

I heard him say that the foreigners inside the 200-mile zone, of course, are monitored. Now just imagine. Foreigners inside the 200-mile zone fishing in factory freezer trawlers, they are monitored. We are talking about people who do not have any fish in Canada. What are the foreigners doing with licences inside the 200-mile zone? The minister's department, in its back-grounders says: "Oh, we have an obligation under the Law of the Sea".

There is no such thing. We did not ratify the Law of the Sea. There is no Law of the Sea. There is a Law of the Sea by custom, but there is no Law of the Sea under section 63 that talks about utilization of the resource inside the 200-mile zone.

Let me ask the minister a question. Fishermen who are today in Ottawa, some of them had to go around this winter picking up rocks with money supplied by the Government of Canada to pick up enough for their unemployment insurance. They could not get enough fish. Foreigners are out there in their boats inside the 200-mile zone fishing the same fish, turbot. They call it Greenland halibut here, but it is turbot. They get their quotas.

The minister turned around by the same logic a couple of weeks ago and allocated tuna licences to Japan inside the 200-mile zone, five times our quota and unlimited quotas of yellow fin and big eye. So we want to ask him: Will the minister do the proper thing? Forget the yellow fin, open his big eye and kick them out.

Mr. Crosbie: When I saw the hon. member for Gan-dar—Grand Falls rise to his feet I thought, will we see a miracle today? Will he speak some sense? Unfortunately, my hopes were crushed. So I am very, very disappointed that he is keeping on with the same old line.

Let us take his yellow fin line. The Japanese get a quota from ICCAT, the international association with respect to tuna and Canada gets a quota and the U.S. gets a quota to catch tuna. For a number of years we have been allowing the Japanese tuna vessels to come within our 200-mile area to catch a small proportion of that tuna which, of course, they can catch outside and inside. It is an international high seas fishery.

We do this for the Japanese because they have given us solid support as members of NAFO, the North Atlantic

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Fisheries Organization. They have complied with its regulations and rules in every way. We have never caught them violating our conservation rules at all. We have an observer on their boats. They pay us fees for this privilege of coming inside to catch a quota given to them not by Canada, but by ICCAT.

So unless we are to alienate every other member of NAFO, there are 12 or 13 countries in NAFO including Japan. The U.S.S.R. was a member, now I think it is likely to be Russia. They complied as well with the rules. That is why we have done joint ventures and so on with them.

If we are prepared to have fish plants close all over Atlantic Canada, Canso would have to close, for example. Burgeo would have to close if we rule out any foreign vessels fishing within our 200-mile economic zone, even under agreements with Canadian plants where the fish has been landed at Canadian plants or it has been caught for Canadian owners.

If we want to eliminate every foreign vessel from fishing within our 200-mile zone where we can watch them and know exactly what they are doing and where they are doing it because it is in the Canadian national interest to help Canadian processing workers, we can do that. But we will add hundreds and hundreds more to the rolls of the unemployed in Atlantic Canada now.

Now for me to do that, if I could stand up in this House tomorrow and say that no foreign vessel is allowed to fish in our 200-mile economic zone, that might sound tremendous for a day or two to some hotheads, like the hon. gentleman or people who are deliberately heating up their heads like the hon. gentleman so they can ventilate more steam or excoriate the issue in a more ferocious manner. But that would result in the likely loss of thousands of jobs in eastern Canada if we do that. There is not one foreign vessel while I am Minister of Fisheries and Oceans that is going to get a permit to fish in the 200-mile limit that cannot show it is fishing here because of the national good and the national interests of Canada. And Greenland halibut, or turbot, is no longer an under-utilized species. No one is going to get Greenland halibut, or turbot, unless it is going to be a benefit to Canada and a certain amount is going to be processed here, et cetera.