



## MEMORANDUM

## NOTE DE SERVICE

TO  
À

Director General

FROM  
DE

Officer i/c Task Force

SUBJECT  
OBJETCommission of Inquiry Concerning  
Certain Activities of the RCMP

SECURITY-CLASSIFICATION-DE SÉCURITÉ

CONFIDENTIAL

OUR FILE - N/RÉFÉRENCE

IA 310-5

YOUR FILE - V/RÉFÉRENCE

DATE


1981-04-21

At 2:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21st, 1981 Mr. Justice McDonald telephoned to say that he had discussed the circumstances of the death of Mr. B. Watkins with his fellow Commissioners and that he was authorized by them to tell me the following:

"If Mr. Brandes wishes an opportunity to place the circumstance on record under oath, we subject to discussion with our Counsel, are prepared to do so. This suggestion is made on the assumption the story he will tell is exonerative. If, however, there are circumstances which might suggest foul play or cruelty then we are getting into something which may take more time than we have. Then the Task Force should advise the RCMP would prefer the matter not to be gone into at this time."

I told Mr. Justice McDonald that I had already discussed the case with the Director General and he has instructed me to take no further action with the Commission until the case can be fully discussed with our Minister and the Minister's decision obtained as to whether this is properly a matter for his Commission of Inquiry.

I feel I should point out that the way Mr. Justice McDonald has put this proposition places us in a difficult position. If we don't respond, the assumption will be that we do have something to hide. I would suggest that the best way out of this might be to have the Minister let Mr. Justice McDonald know that he does not consider this matter to be one the Commission should concern itself with at this stage and for this reason only he has instructed the Force not to involve the Commission further.



J.S. Warren, Insp.,  
Officer i/c Task Force.

c.c. C/Supt. H. Brandes

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