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DEPARTMENT OF THE  
SOLICITOR GENERAL



MINISTÈRE DU  
SOLLCITEUR GÉNÉRAL

POLICE AND SECURITY PLANNING  
AND ANALYSIS GROUP

CENTRE DE PLANIFICATION ET  
D'ANALYSE DE LA POLICE ET DE LA SÉCURITÉ

Ottawa, K1A 0P8  
January 5, 1977

Our file: T.D. 6350-G

Mr. D.W. Hall,  
Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet,  
Security, Intelligence & Emergency Planning,  
Privy Council Office,  
Room 506,  
Postal Station "B"  
59 Sparks Street,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Hall:

RE: DRAFT MEMORANDUM: HOMOSEXUALITY, THE PUBLIC SERVICE and  
NATIONAL SECURITY

Thank you for your memorandum dated December 14th and for the opportunity to comment on the attached draft material.

I agree with the general theme of the memorandum and with the view that there is a need for policy direction on this very complex and delicate topic.

The document will probably be viewed in the political context along the following lines:

- (1) Homosexuality is a cause for rejection with regard to either employment or a Security Clearance (or both).

Such a position would, no doubt, alienate the homosexual community and a limited number of civil libertarians. However, it would probably be supported by a majority of the electorate, which finds homosexuality repugnant.

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- (2) Homosexuality is one of the factors to be considered with regard to personal suitability for a particular position, with certain positions being denied to homosexuals (e.g., remote postings with other persons of the same sex).

This would probably give rise to criticism from homosexuals and civil libertarians that such a policy is both discriminatory and subjective. Certainly a high degree of subjectivity would enter into the selection process, unless criteria or guidelines were established.

- (3) A completely open policy with regard to homosexuality, subject of course to personal suitability.

I hardly think this would be acceptable to a majority of Ministers, Members of Parliament or the electorate.

The matters of employment of and Security Clearances for declared homosexuals will continue to pose problems. Although an individual may be an acknowledged homosexual, ~~but~~ his or her "lover" may not. Thus pressure could be exerted on the overt homosexual through the covert partner.

I attach some comments on your paper which were prepared by members of the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Branch. While we felt free to comment quite liberally on the document, we have no specific textual changes to suggest.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Bourne,  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
(Police & Security)

Enclosures.