

Minister to exercise his powers under the Act, including authority to release or to deny release of information.

APPEALS TO THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

18. Twenty-five appeals were made to the Information Commissioner during the period under review concerning Access requests processed by the Department. Eighteen of them were submitted by the same individual. By March 31, 1985, one appeal had been withdrawn, the Information Commissioner had completed eleven investigations and had supported the Department's position in ten cases. In the remaining case, the Department accepted the recommendation of the Commissioner and released information for which an exemption had been claimed under the Act.

19. One Access request which the Department had transferred to the Department of National Defence resulted in a complaint to the Information Commissioner (based on the exemptions taken by DND) and in a subsequent appeal to the Federal Court of Canada. Both departments were named in a "Notice of Motion" filed with the Trial Division of the Federal Court. We were later informed that the applicant had withdrawn his appeal.