

SWNCC 091 - NORWAY Miscellaneous

LIST OF PAPERS

FILE UNDER NO. SWNCC 091 NORWAY

Serial No.	From	Date	To	Synopsis
16		7/18/45		SWNCC 113/2 Amendment of Agreement with Norwegian Government on Disposal of War Material and Other Property (cross ref. 400.7, serial 1)
17	Sec., McFarland	10/5/45	SWNCC	Memo No. 30 Information, Transfer of Supplies from Theater Stocks to Norwegian Government.
18	Mr. Geilfuss for Mr. Sullivan	12/3/45	THE SECRETARIAT SWNCC	Memo re: Destruction of German Inoperable Warships in Poland, Norway, and Denmark. (Filed under 569.7 - Vessels, Disposition of. - 233 Series)
19	Mr. Royall	5/29/46	Sec of State	Re: Adjustment in certain accounts of Norwegian Nationals listed in letter.
20	Mr. Hilldring SEC. SWNCC	10/21/46 10/22/46	Sec. of SWNCC JCS	RE: Desire of Norwegian Minister of Defense to Obtain Copies of Gen. Thorne's Weekly reports to SHAEF.
21	Col. McFarland Mr. Hilldring	12/31/46 1/2/47	SWNCC Sec. of State	Re: Norwegian Request for Report on Liberation of Norway.
22	Gen. Wedemeyer	11 Mar 48		SUMMARY: Assistance to Norway in Case of war.

LIST OF PAPERS

FILE UNDER NO. SWNCC 091 - NORWAY

Serial No.	From	Date	To	Synopsis
1	Mr. Grew	2/21/45	Mr. Stimson	Letter re request of Norwegian Govt., to transmit coded messages from Great Britain and Northern Norway.
2	Col. McCarthy	3/13/45	JCS	Memo re relief supplies for Northern Norway and Norwegian military forces.
3	Col. McCarthy	3/14/45	JCS	Memo re Norwegian Expeditionary Force.
4	Mr. Trimble	3/13/45	Col. McCarthy	Memo re Norwegian Expeditionary Force.
5	Col. McCarthy	3/26/45	Sect. State	Correspondence re disclosure to Norwegians of reasons for disapproval of Norwegian Expeditionary Forces.
6	Adm. Leahy	4/18/45	See War-Navy	Relief Supplies for Northern Norway. (Memo)
7		4/19/45		SWNCC 24/8 - Relief Supplies for Northern Norway
8	Col. McCarthy	4/19/45	Gates Dunn, McCloy	Clearance memo
9	Mr. Matthews	4/23/45	Sect. State	Memo re SWNCC 24/8.
10	Mr. Stettinius	4/11/45	Memo for Pres.	Relief Supplies from Sweden to Norway
11		4/26/45		SWNCC 24/9, Relief Supplies for Northern Norway.
12	Mr. Trimble	4/25/45	SWNCC	Memo on intra-blockade relief shipments from Sweden to Norway.
13	Messrs. McCarthy, Richardson, Cox	5/3/45		Memo for info. No. 3. Norway's relationship to the instrument of unconditional surrender for Germany (Cross reference 384.1, Surrender Terms, Germany, Serial 5).
14	Col. Tasker	5/1/45	SWNCC	Memo attaching W.D. implementation in connection with SWNCC 24/1 "Intra-Blockade Relief Shipments From Sweden to Norway".
15		4/27/45		SWNCC 24/10 - Intra-Blockade Relief Shipments from Sweden to Norway (cross reference 091 Sweden, Serial 37)

091 Norway

1&2
2

P&O/P&P/MSB/2971

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Cross.*

Lt Col Goutts/jat

2971

TOP SECRET

(11Mar48)
P&O 091 Norway

Assistance to Norway in Case of War

11 Mar 48

SUMMARY

1. On 1 March 1948 Mr. Armour directed a letter to the Secretary of the Army, the Navy, and Air Force, requesting information as to the attitude that United States Attaches should adopt with the Norwegian Defense Minister when the latter queried them about possible American military assistance to Norway in the event of a war.

2. On 9 March 1948 the Committee of Four Secretaries decided to refer Mr. Armour's letter and its attached telegram from Oslo to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for consideration. The Secretary of Defense would inform State of the resultant decision.

3. It was further agreed that all Departmental Secretaries would individually communicate the above course of action to the Secretary of State. Attached letter for Mr. Royall's signature implements this decision.

RECOMMENDATION

4. That the Secretary of the Army sign and dispatch attached letter to the Secretary of State.

COORDINATION

ID (Col Ahalt, Western European Br, X 2505) informed.

SANACC SECRETARIAT

A. C. WEDMEYER
Lieutenant General, GSC
Director of Plans & Operations

2 Incls

- 1. Ltr to S/S fr S/A (added)
- 2. Ltr 1 Mar 48 to S/A fr S/S w/1 Incl

State Member _____
 Army Member _____
 Navy Member _____
 Air Force Member _____
 Ass't State Member _____
 Ass't Army Member _____
 Ass't Navy Member _____
 Ass't Air Force Member _____

[Handwritten signature]

MAR 17 1948

4399



File

TOP SECRET

Copy for Sanacc

22

TOP SECRET

P&O/P&P/MSB/2971
Lt Col Coutts/bs

P&O 091 Norway (1 Mar 48)

15 MAR 1948

The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In a letter of 1 March 1948, Mr. Armour requested information about the attitude to be taken by Army Attaches in Oslo with reference to Norway's place in United States strategic planning. The Secretary of Defense is referring this subject to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for consideration.

The Secretary of Defense will forward the views of the National Military Establishment to you, after receiving the advice of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and discussing this topic further with all the Departmental Secretaries.

Sincerely yours

(Signed) KENNETH C. ROYALL

Kenneth C. Royall
Secretary of the Army

TOP SECRET

Mr. H W Moseley A-H

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

Restricted

DATE: January 7, 1947

SUBJECT: Norwegian Request for Report on
Liberation of Norway.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Robert Cecil, First Secretary of the
British Embassy and Mr. H.F. Cunningham, Jr., NOE

COPIES TO: A-H - HW Moseley

1-1493

Mr. Cecil telephoned to inquire whether I had heard of the Norwegian request for a report on the liberation of Norway. I replied that the file had come to me the preceding evening and that the competent American authorities had concurred in certain suggestions, which I proceeded to read to him on the telephone (these suggestions were those contained in paragraphs two and three of the British document dated December 6, 1946, a copy of which is included in our file).

I told Mr. Cecil that I was pondering how to prepare an appropriate communication to the British Embassy. He said no such communication was necessary: he would be glad to take the informal oral statement as conclusive. Accordingly, we let the matter rest at that.

NOE:HFCunningham;Jr.:lmm

VFF:bjh

SWN-8017
2 January 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Subject: Norwegian Request for Report on
Liberation of Norway

References: a. Memo. from State Dept.
dated 21 October 1946
b. SWN-4844

On 22 October 1946, at the request of the Department of State, the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee forwarded for JCS consideration despatch No. 135 of September 19, 1946 from the American Ambassador to Norway with a request from the Norwegian Minister of Defense for copies of the weekly reports to SHAEF prepared by General Sir Andrew Thorne during his command of the Allied Land Forces in Norway.

Attached as an enclosure is an extract from a memorandum by the British Joint Staff Mission which is forwarded to the Department of State at the request of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

On 31 December 1946 the Joint Chiefs of Staff concurred in the suggestions contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the enclosure.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

J. E. HILLBRIEN,
Chairman

Enclosure

COPY FOR SWNCC FILE

21

ENCLOSURE

EXTRACTS FROM A MEMORANDUM BY
BRITISH JOINT STAFF MISSION

NORWEGIAN REQUEST FOR REPORT ON LIBERATION OF
NORWAY

1. Reference your memorandum BM-6944 of 23th October, we attach a copy of a relevant despatch from the British Ambassador in Oslo to the Foreign Office which covers Norwegian Minister of Defence letter dated 16th September.
2. You will see that this puts a slightly different interpretation on the Norwegian request and ends with the suggestion that General Thorne himself or some competent authority in the War Office be asked to write the report.
3. The Foreign Office have concurred in this suggestion and have, in fact, asked us to request the concurrence of the U. S. Chiefs of Staff. If they agree, we would propose to inform the Foreign Office through the Embassy, suggesting that the former request the War Office officially to write the report.

6 December 1946

Enclosure

No. 318
386/2/46

British Embassy,
Oslo

19 September 1946

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Norwegian Minister for Defence requesting that the authorities concerned may be asked to permit the compilation and communication to the Norwegian Government of a comprehensive report on the liberation of Norway, based on the weekly reports furnished last year by General Thorne.

2. General Thorne mentioned this matter to me when he was at Oslo last month; and we agreed that it would be desirable to meet M. Hauge's request. I therefore venture to express the hope that the Combined Chiefs of Staff, or whatever body has now assumed charge of archives, will be urged to allow such a report to be compiled, either by General Thorne himself or by a competent authority in the War Office.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Sd) LAURENCE COLLIER

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.
Foreign Office.



5017



THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SM-7341
31 December 1946

*091 Norway
JCH
for
present
paper*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

- Subject: Norwegian Request for Report on Liberation of Norway.
- Reference: SWN-4844.
- Enclosure: Extracts from a memorandum by British Joint Staff Mission with one Appendix.

On 31 December 1946 the Joint Chiefs of Staff concurred in the suggestions contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Enclosure.

It is requested that the State Department be informed of the above action.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

3445

A. J. McFarland
A. J. McFARLAND,
Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

ENCLOSURE

EXTRACTS FROM A MEMORANDUM BY
BRITISH JOINT STAFF MISSION

NORWEGIAN REQUEST FOR REPORT ON LIBERATION OF
NORWAY

1. Reference your memorandum SM-6944 of 25th October, we attach a copy of a relevant despatch from the British Ambassador in Oslo to the Foreign Office which covers Norwegian Minister of Defence letter dated 16th September.

2. You will see that this puts a slightly different interpretation on the Norwegian request and ends with the suggestion that General Thorne himself or some competent authority in the War Office be asked to write the report.

3. The Foreign Office have concurred in this suggestion and have, in fact, asked us to request the concurrence of the U. S. Chiefs of Staff. If they agree, we would propose to inform the Foreign Office through the Embassy, suggesting that the former request the War Office officially to write the report.

6 December 1946

ENCLOSURE

APPENDIX TO ENCLOSURE

No. 318
356/2/46

British Embassy,
Oslo

19 September 1946

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I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

(Sd) LAURENCE COLLIER

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.
Foreign Office.

APPENDIX TO ENCLOSURE

BWK-4844 HWK:do
22 October 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF:

Subject: Desire of Norwegian Minister of Defense
to Obtain Copies of General Thorne's
Weekly Reports to SHAEF.

The Department of State has received the attached despatch No. 135 of September 19, 1946 from the American Ambassador to Norway enclosing a copy, also attached, of a request from the Norwegian Minister of Defense for copies of the weekly reports to SHAEF prepared by General Sir Andrew Thorne during his command of the Allied Land Forces in Norway.

The Department of State perceives no objection to granting the request of the Norwegian Minister of Defense and seeks the concurrence of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in acceding to this request. It is therefore requested that this memorandum, together with its accompanying documents, be referred to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for their consideration.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

H. W. MOBELEY,
Secretary

Enclosure

COPY FOR SWNCC FILE

(20)

COPY

No. 135

UNRESTRICTED

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Oslo, Norway, September 19, 1946.

Subject: Desire of Norwegian Minister of
Defense to Obtain Copies of General
Thorne's Weekly Reports to SHAEP.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a self-explanatory letter from Mr. Jens Christian Hauge, Minister of Defense of Norway, in which he requests authorization from the Combined Chiefs of Staff to obtain copies of the weekly reports on conditions in Norway which were made by General Sir Andrew Thorne to SHAEP.

The British Embassy informs me that it received a similar communication from Mr. Hauge and that it transmitted it to London with the comment that on the whole it seemed a good thing to that Mission to permit the Minister of Defense to have access to General Thorne's reports.

This Embassy does not recall having seen General Thorne's weekly reports to SHAEP but it is assumed that if they were written they formed the basis for his fortnightly reports to Supreme Headquarters, copies of which this Mission received regularly. If the assumption that the weekly and fortnightly reports covered substantially the same ground is correct, the Embassy perceives no reason why the material should not be made available to the Norwegian Government.

I shall be glad to be informed of the nature of the reply that should be made to Mr. Hauge.

Respectfully yours,

G. Ulrick Bay.

Enclosure:
Translation Note.

File No. 711
ONNielsen:ill

Original and 2alid to Department
Two Copies for Embassy.

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 135, September 19, 1946,
from American Embassy, Oslo.

(COPY)

Den Kgl. Norske Regjering
Forsvarsministeren

Oslo, September 16th, 1946

My dear Ambassador:

When General Thorne visited Norway, I asked him whether he would be kind enough to write a report on the liberation of Norway, as seen from his angle as Commander of the Allied Land Forces. I often felt that such a report should be of the greatest historical interest to Norway, and that it would be a pity to miss it.

General Thorne answered that the report quite easily could be made by using the weekly reports he issued to SHAEP.

But he has now written to me that the proper channel would be to approach the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington, who are entirely responsible for all operations, through the British and American Ambassadors to Norway.

Permit me to follow his advice and ask you whether you would be kind enough to forward such a request to the proper authorities.

Yours sincerely

Jens Chr. Hauge

To His Excellency
Ambassador Bay,
American Embassy,
OSLO.

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

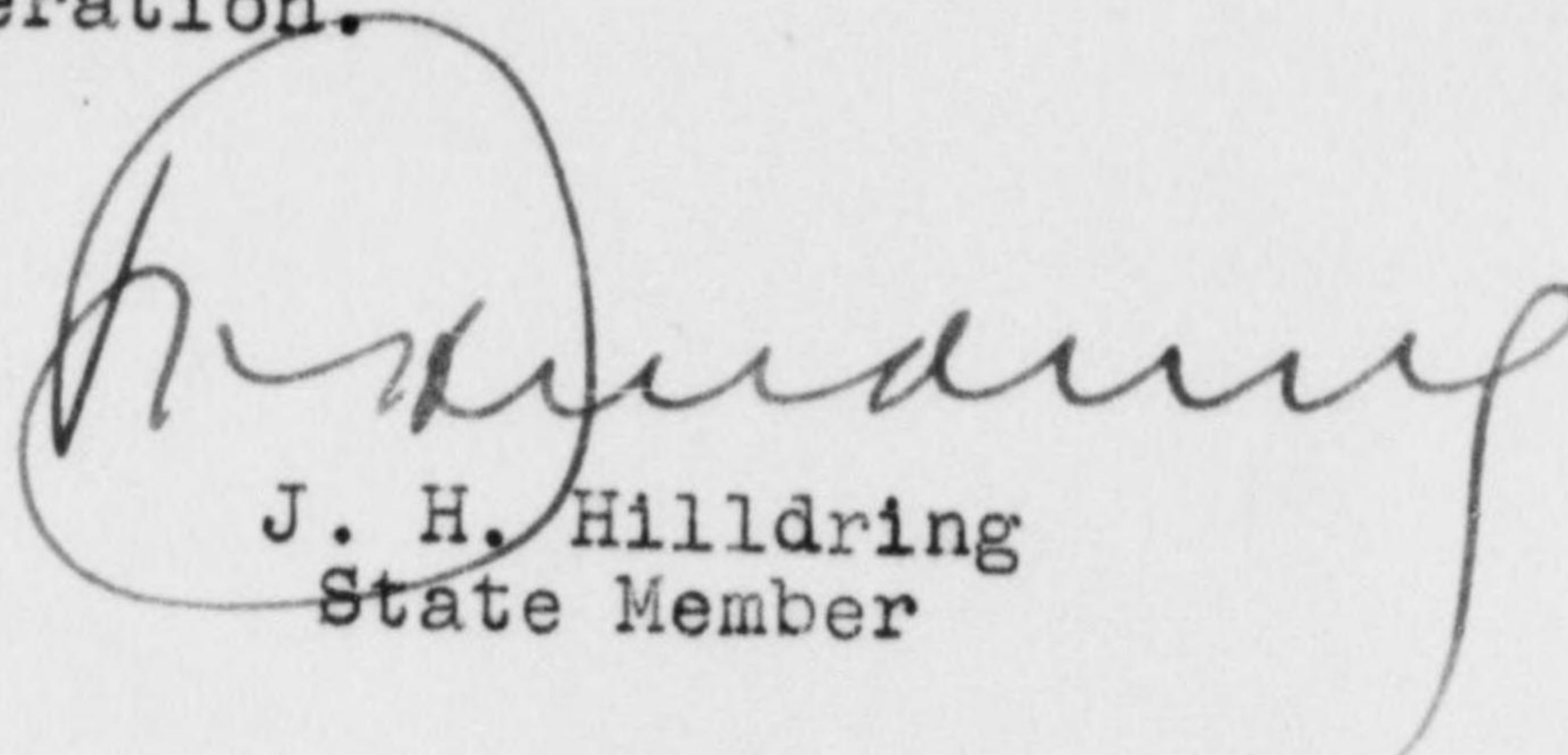
091 Norway
Miss.
(cross)

October 21, 1946

Memorandum To The Secretary Of The State, War, Navy
Coordinating Committee From The State Member.

The Department of State has received the attached despatch No. 135 of September 19, 1946 from the American Ambassador to Norway enclosing a copy, also attached, of a request from the Norwegian Minister of Defense for copies of the weekly reports to SHAEF prepared by General Sir Andrew Thorne during his command of the Allied Land Forces in Norway.

The Department of State perceives no objection to granting the request of the Norwegian Minister of Defense and seeks the concurrence of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in acceding to this request. It is therefore requested that this memorandum together with its accompanying documents be transmitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for its consideration.


J. H. Hilldring
State Member

Attachment:

Despatch No. 135.



20

C
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No. 135

UNRESTRICTED

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Oslo, Norway, September 19, 1946.

Subject: Desire of Norwegian Minister of
Defense to Obtain Copies of General
Thorne's Weekly Reports to SHAEF.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a self-explanatory letter from Mr. Jens Christian Hauge, Minister of Defense of Norway, in which he requests authorization from the Combined Chiefs of Staff to obtain copies of the weekly reports on conditions in Norway which were made by General Sir Andrew Thorne to SHAEF.

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I shall be glad to be informed of the nature of the reply that should be made to Mr. Hauge.

Respectfully yours,

C. Ulrick Bay.

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Translation Note.

File No. 711
ONNielsen:i11

Original and Ozalid to Department.
Two Copies for Embassy.

C
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Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 135, September 19, 1946,
from American Embassy, Oslo.

(COPY)

Den Kgl. Norske Regjering
Forsvarsministeren

Oslo, September 16th, 1946

My dear Ambassador:

When General Thorne visited Norway, I asked him whether he would be kind enough to write a report on the liberation of Norway, as seen from his angle as Commander of the Allied Land Forces. I often felt that such a report should be of the greatest historical interest to Norway, and that it would be a pity to miss it.

General Thorne answered that the report quite easily could be made by using the weekly reports he issued to SHAEF.

But he has now written to me that the proper channel would be to approach the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington, who are entirely responsible for all operations, through the British and American Ambassadors to Norway.

Permit me to follow his advice and ask you whether you would be kind enough to forward such a request to the proper authorities.

Yours sincerely

Jens Chr. Hauge

To His Excellency
Ambassador Bay,
American Embassy,
OSLO.

091 Norway?
Misc-

SPFB 153/64470 Navy

The Honorable
The Secretary of State

20 MAY 1946

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In response to your letter of May 10, 1946, SPD 740.00115 PW/4-1746, you are advised that the Army Regional Accounting Office, St. Louis, Missouri is making the necessary appropriation adjustments in the accounts of the following eight Norwegian Nationals:

- Anderson, Harold
- Andreassen, Egil
- Asheim, Bjarne
- Bratteteig, Ijur
- Carlsen, Leif T.
- Hagan, Olaf Olsen
- Juel, Audun
- Lindstrom, Arthur

Upon completion of the necessary accounting procedures, the accounts will be submitted promptly for settlement to the Claims Division, General Accounting Office, 3800 Newark Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. It is expected that delivery to that office will be accomplished by approximately June 10.

In view of the foregoing and since the jurisdiction of the War Department over these accounts will terminate upon receipt thereof by the General Accounting Office, it is suggested that contact be established with that office relative to any further steps required to effect settlement.

A copy of this letter is being furnished the Claims Division, General Accounting Office.

Sincerely yours,

SWNCC SECRETARIAT

(Sgd) KENNETH C. ROYALL

acting Secretary of War

- State Member
- Army Member
- Navy Member
- Ass't State Member
- Ass't Army Member
- Ass't Navy Member
- Executive Secretary
- Ass't Exec. Secretary
- State Adm. Assistant
- Army Adm. Assistant
- Navy Adm. Assistant
- File

Information Copy for The Secretariat, SWNCC

(19)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
SPD 740.00115 PW/4-1746

May 10, 1946

The Acting Secretary of State transmits herewith to the Secretary of War for the attention of the Army Service Forces, Chief of Finance, a copy of a note (no. 119) dated April 17, 1946 from the Norwegian Embassy in which reference is made to previous correspondence concerning the following eight Norwegian nationals who were lost when two Japanese transports were sunk on October 24 and December 15, 1944, respectively:

Sjur Bratteteig
Leif (Leif T) Carlsen (Carisen)
Olaf Olson Hagan
Audun (Audnu) Juel
Harald (Harold) Andersen (Anderson)
Egil Andreassen
Bjarne Asheim
Arthur Lindstrom

It appears that these Norwegian nationals may formerly have been employed by the War Department. According to the Embassy's note the Norwegian Consul General at New York, New York was informed by the Office of Special Settlement Accounts at New York that "monies due estates of foreign nationals may be paid directly to the Embassy concerned without the usual requirements of completion of claim forms by the heirs or administrators". The Embassy requests that the funds due the estates of the above-mentioned Norwegian nationals be forwarded to the Embassy through the Department of State.

In this connection there is enclosed a copy of a letter dated August 4, 1945 addressed to the Department of State by Colonel Howard F. Bresee, Director, American Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Provost Marshal General's Office, together with a copy of this Department's reply thereto dated September 10, 1945. As stated in this Department's letter of September 10, 1945 the enclosures to Colonel Bresee's letter and the information contained therein regarding the loss of the eight Norwegian nationals under reference were forwarded to the Norwegian Embassy by the Department of State. Also in this connection reference is made to two communications believed to relate to the determination of the status of these Norwegian nationals as former civilian

employees of the War Department which are understood to have been sent to the Norwegian Embassy on October 13, 1945 and November 7, 1945 by the Casualty Branch of the Adjutant General's Office and the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department General Staff (G-2), respectively).

The Department of State would appreciate being informed regarding the nature of the reply which should be made to the Norwegian Embassy's note of April 17, 1946.

Enclosures:

1. From Colonel Howard F. Bresee,
August 4, 1945.
2. To Colonel Bresee,
September 10, 1945.
3. From Norwegian Embassy,
April 17, 1946.

employees of the War Department which are understood to have been sent to the Norwegian Embassy on October 13, 1945 and November 7, 1945 by the Casualty Branch of the Adjutant General's Office and the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department General Staff (G-2), respectively).

The Department of State would appreciate being informed regarding the nature of the reply which should be made to the Norwegian Embassy's note of April 17, 1946.

Enclosures:

1. From Colonel Howard F. Bresee,
August 4, 1945.
2. To Colonel Bresee,
September 10, 1945.
3. From Norwegian Embassy,
April 17, 1946.

The Ambassador of Norway presents his compliments to His Excellency the Secretary of State and has the honor, in reference to the Secretary's memorandum of September 10, 1945 (740.00115 PW/8-445), and the Ambassador's note no. 755 of September 15, 1945, regarding 8 Norwegian nationals who were lost when two Japanese transports were sunk on October 24th and December 15th, 1944, respectively, to advise that the Norwegian Consul General in New York in a letter of March 15, 1946, from the Army Service Forces, office of the Fiscal Director, office of Special Settlement Accounts, 27 Pine Street, New York 5, New York, has been informed that monies due estates of foreign nationals may be paid directly to the Embassy concerned without the usual requirement of completion of claim forms by the heirs or administrators, and that the Embassy should make appropriate request to the Department of State.

The Ambassador would appreciate it very much if the monies due the estates of the lost Norwegian nationals concerned, through the service of the Secretary's good offices, be forwarded to the Norwegian Embassy. The names of the subjects concerned are: Sjur Bratteteig, Leif Carlsen, Audun Juel, Harald Andersen, Egil Andreassen, Bjarne Asheim and Arthur Lindstrom.

Washington, D.C., April 17, 1946.

No.: 119
TP/df



091 - *Towmy*

Memo No. 30



THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SECRET

SM-3650
5 October 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Subject: Transfer of Supplies from Theater Stocks to Norwegian Government.

Attached hereto is a copy of J.C.S. 1536 on the subject of transfer of military supplies and equipment to meet essential needs of the Norwegian Government.

Attention is invited to the fact that U.S. Governmental agencies acting on behalf of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration may exercise such priority in purchase of the surplus supplies in Norway as to preclude procurement by the Norwegian Government of part of the items referred to in the above report. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are of the opinion that it is advisable that the State Department take such action as may be appropriate to prevent exclusion of purchase by the Norwegian Government of these items.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

A. J. McFARLAND,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Secretary.

Encl. J.C.S. 1536 (Copy No. 59)

SECRET

(17)

6088

SECRET

BWN-3364 VFF: bz
8 October 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Subject: Transfer of Supplies from Theater Stocks
to Norwegian Government.

References: a. J.C.S. 1536
b. SWNCC Memo for Info No. 30

1. Enclosed is a copy of J.C.S. 1536, a report by the Joint Logistics Committee on the above subject, which is forwarded for the information of the Department of State at the request of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
2. In forwarding this paper the Joint Chiefs of Staff invite attention to the fact that U.S. Governmental agencies acting on behalf of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration may exercise such priority in purchase of the surplus supplies in Norway as to preclude procurement by the Norwegian Government of part of the items referred to in the above report, and are of the opinion that it is advisable that the State Department take such action as may be appropriate to prevent exclusion of purchase by the Norwegian Government of these items.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

CHARLES W. MCCARTHY,
Secretary

Incl:
Cpy No. 59, JCS 1536

SWNCC FILE

SECRET

S E C R E T

COPY NO. 40

8 October 1945

STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM FOR INFORMATION NO. 30

TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES FROM
THEATER STOCKS TO NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT

Note by the Secretaries

1. The enclosure, J.C.S. 1536, a report by the Joint Logistics Committee to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is circulated for the information of the Committee.
2. At the request of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the information contained herein has been forwarded to the Department of State.

CHARLES W. McCARTHY

ALVIN F. RICHARDSON

RAYMOND E. COX

Secretariat

SECRETENCLOSURESECRET

COPY NO. _____

J.C.S. 15363 October 1945Pages 1 - 7, incl.JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFFTRANSFER OF SUPPLIES FROM
THEATER STOCKS TO NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT
References: a. C.C.S. 785/4 and 785/5
b. J.C.S. 771/18Report by the Joint Logistics CommitteeTHE PROBLEM

1. To comment on and submit a draft reply to a cable from the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater (Appendix "C", page 6), requesting authority to transfer to the Norwegian Government as a Lend-Lease transfer or other appropriate method, those items for which the United States was responsible for supply (C.C.S. 785/4), to the extent that those items are now on hand in Norway and surplus to the United States military requirements.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

2. Transfer to the Norwegian Government on a Lend-Lease basis of the supplies in question is not possible under the present Lend-Lease policy (J.C.S. 771/18). The original military justification for the provision of this equipment ceased with the termination of hostilities.

3. The War Department as a matter of urgency is conducting a study to determine whether the items desired by the Norwegian Government (Annex to Appendix "B", C.C.S. 785/4) are surplus to the needs of the War Department to the extent that they are excess to the theater requirements. This study will be completed and the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater (CG, USFET), will be informed of the results by the War Department by 5 October 1945.

S E C R E T

4. The United States Army surplus property located in Norway will be declared to the State Department (Army-Navy Liquidation Commissioner) for disposal.

5. The State Department (Northern European Division) has been advised informally of this matter and concurs in the dispatch of the message in Appendix "B".

DISCUSSION

6. Although the original military justification for the provision of this equipment no longer exists, it should be recognized that there may be an implied commitment on a governmental level that these supplies be furnished. In the declaring of these supplies to the State Department (Army-Navy Liquidation Commissioner) for disposal, U.S. Governmental agencies on behalf of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, exercising their statutory first priority as provided in the Surplus Property Act, might secure possession of the supplies desired by the Norwegians.

CONCLUSIONS

7. Current policy on Lend-Lease (J.C.S. 771/18) does not permit granting the authority requested by the Commanding General, U.S. Forces European Theater, to transfer to the Norwegian Government, as a Lend-Lease transaction, surplus items of equipment to fulfill the U.S. part of the commitment approved in C.C.S. 785/4.

8. Surplus U.S. equipment in Norway can be made available to the Norwegian Government only through the procedures of the State Department (Army-Navy Liquidation Commissioner).

9. The War Department will inform the Commanding General, U.S. Forces European Theater, by 5 October 1945 which of the items of equipment now in the hands of Task Force "A" in quantities corresponding to those that the U.S. agreed in C.C.S. 785/4 to furnish to the Norwegians, may be declared surplus.

S E C R E T

10. Because of political implications in this matter the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee should be made acquainted with the advisability of interceding with the appropriate authorities to insure that U.S. governmental agencies on behalf of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration do not exercise such priorities in purchase of the surplus property in Norway as to preclude the procurement by the Norwegian Government of the items under discussion.

RECOMMENDATIONS

11. It is recommended that:

a. The memorandum in Appendix "A" (page 4) be forwarded to the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee.

b. The message in Appendix "B" (page 5) be dispatched to the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater.

S E C R E TAPPENDIX "A"D R A F TMEMORANDUM TO STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Attached hereto is a copy of J.C.S. 1536 on the subject of transfer of military supplies and equipment to meet essential needs of the Norwegian Government.

Attention is invited to the fact that U.S. Governmental agencies acting on behalf of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration may exercise such priority in purchase of the surplus supplies in Norway as to preclude procurement by the Norwegian Government of part of the items referred to in the above report. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are of the opinion that it is advisable that the State Department take such action as may be appropriate to prevent exclusion of purchase by the Norwegian Government of these items.

S E C R E T

APPENDIX "B"

D R A F T

MESSAGE TO COMMANDING GENERAL, U.S. FORCES EUROPEAN THEATER,
MAIN, FRANKFURT, GERMANY
INFORMATION TO COMMANDING GENERAL, U.S. FORCES EUROPEAN THEATER,
REAR, PARIS, FRANCE

1. Authority cannot be granted to transfer to the Norwegian Government as a Lend-Lease transaction those items for which the U.S. was responsible under the original Combined Chiefs of Staff directive transmitted to you in W 72408, 24 April (Appendix "B" of C.C.S. 785/4 as amended by C.C.S. 785/5). This is reply to your S 24550, 21 September 1945.
2. It will be necessary for Norwegian Government to fulfill their requirements insofar as practicable by purchase of surplus equipment through the State Department (Army-Navy Liquidation Commissioner).
3. You are being informed by the War Department whether any of the items of equipment now in the hands of Task Force "A", and which correspond to those that were to have been furnished by the U.S. under the directive in W 72408, 24 April may not be declared surplus. Remaining items on hand in Norway in quantities listed in W 72408 and which are excess to theater requirements will be declared as surplus and reported to State Department (Army-Navy Liquidation Commissioner) for disposal.
4. Action as may be appropriate is being taken here toward insuring that Norwegian Government will be given opportunity to procure those items needed from the State Department (Army-Navy Liquidation Commissioner).

SECRETAPPENDIX "C"

From: Commanding General, U.S. Forces European Theater, Main,
Frankfurt, Germany

To: Joint Chiefs of Staff

Information:
Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater, Rear,
Paris, France

Nr: S 24550 21 September 1945

Ref nr S 24550 from USFET Main to for action TAG WD
to for info USFET Mission Norway, sgd Eisenhower.

Subject is transfer of supplies from theater stocks to
Norwegian Government.

Reference cable S 24328 dated 20 September. By War
Department cable W 72408, 24 April (Appendix "B" of C.C.S.
785/4 as amended by C.C.S. 785/5), the Combined Chiefs of Staff
approved the issue of increased scale of transport and arctic
equipment for Norwegian liberated manpower units. This approval
consummated a series of negotiations handled directly by
Crown Prince Olaf and high officials of the U.S. and British
Governments. As a result of that directive Supreme Headquarters,
Allied Expeditionary Force issued instructions itemizing equipment
to be transferred to the Norwegian Government listing separately
those items of United States responsibility and British responsi-
bility.

The transfer by U.S. was to be made essentially as a
Lend-Lease transfer to the Norwegian Government. Prior to
the actual delivery of items for which United States was
responsible a directive was received suspending further Lend-
Lease transfers. Failure of United States to comply with this
agreement prior to termination of Lend-Lease transfers was due
to high priority of redeployment requirements. The bulk of

S E C R E T

the items for which the British were responsible have been furnished to the Norwegian Government. Norwegian forces urgently need this equipment for those units employed in the area north of Trondheim.

In view of fact that original agreement was a matter of combined responsibility and that British have already discharged bulk of their responsibility, unfavorable reaction is created with Norwegian Government by our present inability to carry out the terms of original agreement.

Sufficient quantities of equipment now in Task Force "A" hands can be turned over to Norwegian Government to fulfill bulk of original United States obligation laid down in Combined Chiefs of Staff directive.

It is therefore requested that authority be granted to transfer to the Norwegian Government as a Lend-Lease transfer or other appropriate method those items for which United States was responsible under the original Combined Chiefs of Staff directive to the extent that those items are now on hand in Norway and surplus to United States military requirements. The balance of equipment left by Task Force "A" to be disposed of through Army-Navy Liquidation Commissioner as stated in reference cable.

In view of urgency this matter, request reply be expedited.

End.

FOOTNOTE: S 24328 is CM-IN-17661 (22 Sep 45)

CM-IN-18054 (22 Sep 45)

TOP SECRET

26 March 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:
Attention: Mr. William C. Trimble, NE.

Subject: Disclosure to Norwegians of
Reasons for Disapproval of
Norwegian Expeditionary Forces.

The following reply has been received by the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to a query made by the Department of State by informal memorandum, dated 13 March 1945:

"The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider, from a military point of view, that the Norwegian Ambassador may be informed by the State Department of all the reasons why the Combined Chiefs of Staff are unable to approve the Norwegian proposal to send an all-Norwegian expeditionary force to northern Norway, with the understanding that this disclosure will be coordinated with the Foreign Office. The reasons are as set forth in the letter from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Secretary of State dated 10 March 1945."

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

CHARLES W. McCARTHY
Secretary

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

26 March 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:
Attention: Mr. William C. Trimble, NE.

Subject: Disclosure to Norwegians of
Reasons for Disapproval of
Norwegian Expeditionary Forces.

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"The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider, from a military point of view, that the Norwegian Ambassador may be informed by the State Department of all the reasons why the Combined Chiefs of Staff are unable to approve the Norwegian proposal to send an all-Norwegian expeditionary force to northern Norway, with the understanding that this disclosure will be coordinated with the Foreign Office. The reasons are as set forth in the letter from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Secretary of State dated 10 March 1945."

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

CHARLES W. McCARTHY
Secretary

SWNCC FILE

TOP SECRET

(5)



CS6315

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

TOP SECRET

23 March 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF WAR:
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY:

Subject: Disclosure to Norwegians of
reasons for disapproval of
Norwegian Expeditionary Force.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff request that the Secretary
of War and the Secretary of the Navy send the enclosed
letter to the Secretary of State.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William D. Leahy".

WILLIAM D. LEAHY,
Fleet Admiral, U.S. Navy,
Chief of Staff to the
Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy.

Enclosure.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

ENCLOSURED R A F TLETTER FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FROM THE SECRETARIES OF WAR AND THE NAVY

Reference is made to the memorandum from the State-War Navy Coordinating Committee dated 14 March 1945, subject "Norwegian Expeditionary Force."

The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider, from a military point of view, that the Norwegian Ambassador may be informed by the State Department of all the reasons why the Combined Chiefs of Staff are unable to approve the Norwegian proposal to send an all-Norwegian expeditionary force to northern Norway, with the understanding that this disclosure will be coordinated with the Foreign Office. The reasons are as set forth in the letter from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Secretary of State dated 10 March 1945.

We concur in the above views.

TOP SECRET

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25

TOP SECRET

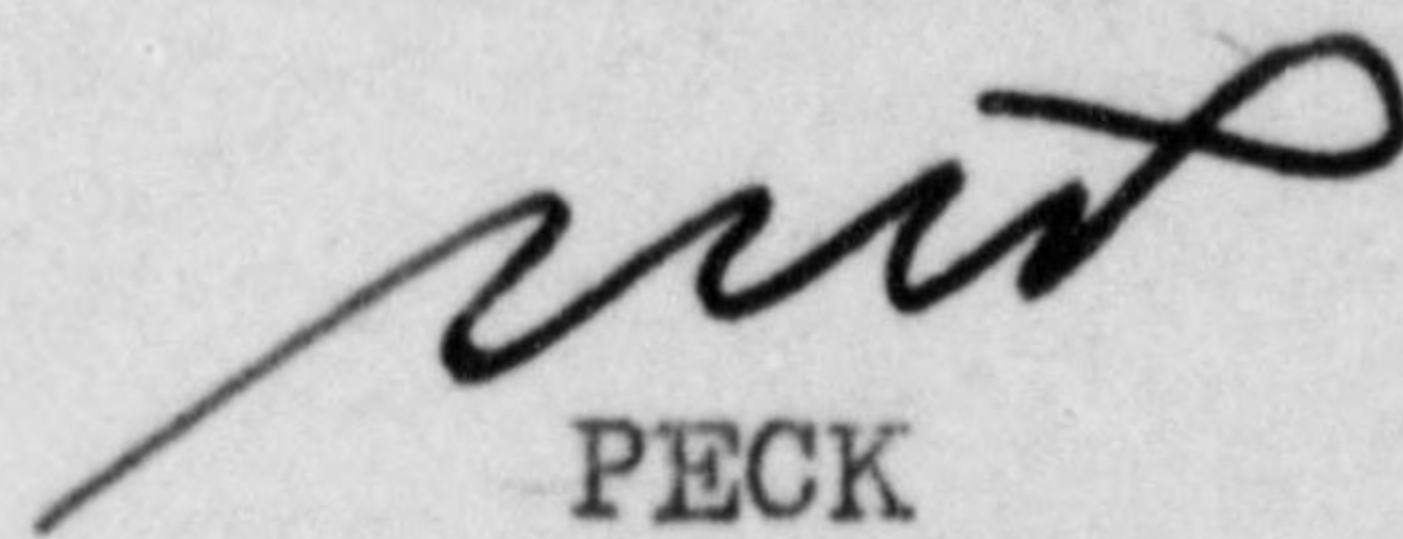
MEMORANDUM

Date 23 March 1945

To: Colonel Chas. W. McCarthy, Secy.
SWNCC

Subject:

Here is one that will be on its
way to you if signed by Admiral Leahy.


PECK

TOP SECRET

Secy, SWNCC
CS 4006

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET

23 March 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF WAR:
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY:

Subject: Disclosure to Norwegians of
reasons for disapproval of
Norwegian Expeditionary Force.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff request that the Secretary
of War and the Secretary of the Navy send the enclosed
letter to the Secretary of State.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

WILLIAM D. LEAHY,
Fleet Admiral, U.S. Navy,
Chief of Staff to the
Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy.

Enclosure.



TOP SECRET

reference JCS 1793/v as amended.

TOP SECRET

ENCLOSURE

DRAFT

LETTER FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FROM THE SECRETARIES OF WAR AND THE NAVY

Reference is made to the memorandum from the State-War Navy Coordinating Committee dated 14 March 1945, subject "Norwegian Expeditionary Force."

The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider, from a military point of view, that the Norwegian Ambassador may be informed by the State Department of all the reasons why the Combined Chiefs of Staff are unable to approve the Norwegian proposal to send an all-Norwegian expeditionary force to northern Norway with the understanding that this disclosure will be coordinated with the Foreign Office. The reasons are as set forth in the letter from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Secretary of State dated 10 March 1945.

We concur in the above views.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

Washington 25, D. C.

23 March 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF WAR:
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY:

Subject: Disclosure to Norwegians of
reasons for disapproval of
Norwegian Expeditionary Force.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff request that the Secretary
of War and the Secretary of the Navy send the enclosed
letter to the Secretary of State.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

/s/ WILLIAM D. LEAHY

WILLIAM D. LEAHY,
Fleet Admiral, U.S. Navy,
Chief of Staff to the
Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy.

Enclosure

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

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ENCLOSURE

D R A F T

LETTER FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FROM THE SECRETARIES OF WAR AND THE NAVY

Reference is made to the memorandum from the State-War Navy Coordinating Committee dated 14 March 1945, subject "Norwegian Expeditionary Force."

The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider, from a military point of view, that the Norwegian Ambassador may be informed by the State Department of all the reasons why the Combined Chiefs of Staff are unable to approve the Norwegian proposal to send an all-Norwegian expeditionary force to northern Norway, with the understanding that this disclosure will be coordinated with the Foreign Office. The reasons are as set forth in the letter from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Secretary of State dated 10 March 1945.

We concur in the above views.

TOP SECRET

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 13, 1945

~~TOP SECRET~~MEMORANDUM

TO: Colonel C.W. McCarthy, Secretary, State, War and Navy Coordinating Committee

FROM: William C. Trimble, Assistant Chief, Division of Northern European Affairs.

It would be appreciated if a memorandum along the following lines could be transmitted to the Secretary of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"The State Department has inquired as to the extent to which it may inform the Norwegian Ambassador of the reasons why the Combined Chiefs of Staff are unable to approve the Norwegian proposal to send an all-Norwegian expeditionary force to Northern Norway to operate under Soviet Command. These reasons are set forth in a communication addressed to the Secretary of State by Admiral Leahy in a letter dated March 10, no. CS 5517, S/36. The Norwegian proposal originated in a note from the Norwegian Ambassador to the Secretary of State dated January 18, 1945 which was subsequently transmitted to the War and Navy Departments. In connection with the nature of the reply to be made to the Norwegian Ambassador, the State Department assumes that the decision of the Combined Chiefs will be transmitted to the British Foreign Office through the British Joint Chiefs, and that the Foreign Office, in turn, will inform the Norwegian Government at London of the decision reached."



William C. Trimble
William C. Trimble

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 740132
By CD/XMS Date NOV 26 1976

~~SECRET~~

13 March 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF
STAFF:

Subject: Relief Supplies for Northern
Norway and Supplies for
Norwegian Military Forces.

The attached copy of an aide memoire from
the Norwegian Embassy has been referred to this
Committee.

It is requested that the Joint Chiefs of
Staff review the military considerations involved
and advise this Committee regarding a reply which
may be made through the Department of State to
the Norwegian Embassy.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

CHARLES W. MCCARTHY
Secretary

Encl.
Copy Aide Memoire
fr Norwegian Embassy.

~~SECRET~~

NORWEGIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

C-O-P-Y

~~Confidential~~

A I D E - M E M O I R E

The question of supplies, both as regards the civilian population and the military units, to the liberated parts of Norway meets with great difficulties. This applies also to the question of direct communication by code between the Norwegian Government and the Norwegian Commander-in-Chief in London and the Norwegian Military Mission and the Norwegian Government delegation in Northern Norway.

1. As regards supplies for the civilian population, permission has now been received as far as the Russians are concerned to send supplies from Scotland to Northern Norway. It is sufficient that the Norwegian authorities in London inform the Russian Ambassador as to the kind and quantity of goods to be sent, as well as the name, nationality and port of destination of the ships. This, of course is an important development. However, it appears that SHAEF and Scottish Command maintain that supplies from SHAEF's stocks in Great Britain can be sent only to territories liberated and controlled by SHAEF. The Norwegian Government has been informed that it is free to buy in the open market. This, however, is illusory as practically every commodity is being controlled by United Nations authorities and very little indeed can be bought outside such control.

DECLASSIFIED
NND 740132
By CD/KMS NARS, Date NOV 26 1978

According to the latest developments the prospects are that under a special arrangement most of the supplies needed for the liberated part of Finnmark during the 2nd and 3rd three-months' period may as an exception be obtained from British stocks. As regards other parts of Norway to be liberated hereafter, and also as regards later supplies for Finnmark, the problem as indicated still remains unsolved. This means that the procurement and shipment of such further supplies will involve the greatest difficulties as a result of the fact that SHAEF does not find it possible to send supplies from British and American military stocks as long as an understanding has not been reached as to the territory for which the Russians and the British-Americans, respectively, are responsible.

The present situation, according to which neither SHAEF nor the Russians accept responsibility for civilian supplies, is untenable. Here is an actual situation which must be met and taken care of. The only solution seems to be that supplies from SHAEF stocks be made available for the civilian population of the parts of Norway liberated and to be liberated. As SHAEF has already reserved supplies for all of Norway, it would seem that sending of supplies should not be hindered by the present uncertainty as to the responsibility for the territories in question.

2. The Norwegian military authorities have asked for complete equipment and supplies from British military stocks for 2 infantry battalions. They have also asked for about 300 tons of supplies

According to the latest developments the prospects are that under a special arrangement most of the supplies needed for the liberated part of Finnmark during the 2nd and 3rd three-months' period may as an exception be obtained from British stocks. As regards other parts of Norway to be liberated hereafter, and also as regards later supplies for Finnmark, the problem as indicated still remains unsolved. This means that the procurement and shipment of such further supplies will involve the greatest difficulties as a result of the fact that SHAEF does not find it possible to send supplies from British and American military stocks as long as an understanding has not been reached as to the territory for which the Russians and the British-Americans, respectively, are responsible.

The present situation, according to which neither SHAEF nor the Russians accept responsibility for civilian supplies, is untenable. Here is an actual situation which must be met and taken care of. The only solution seems to be that supplies from SHAEF stocks be made available for the civilian population of the parts of Norway liberated and to be liberated. As SHAEF has already reserved supplies for all of Norway, it would seem that sending of supplies should not be hindered by the present uncertainty as to the responsibility for the territories in question.

2. The Norwegian military authorities have asked for complete equipment and supplies from British military stocks for 2 infantry battalions. They have also asked for about 300 tons of supplies

for the Royal Norwegian Navy. These supplies have been released, but the problem of shipping them to Northern Norway has not been solved as yet. Negotiations in this respect are taking place in London.

It is of the utmost importance that the questions of civilian as well as military supplies for liberated Norway be solved. It is impossible for the Russians to supply either the military units (the police-battalions) or the civilian population, and it is therefore essential that the necessary supplies be obtained in Great Britain or in the United States.

3. The Norwegian Government and the Commander in Chief of the Norwegian Forces naturally consider it to be of the greatest importance to establish direct and uncontrolled communication by code with the Norwegian Military Mission and with the Norwegian Government Delegation in Northern Norway. The Russians have agreed to such communication between Northern Norway and the Norwegian Government in London as well as with the Norwegian Embassy in Moscow. It appears now, however, that SHAEF has not found it possible to accede to such direct communication by code for the reason that SHAEF is not in command in Northern Norway and has no control there. The Norwegian Government trusts that its British and American Allies will not place Norwegian authorities in a less favorable position than Russia has done.

The Norwegian Government considers it a matter of great urgency that a satisfactory solution of the above mentioned difficulties be arrived at soonest possible.

Washington, D.C. February 28 1945

TOP SECRET

14 March 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF:

Subject: Norwegian Expeditionary Force.

The State Department has inquired as to the extent to which it may inform the Norwegian Ambassador of the reasons why the Combined Chiefs of Staff are unable to approve the Norwegian proposal to send an all-Norwegian expeditionary force to Northern Norway to operate under Soviet Command. These reasons are set forth in a communication addressed to the Secretary of State by Admiral Leahy in a letter, dated 10 March, no. OS 5517, S/36. The Norwegian proposal originated in a note from the Norwegian Ambassador to the Secretary of State, dated 18 January 1945 which was subsequently transmitted to the War and Navy Departments. In connection with the nature of the reply to be made to the Norwegian Ambassador, the State Department assumes that the decision of the Combined Chiefs will be transmitted to the British Foreign Office through the British Joint Chiefs, and that the Foreign Office, in turn, will inform the Norwegian Government at London of the decision reached.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

CHARLES W. MCCARTHY
Secretary

SWNCC FILE

TOP SECRET

(3)

~~SECRET~~

13 March 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF
STAFF:

Subject: Relief Supplies for Northern
Norway and Supplies for
Norwegian Military Forces.

The attached copy of an aide memoire from
the Norwegian Embassy has been referred to this
Committee.

It is requested that the Joint Chiefs of
Staff review the military considerations involved
and advise this Committee regarding a reply which
may be made through the Department of State to
the Norwegian Embassy.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

CHARLES W. McCARTHY
Secretary

Encl.
Copy Aide Memoire
fr Norwegian Embassy.

SWNCC FILE

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 740132
By CD/KMS NOV 26 1976
NARS, Date

(2)

In reply refer to
NOE 857.727/2-1645

March 9, 1945

~~SECRET~~

My dear Mr. Secretary:

With reference to my letter of February 21, 1945, regarding the proposal of Crown Prince Olav of Norway to submit to the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff the question of direct radio communication between London and Northern Norway, I am enclosing a copy of an aide memoire on this subject dated February 28, which was left at the Department of State by the Norwegian Ambassador.

The aide memoire also refers to the difficulties encountered by the Norwegian Government in seeking to send relief supplies under the control of SHAEF to Northern Norway because that area is under Soviet operational command.

I should appreciate your view on the two subjects referred to in the aide memoire in order that an appropriate reply may be made to the Norwegian Ambassador.

I am sending a similar communication to the Secretary of the Navy.

Sincerely yours,

For the Acting Secretary of State:

James C. Duan

Enclosure:

Assistant Secretary

Copy of aide memoire.

The Honorable

Henry L. Stimson,

Secretary of War.

NORWEGIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

C-O-P-Y

~~Confidential~~

A I D E - M E M O I R E

The question of supplies, both as regards the civilian population and the military units, to the liberated parts of Norway meets with great difficulties. This applies also to the question of direct communication by code between the Norwegian Government and the Norwegian Commander-in-Chief in London and the Norwegian Military Mission and the Norwegian Government Delegation in Northern Norway.

1. As regards supplies for the civilian population, permission has now been received as far as the Russians are concerned to send supplies from Scotland to Northern Norway. It is sufficient that the Norwegian authorities in London inform the Russian Ambassador as to the kind and quantity of goods to be sent, as well as the name, nationality and port of destination of the ships. This, of course is an important development. However, it appears that SHAEF and Scottish Command maintain that supplies from SHAEF's stocks in Great Britain can be sent only to territories liberated and controlled by SHAEF. The Norwegian Government has been informed that it is free to buy in the open market. This, however, is illusory as practically every commodity is being controlled by United Nations authorities and very little indeed can be bought outside such control.

According to the latest developments the prospects are that under a special arrangement most of the supplies needed for the liberated part of Finnmark during the 2nd and 3rd three-months' period may as an exception be obtained from British stocks. As regards other parts of Norway to be liberated hereafter, and also as regards later supplies for Finnmark, the problem as indicated still remains unsolved. This means that the procurement and shipment of such further supplies will involve the greatest difficulties as a result of the fact that SHAERF does not find it possible to send supplies from British and American military stocks as long as an understanding has not been reached as to the territory for which the Russians and the British-Americans, respectively, are responsible.

The present situation, according to which neither SHAERF nor the Russians accept responsibility for civilian supplies, is untenable. Here is an actual situation which must be met and taken care of. The only solution seems to be that supplies from SHAERF stocks be made available for the civilian population of the parts of Norway liberated and to be liberated. As SHAERF has already reserved supplies for all of Norway, it would seem that sending of supplies should not be hindered by the present uncertainty as to the responsibility for the territories in question.

2. The Norwegian military authorities have asked for complete equipment and supplies from British military stocks for 2 infantry battalions. They have also asked for about 300 tons of supplies

for the Royal Norwegian Navy. These supplies have been released, but the problem of shipping them to Northern Norway has not been solved as yet. Negotiations in this respect are taking place in London.

It is of the utmost importance that the questions of civilian as well as military supplies for liberated Norway be solved. It is impossible for the Russians to supply either the military units (the police-battalions) or the civilian population, and it is therefore essential that the necessary supplies be obtained in Great Britain or in the United States.

3. The Norwegian Government and the Commander in Chief of the Norwegian Forces naturally consider it to be of the greatest importance to establish direct and uncontrolled communication by code with the Norwegian Military Mission and with the Norwegian Government Delegation in Northern Norway. The Russians have agreed to such communication between Northern Norway and the Norwegian Government in London as well as with the Norwegian Embassy in Moscow. It appears now, however, that SHAEF has not found it possible to accede to such direct communication by code for the reason that SHAEF is not in command in Northern Norway and has no control there. The Norwegian Government trusts that its British and American Allies will not place Norwegian authorities in a less favorable position than Russia has done.

The Norwegian Government considers it a matter of great urgency that a satisfactory solution of the above mentioned difficulties be arrived at soonest possible.

Washington, D.C. February 28, 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
NOE

February 21, 1945

SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

With reference to my letter of February 5, 1945 and previous correspondence regarding Norwegian military matters, I am enclosing a paraphrase of a telegram just received from our Embassy near the Norwegian Government in London concerning the proposal of Crown Prince Olav of Norway to take up with United States Joint Chiefs of Staff the question of direct radio communications between London and northern Norway.

I am sending a similar communication to the Secretary of the Navy.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Joseph C. Grew

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Paraphrase of NOWEG 19.

The Honorable

Henry L. Stimson,

Secretary of War.

①

PARAPHRASE OF SECRET INCOMING TELEGRAM

FROM: The American Mission near the Norwegian Government.
TO: Secretary of State
NUMBER: NOWEG 19.
DATED: February 16, 7 p.m.

The Norwegian Foreign Minister informs me that he will request Crown Prince Olav to submit to the Joint Chiefs of Staff the matter of direct radio communications between the United Kingdom and Norwegian officials in northern Norway. Notes received by the Norwegian Government from the British and Soviet Governments last fall stated that the British and Soviets were agreeable to the Norwegian Government communicating in cipher by radio with its representatives in northern Norway. Since that time messages have been routed via the Norwegian Embassy in Moscow in a cipher which is believed to be secure. Despite their former assurances, the British have recently informed the Norwegians that the new British SOE transmitter which is now en route cannot carry communications direct to the United Kingdom in confidential Norwegian code because the area is not under the control of SHAEF.

The Foreign Minister suggested that the Department of State be informed of the forthcoming proposal of Olav's. Although he did not specifically request it, the Foreign Minister intimated that he would appreciate the support of the Department of State in securing direct confidential radio communications from the United Kingdom for messages to be exchanged between the Norwegian Government and its representatives in liberated sections of Norway. Serious delays occur in communications sent via Moscow. The Foreign Minister stated that the Soviet military authorities in Northern Norway have now formally asked Colonel Dahl, the Norwegian Commanding Officer, to assume operational responsibility in the liberated territory from Kirkenes west, all Soviet forces being east of that line.

There would seem to be important advantages in some definite agreement as to who has military responsibility in northern Norway, whether it be the U.S.S.R., Norway, SHAEF or some definitely agreed upon combination. At the

present

- 2 -

present time, Norwegian troops nominally under SHAEF are in practical control of sections of Norway which SHAEF considers to be a Soviet operational area--a condition which makes it impossible to find a satisfactory solution to questions of supply, communication and similar matters. Until settled, this will continue to be a source of friction and delay if, indeed, nothing worse results.

PARAPHRASED:NOE:WCT:NLA

2-17-45