

DRAFT LETTER

21 April, 1953.

The Secretary
Treasury Board,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter, TB File 443552 dated 17 February, 1953, regarding additional information with respect to a number of airwomen released under the provisions of QR(Air) Article 15:01 Item 2 (c).

Reports of unsatisfactory moral conduct among airwomen at a number of the training units within Training Command were investigated during October and November, 1952. The Air Officer Commanding, Training Command, in requesting that these reports be investigated, was motivated by a desire to eliminate an undesirable influence and improve the morale of the airwomen within his Command.

The investigation was carried out by the Security Branch of the RCAF and, although the report on the investigation revealed real cause for concern, the RCAF is not satisfied with the manner in which the investigation was conducted. The Security Branch was somewhat overzealous and undiplomatic in this instance, and the experience gained has resulted in a revision of the RCAF policy instructions regarding investigations of this nature.

A number of the reports investigated were proved to be unfounded and the airwomen concerned were completely exonerated. However, although the method of investigation may have left something to be desired, information was obtained of a nature that warranted the release of 12 airwomen as admitted or suspected sex deviates.

[redacted] and [redacted] were released because of their suspected abnormal behaviour. Moreover, both airwomen held positions of a supervisory nature and, although aware of unsatisfactory conduct among other airwomen, made no attempt to report this unsatisfactory conduct to higher authority.

The Minister of National Defence is aware of the action taken by the RCAF in this case.

Yours truly,

(C.M. Drury)
Deputy Minister.