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ALEX H. JEFFERY, MP
7 Market Lane
London, Ont

PA

Action on this
matter is being
taken on file

R. Macdonald
for JAMP

13 Feb 53

February 9, 1953.

COPY

(Personal & Confidential).

The Honourable Brooke Claxton,
Minister of National Defence,
Parliament Buildings,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Claxton:

Re: Flight Lieutenant [REDACTED]

The above named, who is stationed at Crumlin with the Airforce, approached me in an agitated frame of mind, saying he was a full time permanent officer and was submitting his resignation and he would like my support.

I pointed out that my support would be of no help to him unless he could show me good reason why he should get out as there would be many thousands in the permanent force, who, from time to time, would, no doubt, like to resign. I also pointed out that the Government had considerable money invested in him as a Flight Lieutenant.

After much discussion and prodding, I was able to get out of this man that he was a homosexual and he wanted to get out before he did something that blackened his character and before he did some harm to the service and that he had come to me because, although he has no objection to being discharged from the Airforce in such a manner that would indicate he was unsatisfactory for further service, nevertheless, he does not want any indication on his record, nor does he want "personnel" to know the reason.

I pointed out to Mr. [REDACTED] that this excuse might be a stock excuse for getting out of the permanent membership in our armed forces and he should, at his own expense, attend a reputable psychiatrist, to be named by me, and obtain a certificate or letter from him as to the facts.

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The Honourable Brooke Claxton, cont'd.

I enclose herewith original letter from Doctor W.A. Tillmann with regard to this matter and would tell you I have the utmost confidence in the ability and integrity of Doctor Tillmann. The letter speaks for itself.

I earnestly solicit your help and your utmost confidence in this matter to help this unfortunate lad with his resignation in such a manner that the real reason will not, in any way, be communicated to the personnel officers nor appear on his record. I sincerely suggest that he be allowed to resign with the utmost dispatch and I ask you, in view of the letter from Doctor Tillmann, that he not be submitted to an examination by Airforce Doctors, as I am sure if such happened, that the real reason of the resignation would appear on this man's record. I must agree with your impression that this is most irregular but I think, in view of the fact, that this chap had the honesty and decency to want to resign before he involved himself and the armed services in trouble, that it would not be unfair to handle this matter in this way.

Yours most sincerely,

(signed) Alex Jeffery

Alex. Jeffery,
Member for London.

AHJ:LQ
Encl.