

PAX ARCTICA

By Elizabeth Chalecki, Mad Scientist

“To be clear, Major, this is not a court martial. This is just an informal inquiry. Do you understand?”

“Yes, Colonel.”

“We’re not looking to assign blame yet, we just need to understand what happened on 13 November 2035, with regard to Operation Ball Drop. Is that clear?”

“Yes ma’am.”

“Now, at that time you were assigned to the 494 Scientific Squadron to participate in Operation Ball Drop, is that correct?”

“Yes ma’am. I was the Mission Commander for nine CC-177 Globemasters, as part of 2 Wing Bagotville, Quebec. Globemasters are usually assigned to 8 Wing Trenton, but for this Op, we staged out of 2 Wing. My orders were to drop 3500 tons of vitric spheres over parts of Nunavut, Baffin Island, and Greenland as part of the CEU’s efforts to slow global warming.”

“Was this effort working?”

“Oh yes, ma’am. The IPCC and UN observers were monitoring Arctic temperatures every day, and over the course of the first six months, they saw a noticeable pause in temperature rise due to the increased albedo.”

“And when did-- I’m sorry, sir, what? Okay, the general would like to clarify some terms for the record. ‘Vitric spheres’ are?”

“Glass balls, sir, about 6cm in diameter. Actually, they’re not really glass, they’re a vitrified polymer--”

“And ‘increased albedo’ means?”

“‘Albedo’ is a measure of reflectivity, so the aim of Operation Ball Drop was to slow the rate of Arctic melt by reflecting sunlight off the surface of the ice. The vitric spheres—”

“Thank you, Major. I’m sure that satisfies the general? Good. Now, according to the flight logs, the first set of missions went as planned. When did you notice there was trouble?”

“We had just landed in Kangerlussuaq to refuel and finalize the rotation for the second round of flights, and that’s when the Americans attacked.”

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Canada solves global warming, eh!

May 1, 2035

Ottawa: The CEU announced today that the Royal Canadian Air Force, along with their counterparts in Denmark, Finland, and France have begun flying over Nunavut, Baffin Island, and northern Greenland as part of an IPCC-approved experiment to combat climate change by reflecting sunlight in the Arctic.



Favorite President 

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LOSER Canada, should have become the 51st state, now stuck with FAILING Europe in climate change hoax! We were right to leave NATO since they are USELESS! Waste of money!!

4:25 AM · May 02, 2035 · **3K** Views



“Turning now to events overseas, joining us tonight is the U.S. Secretary of Defense to talk about the unusual policy the United States has adopted towards Greenland. Mr. Secretary, can you explain why the United States has moved so many troops to Greenland? What is the President-for-Life hoping to accomplish there?”

“Thank you for having me. Simply put, we continue to regard Greenland as critical for our national security. We were open to negotiations with the Danes to take Greenland, but they refused. We offered them a deal for their strategic minerals and they still refused.”

“So you annexed it unilaterally.”

“That’s correct. The President-for-Life thinks---”

“But the Danish government hasn’t recognized this occupation, nor has the Greenlandic government. In fact, no one has.”

“That’s irrelevant. What’s important is that the United States can better secure the homeland by positioning our forces in Greenland, and frankly, these overflights from Canada and the Scandinavian countries are outrageous. Why would the United States tolerate this? We don’t need the CEU mucking up our territory with their ill-considered climate experiment.”

“Scientific experts say---”

“Don’t put too much stock in what so-called ‘experts’ say. This isn’t about unelected scientists, it’s about what the President-for-Life wants.”

“Speaking of the CEU, why do you think the Canadians joined the EU back in 2030? Did the U.S. withdrawal from NATO have anything to do with it?”

“Look, the Canadians are free to do whatever they want. Without us, NATO has nothing.”

“But the NATO member states have stepped up their defense spending quite significantly in the last ten years. Both *Jane’s* and *Global Firepower* ranked their military capabilities ahead of the United States and behind only China. Don’t you think they pose a threat?”

“That’s a stupid question, you’re a terrible reporter.”

The Washington Post

U.S. Threatens CEU over Greenland Experiments

June 4, 2035

Washington: The United States has threatened to establish a no-fly zone over most of the island of Greenland. On April 21, the Administration issued an executive order unilaterally declaring their annexation of Greenland, in line with their avowed territorial expansion program, and have been positioning troops from the Army and the Marines into Trump Space Base and other locations in the western part of the island.

The Government of Canada and the CEU have insisted that their overflights are peaceful, as part of Operation Ball Drop, an attempt to increase the brightness of the Arctic in an effort to slow the melting of glaciers from climate change. The United States, having cut its

own environmental research capabilities a decade ago, has not been able to verify this claim, and insists that the presence of CEU Forces in Greenland is a hostile act.

“Thank you, Major. Ladies and gentlemen, I refer you to Tab G in your binders. This is a statement from the Director of the NATO Science & Technology Office on how Operation Ball Drop is designed to increase Arctic albedo and— okay, let the record show that the general has left the inquiry. Anyway, as the IPCC has documented, the effects of climate change are multiplying threats across the world. The CEU consulted with climate and national security experts in seven countries, including the United States, and their advice was nearly unanimous. If we don’t take action to slow global warming, the resulting environmental, economic, and social disruptions will cause third- and fourth-order conflicts around the world.”

“For further discussion of the national security effects of climate change, see Tabs H through M.”



“Major, when the Americans attacked, were you in what they considered to be ‘their’ airspace?”

“We came in to Kangerlussuaq through the accepted flight path, ma’am, that’s a joint Canadian-Danish air base, but it looked like two Ranger platoons were waiting for us when we landed. Our aircraft were clearly marked, but they fired on us anyway. They gave no warning before they set off the EMP and we lost avionics on the Globemasters and all the electronics on base, including radar and ILS for the remaining inbound flights. The damage

totalled two crashed planes with all aboard, the loss of the base hospital, and about 50 people killed or wounded in ground fighting.”

“Was this a one-sided battle, Captain?”

“Pretty much, ma’am. Kangerlussuaq is a science base, so its defenses were rudimentary. We had no Chinooks, we had one Cormorant on the ground, but they took that out pretty quickly with a drone strike. We had some AT4s in storage, so we managed to take out one of their Blackhawks with a lucky shot. Other than that, small arms was all we had. We weren’t expecting to be attacked. Like I said, ma’am, we’re a science base.”

“And then?”

“One of my lieutenants on payload had his cellphone off and wrapped in aluminum foil---”

“Aluminum foil?”

“Yes ma’am, he’s paranoid like that, but it survived the EMP. We called in a sitrep to the Defence Minister, who notified the Prime Minister immediately. Later that night, the base commander told us that Ball Drop was suspended while all the CEU heads of state had a big teleconference or something. Then I was ordered to report here.”

“Thank you, Major. You can stand down.”



Favorite President 

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Your favorite president has won the Palm Beach County Golf Club Championship for the 10th time! This is the GREATEST golf course anywhere in the world!

1:45 PM · Nov 13, 2035 · **500** Views

*** CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET CLASSIFIÉ ***

DATE: 14 NOV 2035

TO: ALL NATO MEMBER STATES

Be advised that on 13 Nov 2035, armed forces of NATO member state Canada were attacked by armed forces from the United States of America in Kangerlussuaq, on the sovereign territory of NATO member state Denmark. Details of this attack have been provided to the Defence Ministers of each member state, in accordance with Article 4 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

The Government of Canada hereby invokes the provisions of Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty in response to this aggression and requests military aid from all member states to secure NATO bases and personnel on the island of Greenland.

*** CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET CLASSIFIÉ ***
