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MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. ST. LAURENT

I note from the file that we have not sent you copies of a few communications concerning the withdrawal from the Soviet Embassy of the remaining members of the staff named in Section II 7 of the Royal Commission's Report. I think you should be aware of exactly what transpired.

On July 12th the Prime Minister verbally suggested to the Soviet Chargé d'Affaires that his Government of its own initiative might wish to withdraw the six named persons. Mr. King expressed the hope that they would take action immediately. On July 15th the Soviet Chargé d'Affaires wrote to the Prime Minister enclosing a memorandum in which, after referring to the Soviet Government's statement of February 20th, he said that nevertheless in view of the Prime Minister's request the Soviet Embassy was informing the Canadian Government that Krotov, Pavlov, Farafontov and Levin "will leave Canada in next few days".

No reference was made to Major and Mrs. Sokolov, whose withdrawal we had also requested. On July 17th Mr. Robertson, after the matter had been discussed with Mr. King, sent a letter to the Soviet Chargé d'Affaires, in which he said that Mr. King appreciated the prompt compliance with his request for the withdrawal of the four named above. He asked whether the Sokolovs had already left Canada or would leave in the near future and concluded by saying that he would be glad to receive an assurance that all the members and former members of the Embassy's staff whose names were mentioned in Section II 7 of the Report had already left Canada or were going to leave within a few days. We have not received a reply from the Soviet Embassy and I propose to let the matter rest for two or three days longer before taking it up with them again.

The Embassy in Moscow has informed us that there has been no mention in the Soviet press of the publication of the Royal Commission's Report up to July 20th.

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