



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Parliamentary Secretary to the Solicitor General

147 Confederation Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0A6
(613) 992-4171

GORDON TOWERS, M.P.
RED DEER

Room 301
4805-48 Street
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 1S6
(403) 342-7222

May 27th, 1985.

Mrs. Lucie Richardson,
Box 26,
Mynarski Park, Alta.
T0M 1N0

Dear Mrs. Richardson:

I am writing pursuant to your letter of April 18th regarding the OSOMM with the enclosed correspondence from the Minister of National Defence.

I have been in touch with representatives from the Department and they have substantiated what the Minister wrote in his reply to you. Any activity involving military wives, such as you have outlined, is termed "political activity" and therefore prohibited under the Queen's Act.

I am confident that the Department is open to receiving input and suggestions as a means of enhancing the welfare of military personnel and their families.

Thank you for writing.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

GORDON TOWERS, M.P.,
Red Deer.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA
K1A 0A6

JIM HAWKES
CALGARY WEST

OTTAWA (613) 995-2901
CALGARY (403) 246-8607

OTTAWA, K1A 0A6

June 18, 1985.

Mrs. Lucie Richardson,
P.O. Box 294,
Mynarski Park, Alberta.
T0M 1N0

Dear Mrs. Richardson:

Just a short note to let you know that I have not forgotten our visit. I see where you did go public and I would appreciate knowing what kind of response you are receiving.

I will continue working quietly to bring about some of the changes which we discussed. In the meantime, good luck to you and your group.

Sincerely,

Jim Hawkes,
Member of Parliament,
Calgary West.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
OTTAWA, CANADA
K1A 0A6

COMMITTEE ON EQUALITY RIGHTS

CHAIRMAN: PATRICK BOYER
VICE-CHAIRMEN: PAULINE BROWES
MAURICE TREMBLAY

COMITÉ SUR LES DROITS À L'ÉGALITÉ

PRÉSIDENT: PATRICK BOYER
VICE-PRÉSIDENTS: PAULINE BROWES
MAURICE TREMBLAY

MEMBERS/MEMBRES

ROGER CLINCH
MARY COLLINS

SHEILA FINSTONE
SVEND ROBINSON — (7)

September 21, 1985

Lucie Richardson
President
Organizational Society of
Spouses of Military Members
Box 26
Mynarski Park, Alberta
T0M 1N0

Dear L. Richardson:

Yesterday in Calgary our Committee on Equality Rights completed the last of its public hearings and I just wanted to take this occasion to write to you. Since January, when we began, we have heard some 900 groups and individuals, and received more than one thousand submissions.

This response from across Canada has been extremely helpful to our Committee. In particular, I want to thank you for your efforts and initiative. Your views and suggestions are now in mind as we begin to write our report which we will make to Parliament next month. We will deal with the many issues raised in as creative and positive a way as possible.

I'll send you a copy of the Report as soon as it becomes available. The Report will make recommendations to deal with many separate, and quite different, issues but uniting all will be the common theme of legal equality for Canadians.

Thank you for contributing to this important and historic process.

Yours truly,

J. Patrick Boyer, MP
Etobicoke - Lakeshore

116 Dovercourt Rd.,
Apt. 3,
Toronto, Ont,
M6J3C4,
Oct. 7, 1985.

Dear Lucy Richardson:

Congratulations to you & your peers
re: your work in helping Canadian
military wives to organize a national
support group.

Harvey André has demonstrated he
no longer wants to be a politician. He
easily reflects his narrow, shallow, silly
and irresponsible view of the world;
and his fear of people. In other words,
he has told us he is a wimp.

I thank you for the courage of
your convictions, and for your activity
in transforming those convictions into
reality.

Sincerely,
Beth Pelton

P.S. May we continue to enjoy our
Tupperware parties! After all,

PELTON,
BETH

TORONTO

ASSOC

Tupperware has proved itself effective in the work it was created to perform.

cc: Sheila Copps, M.P.

Aideen Nicholson, M.P.

Harvey André, Assistant Minister of
Defense

Eric Nielsen, Minister of Defense

Brian Mulroney

John Turner

Ed Broadbent

Women of Halton Action Movement
P.O. Box 1042
Oakville, Ontario, L6J 5E9

1985.10.07

Ms. Lucie Richardson,
President,
Organization of Spouses Of Military Members

Dear Ms. Richardson,

The Women of Halton Action Movement commends you and your group on your struggle to gain recognition as Canadian citizens under the new Charter of Rights.

The "long and honoured tradition in Canada" that has been given as the reason for your inability to hold political meetings springs from the long and not-so-honourable patriarchal military society within which you are obviously considered appendages to your husbands.

We endorse your struggle to become full members of your community thus becoming able to improve the quality of life for all members of that community.



Karen A. Thompson

cc Sheila Capps M.P.
Brian Mulroney M.P.
Otto Jelinek M.P.
Eric Nielsen M.P.
John Crosbie

WOMEN OF HALTON ACTION MOVEMENT
(Karen Thompson)

52 Walcheren Loop
Borden, Ontario
L0M 1C0

7 October 1985

Harvie Andre
Member of Parliament
Room 558-CB
Parliament Buildings
Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Andre

As the spouse of a Canadian Forces servicemember I listened with interest to your responses in Question Period last week to questions concerning the constitutional freedoms of expression, assembly, and association as they pertain to military spouses.

Could you please define "political activity" for me? In what types of "political activity" are spouses allowed to participate and in what types are they not? Which regulations govern the "political activity" of spouses?

Could you please expand on the following phrase which appeared in the Globe and Mail editorial of Friday 4 October 1985, "The Right to Lobby": spouses of military members are "prevented from exercising such civilian rights as standing for public office and lobbying Parliament." Are spouses forbidden from standing for public office at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels of government? If so, why? What manner of lobbying are spouses barred from doing? May a spouse write a letter to a cabinet minister or to her member of Parliament? May a spouse mount a letter-writing campaign or forward petitions to cabinet ministers or to her member of Parliament?

I assume that you will differentiate what a spouse living on a military base may or may not do regarding "political activity" as compared with what a spouse in civilian accommodation may or may not do.

Sincerely

Adelle Karmas

Associate Minister
of National Defence



Ministre associé
de la Défense nationale

9 December 1985

Mrs. Adelle Karmas
52 Walcheren Loap
Borden, Ontario
LOM 1C0

Dear Mrs. Karmas:

Thank you for your recent letter in which you refer to statements made in the House of Commons on the personal rights of spouses of military members. Let me assure you that the quality of life of the members of the Canadian Forces and their families is of great importance to me and to officials throughout the Department of National Defence.

I made reference to "Tupperware" only in response to a specific question which contained errors of fact. I have enclosed a copy of the verbal exchange of 2 October 1985, as printed in Hansard, the official Record of House of Commons Debates. It is unfortunate that the news media chose to give prominence only to my remarks without due regard to the preceding question.

The Department of National Defence has always been vitally concerned about the care and well-being of its military members and their families. Great effort and a sizeable portion of the Department's budget is spent each year on amenities to enhance the quality of life of Service members and their families who live on Canadian Forces bases and stations. The facilities and community programs at military establishments are comparable, and often superior, to those found in neighbouring civilian municipalities.

There is no attempt by the Department of National Defence to restrict the political rights of any spouse of a military member. While political activity at all levels, from federal to municipal, is in fact banned on military establishments, members' spouses are nevertheless quite free to engage in political activity off military bases,

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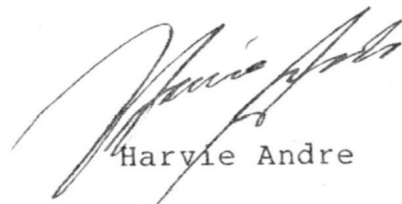
and many have chosen to do so. Since the definition of political activity may not always be clear, I have directed my officials to review the applicable Queen's Regulations and Orders with a view to more precisely define that which would constitute political activity on Canadian bases. You will appreciate that it remains a maxim of western democratic tradition that the military must remain neutral in political matters.

You may be interested to know that a long-standing and effective mechanism already exists on bases and stations to help residents improve the quality of life in their local surroundings. By regulation, each installation with military married quarters has an established community association whose task it is to provide an advisory medium for the enhancement of the military community life. These organizations, along with others such as church groups, service clubs, spouses' organizations and recreational clubs, work under the aegis of the military organization and depend heavily upon the active participation of both Service members and their spouses.

I fully recognize and applaud the fact that spouses are very active in these volunteer organizations; the contribution of their time and talent is the very essence of community life at most locations. The existing system serves our military families very well and in no way denigrates the contribution of spouses of military personnel. Spouses are free to pursue any political involvement they may choose, outside the confines of a military installation, in exactly the same way as any other Canadian citizen. On our bases and stations, married quarters residents have a perfectly workable method of contributing to the quality of life in their community. This mechanism is an integral part of military life and has proven to be very effective in meeting the concerns of the vast majority of over 25,000 military families.

I appreciate your concern, and hope that I have been able to clarify this important issue.

Yours sincerely,



Harvie Andre

Enclosure:

NATIONAL DEFENCE

ORGANIZATIONAL SOCIETY OF SPOUSES

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. With the presence today in the gallery of the President of the Organizational Society of Spouses—

Some Hon. Members: Order.

Ms. Copps: —I would like to ask the Minister why he has denied military spouses, who have been trying to organize for almost a year to fight for their concerns about traffic safety, rental costs and dental plans, the right to organize, suggesting that instead they would be violating the Queen's Regulations and Orders?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, there is a long and honoured tradition in Canada that political activity and the military do not mix, and they ought not to. As to the fundamental concerns about traffic safety and what have you that this group is interested in, there is no prohibition against approaching military spouses in this regard. Indeed, when the group approached CFB Calgary, the commander said to go ahead and talk to the spouses on the base. The spouses at CFB Calgary were not interested in this political action group, so it is wrong to suggest they have been denied that kind of access.

Ms. Copps: I asked my question of the Minister because I wanted the facts. I did not ask his sidekick.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

ACCESS TO FAMILY PLANNING INFORMATION

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I would also like to ask the Minister why military spouses have not only been denied the right to organize on these fundamental issues, they have been denied the right to access family planning information on the base and they have further been denied the right on certain bases even to organize social functions like Tupperware parties. I would like to ask the Minister—

Mr. Speaker: That was a question, I thought.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Order, please. The Hon. Member is entitled to put a question and have it answered in the absence of noise.

Ms. Copps: Can I finish my question?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the Hon. Member that I have nothing against Tupperware parties. Absolutely nothing. I also think the Hon. Member would be showing more respect for the House if she had her facts right—

Ms. Copps: I have my facts right.

Mr. Andre: —and put the questions properly when she does.

Ms. Copps: The organization is here in the gallery today; they have the facts.

Some Hon. Members: Shhh!

3520 Batton Road N.W.,
Calgary, Alta. T2L 1N1,
October 12, 1985.

Erik Nielsen,
Minister of Defence,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir: Re: The Organizational Society of Spouses of Military Members

We are writing in support of the above-mentioned organization and are most disturbed about the attitude of yourself, Mr. Andre, and the military hierarchy. Having been a military officer and military spouse, we can certainly relate to the causes of OSSMM.

For far too long, military wives have been viewed as appendages of their husbands; people without rights; to be controlled and kept in their places by their husbands. Mr. Andre asks "Would it be appropriate for a spouse at CFB Cold Lake to petition against cruise testing on the base? Would it be appropriate for the spouses to petition for nuclear weapons?" Obviously he thinks the only answer is no; he still sees wives as an extension of their husbands. Our reply is a definite YES, it would be appropriate, just as appropriate as it would be for any citizen. Military wives are individual citizens with rights of their own and minds of their own.

As individual citizens, they have the right to expect to be able to hold office in their own military community and lobby for improvements. I understand that Mr. Andre has agreed to meet with OSSMM representatives but we also understand that he has said privately that he has no intention of allowing them to carry on their campaign (for a dental plan). I suppose he hopes to appease them with a meeting and that they will then dutifully settle back into subservience. He forgets that this is 1985!!!!

I would appreciate an explanation of the government's inconsistency in enforcement of OSSMM's "political" activities ban and yet allowing a Conservative function at CFB Galetown; and donating \$30,000 to local United Services institutes this year. I understand their nation^a newsletter (April-May) referred to letter-writing campaigns in support of NATO and cruise missile testing. It is obvious that in the political/military world, what is good for the Gander is not good for the Goose. Discrimination I call it!

Yours truly,

Lois Tomlinson

Lois Tomlinson

Rod Tomlinson

Rod Tomlinson

c.c. Prime Minister Mulroney
Paul Gagnon M.P.
OSSMM



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
OTTAWA, CANADA
K1A 0A6

November 1, 1985

Mr. & Mrs. Rod Tomlinson
3526 Button Road N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2L 1N1


Dear Mr. & Mrs. Tomlinson:

Thank you for a copy of your recent letter to the Honourable Erik Nielsen, Minister of Defence regarding the Organizational Society of Spouses of Military Members.

I agree with your views that Military wives should have rights and will be supporting your stand on this matter.

Again, thank you for writing informing me of your concerns on this issue.

Yours very truly,


Paul Gagnon, M.P.
Calgary North

PAUL GAGNON



UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB OF OTTAWA
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Oct. 15, 1985

Mrs. K. Richardson, President
Organizational Society of Spouses of Military Members
C.F.B. Red Deer, Alta.

Dear Mrs. Richardson,

The Status of Women Committee of the University
Women's Club of Ottawa have been following the
media's coverage of your initiatives concerning
the welfare of military wives.

On behalf of our committee I would like
to convey our support and wish you every
success in your endeavours.

Sincerely,

F. J. MacCallum

Status of Women Committee

Hon. Erik Nielsen, M.P.
Minister of National Defense

UNIVERSITY CLUB



National Military Family Association, Inc.

2666 Military Road, Arlington, Virginia 22207

703 - 841-0462

703 - 841-0121

October 30, 1985

Mrs. Lucie Richardson
34 Brock Cressent
Kingston, Ontario
Canada K7K5K8

Dear Lucie,

Our telephones were busy last week with newspaper and radio interviews with the Canadian press. (Enclosed is one article we received.) I am confident that the publicity explaining the National Military Family Association will have a positive impact on the public and the Canadian authorities who are re-evaluating your organization.

One interesting call was from a member of the Canadian active duty military who is working on a committee that will make recommendations concerning the "political activity". He seemed convinced that NMFA is a reputable group with only the best interest of families in mind and that your group is not a threat to the Canadian national defense.

We have not always enjoyed the cooperation of all services and the U.S. defense department, especially during the time this organization worked for and got divorced spouse legislation. Many lessons were learned along the way.

Your goals are commendable, and I can only encourage you to continue in your efforts to represent military spouses for improved quality of life in the military.

Sincerely,

Emily

Emily D. Cato
President

Enclosures

EC:mw

CHIC
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Oral Questions

Mr. Broadbent: Since the Minister has now given another general assurance about providing more information, will he make a specific commitment that information regarding all tax remissions in excess of \$1 million, including specific dollar amounts, are tabled each week in the House of Commons?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I will take that as a representation and give it consideration. As the Auditor General has indicated, he has some concerns, and we take the recommendations of the Auditor General quite seriously. Once we have made a decision on that, I will get back to the Hon. Member.

* * *

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

TREATMENT OF PERSONNEL'S SPOUSES

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, my question deals with the issue of equality as well and I hope the Government will not hide behind the cover of study. My question is directed to the Associate Minister of National Defence. I am sure the Minister has had a chance to read the report of the equality committee which suggests, among other recommendations, the following:

We believe that spouses on military bases should not be precluded from taking part in community activities and arguing for increased services.

Does the Minister agree with the committee when it states that spouses should be treated as independent individuals? Is he going to move immediately to bring in legislation that will permit spouses to be treated as independent individuals?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, not only are spouses independent individuals but indeed a great deal of resources and concern within the Department are directed toward ensuring that spouses' concerns are looked after. We well recognize that military life is difficult. There are lots of separations. It is very much in our interest to ensure that families of military personnel are looked after. We devote a lot of resources to that purpose.

[Translation]

RIGHTS OF SPOUSES ON MILITARY BASES

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I have had no answers at all from the Minister. Since I get many letters from women who do not agree with what the Minister just said, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Progressive Conservative Party is prepared to recognize the fact that spouses on military bases are independent persons who have their own rights, and whether he is going to take some kind of legislative action immediately to recognize this fact, or isn't this part of the Conservative philosophy?

[English]

Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member has created a straw man which she is now pummelling.

Some Hon. Members: You're it.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): A straw person.

Mr. Andre: A straw person, sorry. In fact many of the accusations that are implicit in her preamble and her question are entirely false. In terms of the question of what degree of political activity should be permitted on military bases directly associated with the military, as I indicated to the Hon. Member, I believe a couple of weeks ago, that question is under review.

* * *

● (1430)

FINANCE

DOME PETROLEUM—TAX REMISSION ORDER

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. It pertains to the commitments a new Government has when it takes office with respect to engagements or promises made by its predecessor Government. In power, the Conservatives reversed many things which were done by the Liberals. They cancelled appointments, fired people, and changed policies. Can the Minister explain why it is that when it came to a \$1 billion hand-out to Dome Petroleum, which the Conservatives opposed when they were in opposition, they respected that particular Liberal policy and gave \$1 billion to a large corporation by means of this tax hand-out?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, let me again repeat some of the things I said yesterday because I think the Hon. Member has forgotten. This particular transaction, the remission order, was part of a series of transactions which related to the very existence of Dome Petroleum had it not received this remission order. It was not a question of whether or not it would have paid the taxes—it would have gone bankrupt.

Mr. Broadbent: That is just not true.

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Had it gone bankrupt, it would have taken with it a number of small and medium-sized oil service industry companies, which would have wreaked havoc in the Alberta economy at a time when the economy was very fragile.

So there were commitments made, commitments which the private sector followed through on in good faith. It was based on those commitments and the response of the private sector in fulfilling its side of the commitment that we felt obliged to

ERNIE R. McEWEN - Consultant and Associates

43 Cherrywood Drive Ottawa, Ontario K2H 6H1 829-7900

SPECIALTIES

Community Organization
Community Development
Social Policy Development
Fund Raising

*Mrs Richardson - my letter
This is a copy
to Ron Haggert - self
explanatory
ERMc*

15 NOVEMBER, 1985

Mr. Ron Haggert
Executive Producer
The Fifth Estate
Box 500, Terminal A
Toronto, Ontario
M5W 1E6

Dear Mr. Haggert:

I was very much interested in your program on the activity of Lucy Richardson, President of OSSMM. I have tried, without success, to get the exact address and phone number of Mrs. Richardson and it was suggested that I might obtain them from you.

The promoters of OSSMM appear to be unaware of the fact that this matter was an active issue in the 1950's. The lack of citizen rights of dependants living in married quarters became a concern of the Honourable Brooke Claxton, then Minister of National Defence. During the '50's, a number of Air Force Stations had formed community associations. RCAF Stations Rockcliffe and Uplands were two of the early ones. Mr. Claxton was asked to speak to the association at Rockcliffe and it was there that he came to understand the problem.

Claxton brought the matter to the attention of the Chiefs of Staff of the three Services and requested that the problem be studied and, hopefully, resolved. This happened in 1954. The RCAF, having had some experience in this area of concern, agreed to conduct a study of the problem and draft guidelines for organizing community associations on the military bases.

I was asked, as a specialist in the field of community organization, by AVM Frank Waite (Air Member for Personnel) to undertake the study and to propose guidelines in the form of an official publication. My involvement rose from the fact that while working for the Canadian Welfare Council⁽¹⁾, I had prepared a paper addressing a somewhat similar problem which prevailed in company-owned towns (Deep River, Arvida, etc.). I undertook the assignment and did an in-depth study of frustrations that the dependants in the married quarters were facing.

The problem, as I recall, included:

- (a) The chairpersons for committees in married quarter areas were appointed by the Commanding Officer. This

(1) Now known as the Canadian Council on Social Development.

chairperson picked his committee members.

(b) The military rank structure became operative in the married quarters, e.g. the Women's Association was headed by the CO's wife.

(c) Other complaints were:

- Sports team captains, in many instances, were selected on the basis of the fathers' ranks. Similar complaints applied in the selection of leaders in all forms of community activities;
- One of the most amazing was the tendency of the CO's wife and wives of high-rank officers to go to the head of the rush and other line-ups for service.

The brochure was completed in 1954 and was entitled: "The Organization of a Married Quarters Community Council" and was approved by the RCAF but not by the Navy and the Army.

The RCAF implemented the undertaking via Air Force Administrative Order (AFAO) in 1955. This remained in force until the amalgamation of the three Services.

The USA Armed Forces became interested in the brochure and requested permission to adopt the program to suit the needs in their married quarter communities.

Unfortunately, I do not have a copy of the publication. It should, however, be possible to locate a copy, plus the research data accumulated.

In conclusion, I want to say that I am in full agreement with what Mrs. Richardson and her supporters are striving to achieve. Further, I am prepared to assist in any way I can, without charge.

It would be appreciated if you would transmit this information to Mrs. Richardson.

I have enclosed background materials re my activities.

Yours sincerely,

E. R. McEwen
E.R. McEwen

The Honorable Eric Neilsen,
Minister of Defence,
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, Ontario.

19 January, 1986

Dear Minister:

Reference is made to the continuing disputation between the Military, the Department of Defence and the "Organization of Spouses of Military Members" (OsOMM). I have been following this for some months through the media reports and discussions in Western Canada and from some personal discussions with some of the Osomm representatives. I feel that DOD and the military have handled it very badly by taking an officious and insensitive stand on what were originally some reasonable requests for changes in the military's approach to spouses and families of military members.

I think you will agree that service personnel lead a rather nomadic life through frequent transfers to sometimes remote locations. Families have little chance to put down roots, buy homes, or provide the continuity that makes for happy family surroundings. Serving personnel may be absent for long periods on exercises, training courses, etc., leaving the spouse and family to get along as best they can. This is the so-called military life and if you can't take it don't join. On the other hand, it is important to Canada and DOD to maintain a high level of morale and esprit de Corps in the military and this includes their families. Commanders are aware of this and generally do their utmost, however, they are themselves bound by regulations and they have many other important things on their minds. Also, regulations are issued from higher headquarters and are not generally questioned.

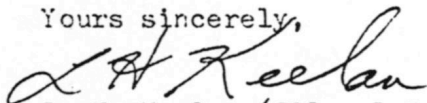
My point is this !The military has always been a Man's service. It is inculcated with Duty before Self; discipline before reason. Like the Church, it is ultra-conservative, chauvinistic and ponderous. For example, after WW II officers' wives were not allowed to work, except under special circumstances; they were fully subservient to the demands and dictates of the military and certainly could not question the whys and where fors. This attitude has changed but slowly through the peacetime years but it has changed and is changing - usually with considerable

KEELAN L.H.

trauma and difficulty for those initiating the change. In modern society spouses expect a certain say in matters which affect their lives and those of their families, particularly when their requests do not adversely affect the military. It is not unreasonable to ask for a dental plan, even small businesses have these. They should expect reasonable living standards and reasonable rents in places where they are posted. They should have at least a discussion voice in these and other mundane family matters without jeopardizing their husbands' careers for raising these issues.

Anyone who has made a career in the military recognizes that too little emphasis is placed by the military on the resolution of family problems occasioned by the dictates of military life. The service man is ill-placed to argue or complain because it may affect his career. The Chief of Personnel in Ottawa is too far removed from the forest to see the tree lice. I feel strongly, as do many other retired servicemen this has been discussed with, that you would be well advised to direct a more reasonable approach to the changing family scene in military life. Set up a discussion group with OSOMM or some such organization not directly under your thumb to help resolve these and other such problems on a continuing basis, preferably at base or station level.

Yours sincerely,



L. H. Keelan (Colonel Ret'd)

cc: Honorable Harvey Andre,
Associate Minister of Defence,
Parliament Buildings, Ottawa.

cc: Mr. Vince Dantzer,
Member of Parliament, Okanagan,
Parliament Buildings, Ottawa.

✓ cc: Representative of
OSOMM, Calgary, Alta.

LORNA MARSDEN
206 ROXBOROUGH DRIVE
TORONTO M4W 1X8

27 III 86

Dear Mary,

Enclosed is a copy of the motion of reference to the Special Committee on National Defence of the Senate.

Our esteemed colleague Royce Frith appears to have temporarily lost his coherence on this move (most unusual) but what it amounts to is that the Minister will be asked to appear - but perhaps when he is ready- and that someone (probably me) will have to put before the Steering Committee on National Defence the proper material to be considered. I was trying in my original motion (see beginning of this motion) to expand the grounds as far as possible. If there is more material than the Queen's Regulations then I would be most grateful to have it signalled to me as soon as possible.

Other members of the National Defence Committee are:

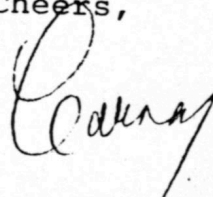
Jack Marshall, Conservative, Vice-Chair (Newfoundland)
Gil Molgat, Liberal (Manitoba)
John Godrey (if would be good if you talked with him)
Raymond Langlois (whom I may replace to have a vote)
Paul Lafond (Chair, Independent, Quebec)

The Senate has risen - as they say- for two weeks. The week of 14 April I will be away on Committee work, but back the following week.

I understand that there is one and perhaps two internal committees in DND reviewing the situation. It may be that they will come to some conclusions which the Minister will present to this Committee as fait accompli.

Please let me know if I can do anything useful. During the break, I will be at the University most days (978-8595) although at Bishop's for most of next week. I will make at least one visit to Ottawa the following week to see Jacques Hebert and can do some work or find regulations or whatever then if needed.

Cheers,



Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Just by way of a brief explanation, there are three items now before us that turn, to some extent, on this report for the new system dealing with orders of the Senate to permit travel and so on. That is Senator van Roggen's item, an item under the name of Senator Gigantès—at least initiated by him—and now Senator Nurgitz. We are hoping that we can get this new system established, get a report from Senator Molgat as to the response to Senator Roblin's intervention on the subject, and get the new system applying. That is why we are referring it to Senator Molgat so that he can report on the committee's reaction.

Hon. Duff Roblin (Leader of the Government): That seems to me like a sensible way to proceed, honourable senators. I think that I would be glad to accept the suggestion made by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. I also think that he and I might get behind the curtains some time and perhaps go over some of the points at issue. Maybe there will be a meeting of minds.

Hon. Nathan Nurgitz: On a point of order, honourable senators, while those distinguished gentlemen are behind the Chair, they might try to decide what happens with respect to joint committees because, as I confirmed with Senator Molgat just moments ago, his report will deal with special committees and standing committees. I do not think the question raised by Senator Frith with me a short time ago with respect to the report of the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments is covered in those matters being considered by Senator Molgat in his Rules and Orders Committee.

Order stands in name of Senator Molgat.

RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

CANADIAN FORCES—SPOUSES OF MEMBERS—SUBJECT MATTER OF MOTION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Marsden, seconded by the Honourable Senator Stewart (*Antigonish-Guysborough*):

That the Senate do urge the Government of Canada to permit freedom of assembly and speech, and such other freedoms guaranteed to all other Canadian citizens, for spouses of members of the Canadian Armed Forces and to amend or repeal all relevant regulations and orders accordingly.—(*Honourable Senator Flynn, P.C.*)

Hon. Jacques Flynn: Honourable senators, this item has stood in my name for quite some time and Senator Marsden asked me what I intended to do. I told her that I had inquired as to exactly what bylaws or regulations were at the root of her concern, or rather the concern of spouses of members of the armed forces. What I was able to find out is that it is about some provisions of the Queen's regulations that may have been in force since about the beginning of the century and which may be rather sexist, because, at that time, women in the

military were not considered as they are today. I understand that the point was raised in the House of Commons and that the Associate Minister of National Defence, Mr. André, has promised to examine all these regulations and make a statement in the House of Commons. I was waiting for the statement to be made to see whether it would have been a good idea to have the Special Committee on National Defence consider the statement of the minister.

In any event, I think a committee could consider the matter if the problems have been, as I said before, identified clearly. I have no objection to that. I was going to let the matter stand until the minister made a statement, but if Senator Marsden, or someone else, wishes to do something at this time, I have no problem with that. I have made my point. I do not think we should deal with the subject matter of the motion before we have been informed as to exactly what we are talking about.

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I agree with what Senator Flynn has said. I suggest that we do refer it to the Committee on National Defence with it being understood that they are not going to deal with it, or at least that they are going to be asking the minister perhaps to appear there when he is ready to make a statement, just to get it off our order paper, because it is a matter, and here I agree with Senator Flynn, that is quite appropriate for a committee to consider—provided they get the information that he is talking about, and, of course, it will be understood when we make this reference that they cannot proceed until they do.

● (1700)

Honourable senators, I move that this matter be not now dealt with, but that it be referred to the Special Committee of the Senate on National Defence for consideration.

Motion agreed to.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM AND INSTITUTIONS

CANADA'S PARTICIPATION—MOTION TO AUTHORIZE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO ADJOURN TO TORONTO, NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR PURPOSE OF STUDY—DEBATE ADJOURNED

On Motion No. 3, by the Honourable Senator van Roggen:

That the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, which was authorized by the Senate on October 29, 1985, to examine and report on Canada's participation in the international financial system and institutions and in particular the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group and the regional development banks, including the debt repayment problems of developing countries, be empowered to adjourn to Toronto, New York and Washington, D.C., for the purpose of such study.

Hon. Lowell Murray: Honourable senators, it was the hope and expectation of those of us who are members of the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs that this

UCG:
my ANSWERS FOR
THIS PHOTOGRAPH'S
ORDER
QUALITY.

12002

Oral Questions

(1440)

REASON FOR CHANGE

Mr. George Baker (Gander—Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I will tell the Minister what I have in my hand. Will the Minister not admit that the real reason they changed their minds and the Minister approved the application was a threat by the Minister of Justice that "Air Canada had better conduct transatlantic flights from St. John's or there's going to be trouble for someone"? Was that not the real reason for the change of mind by Air Canada? The Minister knows it.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I know the Hon. Member will not like this answer, but the real reason is that Air Canada requested the move, and we responded in a positive fashion.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Oh, come on, Maz.

* * *

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

SIGNING OF PETITIONS BY SPOUSES OF SERVING PERSONNEL

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed, to the Associate Minister of National Defence. Could he tell the House why the spouses of present Armed Forces personnel are being bullied by the Defence Department not to sign petitions which protest recent UI changes?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member knows, in keeping with the long-standing and well-founded tradition of not involving the military in political activities, base commanders have quite properly interpreted Queen's Regulations and Rules to mean that political activity of this sort is not proper on military bases.

Mr. Broadbent: For their spouses!

RIGHTS OF SPOUSES

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the same Minister. Is it the Government's position that the spouses of Armed Forces personnel are restricted in the exercise of their rights by virtue of marriage? Is that what he is saying?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Associate Minister of National Defence): Absolutely not, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: Oh?

Mr. Andre: Absolutely not. The question is on military bases and political activity on military bases.

Mr. Rodriguez: Where else should their spouses live?

Mr. Andre: Perhaps the Hon. Member feels that it is appropriate to have the military involved in political activity. We do not, in keeping with long-standing tradition, and base commanders are simply enforcing the rules.

* * *

ROAD SAFETY

SCHOOL BUS EQUIPMENT AND STANDARDS

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the best Minister of Transport Canada has ever had.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some Hon. Members: Next, next!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Question, please.

Mr. Taylor: What part does the federal Government play with regard to the safety of equipment on school buses which carry Canada's greatest treasure, namely, our girls and boys? Is any co-ordination being carried out leading to uniformity in equipment and operations in the provinces?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for that question. I like those kinds of questions, especially the preamble. Perhaps George may not agree.

Mr. Hees: You can't win them all.

Mr. Mazankowski: To answer the question, yes, Transport Canada provides the design, manufacturing and functioning standards for school buses in Canada. There are some 35 standards. They are monitored and inspected on a regular basis by the Transport Canada Road Safety Directorate. As far as provincial safety equipment is concerned, that is co-ordinated under the CCMTA, an organization of which I am sure the Hon. Member is aware.

* * *

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

REPORTED INVESTIGATION OF CONTRACTING PRACTICES IN CONSTRUCTION OF MUSEUM OF MAN

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Minister of Public Works. Could the Minister confirm that a criminal investigation has been undertaken by the RCMP concerning the contracting practices of his Department in the construction of the Museum of Man in Hull, and will he indicate to the House the nature of the investigation?



Ottawa
K1A 0A4

June 16, 1986

Mrs. Lucie Richardson
34 Brock Crescent
Kingston, Ontario
K7K 5K8

Dear Mrs. Richardson:

This will confirm your appearance before the Special Committee of the Senate on National Defence for Thursday, June 19, 1986 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will take place in Room 250 of the East Block of the Parliament Buildings.

A room has been reserved in your name at the Hotel Roxborough, 123 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, Ontario for the night of June 18, 1986 (Confirmed reservation number 7274). The Hotel's phone number is (613) 237-5171. The invoice for this room (room and tax only) will be sent to me for payment.

I should like to confirm that the Committee is willing to reimburse reasonable travelling and living expenses as follows:

1. Living expenses (meals and incidentals): breakfast \$6.40; lunch \$8.50; dinner \$15.80; incidentals \$6.00, depending on time of departure and arrival (receipt not required).
2. Accommodation: hotel reservation has been made by the Committee Clerk, see paragraph two (2). The Senate will pay reasonable room charges and applicable taxes only. Upon checking out, you should ensure that any item charged to your room is paid for.

.../2

CHVUIE
(Clerk, Senate)

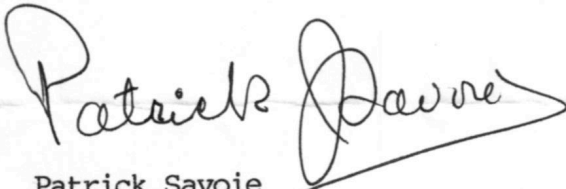
3. Air transportation: economy class reservations to be made by the witness(es): passengers portion of ticket must be submitted to the Committee Clerk.
4. Ground transportation: Witnesses involved in the work of the Senate Committees outside the National Capital Region may receive a car allowance of 23.6 cents per kilometer. These rates are based on the Senate of Canada regulations and are effective as of October 1, 1985. When claiming payment, no receipts are required.

~~Claimants may request to be reimbursed, without supporting vouchers, ground transportation costs up to \$15.00. Furthermore, taxi fares over \$15.00, but not exceeding \$35.00 incurred in getting to and from airports, will be allowed, subject to the presentation of receipts.~~

As soon as possible after your appearance, I would invite you to submit a detailed account of your expenses attaching the original of all required receipts. For the determination of your living expenses, please specify the total time spent away from home in order to appear before the Committee (indicating times and dates of departures and arrivals).

I trust the above is acceptable. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (613) 990-0088.

Yours sincerely,



Patrick Savoie
Clerk of the Special Senate Committee
on National Defence

TO: Lucie Richardson
FROM: Allan Manson
DATE: March 24, 1987
SUBJECT: Controlled Access Regulations

Thank you for delivering the material to me. Your letter to the base commander is fine: suscinct and to the point.

I have two questions for you.

First, as a spouse living on the base, do you have some formal "pass" which permits you entry?

Secondly, it seems that the Controlled Access Regulations contain only prohibitions and do not contain punishment provisions. Are you aware of any general punishment provisions in the Department of National Defence Act? I have not checked it but there is likely a general provision dealing with contraventions of the Act or regulations.

If I do not see you around the school over the next while, I will be in Kingston the weekend of April 4 and 5. You can reach me at 544-5035. Good luck.

Associate Minister
of National Defence



Ministre associé
de la Défense nationale

23 November 1989

Lucie Laliberte
c/o Nelligan-Power
66 Slater Street
Ottawa, Canada
K1P 5H1

Dear *Lucie*

Thank you for attending our lengthy meeting on 29 August. It was a pleasure to meet with you and your associates and I appreciated the opportunity of hearing your views.

OSSOMM's long time involvement with military families and your interest in their rights and conditions has undoubtedly given you insights into certain issues that are critical. Obviously we share your concern in the welfare of our families and constantly re-examine our approach to meeting family needs.

Your success in raising public and institutional awareness of the unique problems facing military families is well known, and I believe you can take justifiable pride in your efforts. In particular, your participation in the Senate hearings and all of the work that went into preparing for those hearings was most commendable and I believe you were one of the prime stimulants to recent initiatives taken by our Department.

As I indicated to you at our meeting I will try to address more formally the concerns that you identified. I hope you will understand our position with regard to Queen's Regulations and Orders (QR&O) 19.44 which concerns political activity and candidature for office. This order was revised in 1988 as a direct result of Dr. Desmond Morton's report. A key point, which was also made by Dr. Morton, is the separation of uniformed members of the Department from the political process. Hence, I prefer to leave the QR&O article, so recently amended, unchanged at this time. This has the advantage of seeing how this order works in application before introducing other changes. Other changes can be made in the future, if warranted.

.../2

Several positive steps regarding our families are now in motion, as we discussed. By issuing a Canadian Forces Administrative Order (CFAO) on military family associations we will have developed a mechanism for our families to identify issues of concern at the grass roots level. This initiative, together with others that are in progress at this time, such as the establishment of family support centres on bases will address both those family related issues that have been identified in the past and we hope most of those which may arise in the future.

Having mentioned family associations at the grass roots level, you will understand my reluctance to endorse recognition of a national organization including OSSOMM at this time. As mentioned at the meeting, I see the development of a base level structure as being the best method to support the needs of military families at the local level. Please remember that these local associations will have direct access to National Defence Headquarters whenever a question arises that may exceed the authority or competence of a base commander. Later, if the needs require, naturally we would consider support for formation of a national organization.

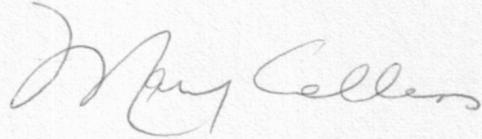
Insofar as the possibility of public and/or non public funding, the possibility of service flights, and liaison with family support centres is concerned, our positions would be consequent upon the needs of local associations. You may wish to participate as we discussed at our meeting or indeed take a lead in some locations. I should point out here that in no way am I trying to restrict anything you want to do on your own. I am just not in a position at this time to provide any direct funding or support to OSSOMM.

In conclusion, let me assure you that any base that is contacted in connection with the possible establishment of a military family association will respond in the spirit of the CFAO. Clearly, a mutually supportive, productive and harmonious relationship is in our best interests and in the best interests of our military families - an interest that it is evident you share.



Again, it was a pleasure to meet you and we very much appreciate your past and continuing interest in the Canadian Forces and our families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Collins". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Mary Collins