

Vance accuses Denmark of 'under-investing' in Greenland

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US Vice President JD Vance said Friday that Denmark has “under-invested” in Greenland’s security and demanded that Denmark change its approach as President Donald Trump pushes to take over the Danish territory.

The pointed remarks came as Vance visited American troops on Pituffik Space Base on the mineral-rich, strategically critical island alongside his wife and other senior US officials for a trip that was ultimately scaled back after an uproar among Greenlanders and Danes who were not consulted about the original itinerary.

“Our message to Denmark



is very simple: You have not done a good job by the people of Greenland,” Vance said. “You have under-invested in the people of Greenland, and you have under-invested in the security architecture of this incredible, beautiful landmass filled with incredible people. That has to change.”

Vance said the USA has “no option” but to take a sig-

nificant position to ensure the security of Greenland as he encouraged a push in Greenland for independence from Denmark.

“I think that they ultimately will partner with the United States,” Vance said. “We could make them much more secure. We could do a lot more protection. And I think they’d fare a lot better eco-

nomically as well.”

The reaction by members of Greenland’s parliament and residents has rendered that unlikely, with anger erupting over the Trump administration’s attempts to annex the vast Arctic island.

Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen pushed back on Vance’s claim that Denmark isn’t doing enough for defense in the Arctic, calling her country “a good and strong ally.”

Soon after arriving, Vance briefly addressed American troops stationed at the base as he and his wife sat down to lunch with them, saying that the Trump administration is very interested in “Arctic security.” He and his entourage, including national

security advisor Mike Waltz, Energy Secretary Chris Wright and Sen. Mike Lee of Utah, later received briefings from military officials.

It was minus-3 degrees F (minus-19 degrees C) when the delegation landed at the remote base 750 miles (1,200 kilometres) north of the Arctic Circle.

“It’s cold as s--- here. Nobody told me,” Vance said, prompting laughs.

The revised trip to the semi-autonomous Danish territory comes as relations between the USA and the Nordic country, a traditional US ally and NATO member, have soured. Trump had repeatedly suggested that the United States should in some form control the island.