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CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM TO SECURITY OFFICERS

Security Screening of Government Employees

It has been brought to my attention that a question has arisen from the fact that the recently circulated Cabinet Directive on this subject, Circular No. 29 of December 30, 1955, does not stipulate that persons being discharged from the public service on security grounds should not be given the reasons for such action without prior consultation with the Security Panel.

As was the case with Cabinet Directive No. 24, the previous directive on this subject, it was not considered appropriate to include this cautionary measure in the statement of policy, although it was clearly stated in the covering letter to Cabinet Directive No. 24, signed by the Chairman of the Security Panel.

Security officers are reminded, therefore, that while Cabinet Directive No. 24 of October 16, 1952, has been superseded by Cabinet Directive No. 29 of December 30, 1955, paragraph 2 of the covering letter to the former directive remains a matter of policy. It reads as follows:

"Departments and agencies are particularly cautioned that, if required to state reasons for transfers or dismissals which may at any time be effected under the policy stated in this new directive, they must not relate action to security grounds without first consulting the Security Panel."

P. M. Dwyer,
Secretary of the Security Panel.

Privy Council Office,
Ottawa, January 19th, 1956.

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