

MEMORANDUM

NOTE DE SERVICE

TO / À The Commissioner

*S/Sgt Sauter*  
*Please P.A.*  
*WSS*  
*810601*

FROM / DE Director General Security Service

SECURITY-CLASSIFICATION-DE SÉCURITÉ
SECRET
OUR FILE - N/RÉFÉRENCE
YOUR FILE - V/RÉFÉRENCE
DATE 1981 May 25

SUBJECT / OBJET Death of Former Canadian Ambassador John Watkins

Further to your request on Friday, I am attaching a memorandum from C/Superintendent Brandes for the Minister, as requested.

I am also attaching a message from the Quebec Area Command advising that the MUCPD do not have any objections regarding release of the names of the officers who carried out the investigation in 1964. I personally have considerable reservation of the wisdom of the Minister doing so as I believe the request that has come to him was initiated purely for publicity reasons.

You may wish to raise this matter at our meeting with the Minister tomorrow.

*M.R. Dare*  
M.R. Dare

*Copy to O.A. Lawry delivred 10 A.M. 8/05/28 returned to DSS by Bopo. 81.06.02. 81.06.01.*

Commissioner's Office  
MAY 25 1981

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TO  
A THE D.G.

FROM  
DE Officer i/c "B" Operations

SUBJECT  
OBJET Death of Former Canadian Ambassador  
John WATKINS

SECURITY - CLASSIFICATION - DE SÉCURITÉ
<u>S E C R E T</u>
OUR FILE/NOTRE RÉFÉRENCE
YOUR FILE/VOTRE RÉFÉRENCE
DATE 81-05-25

Further to our discussion concerning the questions that continue to be raised relative to the circumstances of the death of WATKINS and in particular my actions at the time. Memory of precise details does not serve well when one considers that it is going on to 18 years since the event. The statement I provided immediately after the occurrence speaks for itself. (Copy attached dated October 14, 1964.) I believe it to be factual and accurate. Mr. L.J. BENNETT, in writing, also concurred with it.

Concerning my encounter with the Coroner, I do recall being surprised at the informality of proceedings. I gave a verbal description of the circumstances of the death but do not remember signing any document. In all probability I did not identify myself to him as being a member of the R.C.M.P. The St. Laurent Police, who were well aware of my identity, were the investigating authorities with foremost responsibility for satisfying procedural matters. My role, as a witness to the death, was to render assistance and respond to any official enquiry. This I did. All the names and other details listed in my report were obtained at that time. I can now add nothing to that account.

*H.W. Brandes*  
H.W. BRANDES, C/Supt.,  
Officer i/c "B" Operations.

PA 123  
8106-02