

The Second Geneva Conference will thus meet with several advantages: the principal areas of disagreement have been defined; states have now had a fair period of time in which to study the lessons of the First Conference and to consider how best to resolve the remaining differences. In addition, it seems likely that international developments in the period of time between the two Conferences have brought about an increasingly wide appreciation of the various elements of the problem and of the requirements of a satisfactory solution.

When the possibilities for the success of the next Conference are examined, the unqualified six-plus-six proposal emerges, in our view, as the most hopeful. By recognizing in one formula the interests of all coastal states in the freedom of the high seas and in the resources of their adjacent waters, the Canadian solution embraces the basic areas of agreement reached at the First Conference; and since this formula reconciles the position of states seeking to secure an extension of the territorial sea and that of states seeking to restrict coastal jurisdiction, it provides, we believe, a common ground upon which nations with hitherto opposing views can unite in agreeing upon an equitable and effective solution to the problems facing the Conference.

ANNEX

The Canadian Proposal:

"1. A State is entitled to fix the breadth of its territorial sea up to a limit of six nautical miles measured from the baseline which may be applicable in conformity with articles 4 and 5.

"2. A State has a fishing zone contiguous to its territorial sea extending to a limit twelve nautical miles from the baseline from which the breadth of its territorial sea is measured in which it has the same rights in respect of fishing and the exploitation of the living resources of the sea as it has in its territorial sea."

The United States Proposal:

"1. The maximum breadth of the territorial sea of any State shall be six miles.

"2. The coastal State shall in a zone having a maximum breadth of twelve miles, measured from the applicable baseline, determined as provided in these rules, have the same rights in respect of fishing and the exploitation of the living resources of the sea as it has in its territorial sea; provided that such rights shall be subject to the right of the vessels of any State whose vessels have fished regularly in that portion of the zone having a continuous baseline and located in the same major body of water for the period of five years immediately preceding the signature of this convention, to fish in the outer six miles of that portion of the zone, under obligation to observe therein such conservation regulations as are consistent with the rules on fisheries adopted by this conference and other rules of international law.