

NORM DPCADR 5.3

MEMORANDUM

RA

5077-3-3

5320-6 (DGC Svc)

// Apr 85

Distribution List

CF POLICY ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION (HOMOSEXUALITY)

DGC
CF Policy
SEXUAL

Ref: 5077-3-3 over 5320-6 (DPSRSC) 8 Jan 85

1. The referenced memorandum addresses, in para 3, the rationale for the CF policy on sexual orientation (homosexuality). While there is no dispute with the other information contained in the memorandum, the author was apparently unaware of the fact that the CF policy of not enrolling or retaining homosexuals is based on a number of considerations in addition to security concerns.

2. The belief that the rationale for present policy depends almost exclusively on security concerns is widespread outside the CF: it is important that we do not reinforce this misconception in our internal correspondence. Specifically, present policy is based on a consideration of the potential impact of homosexuals on discipline, unit cohesion and morale, security and public image. Living conditions in the CF and the potential for illegal acts, both within and outside Canada, also contribute to the rationale. Therefore, it will be appreciated that security concerns are only one of several reasons for the policy.

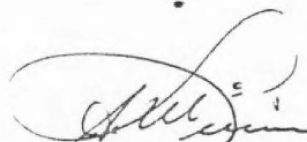
3. Insofar as security concerns are at issue, the reasoning presented in para 3 of the reference is defective. The CF requires flexibility of employment in its members and it could be impractical to enrol or retain an individual who cannot be security cleared. Moreover, even when an individual has declared his or her sexual preference, there remains potential for vulnerability due to the involvement of a partner whose sexual preference may not be public knowledge.

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4. This memorandum is intended to clarify the basis for the present CF policy on sexual orientation. Addressees are requested to file this memorandum with the reference to reduce the potential for misunderstanding in the future. DPLS is the OPI for the policy within NDHQ.



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Chairman, Charter Working Group
5-8984

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