

# News Release

Secretary of  
State for  
External Affairs



# Communiqué

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## CLARK TABLES REPORT COMMISSIONED ON THE LOYALTIES OF E. HERBERT NORMAN

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today tabled in the House of Commons an independent report on the loyalties of E. Herbert Norman which was commissioned by the Department of External Affairs and International Trade in December 1989.

In receiving the report, Mr. Clark said "I am satisfied that this report fulfils the terms of reference of the study commissioned by the Department. While the conclusions about Mr. Norman's loyalty reached by Professor Lyon are his alone, I accept them as the product of a complete and exhaustive review of the facts related to this matter."

E. Herbert Norman, a distinguished Canadian scholar and diplomat, committed suicide in 1957 while serving as Canadian Ambassador to Egypt. He had earlier been accused of being a communist spy by the U.S. Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. There was widespread indignation in Canada at the time over these allegations which were felt to be completely unfounded. The government of the day reviewed the case and concluded that there was no evidence of disloyalty.

Today's tabled report was commissioned in order that a thorough examination be made of relevant files with the objective of seeking definitive answers to a number of questions which have been raised concerning Mr. Norman's loyalty to Canada.

Professor Peyton Lyon, a prominent Canadian political scientist, was commissioned to do the study because of his reputation as an impartial and well respected academic. He had access to all relevant files in the Department of External Affairs, including those dealing with security aspects of the Norman case as well as other materials such as Mr. Norman's political despatches. Professor Lyon was also given special access to material related to this matter held by CSIS.

In commenting on the report, Mr. Clark said "The conclusions confirm what this government, and all previous Canadian governments, have believed about the matter. Any questions about Mr. Norman's loyalty to his country are, I consider, laid to rest by this review."