

2. Statement of Prime Minister regarding policy towards  
Persons of Japanese racial origin in British Columbia  
January 14, 1942.

The Prime Minister, on behalf of the Government, issued the following statement on January 14, 1942:

1. During recent weeks the Canadian Government has been giving detailed and careful thought to the problems created by the presence in British Columbia of a large number of persons of Japanese racial origin. On the 8th of January a Conference was called in Ottawa to study and report on these problems. At this Conference the Government had the benefit of the advice and assistance of representatives of the Government of British Columbia and of the members of the Standing Committee on Orientals of which Mayor Hume of New Westminster is the Chairman. For the aid thus given the Government is most grateful.

2. Finally the Government has received appreciations of the situation on the Pacific Coast from the representatives of the Defence Services. It has also been advised upon international complications to which certain courses of action might give rise.

3. As a consequence of these various contributions to **its** knowledge the Government believes it is in possession of all relevant facts and that it is in the best position to judge as to the policy that should be adopted.

4. In announcing its programme the Government accordingly believes that it is justified in asking for, and in expecting to receive, the firm support of all Canadians.