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The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honor to refer to its note no. 273 of February 16, 1959 requesting permission for the continuation of certain research and development activities in specified areas of Greenland during the calendar year 1959. As an aspect of this research and development program, the Department of Defense desires to construct a research and development sub-surface camp on the ice cap at 77°00'N and 61°30'W, which is approximately 120 miles east of Thule Air Base.

The specific purposes to be served by this installation are:

- 1) To test and demonstrate construction techniques which have been developed through research efforts in the past five years and to determine the useable life expectancy of facilities of similar design. The camp building system would consist of easily erected and removable buildings and other structures necessary to accommodate approximately 60 scientists and 40 maintenance personnel in sub-surface snow trenches; and
- 2) To test and demonstrate the feasibility of providing electricity and heat for isolated arctic camps through the use of a semi-mobile (1500 kw) modular-type nuclear power plant.

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As to the plant, the Embassy desires to point out that it would have the same reactor and associated machinery as the unit which has been in operation at Fort Belvoir in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area since April 1957. Operating data provided by the Fort Belvoir unit and available to the Danish Government has proved that this type of plant constitutes no radiation hazard to its environment. The Embassy will be glad to make this data available to the Danish Government. Should the Danish Government desire to have further expert opinion or advice concerning the proposed reactor, the United States Department of Defense would be pleased to arrange to have the Danish atomic scientist, Mr. Kindt-Larsen, presently studying at Babcock and Wilcox Company, Lynchburg, Virginia, make a visit to Fort Belvoir to examine the reactor and receive a complete briefing. Alternatively or additionally, the Department of Defense would be pleased to arrange for a visit to Copenhagen of qualified scientific personnel to answer any questions concerning the reactor.

In the belief that this project offers an opportunity of appreciable interest and great ultimate utility to Danish atomic scientists, the United States Government is happy to invite the Danish Government to send scientific personnel to work in association with American scientific personnel in this project. In any event, the United States Government would be happy to provide the Danish Government with all of the findings produced by the studies made at the camp.

W.P.A.

Embassy of the United States of America,
Copenhagen, May 29, 1959

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