

RCMP investigation blocked

OTTAWA (CUP)—The RCMP has asked Carleton University administration for help in investigating a student.

The administration refused to release the student's timetable, citing a policy not to release anything but a student's name except when it is deemed to be "in the best interest of the student".

In mid-October Carleton history professor Foster Griezic received a memo from the administration saying the RCMP had requested the timetable and reminding department heads of the policy. Griezic said that was the first time he had heard of such a policy.

Carleton University president William Beckel said it was the first time he had ever been approached by the RCMP since he began his term as president.

This is not the first time the RCMP have resorted to the university to get information on a student.

Sgt. Carl Stoski, a RCMP public relations officer, said "there is nothing that says we discourage members to go on campus to do investigations."

Supt. Norman Belanger, criminal investigations officer at the Ottawa local of the RCMP, said "that with respect to our policy in dealing with criminal investigations matters, our approach to the university is no different than our approach to anything else in society."



"If we feel that someone has information that could be of assistance we will seek that information."

Neither Stoski nor Belanger could say exactly what circumstances would prompt RCMP officers to go to the university seeking information.

"On the federal level there could be drugs involved, there could be an immigration matter involved or a customs matter involved," Stoski said.

No one, including Beckel, would say who the RCMP were looking for last month, or why.

There are some people on campus, however, who have their suspicions.

Patricio Mason, a Carleton history student and member of the Ottawa Chilean Society, is concerned that he may be on the RCMP "list".

Mason said almost all of the 300 Chilean exiles in Ottawa are "actively working to depose the military dictatorship in Chile," and the RCMP finds "it necessary to keep tabs" on their activities.

"This is not strange or new, and it is not without basis," said Mason. "The RCMP find it necessary to keep tabs on us as we might be planning to overthrow a government that Canada has friendly relations with."

Mason said that Canada is the biggest investor in the Chilean economy and therefore has business interests to protect. On the other hand, it can't ignore the pressure from world organizations opposing the violation of human rights in Chile.

His group is one such organization and so its members are being watched, said Mason.

Mason added that he personally has been approached "more times than (he) can remember" by officers and is sure that his phone is tapped.

"Paranoia" is how Supt. Belanger accounts for Mason's statements. "Perhaps everybody wishes that this would happen to them because they want to feel important," he said.

"How can people even think like that?" asked Sgt. Stoski. "Maybe everybody is walking around with a suspicious chip on their shoulder . . . I don't even think we've got the equipment to do all that."

But Mason disagrees. "The RCMP approaches Chileans on a regular basis," he insisted. "They may phone you at very strange hours . . . or show up at 12 midnight so as to startle you. The excuse they give is to check on people's immigration status in Canada . . . this is the reason they use to enter the place. Then they proceed to in-

terrogate you on all the Chileans in town."

In an interview, Marvin Glass, philosophy professor at Carleton and member of the university Communist Club, said that "spying" on club members by the RCMP "has been going on for years."

He cited an incident that occurred four years ago at Carleton in which the RCMP planted an officer in a Marxist

study group to which Glass belonged. "Later," said Glass, "the officer had a change of heart" and confessed to being an infiltrator.

However, Glass said, this is not a thing of the past.

"They have people on campus all the time . . . as far as I know they have not ceased to believe that we (the Communist Club) are a threat to national security."

Cup Briefs

Tuition fees increase

EDMONTON (CUP)—Tuition fees at Alberta universities will increase next year, but the provincial government has not yet decided the amount of the increase, according to Jim Horsman, minister of advanced education and manpower.

Horsman had few other answers to student questions about fee levels and the provincial student loans program at a recent forum at the University of Calgary.

Asked whether he thought the proportion of student contributions to the cost of their education was fair (currently about 15 per cent), Horsman said he was "not in a position to say whether I support it or not".

He pointed out that the proportion had been declining over the years, but added that he had "a sort of feeling that the proportion should remain about the same".

Horsman fielded several questions by saying he had not had the opportunity to meet with the appropriate people, or that his department was still in the decision making-making process.

Horsman said the important aspects in the department's review of the student loan program are remissions and grants, the age of independence, inter-provincial coordination, and the loan level.

He did not say if the levels would increase or decrease for the next academic year.

The minister stated that his department has not released any conclusions about the recommendations in the Grantham report, which was released last spring.

The report recommended increased tuition fees, and changes in the student loan program.

When asked when students might expect to know what recommendations from the report have been rejected, Horsman would only say that he will be meeting with the Federation of Alberta Students later in November.

Land claims need clout

TORONTO (CUP)—The northern Inuit "do not have enough clout to negotiate land claims effectively," according to Aubrey Golden, legal council for the Baker Lake Inuit.

Golden made the remark at a forum November 1 at the University of Toronto faculty of law.

"Only southern pressure will force land claims settlements," Golden told the audience.

The Inuit are "trying to exercise their rights to solely protect their own culture," Golden explained.

The Inuit spokesperson was critical of the conduct of the government and mining companies, stressing the lack of understanding both had of the north.

The people live "in their hearts and minds" on the land, he said, and by allowing mineral exploration without adjusting this to Inuit needs, the northern way of life was being destroyed.

Native land claims have been brought forward to gain control of this situation, Golden explained. He rejected the notion that such claims were financially motivated, stating "if it were just money (at stake), it would have been settled a long time ago."

In looking at the future of native claims Golden stated that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development must be split, as it represents two interests at cross purposes.

He also called for Inuit control of northern development. Golden pointed to the administration of Greenland, which is native controlled, as a proper model for northern development in Canada.

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