

Naparsearniaraluarluni naneminit pisarineqarpoq ¹

(Kalaallisut ² for "Tel est pris qui croyait prendre" ³)

(19 September 2026)

The United Kingdom of Denmark, the "Land of The People" ⁴, and Presocrat XLV and XLII are said to sign forthwith a Treaty of Arctic Military Security.

Worth noting is that at the peak of the Cold War the US was running 17 bases across Greenland, manned by roughly 10,000 troops, while today only one, *Pituffik Space Base* (formerly *Thule Air Base*), remains somewhat operational. Every other site has been decommissioned over the years, or simply walked away from, including *Camp Century*, the under-ice facility conceived to house up to 600 mobile nuclear missile launchers pointed at the Soviet Union (*Project Iceworm*). *Camp Century* was abandoned in 1967 after just six to eight years, when the ice proved too unstable to support it. The Army didn't clean up on the way out and some 200,000 liters of diesel fuel, 240,000 liters of sewage, PCBs, and radioactive coolant were left entombed under the ice, on the assumption it would stay buried forever (although, as everybody should be well aware of, not much is ever forever). Of some interest is the fact that the base was abandoned specifically because the ice tunnels were deforming under glacial flow, the Army having given this as the very reason for giving up on *Project Iceworm*.

It seems the United States never acknowledged responsibility for the clean-up of the 16 abandoned bases, despite decades of Danish pleading.

¹ A follow-up to [Suunngitsumik ulapiissutiginninneg](#) of January 2026 (Ctrl + click)

² Kalaallisut is the sole official language of Kalaallit Nunaat (a.k.a. Greenland in English).

³ "And he is caught, who thought he'd catch", last verse of Jean de La Fontaine's "Le Rat et l'Huître" (The Rat and the Oyster)

⁴ English for Greenlandic "Kalaallit Nunaat"

Historically, the U.S. had established her first Greenlandic base in 1941, and the other sixteen within the next decade or so, but, by 1992, all but one had been abandoned by the United States on her own volition, the United States never having been expelled, nor suggested to leave, nor barred from returning.

The reason for the abandonment was perhaps not that the bases were indispensable to the overall security of the United States, but rather that they were thought on the contrary to be, or have become, quite irrelevant.

However, should such a large expanse as Greenland ever become independent, she would probably require some strong party to guarantee her security, since her population density is but 0.1 per square mile, and she would likely seek the shield of some mighty *Angajura* or *Anira* ⁵. Although in a rational world such a benevolent protector would be quite difficult for her to find, free of charge, she finds in the Presocrat a party ardently willing to oblige, at least for the time being, until the next one gets eventually distracted.

The author of these lines is ready to bet that the upcoming Treaty will mandate as a prerequisite a strict provision for the clean-up of the 16 abandoned bases, and in particular *Camp Century*, at the exclusive expense of the United States. In short, some of the abandoned bases, quite probably not all, will be reenergized in a replay of the Cold War, and, as a precondition for the reboot, an undoubtedly very expensive and difficult cleanup will be mandated, while the dreaded but perhaps phantom foreign invaders watch in puzzlement.

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⁵ "Big brother", depending on whether a male or female calls him

⁶ See Note 3 above