

Swedish Security Strategy during the Cold War

-The Soviet Threat and Cooperation with Western Countries-

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Swedish Neutrality 1834

Decline of Sweden as Baltic Sea Empire

(Östersjöväldet)

 Napoleon War (Loss of Finland)

Karl XIV Johan:

"System of strict and independent neutrality"

(system av sträng och oberoende neutralitet)

Small state consciousness



• "non-aligned in peacetime, aiming to be neutral in war" (formed around 1957-1958).

Strict neutrality from 1834 was abandoned.

Sweden and the Second World War

- German troops transferred through Sweden
 - transported more than about 2 million soldiers from Norway to Finland between 1940 and 1943.



- Air strike on Stockholm-city, Södertälje and Strängnäs by Soviet Union (1944.2.22)
 - Soviet as an increasing real threat to Sweden.





 Swedish Extradition of Baltic Soldiers to Soviet Union.

 "Swedish neutrality will compromise on extern pressure."

- Alexandra Kolontaj

 "Sweden cannot ignore Soviet pressure and authority."

- Iriya Chervichov.

New Defense Plan

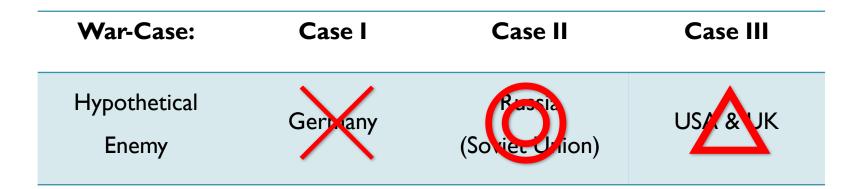
 Defense Minister Per Edvin Sköld ordered Supreme Commander of Swedish Armed Forces, Helge Jung to formulate a new defense plan (June 28, 1944).

 Commander Jung estimated that the world will be divided by two blocs;

USA + UK vs. USSR



Three War-Cases



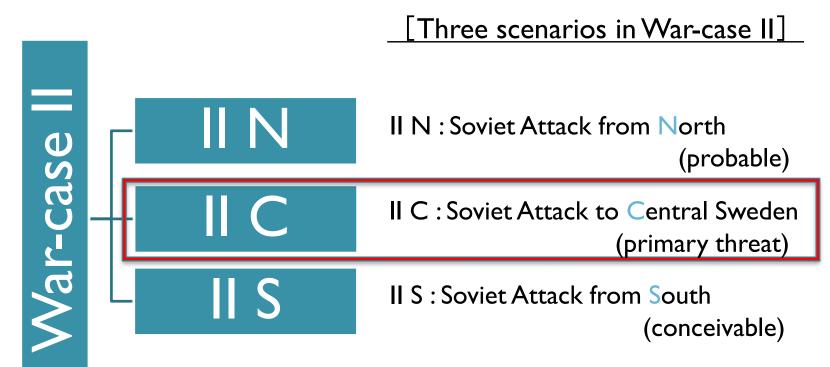
- The Case I: Germany was totally beaten and the German threat was no longer realistic. (abandoned)
- The Case II : Soviet was the main threat. (remained)
- The Case III : The possibility was extremely low.
 (This case remained to enhance reliability of the neutrality)

Östen Undén's View of the Neutrality

"Limiting hypothetical enemy to Soviet Union can harm the reliability of Swedish neutrality"

Östen Undén Minister of Foreign Affaires

Case II: Three scenarios



- Sweden cannot defend itself alone.
- Nuclear weapon will be necessary for Swedish defense
- Main strategy is to gain time until Sweden receives military support. [Q] From which country [or countries]???

The Ghost Rockets (Spökraketerna)



Ghost rockets (Spökraketer)

- A large number of flares concerved in Sweden.
- Swedish ment was an cough to lentify flying

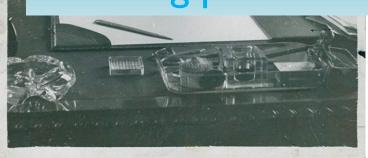
Swedish Air Force (SAF) approached The British Royal air Force (RAF) to request joint investigation (Juny 8, 1946).





 SAF notified RAF that they would handle the whole negotiations to

Officers of Swedish Armed Forces never trusted the Socialdemocratic government especially Östen Undén, who was blamed for being pro-Soviet Union.



The British Ambassador to Sweden Sir Cecil B. Jerram

of Foreign Affaires.

Dual-track Diplomacy
by SAF

(the origins of Western cooperation)

The Revelation of the Secret



Swedish Prime Minister Tage Erlander

- Swedish Prime Minister Tage Erlander was informed about the confident plan through British broadcasting.
- Soviet news agency TASS also reported and revealed the Swedish and British cooperation.



Bengt Nordenskiöld

- The chief of staff of Swedish Air Force Bengt Nordenskiöld interrupted the mission and apologized to RAF.
- Saved some possibilities for future cooperation between the two countries.

After 1947

- Britain's financial crisis and withdrawal from India (leading to decline in power)
- Swedish acceptance of the Marshall Plan
- SAF developed a new secret cooperation with the American Strategic Air Command.
- Sweden has been entrusted the defense of NATO's Northern Flank, the Baltic Sea by the end of 1950's.