



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

# **PROTECTION OF OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL**

## **Report of the Standing Committee on National Defence**

**Stephen Fuhr  
Chair**

**APRIL 2017**

**42nd PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION**

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Martin Auger, Analyst

Melissa Radford, Analyst



# **THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENCE**

has the honour to present its

## **FOURTH REPORT**

Pursuant to its mandate under Standing Order 108(2), the Committee has studied Force Protection and has agreed to report the following:





# PROTECTION OF OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

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In October 2014, Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent was deliberately hit by a car outside a support centre for ill and injured military members and veterans in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, and Corporal Nathan Cirillo was shot from behind while standing guard at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. These two murders, perpetrated by radicalized individuals, reinforced the vulnerability of Canada and of Canadian women and men in uniform to terrorist attacks.

In reaction to those incidents, and further alarmed by the March 2016 knife-attack against two other members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) at a recruitment facility in Toronto, members of the House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence (the Committee) unanimously adopted a motion to study the protection of CAF personnel at military facilities.

On 24 November 2016, the Committee held an in-camera hearing with Major-General William F. Seymour, Chief of Staff (Operations) at the Canadian Joint Operations Command (CJOC) and Brigadier-General Robert Delaney, CAF Provost Marshal and Commander of the Canadian Forces Military Police Group. At the meeting, the following topics were discussed:

- the complex and dynamic threat environment;
- the roles and responsibilities of CAF individuals, units and commanders with respect to force protection;
- risk mitigation and force protection measures;
- CAF cooperation with other government departments and police forces; and,
- internal CAF studies on force protection and the key lessons learned.

Though the study initially focussed on the domestic front, the discussion evolved to include threat perspectives and force protection measures abroad.

In light of the information it received, the Committee recommends:

**That the Government of Canada continue to strengthen its plans and processes to ensure the protection of CAF personnel at all CAF installations.**

In turn, Committee members intend to stay apprised of this critical issue and to continue its dialogue with the Government of Canada on how best to ensure the security and safety of CAF personnel, infrastructure, and assets both at home and abroad.



# APPENDIX A LIST OF WITNESSES

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<b>Organizations and Individuals</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>
<b>Department of National Defence</b> Robert P. Delaney, Canadian Forces Provost Marshal and Commander, Canadian Forces Military Police Group William F. Seymour, Chief of Staff Operations, Canadian Joint Operations Command	2016/11/24	30



# REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Pursuant to Standing Order 109, the Committee requests that the government table a comprehensive response to this Report.

A copy of the relevant *Minutes of Proceedings* ([Meetings Nos. 30 and 42](#)) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Fuhr  
Chair

