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*ASF  
AW* → *see AmP's  
comment  
below → proceed  
pls.*

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CONFIDENTIAL

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE May 12th, 1978.

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BUREAU DU CONSEIL PRIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PITFIELD

Haggan letter

Seen by Mr. Pitfield

In my view Reeves scores heavily in his letter and I find myself largely in agreement with it. The one area of substantial disagreement that I have with him is in relation to his suggestion that we publish guidelines for public consumption and circulate an internal document in more precise form. I think this would be the worst of all possible worlds for the very reasons that Reeves suggests mitigate against publishing the document in its present or slightly amended form.

I have also some slight problem with the argument not to deal with sexual behaviour in any directive or policy, principally because of the very real problem created for DND and External Affairs if guidelines are not available to them. I do, however, incline to Reeves' life-style concept as providing a useful description for those matters which are taken into account in judging or determining reliability.

I think we should take Reeves up on his offer to work on a policy or guidelines statement which is complete in itself and forms the only documentation to be forwarded to deputy heads. I do not see this as precluding confidential memoranda being sent to deputy heads from time to time on issues which relate to consistency of application of the policy or guidelines and which would deal with cases which have been determined in one department or agency, thus requiring some degree of confidentiality attaching to them. I think that this would place an additional burden on PCO, but I think it is a burden that we ought to accept and be prepared to defend if necessary.

I look forward to speaking to you about this matter at the first opportunity that presents itself.

T. D. Finn.

Privy Council Office,  
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