

*Under circumstances
prev. requiring relinquish title
to preserve last point in
proceeding further.*

C.

6-3-6



Files - 27156-48
- 13156-26

CANADA
DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

Ottawa, August 17th, 1945.

Major D. M. MacKay, Indian Commissioner for B. C.,
Box 70, Vancouver, B. C.

Re: Sandy and Seal Islands,
your file 33-6-1632.

Your letter of July 23rd was received. The Department of National Defence, Naval Services, holds title to the Islands which were Crown granted by the Province to John Wilson in 1890 and purchased by the British Admiralty in 1899, in which year the Province by Order in Council set aside a foreshore Reserve for use of the Admiralty. The Crown Dominion acquired title by transfer from the Imperial Crown.

In 1921, Indian Johnny Jamieson advised that 35 or 40 years ago the Islands were reserved for the Comox Indians for the clam beds and that a Mr. Drobles surveyed it for them. In 1929 Jamieson again wrote on behalf of the Band inquiring about the clam beds and stating that besides the clam beds the area of two acres (presumably on Denman Island) was reserved for them in March 1899, and he stated that the Indians saw the posts on Seal Island some time ago plainly marked "Indian Reservation". The Royal Commission made no mention of the claim in their report of 1916. The Cathcart-Taggart report of 1939 dealt with the matter on pages 136 and 137 reporting that the Islands are in the Crown Dominion and that the portion of Denman Island, the Fr. N. sections 28, 29, and 30 and Fr. sections 31, 32, and 33 had been alienated by the Province.



Indian Affairs
(B.C. Records)

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