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TELEGRAM

284895

U.K.

From THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DOMINION AFFAIRS
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

MOST SECRET & PERSONAL

CYPHER

LONDON, January 13th, 1940

CIRCULAR D. 22

Circular D. 22. Most Secret and Personal. Following
for your Prime Minister, Begins:

My telegram Circular D. 16 of January 10th. We have
now further considered proposal referred to in my telegram
Circular D. 6, to take naval action to stop traffic of iron
ore from Sweden to Germany through Norwegian territorial
waters. Having regard to attitude of Swedish and Norwegian
Governments as relayed in my telegram Circular D. 15, and
to more general considerations including importance of
maintaining position whereby supplies for assistance to
Finland can be transmitted through Sweden, we have reached
the conclusion it would be best to postpone for the present
taking the action contemplated. We are still, of course,
very anxious to secure co-operation of the Swedish and
Norwegian Governments in diminishing the supply of iron
ore to Germany and have in mind the possibility of initiating
further negotiations with those Governments to this end.
In the circumstances we do not propose for the time being
to inform those Governments of our decision to postpone
naval action in territorial waters. Ends.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DOMINION AFFAIRS

Rec'd Ottawa 6:40 p.m.