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GENERAL

1. Norwegians favor strengthening Swedish defenses--The Norwegian Defense Minister has expressed to Admiral Conolly his belief that the US and UK should "build up" Swedish military strength by selling the Swedes, for cash, any available military equipment, with special emphasis on radar and fighter planes. The Minister considers that such sales would provide air defense in depth for Norway. He does not expect Sweden to join the Atlantic Pact "soon" because of Swedish-Soviet trade commitments and a desire not to provoke the USSR needlessly. The Norwegian Minister quoted the Swedish Prime Minister as "authority" for his confident belief that the Swedes would resist any invasion or "encroachments on her neutrality" from the east.

OSD review(s) completed.

NAVY review(s) completed.

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