

Speaking before the commission, Dennis Davis of Environment Canada said that "present technology" would not prevent a transfer of fish and pollutants from the Missouri River into Canadian territory (the Hudson Bay drainage system). He suggested the possibility of a water transfer through pipeline from the Missouri River to areas of North Dakota. The commission was also requested by Manitoba Agriculture Minister Bill Uruski to develop alternative plans and to consider the Garrison Diversion Unit a "dead plan." Both men appealed to the commission to avoid the possibility of a trans-border transfer of bacterium (*Globe and Mail*, September 12).

Dr. Roger D. Needham, professor of geography at the University of Ottawa, Ontario, conducted a research project in both Manitoba and the Dakotas earlier in 1984, and pointed out in a *Citizen* article of September 13 that the commission had a vast amount of evidence to examine in its brief four-and-a-half month period of investigation. He pointed out that while the creation of the commission in itself indicated a US recognition that "economic and environmental impacts [could] be severe and international in scope," it remained uncertain that a decision to discontinue construction could be reacted to with necessary speed. Dr. Needham questioned whether "the legislative and institutional means presently exist or have been considered to allow federal and state authorities to act immediately on alternatives that are technologically and spatially different from Garrison."

Codfish Exports

A US International Trade Commission report released September 11 revealed a majority decision that prices for dried, salted codfish exported from Canada to the US had been "continually lowered" in an action detrimental to US suppliers. The majority report also concluded that the Canadian Saltfish Corp. had unfairly gained access to financial information about Codfish Corp. of Puerto Rico through discontinued talks of a joint venture. The Puerto Rican concern brought the action against Canadian exporters to the ITC, claiming that since its incorporation in 1982 it had been hampered in its development by Canadian undercutting. Talks of a joint venture between the two companies, cut off by the Canadian firm when it deemed the proposal economically unfeasible, were viewed by the commission as indicative of a "suspicious" manoeuvre by Canadian Saltfish Corp. to gain advantage (*Globe and Mail*, September 13).

A minority report of one commission member held that suggestions that Canadian exporters were acting as a cartel to expel the US firm from the market were "inconsistent with uncontradicted evidence provided by the Canadians and developed by commission researchers." The lone dissenting member noted that Canadian prices had entered a decline prior to the US company's entry into the market, and were consistent with world prices. The case proceeded to the US Commerce Department for a December 26 decision on acceptance or rejection of the ITC finding.

Joint Defence Project Contract

On August 7, then International Trade Minister Francis Fox and then Defence Minister Jean-Jacques Blais an-

nounced the award of an \$85.8 million contract to Spar Aerospace of Toronto, Ontario. The contract, awarded by Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC), provides for the development and supply of three naval Infra-Red Search and Target Designation (IRSTD) Systems in a joint Canada-US defence project. Funding came from both the US and Canada, proceeding under the Canada-US Defence Development Sharing Agreement. Mr. Fox noted at the time of the award that this was the largest contract to have been concluded under the Sharing Agreement. According to a CCC communiqué of August 7, the IRSTD systems (electro-optical) "offer 360-degree infra-red passive surveillance capability" for use in the detection of both airborne and surface features (including aircraft, missiles, ships, icebergs and coastlines). The systems act as a complement to radar in military applications.

Spar chairman Larry Clarke noted that the contract indicated a greater degree of involvement in defence for the company, and would involve "a critical mass of work." Spar became prime contractor on the project because of its previous work in the field of signal research and the use of computers in separating "clutter" from enemy objects, it was reported (*Globe and Mail*, *The Citizen*, August 8).

The IRSTD system, unlike radar, is electro-optical, "passive" and emits no signal and therefore cannot be detected or jammed electro-magnetically. It also provides improved navigational possibilities, according to Mr. Clarke. The project, to take approximately four-and-a-half years, calls for the production of two development models for the US Navy and one for Canada's Defence department.

Salmon Treaty Talks

Following the September 25 Reagan-Mulroney meeting in Washington, President Reagan informed Washington State Governor John Spellman that the suspended Canada-US west coast salmon treaty talks would be resumed. In a communication from the capital, the President told Governor Spellman that the fishing issue had been raised during the Presidential-Prime Ministerial discussion, and agreement had been reached for a resumption of negotiations. For over a decade, western states (including Alaska) have been attempting to resolve differences with Canada over fishing rights on the west coast through the formulation of a mutually-satisfactory salmon treaty. The problem of specifying the division of migratory flows has plagued negotiations in the past, as the two countries have sought to both protect salmon stocks and establish provisions for an equitable catch for both countries (*Globe and Mail*, September 27).

Governor Spellman had previously communicated with President Reagan his desire to speedily secure a treaty with Canada. He had stated that the election of a new government in Canada would be a particularly opportune moment for "new initiatives" in the search for a treaty — the treaty being of "paramount importance." In his communication, President Reagan had said that he shared with the Governor his sense of "urgency" in achieving a resolution with Canada, the *Globe and Mail* article continued.