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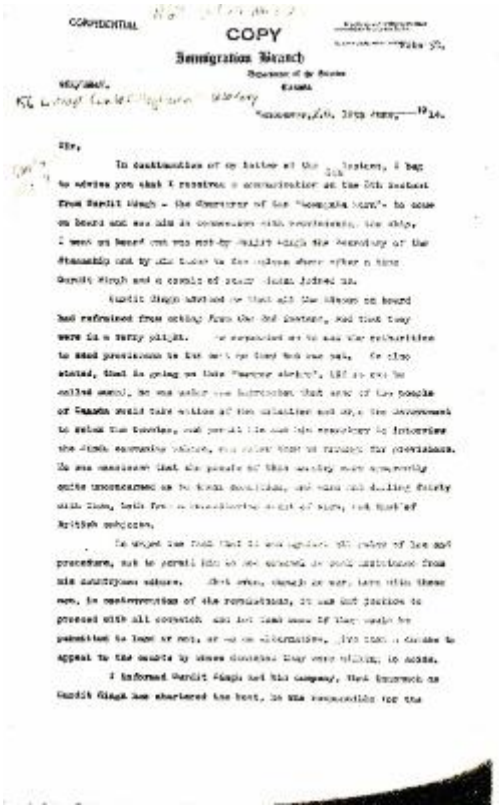
[Extract from William C. Hopkinson, Immigration Inspector, to William W. Cory, Deputy Minister of the Interior. Copy]



CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

Immigration Branch

Department of the Interior

Ottawa

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the [illegible] instant, I beg to advise you that I received a communication on the 5th instant from Pandit Singh - the Overseer of the "Komagata Maru" - to come on board and see him in connection with provisions, the ship, I went on board and was met by Pandit Singh the Secretary of the Steamship and by the Tindal to the Lascars where after a time Gurdit Singh and a couple of other Indian joined us.

Gurdit Singh advised me that all the Sikhs on board had refrained from eating from the 3rd instant, and that they were in a sorry plight. [illegible] to see the authorities to send provisions to the men as they had run out. He also stated, that in going on this "Sacred Journey", (as it was he called it), he was under the impression that some of the people of Canada would take action of the situation and urge the Government to allow the Sikhs, and permit him and his associates to interview the Sikh returning visitors, [illegible] to provide for provisions. He was assured that the people of this country were sympathetically quite unconcerned as to their condition, and that we had nothing dirty with them, both from a humanitarian point of view, and that of British subjects.

[illegible] that it was against the rules of law and procedure, and to permit him to see relatives or other institutions from his countrymen ashore. [illegible] men, in contravention of the regulations, it was but justice to proceed with all correspondence [illegible] of the people be permitted to land or not, or as the alternative, [illegible] to appeal to the courts by whom decisions they were willing to abide.

I informed Pandit Singh and his company, that inasmuch as Gurdit Singh has chartered the boat, he was responsible for the

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ARTIST
Cory, William W.; Hopkinson, William Charles, 1880-1914; Kumar, Guran Ditt; Singh, Gurdit, 1858-1954; Singh, Rughunath