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It is my hope that some day the full details of the intelligence upon which the government acted can be made public, because until that day comes the people of Canada will not be able fully to appreciate the course of action which has been taken by the government. John Turner, Oct. 16/70

For most Canadians, the October Crisis of 1970 is a closed case. Most people still feel the federal government was correct when it proclaimed the War Measures Act to bring "peace and order" to a country wrought by terrorists.

But 10 years later many questions linger about the War Measures Act and the Crisis itself. Was it necessary to invoke the WMA to solve the Laporte/Cross kidnapping or did the government have other reasons for its proclamation? Still other mysteries surround the actual murder of Pierre Laporte. Did Paul Rose, serving a life term for Laporte's killing, actually murder Quebec's labour minister? And what was the role of Canada's police forces throughout these events?

These questions have remained largely unexamined by the English media, although in Quebec they have been probed with startling results. Preliminary investigations by journalists and inquiry commissions reveal four things. First, the federal government, either intentionally or unintentionally, overreacted to events in 1970. Second Paul Rose was probably not present when Pierre Laporte was killed. Third, RCMP and police had, by 1970, penetrated the FLQ thoroughly enough to know what the group was planning. Fourthly, Pierre Laporte had extensive connections with Montreal's mafia community, a fact which seems to have muddied speculation about Laporte's actual murder.

FLQ FOUNDED

The Front de Liberation Quebecois (FLQ) was founded by a small band of people in 1963 who were dedicated to the cause of an independent Quebec. The FLQ was one of many independence groups formed at that time, but it became the most notable because of its bombing missions

in affluent English suburbs in Montreal.

In 1964, the FLQ was given an intellectual shot in the arm when Pierre Vallieres and Charles Gagnon assumed leadership. Both were jailed two years later when police connected them with incidents of violence. By 1970, rumours abounded that the FLQ was about to attempt something more daring than mail box bombings. In May of 1970, police officials say they foiled an FLQ attempt to abduct an American government official. By this time the police had identified the handful of people in the FLQ. Jacques Lanctot and Paul Rose, involved in the Cross and Laporte kidnappings, had been arrested at the raucous demonstration during the St. Jean Baptiste Day celebrations in 1968. Others such as Marc Carbonneau, a Cross abductor, were leaders of the "liberation" taxi drivers movement a few years earlier.

When Cross was kidnapped, the police had a good idea who the culprits were. And so did La Presse, Quebec's largest French language daily newspaper. They speculated in a front page story the day after Cross's abduction that Jacques Lanctot was involved since he was a cab driver and Cross was kidnapped in a Taxi.

According to Pierre Vallieres, in his book, the Assassination of Pierre Laporte, police also knew the house where Laporte was held was an FLQ residence. It had been previously rented by Paul Rose. But when the fateful Oct. 5 arrived, police, through the media, gave the impression the FLQ was a huge force, largely unknown and capable of overthrowing the government. Federal cabinet minister, Jean Marchand, said the FLQ numbered about 3,000 and had infiltrated every key area of the province.

In a recent interview on Radio Canada, Marchand admitted these figures were based more on guessing than on hard evidence. "Each made his own assessment", conceded Marchand.

Under the War Measures Act 465 people were arrested, 403 of whom were released without charge. Only 18 people were convicted on charges relating to the

kidnappings. Even the FLQ members themselves acknowledged they and their sympathizers numbered about 100. In a communique suppressed by the government, the kidnappers said the authorities had sensationalized the group's power in order to discredit them in the eyes of the public, particularly Quebec's young people who were sympathetic to at least the groups' separatist principles. "This revolution will not be made by a hundred people as the authorities want everyone to believe, but by the whole population", the message stated. So if it is assumed the government knew the FLQ did not pose a genuine revolutionary threat, why proclaim the War Measures Act?

A similar theory about the events of Oct. 1970 are constructed by journalist/novelist Ian Adams in his book, End Game In Paris. Adams pieces together a tale of police infiltration of FLQ ranks with police

actually establishing phony "parallel" cells of the group. Adams suggests that police plants manipulated naive members to commit acts of violence. The crisis itself was the creation of the "cololen", who he says heads a special counterterrorist unit which is loosely attached to the RCMP. Adams' theories about police infiltration of the FLQ have to some extent been borne out. At the Keable Commission into police wrongdoing in Quebec testimony was heard that Donald Cobb, superintendent of the RCMP, actually wrote provocative "FLQ" communiques. When Vallieres denounced violence as a means of change in Quebec, Cobb issued a communique from a fake cell of the FLQ, denouncing Vallieres and asking the FLQ to retain its violent ways! Also revealed at the commission was that Carole Devault, who helped write October Crisis communiques, plant bombs, store dynamite and commit theft for the FLQ

CONT'D ON PAGE 7

RUMOUR HATH IT

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- that Lady Panther's Field Hockey Team are on a one game winning streak.
- that C. King makes faces in windows at Neil.
- that Sue P. likes chips and dip!
- that the Panthers Hockey Team eats in the caf for free and even after hours!
- that Friday morning flu is very common after a Pig.
- that Pan and the Goat are very good friends.
- that the Student Union can't decide which door policy to use.
- that the Junior class Main Event was a great success.
- that caps is a ladies game and Thane and Jimmy should practise more.
- that Aliens are striking the earth again. One of them in a green suit is chickening out of the Halloween party.
- that Dwight is off the wagon and on his feet again.
- that the Wimp (alias "twinkle toes") runs around with as little as possible on.
- that 213 Blanchard has peeping toms.
- that 205 won't talk with 216.
- that Eddy doesn't like losing bets.
- that old burp is still burping around.
- that Fall Fest will be incredible.
- that J.P. will reply with a yes to anything at 2 am.
- that February blues can hit in October.
- that Mo is becoming an Islander. "go away" and lobster all in one night.
- that PD can't even keep his VW standing still.
- that it's Tom B.'s birthday this thursday and he'd better stop counting them.
- that the Dobermans in the Barn will be used to keep men away from Bernadine. Let them earn their pound of flesh!