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National Défense
Defence nationale

2140-0 (D Secur)

29 December, 1976

REGISTERED

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(Security, Intelligence and Emergency Planning)
Privy Council Office
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DRAFT MEMORANDUM - HOMOSEXUALITY
THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND NATIONAL SECURITY

1. It is agreed that a memorandum along the lines of the preliminary draft paper forwarded with your memorandum of 14 December 1976 would be both timely and helpful, particularly to those departments and agencies that do not have to cope with the problem very often.
2. An important consideration when dealing with homosexuals concerns those features of character that may lead to "indiscretion". It appears to have been omitted in the draft. It is our experience that homosexuals tend to be less discreet than heterosexuals in the selection of their casual partners and in their subsequent activities. Thus, any feature of character which may lead to indiscretion is of great significance in the evaluation process.
3. Keeping the foregoing in mind, specific comments/recommendations on the draft memorandum to Deputy Ministers and Heads of Agencies follow:
 - a. Page 1 Para 2 line 10. After coercion add "or because they could lead to indiscretion".
 - b. Pages 2/3 Para 6
 - (1) Insert new first sentence "From the point of view of security clearance, the only reasons for exclusion from access to classified information on grounds of homosexuality are susceptibility to indiscretion or vulnerability to blackmail or coercion".
 - (2) The frank homosexual could also be aggressive to the point of wanting to get back at the society which does not recognize him for what he is. What avenue will this take? He could also have demonstrated a complete lack of discretion in choosing his lover(s). Further, while he might be frank about himself what might he do to protect a lover who wishes secrecy? Indiscretion, coercion or blackmail could still be relevant. Thus, the last sentence "Obviously the homosexualrelevant" should be deleted.

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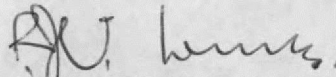
c. Page 4 Para 5. It is not always possible to tell the complete story. Also the impression is given that a non-open source could be revealed without permission. Therefore, it is recommended that:

- (1) the phrase "to the extent that this is possible" be added after "the reason"; and
- (2) the phrase "as the sources of information are likely to be less sensitive" be deleted and substitute "as sources of information are likely to be more open".

d. Page 5 Para 7. Because a security clearance can only be denied within the provisions of CD 35 and because concealment is not the only factor for denial, it is recommended that:

- (1) para 7 be deleted in its entirety, and
- (2) paras 8 and 9 be re-numbered 7 and 8.

4. While a public statement which would set out the Government's position on homosexuality in some detail might be necessary in the future, it is considered that such a statement should be deferred as long as possible because it is unlikely to satisfy all segments of the public. It is suggested that the first public statement deal broadly with CD 35, as revised.



R.J.G. Weeks
Major-General

Director General Intelligence and Security

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