Commission of Inquiry into the Actions of Canadian Officials in Relation to Maher Arar



Commission d'enquête sur les actions des responsables canadiens relativement à Maher Arar

Press Release

For immediate release

Appointment of members of the Advisory Panel for the Policy Review part of the Arar Inquiry

Ottawa, April 21, 2004 - Mr. Justice Dennis R. O'Connor announced today the appointment of the five member Advisory Panel for the Policy Review part of the Arar Inquiry. The members of the Panel are Monique Bégin, Alphonse Breau, Kent Roach, Martin Rudner and Reginald Whitaker.

The Panel's task is to help the Commission discharge its mandate in recommending an independent arm's length review mechanism for the activities of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with respect to national security.

Commissioner Dennis O'Connor is confident the Panel's outstanding expertise in the fields of intelligence, national security, and government policy will be of great assistance to him in addressing this part of the mandate.

Monique Bégin was Minister of Health and Welfare between 1977 and 1984. Prior to that she served as Minister of Revenue and in that capacity she dealt with the issue of money laundering in Canada. A sociologist by training, Ms. Bégin was, from 1990 to 1997, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Ottawa. She also served as co-Chair of the Ontario Royal Commission on Education (1993-1994). Presently she is Professor Emeritus and visiting professor at the University of Ottawa School of Management. She is an officer of the Order of Canada.

Alphonse Breau was Assistant Commissioner in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. During his distinguished career with the force, which spanned 38 years, Mr. Breau served as commanding officer in "C" Division in Quebec (1988-1994) focusing on organized crime, drugs, customs and excise and criminal intelligence. From 1995 until 1997, Mr. Breau was Chief Investigator for the International Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

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Kent Roach teaches law and criminology at the University of Toronto. A graduate of Yale and Toronto, Professor Roach's teaching and research include the criminal process, The *Charter*, aboriginal rights, the role of the courts, anti-terrorism and the legal profession. He is the author of *September 11: Consequences for Canada* published in 2003 as well as co-editor of *The Security of Freedom: Essays on Canada's Anti-terrorism Bill*, published in 2001.

Martin Rudner is Director of the Ottawa based Canadian Centre of Intelligence and Security Studies. A graduate of McGill, Oxford and Jerusalem universities, Professor Rudner's research interests include intelligence studies and International Affairs. He served as a consultant on several international mandates for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). His many scholarly publications include "The Globalization of Terrorism: Canada's Intelligence Responses to the Post-September 11th Threat Environment" in the September 2002 issue of *Canadian Issues*.

Reg Whitaker is Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus at York University, where he taught Political Science from 1984 to 2001. He is currently Adjunct Professor of Political Science at the University of Victoria. He received a PhD in political economy from the University of Toronto and has since received several academic honours including an Isaac Walton Killam Research Fellowship. He authored several books, most recently *Canada and the Cold War* published in 2003 and *The End of Privacy: How Total Surveillance is becoming a Reality* which came out in 1999. He authored several scholarly articles on issues of security and intelligence and he is often called upon to comment on public affairs for the media.

More details will be available on our Web site: www.ararcommission.ca

Established under Part I of the Inquiries Act, the Arar Inquiry was set up on the recommendation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness to investigate and report on the actions of Canadian officials in relation to Maher Arar. The Commission is also mandated to recommend an arm's length review mechanism for the activities of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with respect to national security.

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