

MRJR/EC.

Vancouver, B. C., June 10th

14

W. D. SCOTT, ESQ.,

Superintendent of Immigration,

Ottawa, Ont.

Sir:-

I beg to transcribe for your information, copy of a communication received from Gurdit Singh:

"No.29, 9/6/14: - With reference to your kind offer of the 8th June, 1914, File No. 2392, I beg to request you that today my steward was going to purchase the provisions ashore, but your officer did not allow him. I do not know the reason why he stopped. Please inquire the matter and allow my steward to go ashore to buy provisions as we have nothing to eat today."

To which I replied as follows:-

"I have your favor of the 9th instant with reference to permitting your steward to go on shore to purchase provisions. I have consulted with my legal advisors who state that the Doctor has been on shore to purchase the necessary medical supplies, and we have no objection to that gentleman again coming on shore to purchase supplies or provisions. I should be glad if you would favor me with written communications instead of verbal requests, as you can understand this is a busy office and we like to keep the matter before us for reference. You may send the Doctor on shore immediately should you so desire."

The object of sending his steward ashore is in reality a subterfuge to have his Secretary interview the Committee of the Hindu temple with reference to the charter money due on the 11th instant. I deemed it inadvisable, after consulting with our legal advisors, to permit this man ashore, but to grant permission to the Doctor.

I beg to further transcribe a communication received this morning with reference to bringing ashore a man

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to purchase provisions:-

"No. 31, 9/6/14: - With reference to your letter of today, File No. 2392, I beg to inform you that our Doctor has refused totally to buy the provisions for us, as you would see the attached refusal request. Now please think over all the passengers with me are quite helpless and in despair conditions. We have no provisions at all for tomorrow. Kindly allow my man to go ashore to arrange for the necessary articles. "

(Copies of letters attached)

"No. 30, 9/6/14: - Mr. Rughnath Singh: Would you please take the trouble of buying the provisions for us daily as I am informed by Mr. Reid that your Doctor will buy and can go ashore., Sgd. Charterer Komogata Maru."

"Sir:- I can't take the responsibility of purchasing provisions at all. Sgd. Rughnath Singh, I.S.M.D. "

To Gurdit Singh's communication, I replied as follows:-

"..... I have your favor of the 9th instant, numbered 31, together with a copy of a communication from yourself to Rujh Nath Singh, and his reply numbered 30.

"In reply to your communication numbered 31, I would say that I am now, and always have been quite prepared to bring ashore any one of your passengers acting as your steward. There are two exceptions to this, - one is yourself, and the other is your Secretary - Dalgit Singh. The reason that Dalgit Singh was not brought ashore yesterday was on account of his expressed intention of coming ashore for the purpose of advising with some committee of local Hindus whom he said had the questions arising out of the arrival of the KOMOGATA MARU, in hand. You quite understand that I have nothing whatever to do with any such committee. My duties are clear, and I propose to carry them out without any interference or dictation or suggestion from anyone, whether a Hindu committee or any other committee.

"I repeat my offer already made verbally and several times in writing, to bring your steward ashore for the purpose of assisting him in procuring provisions, and I will enlarge the scope of that consent by allowing you to send ashore any of your male passengers for this purpose with the exception of, as I said before, yourself and Dalgit Singh."

Your obedient servant,

Malcolm R. J. Reid

DOMINION IMMIGRATION AGENT & INSPECTOR