

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

are now taking a much tougher line in enforcing fishing regulations, not only within Canada but also with regard to our exclusive fishing zones and the operations of foreign fishing vessels within those zones. As the hon. member knows, in the case of the Japanese fishing vessel he mentioned, this is the first time that vessel has been encountered by one of our fisheries protection vessels. In fact, this is the first instance of a Japanese fishing vessel ever having been apprehended by one of our fisheries protection vessels. This is, therefore, a first case. It is not a case where vessels, even Japanese fishing vessels, have been warned on previous occasions by our fisheries protection service. He can rest assured that if we run into a series of incidents involving warnings or apprehensions, the penalty will escalate in ratio with the provocation.

I have heard of instances, as undoubtedly the hon. member has—fortunately they are not all that numerous—where foreign fishing vessels have been within our territorial waters and it has not been possible for our fisheries protection service to go out to the vessel in question and apprehend it. Although the number of such incidents has been exaggerated, undoubtedly they have occurred.

Undoubtedly, our fishermen have had reasons to be provoked.

Our fisheries protection service now is better equipped than it ever was before. The Canadian fisheries vessel *Tanu*, which intercepted the Japanese ship, was launched only last September and is one of the first fishery vessels on the west coast capable of going out any distance in any kind of weather. We have lacked such capability in the past.

As the hon. member knows, the air force is assisting with over-flight surveillance. We have also been assisted by the coast-guard and the navy. In fact, it was a coast guard icebreaker that picked up the Norwegian vessel. Our fisheries ship could not go out to her because of ice conditions.

We are taking a tougher line and to enforce the law we need more equipment. I contest the hon. member's statement that our captains or officers of our fishery ships lack the orders or the courage to pick up foreign vessels inside our fishing limits. I think our men are dying to show their mettle and to show their determination, as recently demonstrated, to protect our fishing zones more adequately than was possible in the past.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.27 p.m.