

F3-11(1)

S E C R E T

June 29, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

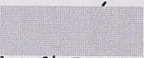
The significance of the return of
the Chief Justice to Ottawa from
July 5 to July 8

Roger Tassé spoke with the Registrar of the Supreme Court following the announcement that the Chief Justice would return to Ottawa for four days next week. The Registrar repeated to Roger the advice that he had given the press: not too much should be read into the Chief Justice's return.

The Registrar was very guarded in his comments to Roger but indicated that it would "take a miracle" for a decision in the constitutional reference to come down next week. Roger gathered from the Registrar's comments that not all of the writing is done, that there is much translation still to be done and that the meetings next week will not be the final meetings on this subject. Apparently the Chief Justice will return to Ottawa again for the first week of August, will then go West for one week and will return again to Ottawa about August 17. Roger's best guess is that the Court will reconvene shortly after the 17th of August to deliver the constitutional judgment.

I emphasize that the August 17th period represents Roger's best guess only. We have no firm information at this stage. There may be more information from the Court when the Chief Justice is here next week.

s.19(1)


Michael J.L. Kirby