

ment of joint research programs. But Canada, with respect to the resources of its zone, will have the last word as to who gets what, and who does what. The Government is now studying the way and means to put into place, when the time comes, the proper mechanisms to exercise this widely-increased jurisdiction. Undoubtedly, for a long time to come, we shall have to enlist the co-operation of all nations fishing near our shores, particularly in respect of data-gathering. Indeed, such co-operation will be a condition of their continued operations within our zone.

We are also actively considering how to improve our surveillance and inspection capabilities. Already some use has been made of our naval units on the East Coast and contracts are out for new inspection vessels. We all agree that more has to be done in the field and we shall spare no effort to ensure the best use of all resources available.

Such are some of the benefits that can accrue to Canada if the 200-mile economic zone is accepted. That is good news. That is progress. But a 200-mile limit does not fully cover the Canadian case.

We must obtain recognition of our rights and needs beyond that limit if we want to protect adequately our natural resources in three particular situations. A strict 200-mile limit would leave out over 400,000 square miles of continental margin, mostly on the East Coast, 10 per cent to 15 per cent of our fish stocks, also on the East Coast, and would leave all of our salmon unprotected during that part of their lives they spend in the open

We have an uphill battle to fight on these three issues. We have many allies, our negotiators have made great efforts to promote our legitimate cause and we are still confident of ultimate success as part of the overall accommodation the conference will, it is hoped, produce. But let us be realistic enough to see our main difficulties.

A second major trend has also emerged at the conference in favour of establishing the international area of the oceans as a zone reserved for the benefit of mankind. Almost all nations agree that the exploitation of manganese nodules -- those potato-shaped rock formations that lie all over the ocean seabed at depths of 15 to 20,000 feet and are rich in nickel, copper, cobalt and manganese -- should be carried out for the benefit of the whole world and not solely for the advantage of the technologically-advanced states. That is a concept Canada wholeheartedly supports.