

CONFIDENTIAL

Vancouver, B. C., June 18th 14

MRJR/EC.

W. D. SCOTT, ESQ.,

Superintendent of Immigration,
Ottawa, Ont.

Sir:-

For your information I beg to enclose herewith copy of communication No. 41 from Gurdit Singh, and my reply thereto.

I further beg to confirm my night lettergram of yesterday's date, as follows:-

"After consultation with Japanese Consul Hori, he cabled Japanese Minister Foreign Affairs Tokio suggesting advisable Government recalling Komogata Maru as she is flying Japanese flag. Cable received purport as follows: "They wish Mr. Reid understand that Japanese Government has no connection with this enterprise, although they sympathize with situation it is hard for Japanese Government to interfere with legitimate enterprise of its countrymen." Counsel wish you to know this.

I also beg to confirm my code message of yesterday with reference to Messrs Gardner Johnson & Co. receiving cables from Owners of the s.s. Komogata Maru, as follows:-

"Gardner Johnson received cable from Owners Komogata Maru as follows: As per your telegram reference transfer charter what has been done? If you cannot arrange hire paid soon despatch vessel with what she has direct Hong Kong. Telegraph full particulars; do not act until you hear from us. You ought to arrange despatch without wireless. If absolutely necessary what will be the cost? If you cannot get permission Customs other authorities. Message ends. Reply begins: Terms your cable June 11th refused by alleged assignees of charter. Lawyers satisfied negotiations merely to prolong stay. Lawyers advise assignment void without your consent and the ship should sail at once to avoid greater loss. If sail now authorities will not insist on wireless otherwise will. Charterers threaten libel ship. In any event this is unavoidable but if libelled lawyers will defend and ship can be bonded. Message ends."

W.D.S. - 2.

I am trying to arrange with the Manager of the North Vancouver Ferries, for one of the ferry boats to stand by the s.s. Komogata Maru should any fire break out aboard the vessel, as I have reason to believe an attempt may be made to fire the vessel to afford the Hindus an opportunity to escape.

I have further requested the Japanese Consul to warn his countrymen against hiring launches or boats to local Hindus as per the copy of letter enclosed.

A third message was sent you last night, as under:-

"Following wire forwarded tonight to Secretary Governor General, Ottawa, begins: Your telegram of today. Government statement wrong; provisions supplied by local Hindus after six days starvation, who were permitted hardly. Solicitors not allowed to consult us to this. I am in danger as wired before. Government took no action. Signed Gurdit Singh, "Komogata Maru."

I beg to remain,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Malcolm R. J. Reid

DOMINION IMMIGRATION AGENT & INSPECTOR.

2 enclos.