

expected to divest itself of its military installations there. The zone would encompass most of the northern coast of the Soviet Union, including all of the northern marginal seas (except the extreme southernmost portion of the Barents Sea); most of the north coast of Alaska; and most of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (except for the southernmost half of Baffin Island); and would cut Greenland in half (with the large American base at Thule falling within the zone). While not directly affecting the Soviet naval bases on the Kola, the zone would, however, effectively prohibit the egress of the Northern Fleet into the open Atlantic, since Norway extends northward beyond the 70th parallel, or even along the northern sea route to the Soviet Far East, unless exceptions were made for transit passage. Even were such exceptions made, however, the zone would still presumably preclude Soviet deployment of SSBNs in its northern "bastions," currently its preferred method of protecting its sea-based deterrent (which enhances strategic stability generally).

In general, of course, any scheme of comprehensive demilitarization encompassing the territories of nation-states within the Arctic region has even less chance of being realized than does a NWFZ covering the same area. However, a more promising proposal has been made by Canadian political scientist Franklyn Griffiths, for a partial demilitarization of that portion of the Arctic Ocean lying beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. Reasoning that any prohibition of overflights by military aircraft, or under-ice activity by nuclear-powered submarines, is certain to be rejected by both Superpowers, Griffiths nevertheless proposed a treaty demilitarizing the ice and surface waters of the Polar Basin outside the 200-mile exclusive economic zones of the circumpolar states (see figure 2).¹¹² The present author has previously argued in support of Griffiths' plan, with the suggestion that its geographic scope be expanded somewhat to include the seabed, ice and surface waters outside a narrower twelve-mile coastal zone. This would be in keeping with the 1971 Seabed Treaty which "denuclearizes" the entire seabed

112. Franklyn Griffiths, *A Northern Foreign Policy*. Toronto: Canadian Institute of International Affairs, *Wellesley Papers* 7, 1979.