

The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, P.C., M.P.
Secretary of State for External Affairs



Canada

Le très hon. Joe Clark, C. P., député
Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires extérieures

OTTAWA, ONTARIO
K1A 0G2

October 4, 1989

Dear Ray:

Thank you for your letter of September 28, 1989, concerning the disappearance of Mr. Duncan MacPherson in Europe.

I wish to assure you that my officials in Ottawa and overseas have done everything possible to assist the MacPherson family in locating their missing son. To illustrate this, I am attaching a chronological report of actions taken from the time we learned of Duncan's disappearance on August 23 to date. Additionally, with the discovery of the car that Duncan was travelling in, in the Tyrol province of Austria on September 21, and the focus of the search on the Stubai glacier area, my officials in Ottawa have been in constant contact with our Embassy in Vienna by telephone and telex.

The Austrians have assured my officials that the Opel car that Mr. MacPherson was driving will be given a complete forensic examination, and the investigation is continuing as to where his last phone call to Canada was made from. In addition, a Canadian consular representative was dispatched from Vienna to meet with the MacPherson family at the search site and reported that the search, which spanned three days, was conducted in a thorough and professional manner. The search equipment provided by the Austrians included a helicopter, dogs and 70 trained mountain volunteers familiar with the Stubai glacier.

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Mr. Ray Funk, M.P.
House of Commons
Room 268, Wellington Building
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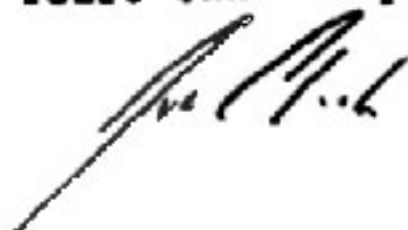
I am completely satisfied with the efforts undertaken by the Austrians and feel that everything that can be done has been done. It is for the foregoing reason that Mrs. MacPherson's request for Canadian Government financial assistance to continue the Alpine search, as well as a DND aircraft to fly volunteer searchers to Austria, was denied.

I trust the above information, as well as the enclosed chronological summary of the action taken on the case, allays your concerns and responds to the points you have raised.

You may rest assured my officials will continue to offer all appropriate assistance to the MacPherson family.

Thank you for writing to me regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Enclosure

cc: Honourable Bill McKnight, P.C., M.P.