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SP2-00-01(00)Vancouver BC
27 Nov 62Air Officer Commanding
Air Transport Command
RCAF Stn Trenton OntSuspected Homosexual Activities

1 Recently two junior WCOs at this unit separately requested release from the RCAF in accordance with AFAO C19.00/17. In each instance the airman in question was interviewed by the SMO and each was referred to a service psychiatrist for help with this problem. One of the airmen, was released from the service on 10 Nov 62. The other, who is employed with 443 Auxiliary Support Unit, has completed his medical release forms and administrative action has been undertaken by 19 Wing HQ in accordance with regulations.

2 In discussion with the SMO, the airmen concerned were counselled on the serious security aspects such activities have in the military services. They were asked if they were prepared to name other members of the RCAF who were known to have participated in homosexual activities. As a result of this counselling, the two airmen in separate interviews named certain members of the Air Force as persons they had seen or heard about in the local homosexual circles. Some of these names were confirmed by another junior NCO, who was released under the terms of AFAO C19.00/17 earlier this year.

3 Although I personally consider the source of this information is somewhat suspect, I have been assured by the SMO and L/Col Robitaille, the area psychiatrist, that the information was provided in good faith by the airmen after they had considered the serious security implications. Furthermore, their statements were made immediately after press coverage of the Admiralty scandals in England and they advised the doctors concerned that this English situation influenced them in making the names available. In the light of this assurance, I advised the NCO i/c WSID, Vancouver of the situation with a request that they investigate the matter to determine whether the allegations have any foundation in fact. To date, they have not been able to confirm or deny the statements of the airmen concerned.

4 My immediate concern, and the basic reason that WSID was asked to investigate, is due to the fact that at least two of the persons named are in extremely sensitive positions, and if the allegations are true, these officers could be subject to security blackmail.

5 As indicated in the enclosed copies of the WSIV and WSID correspondence on this subject, surveillance will be continued, but I am not sure that it will prove successful in either clearing or condemning the persons concerned. At first blush the investigation, based on the source of information, could be considered a form of "McCarthyism", but because of the security implications I believe investigative action should be continued.

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6 From statements made by the airmen concerned, there appears to be no reason to believe that homosexual activities are carried on in the single quarters at this unit, but are confined to participation in "gay" set activities that are prevalent in the Vancouver city area. Despite the locale being off-station, I am deeply concerned re the effect on security and therefore am forwarding this for your information and advice.

signed

(TJ MacKinnon) W/C
CO RCAF Stn Vancouver

Encl

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