

The hearings follow three rounds of written pleadings submitted in September 1982, June 1983 and December 1983. The decision to be rendered by the Court will settle a dispute between Canada and the United States over the location of the boundary that divides the continental shelf and the 200-mile fishing zones of the two countries off the coasts of the Maritime Provinces and the New England States. The case centres on the rich fishery resources and potential hydrocarbon resources of Georges Bank. Canada claims almost one-half of the Bank and the United States asserts a claim to its entirety.