

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE
"USED"
COMMISSIONER,
R. C. M. POLICE,
OTTAWA

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
HEADQUARTERS

S-100-4
Off
U.10-13
Off

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

BY HAND

OTTAWA,

CANADA

FILE NO. G 369-66

March 23rd, 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Security Screening of Government
Employees

With reference to Annex I of Security Sub-Panel Document SSP-46, a copy of letter L1-5-1(d), G-369-66 from our Visa Control Officer in London, there is a point which might possibly cause some confusion.

2. It is stated in paragraph 2 of the letter, and again in paragraph 9, that neither M.I.5 nor Scotland Yard is concerned with the positive vetting of applicants for employment in government departments where they would have access to classified material, which might imply that they play no part whatsoever in the procedure.

3. We have had recent amplification of our information on this aspect of positive vetting, which indicates that while the Security Service is not responsible either for initiating or carrying out the procedure, it is required, upon request of the department concerned, to assist in certain investigations when derogatory information has been revealed, and also to assist in the assessment of such information. The final decision, of course, rests with the head of the department. Further, the Security Service maintains a record of the names of all persons who have been subjected to the positive vetting procedure, including those who (a) have been cleared or (b) have been rejected on account of character defects. These records are useful in the eventuality that derogatory information is revealed about persons already cleared, and to obviate the necessity of further enquiry if a person with a character defect again comes up for positive vetting.

4. I trust that this added information will be useful to the Sub-Panel in discussion at the meeting on Thursday, March 24th.

(J.R. Lemieux), Supt.,
Officer i/c Special Branch.

Mr. P.M. Dwyer,
Privy Council Office,
East Block,
OTTAWA, Ontario.