



Danish soldiers disembark at a harbour in Nuuk, Greenland, on Sunday. Germany, Britain, France and others have deployed personnel to the island as part of a military exercise meant to signal commitment to Danish and Greenlandic sovereignty. MADIS CLAUS RASMUSSEN/AP

Canada weighs sending soldiers to Greenland in face of U.S. threats

Move risks angering Trump after he vowed new tariffs against allies taking part in NATO exercise

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Canada has drawn up plans to send a small contingent of soldiers to Greenland for military exercises with NATO allies in the face of threats from U.S. President Donald Trump to acquire the semi-autonomous Arctic territory, two senior government officials say.

The officials told *The Globe and Mail* that the Canadian Armed Forces are awaiting final political approval from Prime Minister Mark Carney before sending the soldiers.

The *Globe* is not identifying the senior officials, who were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

Sending Canadian troops could anger Mr. Trump, who has threatened to hit a

group of European countries with new tariffs after they dispatched military personnel to Greenland, a self-ruling island that is a territory of Denmark. Those soldiers were sent as part of a Danish-led North Atlantic Treaty Organization military exercise intended to signal commitment to Danish and Greenlandic sovereignty.

The European Union's national envoys met Sunday to discuss the tariffs and draw up retaliation plans, including possibly imposing tariffs of their own.

Canada currently has three CF-18 fighter jets and a Cormorant helicopter in Greenland as part of a North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) exercise involving the United States.

The officials said a small number of Canadian soldiers could be on their way to Greenland this week as part of the NATO military exercises if Mr. Carney signs off on

the plan. The officials were unsure when the Prime Minister would make the decision, but they believe it is imminent.

The Canadians would join NATO soldiers from Germany, Britain, France, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Finland, all countries that Mr. Trump is now threatening with tariffs because of their troops' presence.

Canada's participation – if approved – would be meant to reinforce NATO's commitment to policing the Arctic and show support for Denmark, the officials said.

During a visit to Doha, Qatar, on Sunday, Mr. Carney told reporters Mr. Trump's talk of using economic coercion to acquire Greenland is a worrisome intensification of the situation. He said he plans to tell the President that the security of the Arctic island can be safeguarded by NATO.

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