

Message Text

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SUBJ: TEXT OF NY TID ARTICLE ENTITLED "LORAN C REBUILT IN
SECRET?"

REF: OSLO 3147

1. FOLLOWING IS COMPLETE TEXT OF ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED ON FRONT
AND BACK PAGES OF NY TID ON 6 JUL 1977. REFTEL PERTAINS.

2. FRONT PAGE HEADLINE: "AMERICAN SOURCES INDICATE: LORAN C REBUILT
IN SECRET ?"

LEAD: THE NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES ARE FACED WITH DEMANDS BY THE US
CONCERNING REBUILDING OF NORWEGIAN LORAN C STATIONS... LORAN C IS
TO BECOME A PART OF A NEW COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM FOR NUCLEAR-
ARMED AMERICAN SUBMARINES IN NORTH ATLANTIC..SYSTEM BEARS NAME
PILGRIM

AND ALREADY APPEARED IN U.S. DEFENSE BUDGET FOR 1976...NORWEGIAN
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT BRIEFED STORTING
ABOUT THIS DEVELOPMENT, DESPITE FACT THAT
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LORAN C HAS BEEN HANDLED AS A CLASSIFIED MATTER BY STORTING FOR
MORE THAN A YEAR. 1. THE DEVELOPMENT OF PILGRIM MEANS THAT THE
LORAN C ISSUE CHANGES FROM BEING NAVIGATION SYSTEM FOR SUBMARINES
CARRYING NUCLEAR ROCKETS, TO BECOMING INTEGRATED ELEMENT OF THEIR STR
AT-
EGIC COMMAND AND CONTROL L SETUP... LITTLE OR NO INFORMATION CAN
BE OBTAINED FROM RESPONSIBLE NORWEGIAN SOURCES ON THIS QUESTION...

(TRANSCRIPT OF TWO LINES FROM A FACSIMILE: PILGRIM -\$1.8 MILL IN FY 1976 (P-1 LINE ITEM NO. 168) PILGRIM IS A SYSTEM USING LORAN C TRANSMITTERS TO PROVIDE BROADCASTING RELAY FOR SSBN'S AND OTHER USERS REQUIRING STRATEGIC COMMAND AND CONTROL LINK. PILGRIM WILL BE INSTALLED IN NORLANT AND MED AREAS IN SSN AND SSBN SUBMARINES.)

3. BACK PAGE HEADLINE: "NEW COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM FOR SUBMARINES".

LEAD: "U.S. DEMAND: REBUILD LORAN C STATIONS." (REPEATE OF TEXT OF FACSIMILE) THIS INFORMATION STEMS FROM SAME CONGRESSIONAL HEARING WHICH WE DISCUSSED IN THE LAST ISSUE...THIS SECTION (OF DEFENSE BUDGET) AGAIN SHOWS THAT ALL ATTEMPTS TO DENY THAT LORAN C IS AN ELEMENT OF STRATEGIC COMMAND SYSTEM FOR NUCLEAR ROCKETS EITHER RESULTS FROM CONSCIOUS LIES SPREAD OUT OF FEAR OF (PUBLIC) OPINION, OR FROM INCREDIBLE IGNORANCE ABOUT THE FACTS OF CASE.

STORY: IT IS CLEAR (FROM DEFENSE BUDGET) THAT A DRASTIC ALTERING HAS BEEN EFFECTED OR WILL BE MADE OF LORAN C STATIONS TO MAKE THIS SYSTEM A PART OF A NEW COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM FOR AMERICAN NUCLEAR SUBMARIENES CARRYING ATOMIC WEAPONS IN NORTH ATLANTIC. DO NOT KNOW ANYTHING (SUBTITLE)
LITTLE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ABOUT THIS FROM POLITICAL AUTHORITIES. NEITHER PRESS SECRETARY EGIL HELLE NOR UNDERSECRETARY THORVOLD STOLTENBERG IN FOREIGN MINISTRY KNOW ABOUT THIS MATTER, UNCLASSIFIED

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NOR DOES DEFENSE MINISTER'S PERSONAL SECRETARY HARR NULSEN. UNDERSECRETARY PER ENGSTROM IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SAYS HE IS NOT ABLE TO GIVE NY TID AN INFORMATION ON REBUILDING OF LORAN C.
"DO YOU KNOW WHETHER THIS SYSTEM HAS BEEN DEALT WITH IN US. DEFENSE BUDGET FOR 1976?"

"NO, I DON'T."

"ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN NORWAY AND US ON THIS QUESTION?"

"NO"

"SO YOU ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY ANYTHING ABOUT WHICH NORWEGIAN BODY (SIC-I.E., AUTHORITY) THAT MIGHT HAVE HANDLED THIS MATTER?"

"NO"

"MEMBERS OF DEFENSE COMMITTEE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF STORTING WHO HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY NY TID ARE NOT AWARE THAT THIS MATTER HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF STORTING.

LIES (SUBTITLE)

AMONG THOSE WHO EITHER LIE OPENLY OR ARE INCREDIBLY IGNORANT ABOUT MATTERS THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE WELL INFORMED ON, IS THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE U.S. NAVY, JAMES HOLLOWAY. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN OSLO LAST WEEK HE SAID, ACCORDING TO MORGENBLADET:

"I CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY LORAN C HAS BEEN MADE A POLITICALLY CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE. NO ONE CAN BELIEVE THAT THIS EQUIPMENT HAS ANY STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE."

WE PREFER TO INTERPRET THE AMERICAN ADMIRAL'S UTTERANCES AS FLAT LIES, MADE FOR PURPOSE OF MISLEADING NORWEGIAN PUBLIC OPINION WHICH HAS ALREADY FOR YEARS BEEN TAKEN IN BY NORWEGIAN POLITICAL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES. OTHERS MIGHT CHOOSE TO BELIEVE THAT THE AMERICAN

ADMIRAL-WHO HAD BEEN INVITED TO NORWAY BY TOP LEADERSHIP IN THE NORWEGIAN NAVY-IS NOT INFORMED ABOUT A MATTER THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE HIS SPECIALITY.

WHO DECIDES? (SUBTITLE)

MORE INTERESTING THAT USUAL ATTEMPTS BY LEADING AMERICAN MILITARY SOURCES TO OBSCURE REAL FACTS, IS HANDLING OF THIS MATTER BY UNCLASSIFIED

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NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES.

OBVIOUSLY AMERICANS HAVE LONG SINCE DECIDED TO INTRODUCE PILGRIM, WHICH FACES US WITH IMPORTANT QUESTION CONCERNING HANDLING OF- OR PROCEDURES FOLLOWED IN- THIS MATTER: HOW LONG HAVE NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES KNOWN ABOUT THE AMERICAN PLANS FOR REBUILDING OF LORAN C STATIONS?

HAVE NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES BEEN DECEIVED BY THE U.S? OR, IF NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE CONDUCTED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U.S. FOR SOME TIME: WHY HAS NOT THE STARTING BEEN INFORMED?... WHY HAS NOT THE STARTING BEEN BRIEFED DURING EXTENSIVE HANDLING OF THE SCHEI REPORT?.

END ARTICLE.

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