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National Defence

Défense nationale

National Defence Headquarters  
Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0K2

Quartier général de la Défense nationale  
Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0K2

1745-42-7 (DPPCS 6)

22 August 1994

Deputy Commissioner  
Human Resources  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
1200 Vanier Parkway,  
Room G303  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0R2

Dear Deputy Commissioner:

A former member of the Canadian Forces, [REDACTED] has initiated an action in the Federal Court of Canada claiming extensive damages as a consequence of the former Canadian Forces policy on sexual orientation. Preparations for trial are in progress and counsel for the plaintiff has requested information on a number of related issues. Several of those issues involve the RCMP and we are obliged to make our best efforts to establish the relevant facts.

The matters which we hope you may be able to provide assistance with are as follows:

- a. When did the RCMP change its policy regarding the employment of homosexuals and what, if any, studies did it rely on?
- b. Was there any RCMP/DND communication about the proposed RCMP policy change in advance of the event?

Based on the enclosed extract from the proceedings of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Equality Rights, it appears that, at least as of 1 May 1985, it was the policy of the RCMP not to engage individuals who were known to be homosexual. Further, from Commissioner Simmonds' comments on p. 6:11, it appears that this policy had not been issued as a written instruction or directive. Your confirmation of this interpretation would be appreciated.

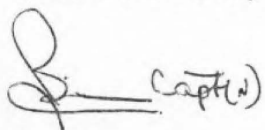
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A records search within National Defence Headquarters has failed to reveal any documents related to the cancellation of the former RCMP policy. However, there is a recollection that sometime between 1 May 1985 and the summer of 1986, while the Hon Perrin Beatty was Solicitor General, there was a public announcement (possibly by Commissioner Simmonds himself) that the RCMP would no longer discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. Exactly how and by whom that announcement was made is not remembered. Presumably there was a formal statement and it would assist us if we could be provided with a copy of the statement and/or media release and any relevant information, including any studies, concerning the circumstances leading to the announcement.

With regard to the second issue, advance communication between the RCMP and DND, no relevant record or recollection has been identified in the headquarters and it is thought to be unlikely that your office would have any such record. Nevertheless, your confirmation would be appreciated.

I am sorry to trouble you with this request so long after the event. However, we have no alternative. The deponent for the Canadian Forces is Mr. George Logan, a member of my staff, and he may be reached at 995-2861 (Fax 995-7871).

 (Capt.)

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L.T. Doshen  
Brigadier-General  
Director General Personnel Policy