

PRESS RELEASE



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MONDAY, December 11, 1961.

The Department of External Affairs today announced that the Ambassador of the Soviet Union was requested on December 7 to arrange for the departure from Canada of Lieutenant-Colonel A.F. LOGINOV, Assistant Military Attache at the Embassy of the Soviet Union. The Canadian Government had received information that he had engaged in activities incompatible with his diplomatic status and had therefore found it necessary to declare him persona non grata. Lieutenant-Colonel Loginov left Canada yesterday.

The particular grounds on which this action has been taken by the Canadian Government are that Lieutenant-Colonel Loginov attempted to obtain secret information from a Canadian Government employee after carefully cultivating his friendship over a period of eighteen months. Initially Lieutenant-Colonel Loginov sought to obtain only information of an innocent nature. Later, however, Lieutenant Colonel Loginov made it clear that he was prepared to pay for information on matters which could not lawfully be communicated to him.

When Lieutenant-Colonel Loginov's real purpose in fostering this friendship became clear, the Government employee concerned reported the matter to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Subsequently, this led to Lieutenant-Colonel Loginov's apprehension by the R.C.M.P. while he was in the act of receiving secret documents.