

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BRYCE

Special Research Project

You may wish to have a brief note on the purpose of our meeting on Wednesday, August 2nd, at 2:30 p.m., concerning the study which Dr. Wake will undertake for us during his sabbatical year. Those in attendance will be N.A. Robertson, Commissioner Harvison, Paul Pelletier, Dr. Cameron and Dr. Ratz of Health and Welfare, Dr. J.P.S. Cathcart, Dr. Wake, yourself, Don Beavis and myself.

It could be pointed out to the meeting that the Prime Minister has approved our retaining Dr. Wake for this study, and that the Treasury Board has approved the expenditure, which will be charged to a Health and Welfare vote. The purpose of his research will be to determine whether appropriate tests might be devised to identify persons with homosexual tendencies or other kinds of instability which might make them subject to blackmail for intelligence purposes. Should it prove feasible, it would then be our purpose to use such tests in ensuring that persons of such propensity would not be appointed to those positions in the public service (e.g. Foreign Service Officers) in which the risk of blackmail could not be accepted from a security viewpoint.

I attach a copy of Dr. Wake's tentative itinerary, and it would be useful, I think, to have him give the meeting an idea of how he proposes to approach the study, and what value he expects, in relation to our problem, from the various institutions he proposes to visit. You or I might point out that Dr. Wake and I intend to visit the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington in October, in order to get whatever information we can on the quite extensive work that has been done in this specific field by these organizations.

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These points having been made, I think you might ask for comments on the research program, but I would think it inappropriate at this meeting to discuss the matters of government policy which our special committee has been dealing with in relation to the handling of homosexuals in the public service. Should any of the senior officers present raise matters of policy or procedure, you might remind them that we hope to discuss them with the Prime Minister and Mr. Fulton in the near future.

I should be happy to discuss any other points with you prior to the meeting.



D.F.W.

Privy Council Office,  
August 1st, 1961.