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AFKlassificeret

09 APR 2019

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to His Excellency the Ambassador of Denmark and refers to the Ambassador's note of June 14, 1950 concerning the desire of the Danish Government to continue operation of Bluie West Eight airport at Søndrestrømfjord, Greenland, following its inactivation by the United States Air Force.

The appropriate authorities of the United States Government have no objection to the use of BW 8 by Danish military authorities for the time being, for the purpose of operating and maintaining the installation as an airbase for the support of aviation in Greenland. The United States Air Force has instructed the Greenland Base Commander to postpone the United States evacuation from BW 8 until July 31, 1950, or whatever earlier date may be agreed upon.

It is the understanding of the United States Government that the Danish Government, in undertaking operations at BW 8, will be responsible for maintaining the facilities utilized and providing necessary security measures for the airport. The receipt of equipment and supplies left at the airport by the United States Air Force will be appropriately acknowledged by the Danish authorities. Equipment actually to be utilized by the Danish authorities will be placed in operating condition by the United States Air Force and it is understood will be properly maintained thereafter by the  
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Danish authorities.

It is proposed that aviation fuel and aviation oils at the airport which will be required for the use of the Danish authorities, be declared excess and sold for fair cash value. Other consumable items left at the airport which are required by the Danish authorities for their use at the installation may be transferred in exchange for services to be provided United States aircraft, "remain over night" accommodations, transportation, and reasonable safeguarding of United States property left at the airbase in the custody of, but not sold to Danish authorities, as well as such other services as may be mutually agreed upon. The United States Government is confident that the details of these exchanges can be determined by the Danish and United States military authorities in Greenland to the mutual satisfaction of both governments.

The United States Government understands that the use of the airport by the Danish authorities will not affect any rights the United States may have for the use of BW 8, and that defense plans for its use as required by military necessity will be formulated by appropriate organs of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.