



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

February 2, 1949

~~TOP SECRET~~

SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

NORTH ATLANTIC
DEFENSE PACT

Norwegian Foreign Minister Lange has informed Ambassador Bay that the point on which the recent Scandinavian conference collapsed was Norway's determination to remain free to initiate and pursue military discussions at any and all times. While the Norwegian government still has certain questions about the proposed North Atlantic agreement, and is concerned over the possible size of the domestic group opposing Norwegian participation, Lange indicated that Norway is prepared to enter discussions of and preparation for defense against possible attack.

Lange also expressed the view that it was extremely doubtful whether Denmark will join the North Atlantic pact. On the other hand Ambassador Marvel in Copenhagen believes that while Denmark will initially attempt to secure US military support for a proposal of continued Danish neutrality, the government will in the long run accede to the pact without facing any serious internal repercussions.

The Icelandic Foreign Minister, noting that Iceland would not have joined a Scandinavia pact under any circumstances, has reported that in his view the recent Scandinavian meeting revealed that Denmark's position was essentially similar to that of Sweden and that Norway was encountering more domestic opposition to the Atlantic treaty than it had expected.

We have informed the Iranian Ambassador that while we consider it impractical to include Iran in the proposed North Atlantic agreement, we are equally anxious to avoid giving the impression that by placing emphasis on our commitment to western Europe we are abandoning Iran. We hope the Iranian people will realize that there will be no lessening of US support for Iran and that aggression against Iran will not go unchallenged.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12055, Sec. 3-402

State Dept. Guideline, June 12, 1979

By NLT: HL NARS, Date 11-13-80