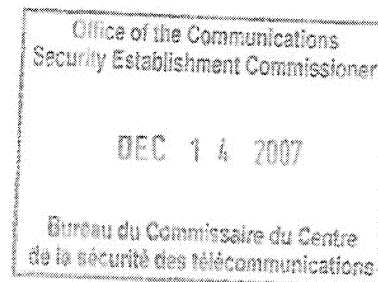


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DEC 13 2007

The Honourable Charles D. Gonthier, Q.C.
Communications Security Establishment Commissioner
90 Sparks Street, Suite 730
P.O. Box 1984, Station "B"
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5R5



Dear Mr. Gonthier:

I am writing in response to your letter and report of October 16, 2007 regarding your Office's review of the lawfulness of the activities of CSE's Office of Counter Terrorism for the period of April 1 to July 31, 2005. I understand that your review found the activities to be in compliance with both the law and CSE policy.

CSE's response to the two recommendations in the report is attached. I trust you will be pleased to note that CSE has accepted, and is actioning, the two recommendations included in your report.

Sincerely,

Peter G. MacKay

Attachment

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April 28, 2015

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Review of the Activities of CSE's Office of Counterterrorism (OCT)

On 16 October 2007, the CSE Commissioner reported, to the Minister of National Defence, the findings arising from his Office's review of the activities of CSE's Office of Counter Terrorism between the period from 1 April to 31 July 2005. In the report, the Commissioner confirmed that the activities were conducted in a manner compliant with both the law and CSE policy. The report further makes two specific recommendations aimed at enhancing CSE's internal processes.

CSE's Executive Committee has discussed the recommendations and has agreed on the responses and actions below :

Recommendation 1:

That CSE incorporate into a computerized records management system a mechanism that will, among other benefits, ensure that the Release Form for [REDACTED] Reports is duly filled out and signed off.

CSE Response

Accepted. CSE will incorporate the Release Form for [REDACTED] Reports into a computerized records management system by mid-2008.

In the interim, SIGINT will establish a standardized (hardcopy) filing system for the Release Form for [REDACTED] Reports. Additionally, in accordance with the provisions of OPS-1-8 (Management Monitoring), SIGINT management will initiate periodic reviews of report filing, retention and sign-offs.

Recommendation 2:

That CSE consider establishing a more refined tracking system that will provide a snapshot of how effective CSE SIGINT efforts are in addressing GoC intelligence priorities.

CSE Response

Accepted. CSE has developed a robust system designed to provide relevant foreign intelligence to Government of Canada (GC) clients based on their individual stated intelligence priorities and linked to overall GC intelligence priorities. The system is further designed to facilitate the collection of client feedback on SIGINT reporting. This feedback provides CSE with the most accurate measures possible of how effective CSE SIGINT efforts are in addressing overall GC intelligence priorities.

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However, no matter how easy CSE makes it for clients to provide feedback, they are under no obligation to do so. With this in mind, CSE undertakes ongoing efforts to assess SIGINT's effectiveness at addressing GC intelligence priorities, and to link information contained within the various systems in order to achieve a better view of SIGINT's end-to-end performance. Internal processes aimed at achieving this goal are modified and improved as technology allows and as systems are either replaced or upgraded.

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