

JOINT REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES BY
SPECIAL MARITIME NEGOTIATORS,
MARCEL CADIEUX AND LLOYD N. CUTLER

On August 1, 1977, the Governments of Canada and the United States appointed Special Negotiators in an effort to reach a comprehensive agreement covering their maritime boundaries and related marine resource issues. In October, 1977, the two Governments approved the basic principles of a comprehensive settlement recommended by the Special Negotiators and directed the Negotiators to continue their discussions with a view to recommending detailed terms. This Joint Report by the Special Negotiators is intended to inform Governments of the current status of the negotiations.

Since October, 1977, the Negotiators and their aides have met regularly in both countries to address the many issues involved. They have consulted closely with their respective provincial, state and industry interests. Together they have reviewed in detail proposals for:

- (1) the allocation of management responsibilities and the assignment of agreed fishing shares for each country in fish stocks of common interest on both coasts;
- (2) specific arrangements for the development and sharing of hydrocarbon resources in boundary areas; and
- (3) delimitation of the four unresolved maritime boundaries between the two countries.

The Negotiators believe that significant progress has been made toward reaching an overall agreement. Of the numerous issues to be dealt with in such an agreement, some admittedly difficult problems yet remain to be resolved and the Negotiators believe that additional reflection and consultation in each country will be required.

The Negotiators have agreed to recommend to Governments the terms of interim arrangements to govern reciprocal fishing during 1978. The proposed arrangements would continue reciprocal fishing as previously agreed with new mechanisms for consultation and resolution of differences and to help ensure that existing fishing patterns are maintained. The arrangements would remain in force through 1978 unless superseded by a comprehensive settlement or terminated by either Government after notice. In the United States, legislative action will be required to bring the interim agreement into force.