valid; in addition would reject as likely become public charges and one medical inspection. Would suggest as final concession if unavoidable that we provision ship to Hong Kong as ship proposes clearing for that port. May also be necessary supply guards for trip. Do you approve as possible Captain may land passengers surreptitiously also possibility disturbances aboard. Answer by code confidential."

and of a telegram from Mr. H.H. Stevens, M.P., reading as follows:-

"Have carefully considered proposal of Bird and cannot agree to same but inasmuch as our present position is legally sound and secured by only legal means would suggest you authorize Reid to provision ship Hong Kong and lend reasonable facilities to load cargo in harbour at anchor."

I am unable to agree with Mr. Reid's suggestion that he be granted authority to issue a pre-emptory order to deport all on board on report of preliminary examination by officer, and think a Board of Inquiry should be held in each case. If deportation is decided upon order for

deportation

*Original  
letter to*

*Robert  
Wm*

deportation should be issued in the proper form and the rejected party be given the right of appeal to the Minister if he desires to make use of such right. In the face of repeated instructions to complete Boards of Inquiry, I am at a loss to understand why such has not already been done. If it is decided that the rejected passengers are to go back on the "Komagata Maru", the boat should nevertheless, in my opinion, be given an opportunity to dock and discharge any cargo which it is desired to leave on this side.

*W. D. Scott,*

Superintendent of Immigration.