

RCMP Media Lines

Date: February 8, 2006

**Issue/Title: CBC-TV's *Fifth Estate* Broadcast 'MONEY, TRUTH AND SPIN',
Wednesday, February 8th at 9:00 p.m.**

Background:

According to the CBC website, tonight's *fifth estate* show will feature Karlheinz Schreiber, who will discuss on camera, his past and his relationship with former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. Supposedly, Mr. Schreiber will go on the record and talk about the \$300,000 that he paid to Mr. Mulroney, where the money came from and the fallout, both public and private, that ensued from it.

It is also anticipated that this television show will be the subject of much media attention. It is anticipated that interest will be generated along the lines of : 1. *What does the RCMP know of the \$300K paid to Mr. Mulroney?*; 2. *When did the RCMP learn of this \$300K payment?*; 3. *Did the RCMP do anything about this payment?*

Media attention is expected around February 8, 2006.

Media Lines:

Possible Q & As:

Q. What does the RCMP know of the \$300,000 paid to Mr. Mulroney?

A. The RCMP learned of an alleged payment of \$300,000 to Mr. Mulroney from Mr. Schreiber through the course of investigation. This payment would have been paid to Mr. Mulroney for work done in 1993/94 after he left the Prime Minister's office.

Q. When did the RCMP learn of this \$300,000 payment?

A. The RCMP learned of an alleged payment during the course of its investigation.

Q. Did the RCMP do anything about this payment?

A. The RCMP could not obtain confirmation of this payment, nor the reasons for which it would have been paid.

Mr. Mulroney

Q. Was former Prime Minister Mulroney exonerated in this case seeing as he was not charged?

A. The RCMP concluded that the remaining allegations could not be substantiated and that no charges would be laid against anyone, beyond the charge of Fraud that was dealt with by the Courts. Mr. Mulroney was advised of this decision in April 2003.

Q. Was the public apology to Mr. Mulroney not considered an exoneration of guilt?

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Eurocopter Canada Ltd.) and Kurt Pfeleiderer and Heinz Pluckthun.

- The Preliminary Inquiry in the MBB Helicopter Canada Ltd. (now Eurocopter Canada Ltd.) fraud charge began in September 2003 and was discharged by Justice Bélanger on November 25, 2005. The Crown has filed a Notice of Application to set aside this decision. The Notice will be heard on June 5, 2006 in superior Court in Ottawa.
- ***Length of the investigation:***
- This has been a complicated investigation involving inquiries across Canada and elsewhere. A number of legal issues presented themselves, there were legal challenges that went to the Federal Court and to the Supreme Court for determination. One challenge required that a significant element of the investigation had to be suspended for almost 2 years pending a decision from the Supreme Court.
- The RCMP worked very closely with many partners on this investigation. Charges were laid in October 2002 because that portion of the investigation was completed and it was appropriate to act on the findings.
- ***If pressed on the Conclusion of the Airbus Investigation:***
- After an exhaustive investigation in Canada and abroad, the RCMP concluded its investigation into allegations of wrongdoing in April 2003, except for the fraud charge that was discharged in November, 2005.
- The RCMP closed the larger investigation because it has concluded that the allegations could not be substantiated against anyone, including those named in the September 29, 1995, Request for Assistance from Switzerland.
- Although this investigation is now concluded, as with any investigation, should new information come to light, we could review that decision.

A. This matter was the subject of the Settlement Agreement reached between Mr. Mulroney and the Government of Canada and the RCMP in January, 1997. The status of Mr. Mulroney in both the ITO and the Superior Court decision were quite clear.

Q. What about the allegations made against Mr. Mulroney in the Letter of Request?

A. That matter was the subject of the Settlement Agreement reached between Mr. Mulroney and the Government of Canada and the RCMP in January, 1997. (The 1997 Settlement Agreement and the two 1997 apology letters can be found on the Justice Canada web site at www.justice.gc.ca)

Q. Was this investigation politically driven?

A. Absolutely not. When allegations of criminal activities are raised, we would be remiss in our duty not to investigate. The RCMP investigates any allegation of illegality or wrongdoing brought to its attention.

Costs:

Q. How much did the investigation cost and how many police officers were involved?

A. Investigative resources have fluctuated over time as circumstances and surrounding events have dictated. As part of the RCMP's core function it is our responsibility to investigate all allegations of criminal wrongdoing to the fullest.

Q. Does this mean you do not know how much this investigation cost the Canadian taxpayer?

A. The RCMP has programs in place to track budgets and costs every year. The investigation continues until the Fraud charge has been completely dealt with by the courts.

Other Possible Topics

Undercover operation:

- Court documents disclose that the RCMP did conduct an undercover operation against Mr. Schreiber; a mechanism that is routinely utilized by law enforcement agencies as a means to gather evidence when conducting criminal investigations.
- Undercover investigations are conducted under a strict regime and planning process appropriate to the circumstances of the case. They often involve extensive collaboration with domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies, as part of the process in carrying out thorough criminal investigations.
- The undercover investigation conducted in this case did not lead to any charges being laid.

Cost of UC

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Eurocopter Fraud charges:

- In October 2002, the RCMP laid a charge of fraud against MBB Helicopter Canada Ltd. (now