

Security Intelligence Service

Solicitor General and the RCMP were bypassed as far as certain security intelligence was concerned. The repository for this information and the action which was initiated to counter certain unfriendly acts within Canada by other nations was solely and exclusively the Privy Council Office. Over the last 15 or 20 years there have been occasions when very important policy decisions in the security field were taken strictly at the behest and initiative of officials in the Privy Council Office. The Solicitor General of the day—not me but my predecessors—knew absolutely nothing about the circumstances or the action taken.

The jurisdiction of the Department of External Affairs is obvious when it concerns the expulsion of diplomats and others, citizens of other countries, who engage in espionage activities in this country. On occasion there have been very real missteps taken regarding communications and information in the hands of the security service of the RCMP and the Department of External Affairs. I would go so far as to suggest that on occasion the wrong people have been expelled from this country by the Department of External Affairs because they misread signals, information or communications from the security service of the RCMP.

Why do I make this allegation before you today, Sir? The people of this country, if they have been studying what has been going on concerning this Bill, will believe that almost all the security intelligence gathering by the federal Government in this country will be centered in this particular agency. A lot of people are being reassured these days, especially by government spokesmen, that the monitoring, auditing and inspection powers of, first, the Inspector General and, second, the review committee under this Act, will result in a comprehensive review and inspection by independent people in respect of activities by the Canadian Government and its officials in the gathering of security intelligence. My point, and I make the same point in committee on at least one occasion, is that this is simply not true. If we really wanted to have an independent monitoring group, such as the review committee which will have the jurisdiction not only to look at the whole security intelligence-gathering apparatus of the Government but also to correlate it, then I suggest that this Bill fails miserably in that attempt. By the Minister's own admission, indeed his insistence in committee, the review committee will only have the jurisdiction to review the activities of the servants of the agency and the policy of the Government in respect of the agency.

My plea to you on the first motion, because I do not know where else we are going to have the opportunity to talk about it, is simply this. If this Government does not do it, another government will have to do it, otherwise we are going to get into the same mess that led to the Mackenzie Commission and the McDonald Commission. Future governments are going to continue to get into this same mess, simply because there is no area of correlation in this whole matter. The only group which correlates information at the moment is the Prime Minister's Cabinet Commission on Security and Intelligence. Believe it or not, and I believe it, that committee, chaired by the Prime

Minister (Mr. Trudeau), did not meet for three and a half years prior to 1979. That same situation could happen again. My plea to the House, through you, Mr. Speaker, is to make sure that the provisions of this Bill are widened so that all of the accounting, monitoring, auditing, inspecting and reporting provisions of the review committee are widened in turn so that these other areas of security intelligence gathering are included in its jurisdiction and purview.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert): Order, please. Following on the point of order raised by the Hon. Member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. Dick), the Chair has had an opportunity to look at the Order Paper. The point was raised in connection with Motion No. 19 that the name of the mover of the motion was not printed on the Order Paper. However, on looking at page VIII, I find that the version in the right hand column in the French language clearly indicates that the motion is moved by the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson). Obviously the error on the part of the printers in not putting the name of the mover of Motion No. 19 in the English version will be corrected in tomorrow's edition.

For continuing debate, the Hon. Member for Dauphin-Swan River.

Mr. Laverne Lewycky (Dauphin-Swan River): Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to speak on Motion No. 1 amending Bill C-9, an Act to establish the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, to enact an Act respecting enforcement in relation to certain security and related offences and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof or in relation thereto. The short title of the Bill is the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act. It would be fairly safe to say that in western Canada the role of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has been a bit different from the role they have played in the rest of Canada, and so has the history of Security. For the edification of the House I will mention that the Northwest Mounted Police Force started in Swan River, some 110 miles northwest of Dauphin, which is now a part of my riding. In the prairie provinces, and specifically in Manitoba, we do not have a provincial police force. That little thumbnail sketch perhaps indicates some of the differences that Members from the west may bring to bear in this discussion.

● (1640)

In recounting this history and in looking at some of the proposals which our Party has made, it is important to consider the fact that we have called for public hearings on this Bill, a Bill which would have such widespread implications. The reason I gave the thumbnail sketch is that as far as the west is concerned, this Bill would have profound implications in terms of Canadian security. It would be important to have such hearings, as the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson) has stated many times before.

I will draw an analogy. I sat on the Special Parliamentary Committee on the Participation of Visible Minorities in Canadian society. As we travelled across Canada we discovered that all the ethno-cultural and various race relations