

G 355-9-1-15

BY HAND

April 10, 1963

S E C R E T

Dear Mr. Wall:

This has reference to your verbal request of 28 March 1963 for a report on the increasing difficulty we are experiencing in obtaining the co-operation of homosexuals as sources of information in our investigation to identify homosexuals employed in or by the federal government. As indicated in the discussion which preceded your request, our investigators have found, particularly during the past year, that an increasing number of homosexuals have refused to identify their homosexual associates or acquaintances.

2. The unco-operative attitude which has been encountered has resulted in a decline in the amount of corroborative evidence which had, in the past, been obtained from interviews with homosexuals. This has lead to a situation where we have a considerable number of cases where allegations have been made or suspicions raised against individuals which we cannot pass to the employing Departments for lack of substantiation. In addition, this attitude has added to the difficulty in developing new potential sources of information in this particular field. Statistically, this may be shown by a sharp decline in interviews during the past calendar year. In 1961, 64 interviews were carried out and only 4 of the persons interviewed were unco-operative. In 1962 only 29 interviews were conducted, with 8 persons being unco-operative.

3. We have been aware for some time of this increasing reluctance on the part of homosexuals to assist us in this investigation, but not until recently has the problem seriously impeded our progress. Nevertheless, it was in anticipation of this problem that we first requested, in May 1960, Terms of Reference which would permit us to interview homosexuals employed in non-sensitive government positions. The need for such approval is now urgent.

Mr. D.F. Wall,
Secretary of the Security Sub-Panel,
Privy Council Office,
Room 117, East Block,
O T T A W A, Ont.

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4. While we are not in a position to determine the true motivation which prompted homosexuals to co-operate or to refuse to co-operate, our requests have been based on an appeal to their loyalty to the country. On no occasion have we offered financial remuneration or immunity to prosecution for their co-operation. Many of those who refused to co-operate gave no explanation for their attitude, some expressed an over-riding loyalty to their homosexual associates. However, we had occasion recently to interview a more voluble homosexual whose views on our investigation and his refusal to co-operate are considered worthy of note.

In March 1963 a known homosexual was interviewed by two investigators from this "Headquarters". After being provided with an explanation of our interest in any information he might have he made the following observations:

- (a) He would provide us with a complete list of names of those people with whom he had homosexual relations, along with a list of suspected homosexuals; also a complete up-to-date picture of the homosexual community in the Ottawa area, provided some permanent arrangement was made between the Force and himself whereby he would supply information on a continuing basis, and that failing to reach such an agreement he wasn't the least bit interested in co-operating.
- (b) Subject said he wasn't moved at all by loyalty motives; he hasn't exercised his franchise in years and he feels no particular allegiance to Canada nor to any other country in the world. He fancies himself as a cosmopolitan-type citizen, and in conclusion he felt no sense of public co-operation and would only co-operate if this were governed by monetary gain.
- (c) He felt that he was relatively free from any threat of compromise by a foreign power because he was not employed in or by the federal government, and because the police and his family were aware of his character weakness.

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- (d) Subject admitted a continued contact with the homosexual community in Ottawa to date, and that he has in recent months been in conversation with a number of homosexuals who have been interviewed by the Force. He stated the reaction to these interviews was complimentary to the Force in that most of the homosexuals admitted their willingness to talk after being exposed to the R.C.M.P. type interview, which was patient and understanding. Other rumblings from the homosexual community reflected concern as to surveillance techniques employed by the Force in the over-all investigations being made of homosexuals employed in government or government-controlled industry. Subject said there was a general awareness by all homosexuals of the current investigations into this field.

Since it is not our policy to recruit homosexuals as "agents provocateur" or to pay for information they provide, the interview was terminated.

5. While the above example cannot be said to represent the views of other homosexuals it does serve to illustrate the resistance which we are encountering. Our potential sources of information for this investigation employed outside the federal government are, at the present time, negligible. To continue our investigation to identify homosexuals employed on classified work, with any measure of success, we require authority to interview homosexuals employed in non-sensitive positions. It is requested that the special committee of the Security Panel give further consideration to this submission at the earliest possible date.

Yours very truly,


(J.R.W. Bordeleau),
Assistant Commissioner
Director
Security & Intelligence.


Source: para 4: B.E. LAY - 
report d/27.3.63.

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