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ANNEX A
TO 1745-42-9 (DPCAO)
DATED 26 SEP 86

GENERAL COMMENTS

PART 2 - ARMED FORCES AND SOCIETY

1. This section does an excellent job of setting the backdrop, of delineating the factors which make Armed Forces unique from Society. The characteristics imposed by our membership in a democratic society are not covered in total. I am referring to the fact that a member joins voluntarily, of his own volition, and with his full consent. Further the size of the force is clearly limited by parliamentary control of financial resources. These two points have a significant impact on our ability to change and accommodate change.
2. The paragraph on Deprivation and Stress (9) is stated as a fundamental consideration. It defines what constitutes this consideration. It however begs the question "so what". There is no clear indication of what the consequences would be, nor is it apparent what group would be affected if the present standards and policies were changed to accommodate this consideration.
3. The section on Lack of Privacy (17) would appear to ignore the fact that men and women are sharing accommodation at the present time. In the Militia, mainly through lack of sufficient tents, men and women are sharing sleeping accommodation during winter exercises. This does not extend to facilities for personal hygiene. It could be argued that this is for short periods, i.e. weekends, and in peacetime and is not of sufficient length to impose stress.
4. The section on Reasonableness in Peace and War (29) should be read in conjunction with the covering letter to the Defence of Medical Standards from HR Coord to The Canadian Human Rights Commission dated 30 Nov 84. In the letter the statement "In wartime where financial considerations are not as compelling a constraint, the forces raised can have lower standards to some degree, thereby allowing such personnel to serve in a support role, freeing more fit individuals for service at the front" would appear to be at odds with the statement "Thus more stringent limitations could be expected to be deemed reasonable under section 1 of the Charter in times of war".
5. At para 34, it is categorically stated that all members surrender many rights on entry. It may assist if a few examples were given of the rights members of the CF surrender on entry.

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