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**Synopsis:** Another report on the death of Michelle Mendes. The picture painted of Major Mendes is consistent with the other reports—that Mendes was brilliant and ambitious with a bright future, while at the same time being respectable, religious (churchgoing), and feminine (she’d bake pies).

**Quotes:**

“The military will be looking to determine whether Mendes's death was an accident or suicide, said Alain Pellerin, executive director of the Conference of Defence Associations, who stressed he had no inside information on her death. "It's strange because she went to military college. She had a great career in front of her."

Mendes was an accomplished soldier. She was a scholar of war, earning a master's degree in conflict analysis and resolution at Ottawa's Carleton University in 2003 that she used in her work on counterterrorism as a military intelligence officer. But she was also a thoughtful, churchgoing girl from small-town Ontario.

"One of the things she used to do was she'd bake pies and bring them into the school for students and faculty and sports staff," said Fenn Hampson, director of Carleton's Norman Patterson School of International Affairs. "Everyone around here, I think, is both shocked and saddened by what we've heard. She was a very gifted student and also a very popular one."