

Canada at the earliest permissible opportunity, and Mr. Iiyama, upon being interrogated as to whether or not this was correct, admitted that it was.

What I want to bring out is that the Japanese fishing interests have one thing particularly in mind which they hope to acquire in the peace treaty, and that is the right to fish without restriction in any waters off the British Columbia and United States Pacific coasts.

Another thing that causes me some perturbation is the possibility that if the Japanese are not restricted in their fishing operations on the Pacific coast the Russians may become more active there. Something which nobody can explain happened in the Black Sea, when the level of the water dropped some ten or twelve feet. The Russian fisheries were very badly affected by this, you might almost say they were left high and dry, and two or three years ago the Soviets set up two fishery departments, one especially concerned with fisheries on the Pacific and the other with fisheries on the Adriatic or Baltic Sea, I am not sure which. In any event, Russia is building up a fishing fleet on the Pacific, and if the Japanese are given permission to exploit our fisheries which we rightly claim, there will be nothing to hinder the Russians also from coming and participating in the destruction of these fisheries. They could say that they had as much right as the Japanese to fish there in the off-shore waters of the Pacific coast. I would urge the government to make a statement on our position as to the Japanese Peace Treaty, particularly as it will affect the fisheries.

In the absence of information to the contrary, it would look as if we were being ignored by the American authorities. Perhaps we are so close to them that they do not realize that we are a separate nation. As I have already said, Mr. Dulles is going to Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines, and I contend that he should come here to Ottawa for consultation and get the views of the Canadian government on this Pacific fisheries question.

Hon. Mr. Duff: Let Mr. Stewart Bates state our position.

Hon. Mr. Reid: Out on the Pacific coast we are particularly worried over this matter, and therefore I felt it incumbent upon me to bring it to the attention of the Senate and, through the leader here, to the government. United States representatives, in their eagerness to encourage Japan to build up a great army to meet the Chinese menace, might make concessions which would work to our serious disadvantage. For instance, from my contacts with those who have to do with these things, I know that among those dealing with the Japanese treaty there is a class of American personnel whose ideas are theoretical rather than practical. I mean a certain professorial class, which I have had occasion to mention before, a class which foolishly believe that the Japanese are gentlemen, and that if we give them the terms they want in the peace treaty we shall be able to get along with them in the fisheries all right. People who talk like that are out of touch with reality. They attend too many cocktail parties, where they meet Japanese and other foreigners, and are convinced in their own minds, at least, that those of us who advise caution in the making of concessions in the peace treaty are motivated by prejudice towards the Japanese.

Honourable senators, my chief purpose in rising this afternoon was to bring this fisheries question to the attention of the Senate and the government, and also to express the hope that the North Atlantic Treaty nations will not permit any differences of view to result in discord or dissension. A split among these nations would be one of the worst things that could possibly happen for us; and, conversely, it would provide the Soviets with tremendous encouragement. I am persuaded that if the North Atlantic Nations hold together, the hysterical fears which have recently been evidenced in the United States will never be realized.

Hon. Mr. Horner: Honourable senators, I move adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to, and the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until Monday, February 19, at 8 p.m.