

sent to M. Bloodworth

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RCMP Investigations of Homosexuals

Background

- The investigation policy was apparently approved by Cabinet as a result of information that the KGB were successfully blackmailing homosexuals to gather intelligence from western countries.
- Reports from Australia and the U.S. indicated that

Foreign Consult

[REDACTED] The KGB successfully used compromise techniques, blackmail and attempted recruitment of homosexuals in Canada.

Action Taken

- The McDonald Commission examined the issue thoroughly in 1984, and made several recommendations which resulted in: limitations on investigating and granting security clearances; in the CSIS Act; the Security Intelligence Review Committee to review security investigations; and the formulation of the Government Security Policy.
- As recommended by the McDonald Commission, any files on homosexuals, which were opened solely on the basis of sexual orientation, have been destroyed.
- Under current Government Security Policy, homosexuality alone is not a barrier to employment if individuals can openly deal with their sexuality. An individual who is unwilling or unable to be open about his or her sexual orientation could be vulnerable to blackmail or coercion.
- Any complaint about a security clearance investigation or denial can be referred to the Security Intelligence Review Committee.

Ashton/Thibault/nd

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