

SPECTRUM

The politics of paranoia - Part II

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a KGB operative since 1937 - he defected to Moscow in 1963.

In Canada matters took a different turn. Once again, in order to preserve intelligence links with the US and UK, security risks, real or imagined, were scrutinized. Offi-

cially sanctioned homophobia took the usual form of a purge of gay government employees. Between 1952 and 1963 a special RCMP intelligence unit attempted to catalogue all "active homosexuals" in the Ottawa area. Some 8,000 to 9,000 people are believed to have ended up on file. The lists were

produced by the interrogation of anyone arrested for "homosexual" offences in the capital area in order to obtain names of government employees. These files, often the uncorroborated evidence of informers, acted as a black-list. Anyone against whom there was sufficient evidence was prosecuted, others had their security clearance withdrawn or denied, or lost seniority.

These efforts produced both tragedy and farce. When an ambassador to Moscow was entrapped by the KGB, he did the right thing and reported the attempted blackmail to Ottawa. Recalled, he was subjected to a prolonged interrogation intended to obtain the names of other gays. During the course of this ordeal he suffered a fatal heart attack.

The descent into farce concerned a device known as the "Fruit Machine". A list of over 8,000 gays was apparently not enough to satisfy our protectors, a fool-proof

method for detecting gays before they were employed was required. Enter a Carleton University psychologist with a vision: a machine that can measure skin conductivity, heart-rate, pupil dilation and penis size while the subject is shown naughty pictures of a hetero-and homoerotic nature.

According to documents made public earlier this year \$40,000 was squandered on this tom-foolery - an astounding sum 30 years ago. After some 6 years of fruitless endeavour, the "Fruit Machine" went to scrap-heap sometime during the early 1960s.

What the KGB made of all this is not known, though perhaps now that the Lubyanka files have been opened we may eventually find out. Kim Philby no doubt laughed all the way to a comfortable retirement - a comfortable retirement denied Alan Turing, and too many other victims of the gay purges forty years ago.

Nov. 6 - Drop-in centre. 7pm onwards. The drop-in centre occurs every other Friday and is an informal gathering, usually of between 10 and 14 people. Facilities exist for impromptu feature film showings, though frequently we just talk and have fun! This is an excellent opportunity for those who want to meet other gay students to do so. We aren't counselors, but knowing you have some support makes a hell of a difference, so be bold and take the first step.

Nov. 13th - VISITING SPEAKER - Mrs. GRACE GETTY. 7:00 pm Mrs. Getty will be talking on the latest progression of AIDS research, particularly that presented at the international AIDS conference in Amsterdam last year.



Nov. 20th - Drop-in Centre. 7pm onwards. Got a sweet-tooth? Then you'd better get your sweet ol' buns down here! Bring a dessert to show us how domesticated you can be! Microwave available.

Nov. 27th - Womyns focus evening. Further details to follow.

Venues and information for all events are available by calling the FLAG Gayline, operational on Mondays and Thursdays between 6pm and 9pm. Our mail address; GALA, UNB Help Centre, SUB. UNB.

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GALA

The following are just a few of the things organized to titillate the souls of GALA members in the near future:

Garnet Rogers
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 Tickets 13 Advance 15 Door

For More Info Call 458-3544 Show time 8:00 PM

Sponsored by Art Support and Mainstreet CBC Radio
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SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

BACON OR HAM, 2 EGGS, HOME-FRIES & TOAST

\$2.45 plus tax
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 to book your house
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WE'RE COOKING UP A DEAL!

FRIDAY 6oz. A-1 Ribeye Steak \$4.95	SATURDAY Chicken Breast Fillet \$4.95	TWO FOR ONE
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on our "WEEKEND SUPPER SPECIAL" (5:30 - 7:30 PM)

Please present this coupon before ordering expires Nov. 14, 1992