



Japan abstains from fishing for salmon east of 175 degrees west longitude, leaving the salmon resources east of that line to Canada and the United States. This principle of "abstention" is relatively new in international law and its application is considered valid only when a fishery resource is being managed in such a way that the annual harvest is the maximum amount consistent with continuing the resource.

The Commission and the fishery scientists are interested in any study related to any intermingling of North American and Asian salmon and the relationship of any such intermingling to the abstention line. American and Canadian scientists are particularly concerned whether the harvesting of fish in the area of intermingling has an appreciable adverse effect on the numbers of salmon reaching the North American fishing areas.

Because of the size of the ocean and the many facets of the investigative programs, there is no indication yet as to when the biological data will be sufficiently conclusive to be acceptable to all concerned.

Besides Secretary Udall, other Americans attending the sessions are: Donald L. McKernan, Director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Washington, D. C.; Dr. J. L. McHugh, Chief of the Division of Biological Research for the Bureau; William Terry, Director of the Office of International Relations of the Fish and Wildlife Service; Clinton E. Atkinson, Director of the Bureau's Biological Laboratory at Seattle, Washington, where much of the salmon identification work was done; Fred C. Cleaver, Reynold A. Fredin, and Francis M. Fukahara of the Seattle Laboratory; Dr. William Royce, Director of the Fisheries Research Institute, University of Washington, Seattle, one of the contractors for the biological research for the Commission; Dr. Allan Hartt, also of FRI and Harry L. Rietze, Regional Director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Juneau, Alaska.

Among the representatives of the Department of State attending are W. C. Herrington, special assistant for Fish and Wildlife to the undersecretary, and Stuart Blow, Foreign Affairs Officer.

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