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TELEGRAM

U.K.  
C 284889

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

MOST SECRET AND PERSONAL

GYPHER

LONDON, January 5, 1940.

Circular D. 6

Circular D. 6. Most Secret and Personal. Following for your Prime Minister, Begins:

1. We view with grave concern recent sinkings of British and neutral ships in Norwegian territorial waters and have been led by this to re-examine question of immunity at present accorded to German cargoes passing through those waters.

2. In an informal discussion Secretary-General of Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs suggested that action on our part to stop German trade from Narvik would be regarded by the Swedish Government as a purely Norwegian affair. In these circumstances we propose to approach the Norwegian Government in matter in the first instance, though Swedish Government would simultaneously be informed as a matter of courtesy since goods of Sweden <sup>ish</sup> originally are shipped to Germany from Norwegian ports.

3. As indicated in the last paragraph of my telegram Circular D. 126, December 23rd, we had already given some consideration to the situation regarding supply of iron ore from Swedish mine fields to Germany. We are given to understand that supply of this ore is an essential requirement of Germany at the present time and we have been exploring what method could be devised for stopping or at any rate restricting it. During the winter months when northern part of Gulf of Bothnia is frozen up the only method by which greater part of ore, viz. from Northern or Galivare fields, can reach Germany is by sea from Narvik. This traffic proceeds almost entirely through Norwegian