

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET

SECRET

S-100-4  
616.

SECURITY INVESTIGATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

The Security Panel has considered Cabinet Directive No. 4 of March 5, 1948, and Cabinet Directive No. 4A of April 6, 1948, on Security Investigation of Government Employees and wishes to recommend a number of modifications both of policy and procedure. The draft of a new version of these directives is submitted with this memorandum.

2. These are the essential changes in procedure:

- (a) Under Cabinet Directives 4 and 4A a deputy minister may grant a person a security clearance for information classified as Restricted or Confidential only after a file check by the R.C.M. Police. Under the new draft directive clearance for access to these two lowest categories of classified material may be granted when the Civil Service Commission and the Department or a Crown Agency are satisfied as to the employee's good character.
- (b) Under the existing directives a deputy minister may grant a person a security clearance for information classified as Secret or Top Secret only on the basis of information provided by a field investigation and a file check made by the R.C.M. Police. Under the new draft directive this clearance may in many cases be given on the basis of an R.C.M. Police file check alone.

Experience has shown that the security procedures required by Cabinet Directives Nos. 4 and 4A cannot be carried out effectively within the limits of present R.C.M. Police manpower. For over a year the actual practice has been in accord with what is now recommended rather than with what the present directives provide.

3. In recommending this draft, members of the Panel have expressed some reservation. The procedures set forth in the draft directive will provide as high a standard of security within the Government as existing facilities for screening will permit. The standard is not an entirely ideal one, but to raise it substantially additional manpower for this aspect of R.C.M. Police work would be required. With the many other demands on manpower, and with other needs that the R.C.M. Police has that appear to be of a higher priority, the Panel considers that more cannot be recommended

as this time. The Panel is recommending the new directive because it represents a target within present range and one that will provide a generally adequate standard of security.

4. The Security Panel is actively considering steps that could be taken to increase facilities for wider security investigation.

J. W. Pickersgill,  
Chairman of the Security Panel.

Ottawa,  
October 16, 1952..