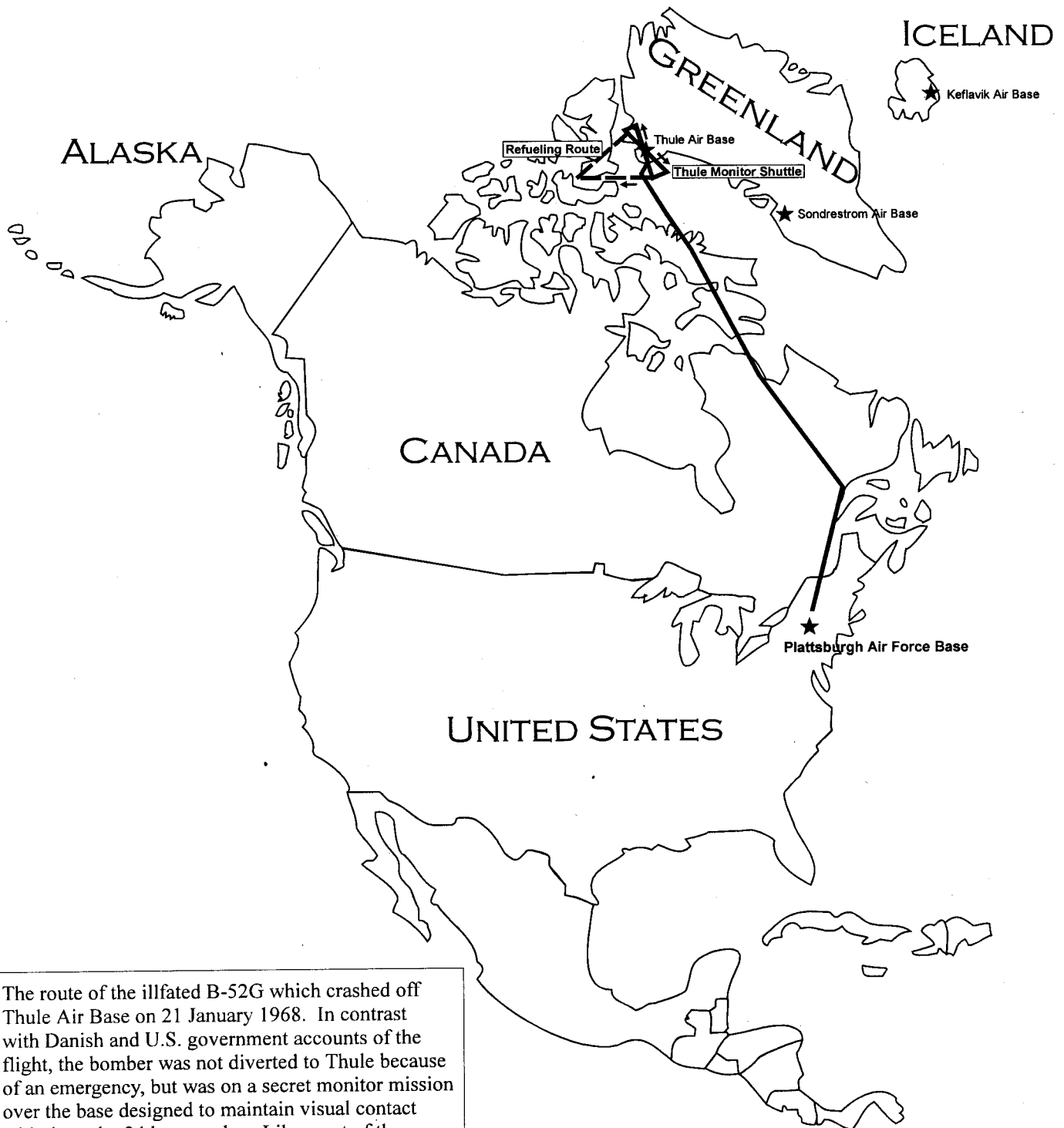


Butterknife V Thule Monitor Route

January 1968



The route of the ill-fated B-52G which crashed off Thule Air Base on 21 January 1968. In contrast with Danish and U.S. government accounts of the flight, the bomber was not diverted to Thule because of an emergency, but was on a secret monitor mission over the base designed to maintain visual contact with the radar 24 hours a day. Like most of the hundreds of other aircraft on Thule Monitor missions throughout the 1960s, the bomber carried four B28 thermonuclear bombs.

See "Altitude Reservation Flight Plan," chart in USAF Incident/Accident Report File, 25 January 1968.

Graphics: Hans M. Kristensen.