



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1963.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, with the concurrence of the Minister of Fisheries, the Honourable H.J. Robichaud, announced today that the Canadian Government has accepted two recommendations of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission which would provide that Japan no longer be required to abstain from fishing for halibut in the Eastern Bering Sea and for herring west of the Queen Charlotte Islands. These recommendations have already been approved by the governments of the United States and Japan. The Canadian Government has also approved conservation measures recommended by the Commission with respect to halibut fishing by Canadian, United States and Japanese fishermen in the Eastern Bering Sea.

The Commission's recommendations were made pursuant to the provisions of the International North Pacific Fisheries Convention signed by Canada, Japan and the United States in 1952. Under the original terms of the Convention, Japan agreed voluntarily to abstain from fishing, in the high seas of the North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea, for stocks of salmon, halibut and herring of North American origin provided that these stocks were being exploited to the full and were under conservation regulations based on continuing scientific research.

As a result of an exhaustive study of the scientific evidence, the Commission determined, at its annual meeting in Seattle in 1962, that the stock of halibut in the Eastern