Canada reopens East Coast ports to Soviet fleet after meeting with Mr. Gromyko

Following discussions in Ottawa, between the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan MacEachen and the Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, Mr. MacEachen announced on September 26 that the fisheries dispute with the U.S.S.R. had been resolved.

Canada's East Coast fishing ports, which had been closed recently to Soviet fishing vessels because of overfishing would, said the External Affairs Minister, be reopened on September 29.

Mr. MacEachen stated that the solution to the problem was the result of talks in Ottawa and of the meeting of the International Commission for North Atlantic Fisheries that was being held in Montreal, where, he said, the Soviet delegation would support Canadian efforts to achieve a 14 percent reduction in foreign fishing off Canada's East Coast.

In addition, Canada and the U.S.S.R. will sign a bilateral agreement covering fishing in an extended 200-mile Canadian fishing zone; and, another agreement will be negotiated between the two countries establishing a joint commission to deal with any future fisheries problems that might arise.

Mr. Gromyko was in Ottawa for two days beginning September 25 – a reciprocal visit for the one paid to Moscow by former External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp in 1973. He spoke with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau on international and bilateral matters.

In a statement on his arrival from the United Nations in New York, the Soviet Foreign Minister said that co-operation was possible between Canada and the U.S.S.R. in several areas – trade and economics, science and technology, agriculture and maritime navigation.

Success at ICNAF

Canada achieved a victory on September 28, when the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries meeting in Montreal agreed to reduce the catches of groundfish off the East Coast by foreign vessels by 40 per cent.

The Commission also agreed to support Canadian demands for more stringent limits on catches of endangered fish species and a higher percentage of all catches.

Pickering airport project halted

The new Toronto International Airport at Pickering, Ontario, has been cancelled by the Federal Government after an announcement by the Ontario provincial government that it had reversed its decision to provide services such as roads and sewers for the $240-million project.

The announcement marks a victory for citizens' groups in the area who are opposed to the new airport.

The federal Minister of Transport said that, although the airport had been cancelled for the present, it may be resurrected later. Land that had been acquired, he said, would be leased back for agricultural use, provided the province ensured that it was zoned for farming.

Airlines appear to be in agreement with the decision – one statement said: "The current depressed state of the world economy and the air transport industry suggest that additional airport facilities will not be required in Toronto until a later date than had been anticipated."

Mosquitoes beware

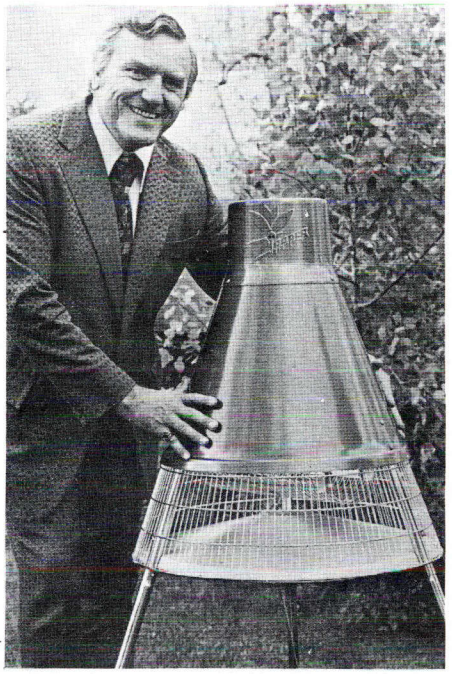
A machine called the Zapper, which kills mosquitoes and other small insects by an unusual method, was unveiled in Winnipeg, Manitoba, early this summer. An ultra-violet light lures the pests into the body of the device, where a form of radio wave dries them out and kills them instantly. The "zapping" sound heard when the machine disposes of the insect is the reason for its name.

Roger Boulanger, a graduate of the Red River Community College and later an employee of the University of Manitoba, developed the free-standing unit mounted on a tripod that can be fixed to the ground. It is 30 inches in diameter, four-and-a-half feet high and weighs 30 pounds.

Safety factor

The Zapper is harmless to humans but is effective with insects up to the size of a moth. Blackflies, which are not attracted by the ultra-violet light, will be killed if they enter the machine.

Emil Krush, president of Aladdin Enterprises Ltd, which is marketing the machine throughout Canada and the United States, says that researchers have been trying for years to develop a safe and efficient way of killing biting insects, particularly mosquitoes, and have tried everything from electrical grids to poison. Those machines work, Mr. Krush said, as long as the mosquito flies into contact with the electrical grid or falls into the water but they must be mounted out of the reach of young children.



Emil Krush, president of Aladdin Enterprises Ltd, displays the mosquito "Zapper" developed by his company.

Roger Boulanger concentrated his efforts on development of a trap which could be operated safely just above the ground level, where mosquitoes swarm. Eventually he produced an electronic component which emits a type of radio wave strong enough to kill an insect, yet safe within the reach of a child. Mr. Boucher says the Zapper has been approved by the Canadian Standards Association and runs on standard household current.