

US Expands Defensive Perimeter



By Dr. R. Pletsch

President Trump signed a series of agreements with the Prime Minister of Denmark and the Prime Minister of Greenland. The articles I read at first opposed calling it a defeat for the United States. I found this in a well-written article by Lalun Sutherland. She believed Trump when he talked about the need to possibly buy or occupy Greenland.

It has since been revealed that the United States was given "permanent control over security and all other needs of the territory". Neither Greenland nor Denmark have many immigrants in the US and is not a well known commodity. Greenland is the size of Texas without a standing military. It has been defended by Denmark which is about half the size of Maine, but bigger than Maryland. Much of Greenland is very sparsely populated and goes North into the Arctic.

It is well documented that Chinese and Russian military vessels have ignored Greenland's borders. This is a threat to our national defense from the North. Time Magazine reports the State Department says "this ensures that Greenland will forever be part of the strategic defense area of North America".

The United States has had a defense agreement that dates back to 1951. This was due to the tensions during the Cold War. Denmark has only a total of only 123 military planes and helicopters in their Air Force and has only 127 ships in their Navy. In comparison, the United States has about 13,000 combat planes and helicopters and has about 232 combat ships. The United States had two very large bases during the Cold War. They have permission to rebuild, improve and enlarge them. They will be permitted to build more bases on the North shore and islands of Greenland.

After the initial shock of the agreement, little negative about the agreement can be found. No NATO member has expressed anything negative. Torrey Taussig, Director of Transatlantic Security, stated "this is a positive step for the United States relations with Western allies".

I have not seen articles in the American press but prime consideration is that Greenland now has their air space controlled by the United States while they maintain the control over commercial flights. The US military and civilian workers will live in new housing built by the US government and Denmark will still have sovereignty of the territory. Fox News commentator, Sean Hannity, in an interview with the President was told if the US wanted more control, it would then be responsible to take over the debt of the country and pay government officials, all government employees and anyone on their welfare. It would have cost an enormous sum. Also mentioned that our government has access to the minerals in the area.