CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01    OSLO 02769  131309Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00 FAA-00 CIAE-00
   DODE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
   PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /065 W
------------------131316Z  048208 /50
R 131156Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3899
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
COMMANDANT CG WASHDC
CNO
SECDEF WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 2769
E.O. 11652; GDS
TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NO
SUBJECT: OMEGA & LORAN C MAKE HEADLINES AGAIN

REFS: (A) OSLO 2022 (B) OSLO 2134 (C) 76 OSLO 0073

SUMMARY: LEFTIST PRESS CRITICISM OF THE STORTING'S HANDLING
OF A REPORT ON THE LORAN C AND OMEGA NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEMS HAS
ONCE AGAIN BROUGHT THIS U.S.-NORWEGIAN COOPERATIVE
EFFORT INTO THE HEADLINES. THE IMMEDIATE ISSUE IS THE
BREACH OF PARLIAMENTARY SECURITY WHICH BROUGHT THE MATTER
INTO THE LEFTIST PRESS. THE PRACTICAL RESULT OF THE FLAP,
HOWEVER, IS LIKELY TO BE TO REINFORCE THE GON'S CAUTION ON
ISSUES RELATED TO THE TWO SYSTEMS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN ITS UNCANNY WAS THE LORAN C QUESTION SURFACED AGAIN LAST
WEEK. THE SOCIALIST LEFT PARTY (SV) NEWSPAPER "NY TID"
PUBLISHED ON JUNE 8 EXCERPTS AND MATERIALS FROM A SECRET
STORTING MEETING THE DAY BEFORE DEALING WITH THE LORAN C
AND OMEGA NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEMS. THE STORTING HAD MET TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02    OSLO 02769  131309Z

REVIEW AND TO APPROVE THE REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT
INQUIRY GROUP, HEADED BY ANDREAS SCHEI ON THE ACCUSATIONS
BY NORWEGIAN DEFENSE OFFICIAL, CAPTAIN HELLEBUST (76 OSLO
0073), PUBLISHED IN 1975 CRITICIZING GOVERNMENT HANDLING
OF THE LORAN C MATTER. THE SCHEI REPORT EXONERATED THE
GOVERNMENT FROM ANY MISHANDLING OF THE LORAN C/OMEGA ARRANGE-
MENTS. HELLEBUST'S PAPER CRITICIZED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FOR
CONSPIRING WITH THE U.S. IN HANDLING THE LORAN C ISSUE, RELATED THE SYSTEMS TO U.S. POLARIS TARGETING AND CLAIMED THIS VIOLATED NORWAY'S POLICY AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATIONING IN NORWAY DURING PEACETIME.

2. THE "NYTID" ARTICLE ATTACKED THE STORTING FOR APPROVING THE SCHEI REPORT (REPORTEDLY WITH ONLY 25 OPPOSING VOTES) AS WELL AS FOR CONDUCTING ITS MEETING IN SECRET AND REFUSING TO MAKE THE REPORT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. THE ARTICLE REVEALED NOTHING THAT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE HELLEBUST OR OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF THE LORAN C QUESTION. IT CHASTIZED NORWEIGAN OFFICIALS, THE USG AND THE EMBASSY FOR SURREPTITIOUSLY INVOLVING NORWAY IN AN ACTIVITY WHICH VIOLATES THE COUNTRY'S NUCLEAR POLICY.

3. THE LEFTIST PAPER'S REVELATIONS CREATED A STIR IN THE STORTING BECAUSE THE ARTICLE WAS BASED UPON INFORMATION LEAKED FROM A SECRET STORTING MEETING. NORWEGIAN LAW PROVIDES THAT A LEGISLATOR FOUND GUILTY OF SUCH AN ACT CAN BE IMPEACHED, AND THE NEWSPAPER PRINTING SUCH MATERIAL CAN BE EXPELLED FROM THE PARLIAMENT. STORTING LEADERS LAST WEEK WERE INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY OF INITIATING IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS, AND "NY TID" WAS DENIED ENTRY TO THE PRESS FACILITIES IN THE STORTING.

4. COMMENT:
   IF STORTING LEADERS FIND A CLEAR CASE AGAINST A REPRESENTATIVE FOR RELEASING THE INFORMATION TO THE PRESS, AN IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDING MAY BE INITIATED. IF NO CLEAR CASE CAN BE MADE THE MATTER WILL PROBABLY BE DROPPED. AT THIS JUNCTURE IT APPEARS A CLEAR CASE WILL NOT BE MADE. THIS IS PROBABLY THE BEST FROM THE U.S. STANDPOINT SINCE THE LESS PUBLICITY ON LORAN C AND RELATED MATTERS THE BETTER; IN AN ISSUE-STARVED ELECTION YEAR ANY POTENTIAL ISSUE, PARTICULARLY ONE THAT HAS THE POSSIBILITY OF EMBARRASSING THE GOVERNMENT WOULD GET SENSATIONAL PRESS PLAY.

5. ON THE PLUS SIDE AT THIS STAGE IS THE FACT THAT THE STORTING DID APPROVE THE COMMITTEE REPORT THAT CLEARED THE GOVERNMENT OF CHARGES OF MISHANDLING THE CASE. NONETHELESS, THE EFFECT OF THE RECENT ARTICLE MAY BE TO MAKE THE GOVERNMENT MORE CAUTIOUS ABOUT THE LORAN C ISSUE AND, THEREFORE, PROBABLY HESITANT IN PROCEEDING WITH ADDITIONAL COOPERATIVE PROJECTS RELATED TO THE SYSTEM, SUCH AS THE PROPOSED CLARINET PILGRIM PROJECT, AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER THE SEPTEMBER ELECTION. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THE MATTER WITH GON OFFICIALS SHORTLY WITH A VIEW TO DETERMINING THEIR EVALUATION OF
THE IMPACT ON LORAN C COOPERATION.

ANDERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN
Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO02769
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770210-0259
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770663/aaaacdhm.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4b2b4f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 OSLO 222, 77 OSLO 2134, 76 OSLO 73
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2176225
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OMEGA & LORAN C MAKE HEADLINES AGAIN
TAGS: ETEL, MARR, SOPN, NO, US
To: STATE COPENHAGEN
Type: TE
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009