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TELEGRAM

UK
C 284874

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

CYPHER

MOST SECRET

LONDON, December 23, 1939.

CIRCULAR D. 126

Circular D. 126. Most Secret. Following for your Prime Minister, Begins. We have been in communication with the French Government regarding a possible communication to Swedish and Norwegian Governments on the subject of assistance to Finland. My immediately following telegram gives the text of the instructions suggested by the French Government to be sent to the French and British representatives at Stockholm and Oslo. We are informing the French Government that we agree that communication should be made to the Swedish and Norwegian Governments in a sense proposed, though we should prefer the 2nd paragraph to refer to "supply of material on credit or otherwise" rather than "supply of material and grant of loans".

We are now examining with all urgency what naval, military or air assistance we could give in case of necessity to the two Scandinavian states and will consider the matter further in the light of this examination.

We are also mentioning to the French Government that in this connection we have very much in mind the importance to Germany of the Swedish iron ore deposits and the possibility that, if the Swedish and Norwegian Governments accept our cooperation against the Russian threat, this may facilitate their cooperation in denying these supplies to Germany. Ends.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DOMINION AFFAIRS.

Recd 25/12
Received Ottawa: