

Assembly in Kotzebue on 3 August 1986, by which the Conference resolved that “through its policies and actions, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference continue to foster international co-operation for peaceful purposes so as to eliminate any perceived need for Arctic militarization.”<sup>108</sup>

Another early proposal for comprehensive demilitarization of the Arctic came in March 1980 from the Peace Union of Finland, which proposed “that the whole area north of the Northern polar circle be declared as an international area of peace, which should be demilitarized and brought to a nuclear free zone.”<sup>109</sup> A proposal for demilitarization somewhat narrower in its geographic scope, yet still highly ambitious, was that of the Icelandic People’s Alliance Party in 1977. It envisaged the prohibition of all military activities in the area between the 55th and 70th parallels stretching from the east coast of Canada to the Russo-Finnish border, and including 1) “all naval and other military manoeuvres,” 2) “transportation, acquisition and production of all nuclear weapons,” and 3) “all group sailing and group flights of military ships and aircraft.”<sup>110</sup>

Finally, the Canadian disarmament group, Veterans Against Nuclear Arms, in January 1987 called for Canada to “negotiate with other northern nations to establish a circumpolar Demilitarized Zone north of 70° N.,” such a zone to be “watched and patrolled by an agreed and shared program of surveillance and verification.”<sup>111</sup> The choice of the 70th parallel for the southernmost boundary of the zone is an interesting one in that it would exclude the Kola Peninsula, thus meeting the objection that the Soviet Union could not reasonably be

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108. *Inuit Circumpolar Conference Fourth General Assembly (July 28 — August 3, 1986), Kotzebue, Alaska: Resolutions and Workshop Reports*, p. 33.

109. Written communication from the Office of the Adviser on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs, Canadian Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, 1 April 1980.

110. Thordur Ingvi Gudmundsson, “Nuclear-Free Zones and Peace Zones: Present Situation and Proposed Zones in Northern Part of Europe: Some Icelandic Perspectives,” unpublished paper, Queen’s University Centre for International Relations, Kingston, Ontario, March 1979, pp. 13-18.

111. Veterans Against Nuclear Arms, *Towards A World Without War: Next Steps In Canadian Defence Policy (A Report of the Defence Research and Education Centre)*, Halifax, January 1987, pp. 9 and 14.