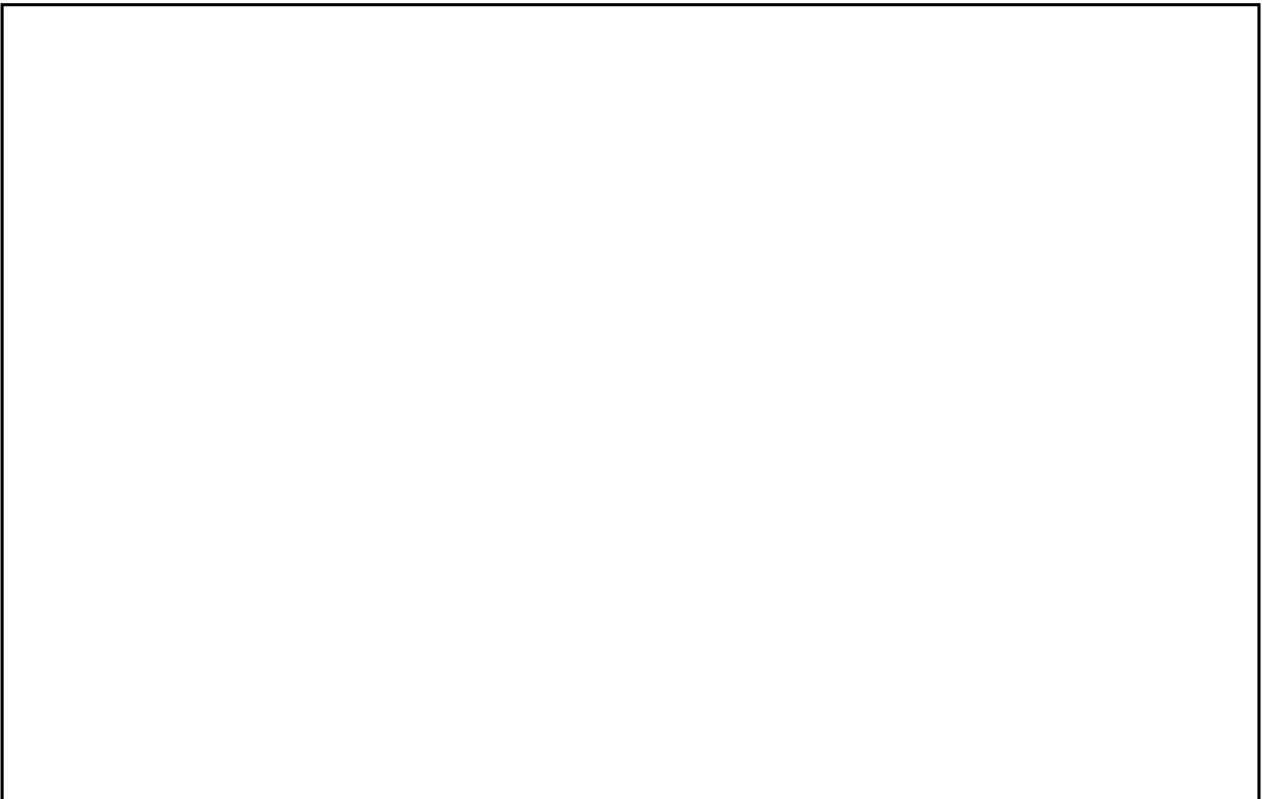


16 January 1956

NSC BRIEFING

FORMATION OF A SCANDINAVIAN FEDERATION

I. The Soviets have, on their own initiative in the past six months, indicated to the Finns that they are willing to discuss the return of Karelia.



25X1

II.

B. The formation of the neutral Scandinavian federation would be one method to entice Norway (and Denmark) to leave NATO.

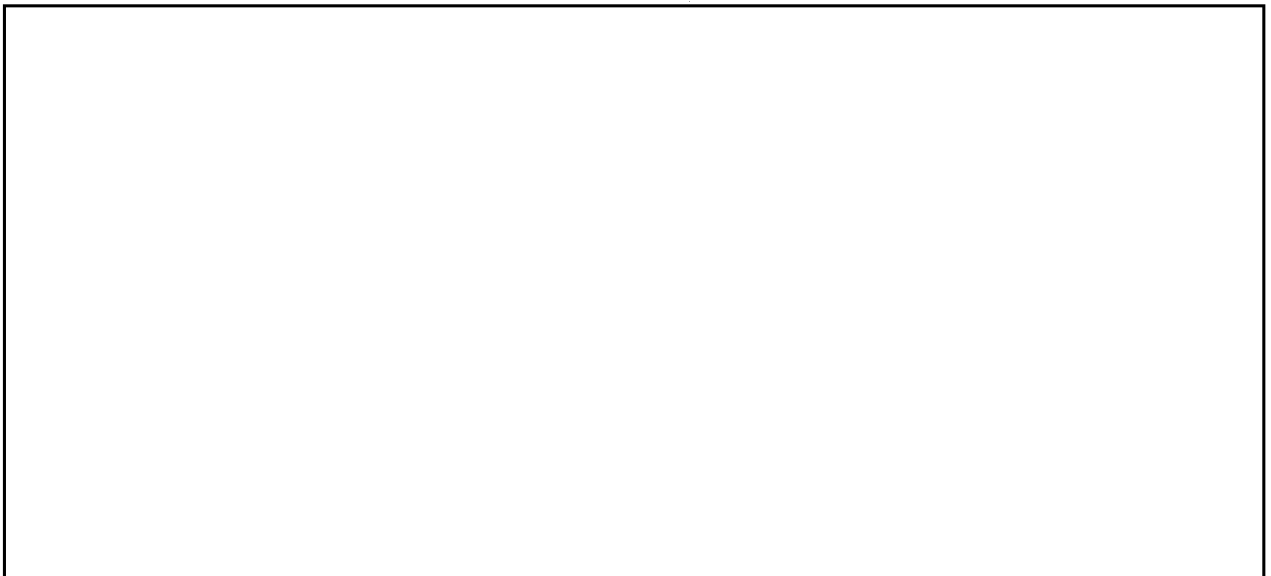
III.



25X6

25X1

~~SECRET~~



- a. In 1949 the Swedes promoted a Scandinavian Defense Alliance of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, to keep Norway and Denmark from joining NATO.
- IV. A Soviet proposal that both NATO and the Warsaw Pact powers recognize the neutrality and inviolability of Scandinavia would have a strong appeal to the Scandinavians.
- A. Neutrality sentiment is still strong in ~~Sweden, Norway and Denmark.~~
 - B. Defense is regarded as an onerous economic burden.
 - C. It would increase Iceland's desire to oust the US from the NATO airbase at Keflavik so it could join such a federation.
- V. Nevertheless, there is little immediate prospects for the formation of a Scandinavian neutral bloc.

~~SECRET~~

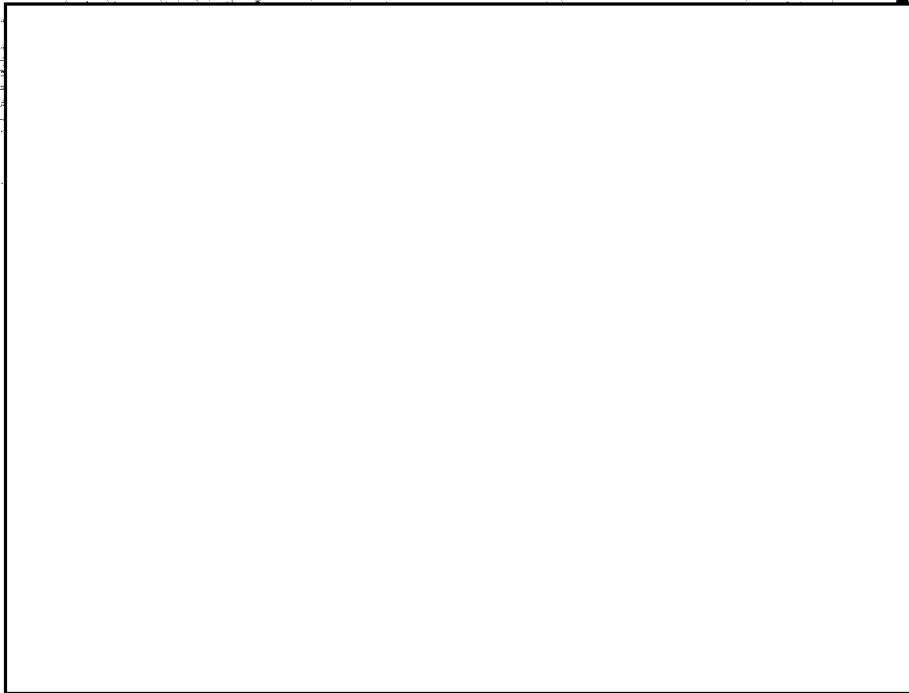
- ~~SECRET~~
- A. The majority within the Norwegian government labors under no illusions regarding the USSR or the weakness of an isolated Scandinavian Defense Pact.
 - B. The Danes, having committed their course to NATO, are not disposed by nature to undertake such a radical reorientation.
 - 1. The Prime Minister is a vigorous defender of NATO.
 - C. The Swedes, while undoubtedly willing to explore any scheme to reduce the danger of a war engulfing Scandinavia, do not trust the Russians and fear that the burden for preserving "armed neutrality" in the North would fall upon them, a task which they cannot assume individually.

BRIEFING

~~SECRET~~ 17 JANUARY 1956

SOVIET PUSH FOR "SCANDINAVIAN FEDERATION"

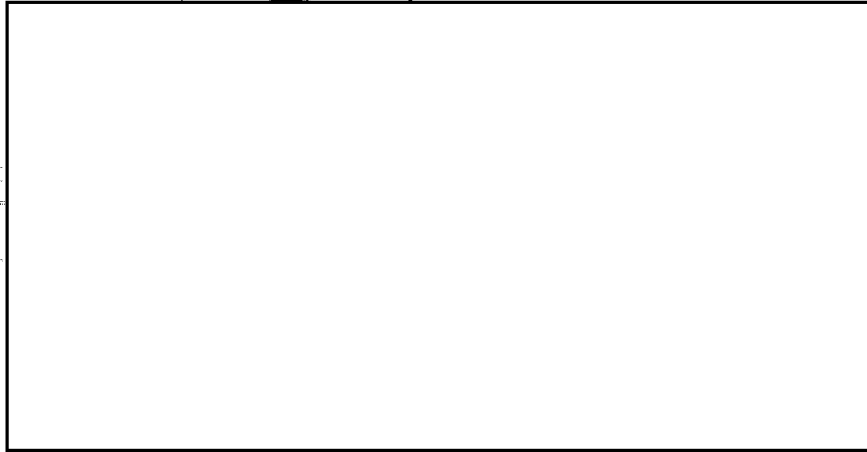
1. In past six months--on their own initiative
--have reportedly indicated to the Finns
they are willing to discuss return of
Karelia.



2. Other evidence--including Soviet
propaganda--supports USSR interest
in formation of "neutral" Nordic
region.

25X1

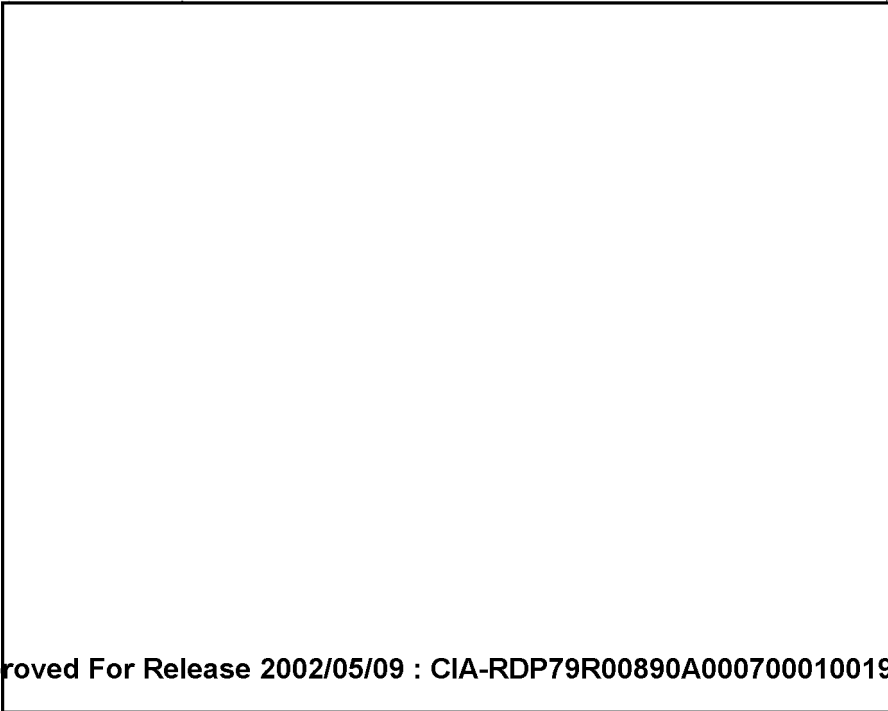
II.



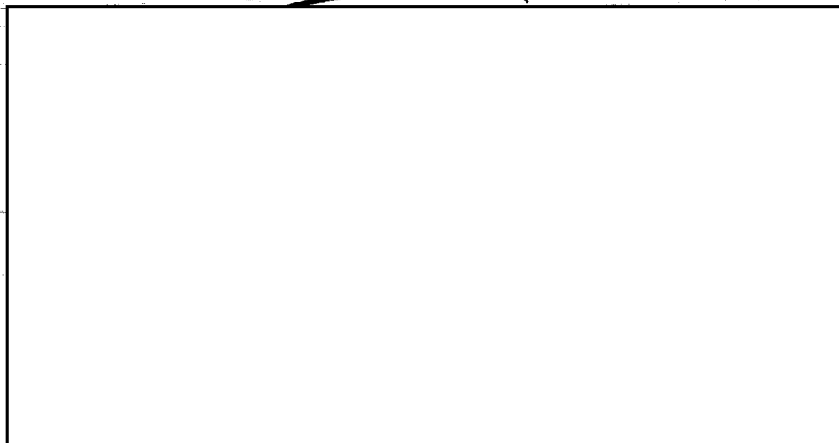
25X1

B. Formation of a neutral Scandinavian "federation" would be one method to entice Norway (and Denmark) to leave NATO.

III.



25X1



25X1

1. In 1949, Swedes promoted a "Scandinavian Defense Alliance" of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, in effort to keep Norway, Denmark out of NATO.