

The following oath was taken by all the RCMP officers who were detailed to guard duty at the Rockliffe Barracks from 15 February 1946-15 March 1946

“1. All members of this force detailed for this duty are to be impressed with the fact that the operation is of an extremely secret nature. Not only is it not to be discussed with anyone, but no reference is to be made of it, not even to other members of the force, nor should the member indicate in any way that he is engaged on other than his normal duties.

2. The security of the persons detained is of the utmost importance and constant supervision by day and night is to be given to each and every one of them; particular care to be given to attempts to escape or possible suicide.

3. There must be no conversation between the guards and the prisoners. Should the prisoner make a request or a statement to the guard, it should be promptly transmitted to the N.C.O. in charge.

4. The persons detained are not allowed to communicate with anyone outside. Should they write a letter this will be handed to the N.C.O. in charge.

5. No newspapers or radios will be allowed the detained persons.

6. Guards on duty outside the building will be on continual lookout for any papers thrown from windows. The N.C.O. in charge will make periodical rounds to make sure that nothing does get out of the windows. If any paper is found it will be turned in to the senior N.C.O. The guards on duty on the grounds will be on the lookout for any possible signaling from the barrack's windows or from neighboring houses or parked cars or any other place. If such a thing should happen, full details of the person concerned must be obtained and the person detained for identification.

7. It must be remembered that the persons detained are not convicted persons and they must be handled with due civility. Attention should be paid to any legitimate requests they may make, for necessities or for their added comfort, provided they do not contravene these instructions.

8. Further instructions will be given later in the matter of exercising the detained persons.

9. IT IS NOTED THAT IN THIS PECULIAR CASE THEY HAVE NOT THE BENEFIT OF SEEING THEIR OWN COUNSEL OR LAWYER.

10. Only one person at a time is to be allowed in the washroom-this under the supervision of the N.C.O.

11. Detained persons must under no circumstances be allowed to speak with one another. As far as possible they should be prevented from seeing one another.

12. Individual guards will keep a minute diary of their watch; including the hour of taking over and the hour of handing over. They will also record every any incident happening during their turn of duty, the condition of the prisoner, and any peculiar actions of his, any remarks he may make, etc. These reports are of the utmost importance and it will be necessary for the guards to keep their eyes and ears highly attuned and observe everything that goes on.

13. Meals will be provided detained persons in their rooms and when empty trays are removed it must definitely be ascertained that all utensils, particularly knives and forks which might be used to inflict self. injury, are returned with the empty tray.

14. Conversations between members of the force detailed for guard duty in hallways or in any other place where there is the slightest chance of their being overheard, must be conducted in a low tone. Under no circumstance must detained persons be allowed to overhear any instructions regarding their removal, security, or any other thing which common sense indicates to be confidential.

15. N.C.O.'s in charge of floors will make frequent check rounds and any incident of an untoward nature is to be immediately reported to the senior N.C.O. in charge.

16. The possibility of sickness must be kept in mind and if medical attention seems required, the matter should at once be referred to the N.C.O. in charge.

17. During the absence of a detained person, either whilst he is in the washroom or is removed for any other purpose, a search should be made of the room in which he is normally detained in order to ascertain if he has secreted anything which he should not have.

18. No written instructions, routine orders or matters dealing with the administration of the force are to be posted on notice boards in the halls where they might be seen by any of the detained persons."

Source: Fillmore, Charles K., *In Darkest Ottawa*, Vancouver: Rose, Cowan & Latta Ltd., 1954.