

continental shelf. The second problem resulted from the fact that large areas which had previously been high seas and in which both countries had fished, now fell under the exclusive jurisdiction of either Canada or the USA. This raised the question of whether fishing by one country off the coast of the other should continue and, if so, under what kind of arrangements.

Secretary Vance and myself agreed that, in order to maintain and promote good relations between our two countries, it was important that these issues be resolved as quickly as possible. We therefore appointed two Special Negotiators, Marcel Cadieux on our side, and Lloyd Cutler on the U.S. side, who were mandated to look into these questions on an urgent basis and to make recommendations to the two governments as to how they could be resolved. We had first hoped that these negotiations could be completed within a matter of months. As you know, it soon became clear that this would not be possible because the economic interests involved were substantial, the legal and resource issues were very complex, and careful consultation was required with interested groups in both countries, including the provinces and states.

In October, 1977 the Negotiators made an initial Report to Governments in which they recommended the machinery and general principles for the management of fish stocks of common concern off our coasts, in particular, the establishment of a Joint Fisheries Commission.