

DEC 22 1982

Deputy Commissioner J.B. Giroux
Director General
Security Service
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
1200 Alta Vista Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0R2

Dear Deputy Commissioner Giroux:

I am writing further to your letter of October 4, 1982 (your reference IP 371-9) and our discussion on November 23, 1982 concerning the subject of homosexuality and the security clearance process.

I was encouraged by your analysis of the problems encountered by the Security Service in the past in assessing homosexuality in the context of Cabinet Directive 35, and pleased to learn of the changes that have been made recently in the way that the policy is being applied. Your approach reflects my understanding of Government policy in stressing that the fact of an individual's homosexuality per se, is not alone grounds for the denial of a security clearance. Clearly, some significant question as to the individual's reliability must be raised by the circumstances surrounding his or her sexual preferences.

I wish to endorse, therefore, your analysis that the policy of the Government places as much, or possibly more, emphasis on the circumstances as it does upon the fact of an individual's homosexuality; and to indicate my full support for your statement that Government policy:

"... requires the RCMP, as the agency charged with investigating and reporting, to go beyond the simple identification of an individual as a homosexual and provide as full an appreciation as possible of how the subject comes to terms with his homosexuality."

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0P8

.../2
Canada

A0050343_1-002157

With regard to the five points you itemize on page three of your letter as the basis for a possible future public statement of policy on this matter, I am in general agreement with them. With respect to your first point, however, it would be more appropriate perhaps to stress that homosexuality can, in some circumstances, lead to an assessment that an individual's reliability, rather than his or her loyalty, may be in question, and that if there are sufficient grounds for such doubts, the individual may fail to qualify for a security clearance.

I will give further consideration to your suggestion that a public statement be delivered on how the Government deals with homosexuality. As you are aware, the SPUR initiative and the proposed new Personnel Security Policy are in their last stages of development and, until they are finalized, such a statement may be somewhat premature. I would, nonetheless, appreciate being kept fully informed regarding the implementation of this aspect of Cabinet Directive 35 and, in particular, any problems that may arise in this sensitive area of public policy.

Yours truly,

Original Signed by
Original signé par
BOB KAPLAN

Bob Kaplan, P.C., M.P.

JKITCHING:mm 9:12:82
File: 30/

A0050343_2-002158