G355-9-1-15(2)

TOP SECRET

Sir:

Re: Investigation of Federal Government Employees - Character Weaknesses

With regard to the present phase of our investigation into homosexuality, whereby we are engaged in the interviewing of non-government homosexuals only, a question has been raised during discussion with the "A" Division investigators. The question is whether "A" Division are obliged to await H.Q. direction on persons to be interviewed or whether they can proceed with the interview of a potential source as soon as they feel such interview is warranted.

The question has arisen, I believe, from the circumstances around which "A" Division were brought into the investigation. When the investigation was passed from H.Q. "B" Branch to "A" Division this "H.Q." provided the latter with a list of potential sources compiled from our records. This action was taken only as a means of giving the Division a place from which to start.

"A" Division have now carried out a number of successful interviews and from the reports received it would appear that they have a substantial picture of the problem in the Ottawa area. Consequetly, it is felt that they are in as good a position as this H.Q. to judge which potential sources will be of assistance in the overall investigation, in most instances.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted for your approval that "A" Division be given blanket approval to interview any non-government homosexual in the area, with the proviso that they first check with this Headquarters for any additional information we may have in each target. A letter to "A" Division has been prepared for signature should you concur.

OTTAWA 2-8-60

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Witherden,