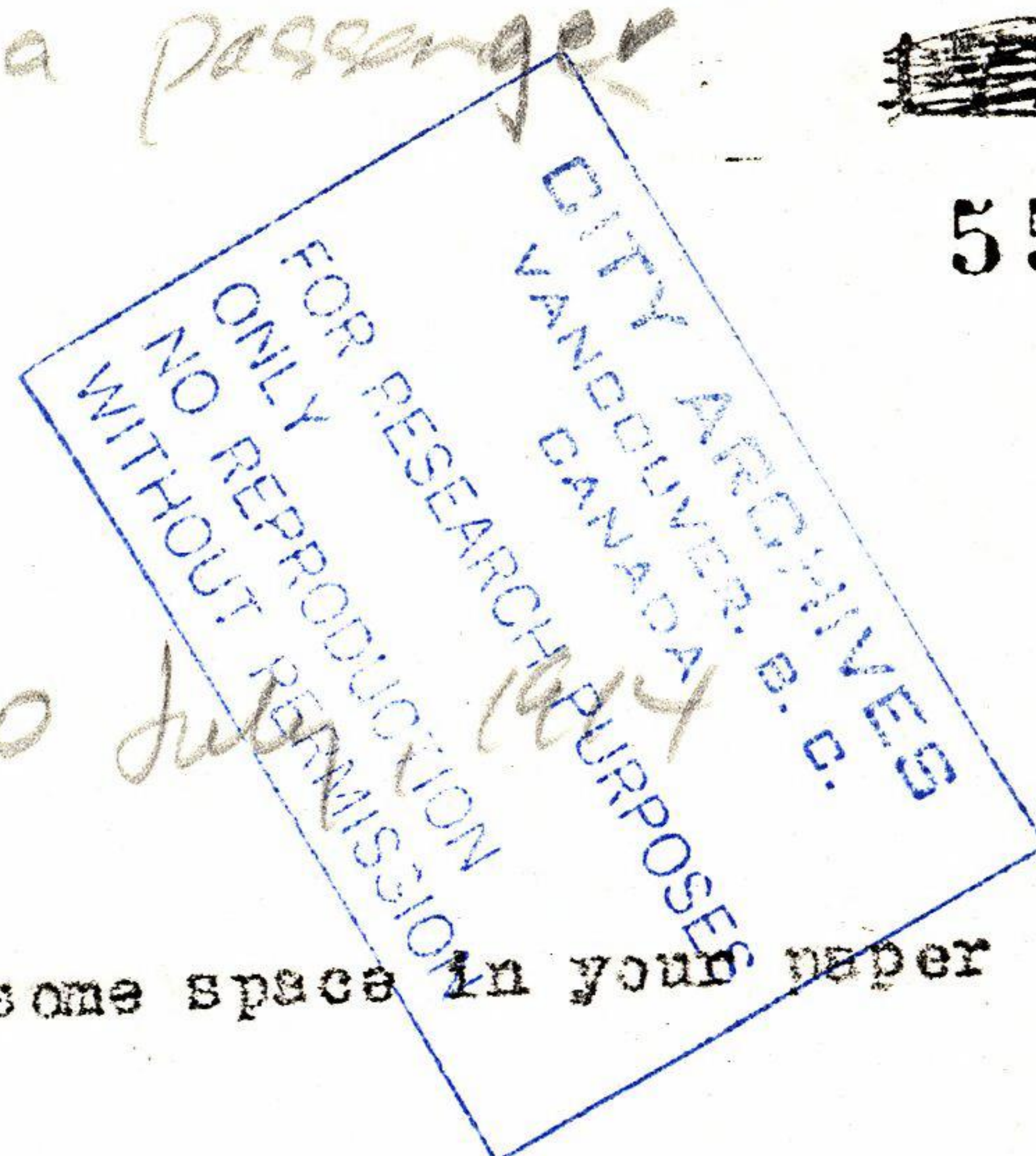


167 Letter for the newspapers from a passenger
on the Komagata Maru

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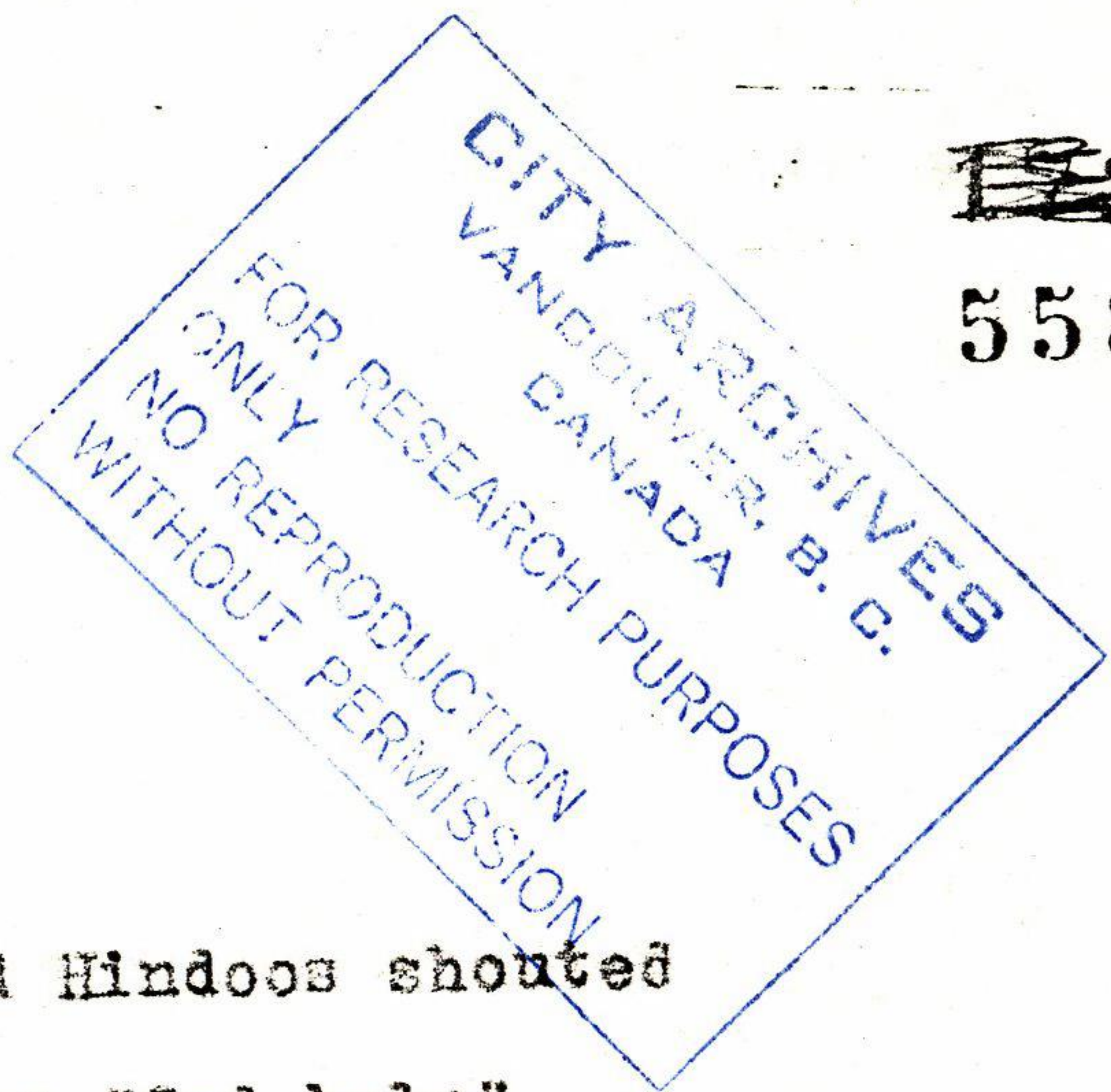
- C O P Y -

Dear Editor:

Will you kindly give some space in your paper to the following few lines:

"Hindoos on Maru defeated Police last night".

Yesterday night at one o'clock Immigration attacked the steamer Komagata Maru with four hundred armed policemen to take away the Maru forcibly from the Harbour. 30 minutes before their arrival their coming was informed by the official Hindoo interpreter Mr. Hopkinson, who told that better you yourself make the steamer to move the steamer otherwise 500 policemen fully armed are coming who will force on the boat and if any Hindoos oppose will be killed. Hearing this the watchmen woke up all their fellow passengers to face the coming Black Uniformists. We keep our watchmen from 2 days being informed by Supt. of Immigration that Police will forcibly drive the steamer out. All Hindoos on Maru, numbering 352 came on deck and formed firing lines. The boat of Police reached alongside the Maru and saw the Hindoos standing all around by means of electric light. The Police tied their boat with Maru with a strong rope. The Hindoos cut down their rope with a sharp knife. The Police made noise and they fired their guns but useless. Then they sprinkled water by means of water pipe but Hindoos did not care a bit and began to throw upon them coal. When all Hindoos threw coal and shouted loudly the Police brain did not work and went inside their boat running - that scene was a nice one. Many of them lost their caps which floated on the sea. They hurried to take back their boat. Hindoos followed them up to the upper deck of the Maru. Many Hindoos have also received severe wounds by the Police, but Black Uni-



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formists returned with shame and Hindoos shouted loudly "Sat sri akal" which means "God help".

We don't know the reason of the foolish act of the Police which attacked the steamer and wished to clear it forcibly without the consent of the charterers ashore. The Japanese crew did not come out of their cabins and were too much frightened when firing of guns and noise etc. The Police returned unsuccessful. He who will give it to the papers shall be highly thanked.

(Signed) A Passenger of S. S.
Komagata Maru.