



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

EN. CANADA

MEMORANDUM

NOTE DE SERVICE

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TO
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Solicitor General

81 SEP 29 All: 04

FROM
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Deputy Solicitor General

SECURITY - CLASSIFICATION - DE SÉCURITÉ
CONFIDENTIAL
OUR FILE/NOTRE RÉFÉRENCE
YOUR FILE/VOTRE RÉFÉRENCE 175-4 1243B
DATE 25.9.87

SUBJECT
OBJET

RCMP Civilian Member
Security Clearance

1. I refer to Commissioner Simmonds' letter of August 25, 1981 (attached) in which he has decided to allow Miss [redacted] clearance to the CONFIDENTIAL level, subject to regular monitoring and adjustment of her security clearance as necessary. You will no doubt recall that she admitted to a homosexual relationship for a six year period, and though presently having a heterosexual relationship, acknowledges that she might resume homosexual activity. Moreover, though she claims to be open about it, she concealed it from the RCMP (her employers) and her family.
2. In his letter of May 4, 1981, the Commissioner declared his intent either to resolve the doubt in this case or to proceed toward termination under Cabinet Directive #35. In his letter of May 29, 1981, he revealed that the withdrawal of Miss [redacted] security clearance and removal from her normal duties had not yet been effected. Implicit in this letter is the fact that doubt as to Miss [redacted] suitability for access to classified information had not yet been resolved.
3. The Commissioner's decision to allow Miss [redacted] a lower security clearance undoubtedly represents a major change in RCMP policy respecting sexual behaviour by its uniformed and civilian members. While the Canadian Forces have not adopted this policy, there are precedents with respect to public service employees, whereby, it was deemed expedient in the interest of avoiding frequent grievances, to issue a lower security clearance provided that blackmail or coercion was not considered worthwhile due to the employee's level of clearance, lack of access to more critical material or inability to assist in targetting other employees.

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- 4. On the other hand, any decision to provide a lower security clearance could lead to a claim that such action, in light of CD #35, demonstrates the absence of any further doubt about suitability for access to classified information, and therefore, the original security clearance should be restored. The possibility of this event occurring will depend on Miss [REDACTED] satisfaction with her new work arrangement. In this respect, the RCMP authorities are in the best position to assess this possibility.

- 5. Thus, while I believe you should continue to avoid intervention, it would not be remiss to assure the Commissioner of your support of his most recent decision in this matter. If you concur, an appropriate letter for your signature to the Commissioner is attached.

André Bissonnette

André Bissonnette

Attach.

*Oct 28.
KJL*