

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 03392 181053Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1805

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

COMDT COAST GUARD

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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CINCUSNAVEUR

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3392

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAG: ETEL MARR DA FO

SUBJECT: CLARINET PILGRIM

REF: A) STATE 269489 DTG 132257Z NOV 75

B) OSLO 5043 DTG 121305Z NOV 75 (NOTAL)

C) OSLO 4915 DTG 051421Z NOV 75 (NOTAL)

D) STATE 139562 DTG 140014 JUN 75

E) COPENHAGEN 1679 DTG 131610Z JUN 75 (NOTAL)

LONDON FOR COAST GUARD

SUMMARY: EMBOFF BRIEFED DANES ON CURRENT STATUS OF THE CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM. DANES SUGGEST THAT OFFICIAL USG REQUEST BE PRESENTED TO THEM IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORIZATION TO PRESENT NOTE TO THE
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PAGE 02 COPENH 03392 181053Z

DANISH GOVERNMENT ON CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM AND TO PROVIDE

THEM TECHNICAL INFORMATION ON THE SYSTEM. END SUMMARY.

1) EMBOFF DISCUSSED CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM NOVEMBER 14 WITH RUTH CHRISTENSEN (NOT PETERSEN AS IN REF D), HEAD OF FAROESE AFFAIRS IN MINISTRY OF STATE, IN ORDER TO BRIEF HER ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDING NORWEGIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES OF THE SYSTEM (REF C). IN RESPONSE TO HER INQUIRY, EMBOFF SAID TIMING OF THE NORWEGIAN DECISION WAS STILL INDEFINITE, BUT THAT ICELANDIC APPROVAL HAD ALREADY BEEN GRANTED. HE ALSO STRESSED FACT THAT THE SYSTEM WOULD BE A DUAL-PURPOSE ONE, GIVING CAPABILITY OF INTER-STATION COMMUNICATIONS AS WELL AS U.S. NAVY FLEET BROADCAST USE. (THIS WAS IN RESPONSE TO ADVICE GIVEN USCG CAPT. GODDU AND DAVID HAISLIP DURING THEIR VISITS TO COPENHAGEN THIS SUMMER, BY OTTO GREDAL, HEAD OF THE DANISH NAVIGATION AND HYDROGRAPHIC ADMINISTRATION, THAT THE DUAL-PURPOSE ASPECT WOULD BE VERY SIGNIFICANT IN SELLING THE PROJECT EVENTUALLY TO THE FAROESE - AS WELL AS THE DANISH - GOVERNMENT).

2. CHRISTENSEN SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF THE DANISH GOVERNMENT WERE GIVEN A FORMAL USG REQUEST AT THIS POINT. THE VARIOUS DANISH AUTHORITIES INVOLVED IN THIS QUESTION, INCLUDING THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, NAVIGATION AND HYDROGRAPHIC ADMINISTRATION, AND MFA, SHOULD, SHE EXPLAINED, BE WORKING IN COORDINATION ON THE PROJECT. MOREOVER, SHE WISHED TO RAISE CLARINET PILGRIM CONFIDENTIALLY WITH THE DANISH GOVERNOR IN THE FAROES, LEIF GROTH, TO OBTAIN HIS ESTIMATE OF THE PROBABLE REACTION OF THE FAROESE GOVERNMENT.

3) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE EMBASSY BE AUTHORIZED TO PRESENT A NOTE TO THE DANISH MFA BASED ON DRAFT CONTAINED IN REF D. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE FIFTH PARAGRAPH BE ALTERED TO REFLECT A MORE DEFINITE ASSURANCE THAT THE SYSTEM WILL HAVE A LORAN INTER-STATION COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY AS WELL AS THE FLEET BROADCAST CAPABILITY. PLEASE ADVISE.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 COPENH 03392 181053Z

4) EMBOFF INFORMED GREDAL NOVEMBER 14 OF THE ABOVE CONVERSATION AND MENTIONED THE NORWEGIAN REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL SPECIFICS. HE INFORMED GREDAL THAT USG WAS IN THE PROCESS OF PROVIDING ANSWERS WITHOUT MENTIONING SPECIFICALLY THE MEETING IN LONDON NOVEMBER 14. SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY BE AUTHORIZED TO TRANSMIT INFORMATION SUPPLIED THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION AT LONDON MEETING (REF A) TO GREDAL.

5) COMMENT: CHRISTENSEN'S SUGGESTION DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE DANES WILL MOVE AHEAD INDEPENDENTLY OF THE NORWEGIAN DECISION. SHE MADE CLEAR THAT THE DANISH DECISION ON WHEN, AND IF, TO PRESENT THE CLARINET PILGRIM PROJECT TO FAROESE PRIMIN ATLI DAM, OR TO THE FAROESE GOVERNMENT, WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED. SHE CLEARLY WOULD PREFER THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT POINT TO PRIOR ICELANDIC AND NORWEGIAN APPROVAL WHEN THEY DO APPROACH THE FAROESE. BY PRESENTING THE DANES WITH THE OFFICIAL REQUEST AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, WE ARE LIKELY TO BE IN A BETTER POSITION TOMOVE QUICKLY AFTER NORWAY ACTS, AND WE MAY, PERHAPS, IN CASE OF NORWEGIAN DELAY, BE ABLE TO CONVINCING THE DANES TO TAKE THE STEP FIRST.
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