

5-1-1

CONFIDENTIAL

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

Security Policy

*"copie d'un document d'information
à l'usage du premier ministre..."
(document confidentiel du Cabinet
communiqué en vertu de la Loi
d'accès à l'information en juillet '84)
(#12 on list)*

Further to our conversation concerning security matters, I am attaching a copy of a memorandum for the Cabinet Committee on Security and Intelligence entitled "Security Review Order", which has been considered by the Security Panel at its recent meetings. You may wish to consider the views set out in the memorandum, together with the draft Security Review Order, with a view to having them considered at an early meeting of the Cabinet Committee.

I am also attaching two other documents which the Security Panel has not yet fully considered, but which you may wish to see at this time because of their relationship to the question of an appeal system for security cases. The first is a revision of the present Cabinet Directive on Security, drafted in such a way that it might be made public. The second is a draft statement of a kind which you might consider making in the House of Commons were the government to decide to table a new Directive.

I should add that, at the last meeting, the Security Panel foresaw a number of substantial practical difficulties in making public the precise terms of our policy in this often controversial matter. It has since been suggested that the substance of a new Directive might be embodied as fully as possible in a statement to be made in the House, but that the actual terms remain confidential as a privileged instruction from the government to its departments and agencies. It would be helpful to have your reaction to this view.

Regarding the more immediate question of appeal, I would be grateful if, having had an opportunity to read the attached papers, you would let me know when it would be appropriate to arrange a meeting of the Cabinet Committee.

ORIGINAL DESPATCHED
AND SIGNED BY:

R.G.B.

Privy Council Office,
July 17th, 1963.

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