

REVIEWS OF SHORT FILMS

Enemy Alien

d: Jeanette Lerman, **commentary:** Stanley Jackson, Jeanette Lerman, **narration:** Stanley Jackson, **ph:** Eugene Boyco, c.s.c., **animation ph:** Raymond Dumas, Simon Leblanc, **sd. ed:** John Knight, **sd. rec.:** Jean-Pierre Joutel, **m:** Eldon Rathburn, Shaku-hachi played by Takeo Yamashiro, **consultants:** Michiko Sakata, Roy Shin, David Suzuki, **exec. p.:** Wolf Koenig, **p.c.:** National Film Board of Canada, 1976, 35 mm, color and black and white, **running time:** 26 minutes 49 seconds, **dist:** N.F.B.

Racism is something that only happens in other countries. As Canadians, we deplore events that occurred in Nazi Germany, we are indignant about the Southern United States and righteous about Rhodesia. It can't happen here, we smugly conclude from our comfortable pews, forgetting that, in fact, it can and did. The story of 23,000 Japanese-Canadians and what happened to them during the second world war is a black stain on the Canadian psyche, a record of cruel injustice so unpleasant to recall, that perhaps it is best to let bygones be bygones. But **Enemy Alien** does not let us off easily; through its quiet words and quiet images, it is a film which stirs the conscience and moves us to question the very basis on which our country was founded.

At the turn of the century, Canada was flooded with immigrants. In many parts of the country, the need for manpower was so acute that immigration was actively solicited. We saw the Orient as a source of cheap labor for the railroad and budding logging and mining industries. Exploitation was a matter of official policy; by law, Orientals were paid a daily wage one half that of white workers. Greatly needed, but not wanted, they were made to feel unwelcome in many ways. They were forced to live in ghettos, barred from voting and excluded from the professions - and occasionally, the good burgers of Vancouver would foray into Chinatown to smash up their shops and businesses. As the years went by this racism became ingrained and the Orientals were driven more and more

into their own world. Pearl Harbor provided the opportunity to turn public intolerance into official policy and within days of the start of hostilities the full fury of Canada was turned against its innocent citizens of Japanese origin. Identity cards, confiscation of property, detention camps and, finally, forced deportation were carried out with a thorough determination worthy of Nazi Germany. **Enemy Alien** clearly shows that these harsh measures carried out under the War Measures Act had nothing to do with military security. The proof was that when the war and the hysteria was over there had been no plots, no spies, not one single act of disloyalty on the part of these Japanese-Canadians. All that remained were the broken families and shattered lives, and the smug Liberal politicians who carried out these policies in the name of their loyal constituents. It took until 1949 before Japanese-Canadians were finally given the vote - dispersed across the country, they remain with us, a battered, quiet minority still wondering why they were singled out; what in fact they had done.

How does a film deal with such powerful material? How does it fight against our natural desire to deny and forget? Alain Resnais' short film on German death camps, **Night and Fog**, uses color and a moving camera to make us question the nature of human memory. Donald Brittain's **Memo-randum**, on the same subject, contrasts past horrors with present-day normality in Germany using a matter-of-fact commentary to remind us that evil is not only banal, but universal. In **Enemy Alien**, Jeanette Lerman uses similar techniques. The story is told with documentary footage and newspaper clippings of the times, present-day films of what is left of the detention camps, but primarily, we have the photographs taken from the scrapbooks of the Japanese themselves. Curiously, there are no interviews in the film and because of this, the photographs really do stand out - the frozen moments, silent encapsulations of the past. The strong but low-key narration for the film was written and spoken by Stanley Jackson. It is typical NFB commentary in the sense of being cerebral

Japs' Failure to Help Will 'Prejudice Future'

Continued From Page 1
 Eastern Canada for members of a Japanese family deciding to move from B.C., and also for their personal effects.
 They will also get sustenance allowances during transit, and a placement allowance based on the size of the family.
 The Commission has already arranged for temporary housing in eastern Canada.
MAY PREJUDICE FUTURE
 "Those who do not take advantage of the program will be forced to begin to make 'special efforts' to open up suitable employment opportunities across Canada in various lines and in areas where 'prospects of suitable employment are best,' the announcement said.
 Groundwork for the program will begin April 9.
 On that date a special detachment of the RCMP, together with special commission officers, will begin a tour of six interior B.C. Japanese 'housing projects'.

Jap Deportation Order Goes To Supreme Court

Validity Test Set for January 24 After Comm

OTTAWA, Jan. 9 - The validity of the deportation order issued by the Supreme Court on January 24.
 An order-in-council referring a test case passed by the cabinet on Jan. 9, 1949.
 The order-in-council is based on the provisions of the Immigration Act, 1952.

Quebec Won't Take Japs, Sask. May, Others Dubious

Hesitancy to express opinion on the statement of the B. C. Security Commission Friday on post-war resettlement of Japanese until further details of the plan are released from Ottawa is evidenced in reports from most provinces.
 Quebec is the only province so far to have refused admittance to the Japanese after the war. Premier Duplessis said his government would take "necessary steps" to prevent their settling in Quebec.
 Saskatchewan is prepared to co-operate in any plan acceptable to Canada as a whole but awaits a nation-wide agreement on resettlement before stating its stand, according to Premier T. C. Douglas.
 Manitoba withheld comment until receiving notification of the

RELUCTANT JAPS GO ABOARD SHIP HERE

More Than 500 to Sail for Orient Early Tomorrow OCT -1 1946
 By RAY GARDNER
 More than 500 Japanese men, women and children boarded the American transport Marine Falcon here this morning to begin the long voyage to Japan—and many of them expressed a reluctance to leave Canada, adopted home of the adults, birthplace of most of the children. They sail early tomorrow.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1946

Only 7000 Japs Now in B.C.

By REG HARDY
 From Daily Province Ottawa Bureau. (Copyright, 1946 by Southern Co.)
 (OTTAWA), Oct. 17—Probably two thirds of British Columbia's prewar Japanese population will never again return west to the Rockies.
 This is the opinion of some officials of the department of labor who point out that of approximately 23,000 Japanese remaining in Canada only about 7,000 are now in British Columbia.
 The remaining 14,000 are about equally divided between eastern Canada and the prairie provinces.
 Approximately 3800 Japanese have been returned to their homeland while another 200, according to the department of labor, are ready to leave. The department hopes to be able to obtain a boat next month to

MEMORANDUM

Native Sons Demand Total Ban on Nippons SOUTH PACIFIC HAVEN FOR B.C. JAPS URGED

Total exclusion of all Japanese from Canada was recommended on Saturday by the Grand Post, Native Sons of British Columbia, before close of its thirty-fourth annual convention in Moose Hall.
 Delegate used to record favoring total exclusion of the Japs from Canada and periodic review of Japanese entry by person of Japanese origin be admitted to Canada at any time in the future for permanent residence.
HAVEN FOR JAPS
 The convention recommended in the resolution government removal of Japanese from Canada in this area.
 They be fully conversant with responsibilities of Canadian citizenship.
PENSION REVIEW
 Review of the problem of pension review by the government with a view of changing a present standard of living for the aged, was requested.
 F. H. Jackson, Native Sons' treasurer, was elected grand officer, L. W. Bransford, vice, in past grand office.

FILM REVIEWS

and aloof, but in this film it works extremely well; the very distance of the words adds to the strength of the pictures. The net result is that the outrage occurs not as rhetoric on the screen but in the hearts of the audience. The facts pile up, coolly, one on top of another; the pictures proceed, not horror pictures but a family eating lunch in a wooden cabin in the interior of British Columbia, a school play, a wedding, ordinary Canadians taking snaps with their Kodak. And you watch the events unfold and you shake your head. Who are the persecutors, why is this happening here?

There is a bit of irony in the fact that the National Film Board should be the organization producing a film like this. During the second world war, they were one of the chief purveyors of government propaganda in series like **The World in Action** shown bimonthly in theatres across North America. One such screen editorial, **The Mask of Nippon** (available for rental through McGill University's film library) used all the considerable skill and power characteristic of the series to produce a message of hate worthy of Joseph Goebbels. "The soldiers of the rising

sun are little men," booms Lorne Greene, narrator of the series, "two-faced; with a modern and progressive surface thinly hiding their savage and barbaric double character!" It was wartime and anything went, but the appeal of the film was clearly racist; in interesting contrast with the mild and reasonable manner in which similar films treated our Caucasian enemies. The films that the NFB made during the war well reflected the spirit of the times and the respective fate of these two groups of immigrants.

The power of **Enemy Alien** is that it is not a sermon, in no way a preachy film. Its message, while never stated, is clear. Canada is a country formed by its immigrants but it has not been kind to all its immigrants. Our system of justice and democracy in which we all place such trust can bend to political expediency. Our land has been good to many but is also a country built on the exploitation of others. And we too are capable of "savage and barbaric forces" which must continually be kept in check. To remind us is this film and the haunting faces of our fellow Canadians - the enemy that never was.

Ronald Blumer

CINEMA TECHNICIAN

The Faculty of Fine Arts' Division of Visual Arts invites applications for the position of Cinema Technician to serve its expanding Cinema programme. The position will begin on September 1, 1976.

Qualifications:

- A knowledge of film production equipment and demonstrable experience in both its use and maintenance.
- The desire and the ability to work with students at various levels, and to provide assistance to both students and faculty when required.
- Competence to organize and administer cinema supplies and equipment for approximately 200 film production students.
- Bilingualism is considered an asset (French/English).

Duties:

- To carry out minor repairs, and to ensure that all equipment is properly used and maintained in good working order.
- To instruct students, as necessary, in the proper handling, care and use of equipment.
- Inventory control; booking and dispensing of equipment, and seeing to its return; keeping records of the use, repairs and maintenance of equipment.
- The ordering and dispensing of supplies.
- To assist with the supervision of all production facilities.

The salary will depend upon the applicant's qualifications and experience.

Applications should be accompanied by a complete curriculum vitae and the names of three persons as references. The closing date for applications is August 2, 1976, or when the position is filled.

Please address all inquiries and/or applications to:

Associate Professor Judith Kelly Director, Division of Visual Arts
Faculty of Fine Arts Concordia University
 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West
 Montreal, Quebec, H3G 1M8, Canada

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For Sale:

Two Audio RMS7F radio microphones, recently factory overhauled. \$750 each or both \$1400. G.C.M. Sound Services, 4 Landigo Drive, Weston, Ontario M9R 3P6. Phone 416-249-3596.

For Sale:

One Siemens 2000 16 mm interlock projector. \$1,000. G.C.M. Sound Services, 4 Landigo Drive, Weston, Ontario M9R 3P6. Phone 416-249-3596.

For Rent:

Work space and/or editing facilities. Long or short term. Very reasonable rates. Downtown Toronto. Call Tony Douglas Associates: 922-9081 or 366-1460.

Wanted:

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