

SSEA: I wouldn't...

Q. I'm speaking of minerals then, if you...(TAPE NOT CLEAR.)

SSEA: No, I don't think that I would want to differentiate for, you know, one two three in importance.

Q. Mr. Minister. Now, this U.S. two hundred mile treaty. Say it goes into effect and they have patrol boats out there to enforce it, and Canada hasn't got them. What happens?

Mr. Beesley: We put an inspector on their vessel.

(Laughter)

SSEA: You know, may I just go back to the question that was asked earlier when I explained that when we have completed our negotiations with the Soviet Union, if they are successful, we will have, through bilateral agreements covered off eighty-eight per cent of the total catch, and we will have, by bilateral arrangement, established a régime that will be in play when Canada's jurisdiction is extended. It would seem to me that -- well, it doesn't only seem to me, it's absolutely true, that when we take, in those circumstances -- if and when we take unilateral action, that we will have removed from the situation, the elements of confrontation that would inescapably occur if we had not undertaken these prior bilateral negotiations resulting in agreements. And that has been our basic approach from the very beginning, that we are proceeding by negotiation, either at the Law of the Sea Conference, or bilaterally, and certainly in the case of the United States. But I hope that we won't come to the point in our relationships that this kind of confrontation would occur. If, as a result of extended jurisdictions on the part of Canada and the United States, there are areas in dispute, then surely the responsible posture for both countries is to negotiate and settle through negotiation these boundary disputes rather than to anticipate a confrontation that would develop if these actions were taking place in disputed areas. I think that would be a failure in our bilateral relationship if we could not avoid any kind of confrontation. We know...

Q. Mr. Minister, one point on that...

SSEA: Sorry.

Q. ...But the supplementary to this: There are 15 countries out there fishing in our waters, and it's not the intention to have bilaterals with all fifteen. That's what I'm told: We're not going to conclude agreements with all fifteen countries.

SSEA: It may not be necessary.