

The intended line along the Eastern and Southern coasts of Newfoundland will be a continuous one with only one exception - in the vicinity of the French Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, pending a definitive settlement of the demarcation line in that area between the two countries. This question is now the subject of negotiations with France.

As I mentioned, further lists of co-ordinates will shortly be issued. Our negotiations concerning closure of various bodies of water off our coasts have continued. I also wish to inform the House that the Canadian Government is at present discussing with other countries possible additional means of protection for coastal fisheries, looking to the eventual establishment of a rational regime of conservation and exploitation of the living resources of the sea through which coastal states would receive greater protection; under such a regime, it should also prove possible to provide for the interests of long distance fishing fleets.

I hope to be in a position to make an announcement on this matter in a few weeks time. I will be tabling an appropriate Order in Council in the House of Commons.