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Copenhagen, March 14 (RHC)-- The outgoing prime minister of Greenland said he would summon party leaders after U.S. President Donald Trump repeated his claim of annexing the Arctic island.

Trump repeated his goal of annexing Greenland in a meeting on Thursday with visiting NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte in the White House Oval Office, claiming it would be necessary for "security" reasons.

Trump, who asked Rutte to help the U.S. acquire the island, expressed confidence to the NATO chief about the U.S.'s eventual takeover of Greenland, declaring "it will happen." "We need that for international security. Not just security, international," Trump insisted.

In response, Mute Egede, the outgoing prime minister of Greenland, denounced the statements, saying, "enough is enough." He said would summon party leaders to find ways to strengthen their rejection of Trump's plot.

"This time we need to toughen our rejection of Trump. People cannot continue to disrespect us," Egede wrote on Facebook. "The American president has once again evoked the idea of annexing us. I absolutely cannot accept that," he wrote.

Meanwhile, in the Oval Office, Rutte refused to directly accept Trump's remarks, saying he did not "want to drag NATO" into the issue.

However, he also said that from a military point of view he acknowledged the importance of maintaining security in the Arctic region, which includes Greenland.

"We know things are changing there, and we have to be there," Rutte said.

Greenland's strategic location and untapped mineral resources caught Trump's eye during his first term in 2019 when he first suggested buying the island, an idea he has reiterated since taking office again in January.

Trump said during his address to the US Congress in early March, "We need Greenland for national security. One way or the other we're gonna get it."

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