November 3, 1915

A critical time for Sweden?

The latest war events and the development of the war in general indicates that we are getting closer to a very serious time. The Central powers have in recent operations moved in to South Russia and xxxxx of more secure connections with Turkey have little power to avoid the dangers that are threatening us; possibly are they rather meant to hurry them on.

We can see how England after one year's campaign have failed to cause Germany any major damage. There seems to be only one other way for the English men now and that is an attack from the north through the Baltic Sea. It is true that our military experts see such an operation as unfeasible and improbable and against all strategic rules, but during this war many actions have taken place against all strategic rules and which for a long time has been considered unfeasible, so one cannot be certain of anything.

The common English man has probably a hard time to understand what the English nave has done, and still do, and for him it may seem but simple and effective to press on into the Baltic Sea. And he probably can't find any obstacles for the English to push forward into the Baltic Sea with their smaller, faster vessels and submarines and thereby damage Germany's remaining sea trade and further isolate Germany. Not to mention the impeding effect this could have on the German operations at sea around the Baltic coasts. The possibility of operations at sea in Öresund and around our coasts are in fact possible and the consequences for us are, like mentioned before, incalculable. It's in the nature of such events it is clear that Germany must try to stop such attacks, but perhaps sooner than we can imagine will we be in the middle of the combatant countries.

With the threat of an attack through Öresund it is likely that Germany wishes that we will close this channel. This would be a reason for complications with this country. The position of Öresund as international waters has been a source to many complications.

Germany is not a stranger to the possibility of England trying to attack this way, which is clear based on the increased surveillance of Öresund and Bälten along with other movements. If the English would take on such a sea operation we can expect it will be carried through with energy, before weather and season will hinder them.

But our country isn't just threatened by these dangers. The tactics of the English, which were carried out in Italy, Greece and other countries, by cut off our import of coal, sea trade etc, indicates that we can expect that they will soon make a choice.

We will be forced to do errands for England and thereby disturb the relation with Germany. What the outcome our submissiveness with such demands would lead to we will likely find out when we have to figure out the final results of the war, because then there will be no one that will be interested in the former strictly neutral nation. Only the politics of a purposeful power will give us the respect and consideration which only a character (?) can gain as well as an opponent. Miserable tottering between the fighting powers will only because Sweden fateful punishment as it has done to many folks who have been lacking in strong will.