

SUGGESTED REPLY

On behalf of the Honourable J. Gilles Lamontagne, the Minister of National Defence, I am replying to your letter dated 29 May, 1982.

I have noted your argument and must inform you that the policy of the Canadian Forces is that homosexuals will not be permitted to enrol and if enrolled will not be permitted to remain in the Canadian Forces. Homosexuality presents a bona fide operational impediment in that it is not possible to fully utilize these people to meet the exigencies of the service, i.e., in some overseas UN or NATO postings where homosexuality is an offence, at isolated postings, in communal life on board ships, in barracks or in the field. As well, experience has shown that the presence of homosexuals can be most disruptive in a military force.

I trust that I have addressed the issue raised in your letter and thank you for your interest in the Canadian Forces.

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