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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE:

January 22, 1968

attached

TO

FROM

SUBJECT:

EUR - Mr. John M. Leddy

EUR/SCAN - David H. McKillop

Text of Statement Received in Danish Embassy of Danish Foreign Minister Tabor's Press Remarks on Greenland Crash.

The following is a translation made by Per Fergo, Counselor at the Danish Embassy, of the text the Embassy received of Foreign Minister Tabor's press statement at the Foreign Office:

"The Danish nuclear policy does also include Greenland and the air space over Greenland. No nuclear weapons are stationed in Greenland.

"The American authorities are, of course, aware of Denmark's nuclear policy, and we assume that there are no American flights over Greenland by aircraft carrying nuclear weapons.

"It is well known, however, that the United States as a security measure in the common Western interest has at all times a number of aircraft in the air carrying nuclear weapons, and it is clear in view of the lack of landing facilities in the Arctic area, that an emergency situation may arise where the landing on air strips in Greenland becomes necessary. It will be seen, as it appears from the American statement, that the case in question was a matter of an emergency landing, and there was an attempt to make an emergency landing in the Thule area."

Fergo said that the Prime Minister had made an almost identical statement. He thought that the texts may have been dispatched shortly before the statements were actually made.

When his attention was drawn to the fact that the UPI report of Tabor's statement referred to several other points, such as indication that the US was sending four investigative groups, that the US was taking the necessary measures and that the Danish Embassy in Washington had been instructed to get further information, Fergo only repeated that these points were not included in the text that the Embassy here had received.

The text just received from our Embassy in Copenhagen (Embtel 2835) contains these points omitted from the Danish Embassy text.

EUR:SCAN: DHMcK:cal

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