

G 369-66 (12)

October 27th, 1960.**SECRET**

Dear Mr. Bryce:

With reference to Mr. Wall's letter of October 20th, I would like to make a comment which you may wish to consider in the preparation of the report for the Prime Minister, referred to in paragraph 13 of the minutes accompanying the above letter.

2. I feel that it should be made quite clear that our present policy of sending to the appropriate Department, information relating to character weaknesses on persons employed in sensitive positions, whether it is conclusive or inconclusive, be maintained.

3. With reference to the conclusion referred to in paragraph 12(d) relating to persons, where security is not a factor, and where a directive is requested if the F.C.M.P. is required to withhold information from the employing Department. Although this matter is referred to in paragraph 4 of the minutes and is in line with a statement I made, my view is that the report referred to above should include a warning, that if the conclusion in paragraph 12(d) is approved, problems are likely to arise at a later date. The Department concerned may

Mr. R.E. Bryce,
Clerk of the Privy Council and
Secretary to the Cabinet,
East Block,
Ottawa, Ontario.

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be embarrassed when a person with the character weakness referred to is promoted to a more substantial position in the Department, whether security is involved or not; but more particularly if security is a factor, and the weakness does not become known until there is a security check through the R.C.M.P.

Yours sincerely,

by mail
(C. W. Harvison),
Commissioner.

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