



Seen by Mr. CASIEUX

JUL 3
1962

JOHN STARNES

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

OTTAWA

REF. NO.....

March 31st, 1959.

S E C R E T

Dear Mr. Robertson:

This is my last day in office and before leaving there are certain questions which I think I should raise with you. I am sorry that circumstances make it impossible for me to call on you.

2. There has long been a feeling in my Force that at times External Affairs is too ready to intrude in matters which should be left to us. This dates back to the 1946-51 period when much was said in certain circles about setting up a separate Security Service.

3. I have tried to resist this feeling thinking that in due course it would disappear. I have, for instance, raised no question about External representatives attending Commonwealth Security Conferences though it has been embarrassing. I have also accepted your decision not to give our men working abroad with Immigration the status they need and should have.

4. Recent developments have, however, led me to conclude that I should open these questions with you at the first reasonable opportunity. I must do so now before I leave my post because I do not wish to pass them to my successor in this state.

5. Let me mention a few examples. In the [redacted] case there was a singular lack of frankness in keeping us posted on aspects of the matter which might have been useful to us at a later date. In the [redacted] case your people made direct contact with [redacted] Mr. Black of J.I.C. went [redacted] recently to get a security-intelligence assessment of [redacted] -- and let it be known that External Affairs felt our approach to this, as to other security-intelligence problems, would be biased and intolerant. [redacted]

FC

Mr. Norman Robertson,
Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs,
O t t a w a, Ontario.

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6. This Force does not want to step outside its own field but it has a responsibility in security-intelligence matters and it has established liaison

[REDACTED] There may be some explanation for the incidents I have described but they certainly leave the impression of lack of trust between us, or at the least, of poor coordination. Indeed it is only our good personal relationship [REDACTED] that has protected us there.

7. I understand you are sending two representatives to the coming Commonwealth Security Conference. Could you not leave this to us and let us make a report to you on any matters discussed which might be of interest to External Affairs?

8. For years our men have been doing visa control work without the status enjoyed by officers doing this work for United Kingdom, United States, and other governments. They have been getting by largely on the name of the Force. Some months ago I asked that the officers stationed in London [REDACTED] be accredited between them to all European countries where we have work to do. They could then maintain the necessary liaison on a proper basis and leave the case work to their subordinates stationed in these countries. I do hope this recommendation will be agreed to.

9. Finally I must mention the cases of homosexuality within your department, about which I talked to you on two occasions, the last time on January 9. Perhaps you have taken some action since I saw you but I have not heard of it and in the meantime more information has come to us. In this interval we have also withheld sensitive security data which normally would be passed to your department -- I could not let it get in the hands of people known or suspected to be homosexuals.

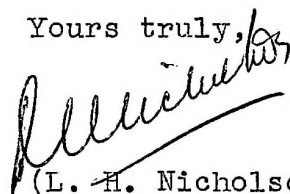
10. Permit me to urge you to clear up this situation as quickly as possible. I honestly think you run the risk of a public scandal if you do not do so. With so many cases coming to attention without any special effort to uncover them, I wonder how many more exist which we do not as yet know about -- and I wonder if this may not explain the apparent opposition to the R.C.M. Police which we have noticed.

[REDACTED]

11. I regret to have to write to you in this vain (?) just as I am leaving and I hope you will understand that I do so as a matter of duty.

12. I have told Mr. Fulton that I am bringing these things to your attention.

Yours truly,


(L. H. Nicholson),
Commissioner.