

Peek Inside Russia's Crazy New Arctic Military Base

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Defense Ministry

The Russian Defense Ministry has officially unveiled its latest military base in the depths of the Russian Arctic with a new virtual tour.

Decked in the red, white and blue of the Russia's tricolor flag, the triangular building resembles a space colony perched on Alexandra Land in the Franz Josef Archipelago. It is Russia's northernmost military complex, braving lows of minus 44 degrees Celcius and snow for more than 200 days each year.

The base marks Moscow's renewed drive for militarization on the extremes of Russia's Arctic frontier: a keystone Kremlin policy since 2014. Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, who will visit the base Monday has already named the facility Nagursky after an old airbase on the island. As part of Russia's new Arctic military command, formal authority over the base falls to Russia's Northern Fleet, headquartered in Murmansk.

Some 150 Russian military personnel will be stationed on the base, which comes complete with a movie theater, ping pong tables, and billiard rooms. When fully completed later this year, <u>a military art studio will be called in to decorate and furnish the base</u>.

See the base for yourself by taking the new 360 Degree virtual tour <u>here</u>.

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