

# Two Cuban vessels get maximum fines for sea trespassing

HALIFAX (UPI) — Two of three Cuban fishing vessels were given maximum fines after representatives of three ships pleaded guilty to provincial magistrates' charges yesterday in Canadian territorial waters.

The trawler Playa Colorado and the factory ship Océano Antartico were fined \$2,000 each and the trawler Playa Giron was fined \$1,500 as a result of a Nov. 8 raid off Nova Scotia that exposed illegal fisheries, cut off supplies, and caused new problems in surveillance.

# Foreign fleets honoring limit

Foreign fishing fleets appear to be respecting Canada's newly-declared 200-mile offshore management zone which became a law Nov. 8.

Don Johnson, Atlantic region manager with the fed-

# Hard line against violators—LeBlanc

By JEFF MATTHEWS Staff Reporter

Canada will adopt a hard line against violators of the 200-mile limit.

Under terms of international licensing procedures of other nations and the Fisheries Act, violators will be subject to charges in Canadian courts which will levy heavy fines for violations.

There will also be provision for refusal to renew a vessel's licence or withdrawal of an

# First a blip on the screen, then: 'We've got a visual'

By PETER MARTIN

The little yellow blip jumped on to the plane's radar screen 10 miles southwest of Cape St. James, the most southerly point on the Queen Charlotte Islands.

"I have a contact," the radar operator reported over the intercom. "About 10 miles southwest of the coast."

ship, bobbing alone in the steel-grey waters.

"We've got a visual," the pilot said. "It's a fishing vessel. She's about 10 miles out. The work crew. She was a fishing vessel and probably Japanese but we had to give up identification."

About three miles from the ship, the crew of the patrol plane levelled the wings and the pilot dogged the little plane as it came in to land.

# Royal Navy patrol boats go 'fishing'

The Guardian

LONDON — Three Royal Navy frigates, supported by Royal Air Force Nimrod patrol aircraft, are patrolling the North Atlantic.

to be resolved: the sharing of quotas among European in the fish

The plane used for patrols is called, logically, the Tracker, or the CP-121 as it is known to the pilots. There are three on the fleet, and another three tracking planes, the 21-00, similar to the CP-121, they make up the squadron.

These small planes fly five or six-hour patrols, up and down the coast all week, and are controlled by the Nimrod.

# Three vessels fined \$5,500

By DENNIS HARPER

Two of three Cuban fishing vessels were given maximum fines after pleading guilty in magistrates' court in Halifax Tuesday to charges of trespassing in Canadian territorial waters.

The trawler Playa Colorado and the factory ship Océano Antartico were fined \$2,000 each and the trawler Playa Giron was fined \$1,500 as a result of a Nov. 8 raid off Nova Scotia which a senior federal fisheries officer says highlights coastal surveillance.

inside the former 12-mile limit.

Testimony Tuesday indicated that Ivan Tsarev, Alexander Ivanov and Robert Petancourt, captains of the three Cuban vessels, all said during questioning in November that they had arranged to meet off Nova Scotia in order to transfer fish from the trawlers to the factory ship.

They also said they wanted to transfer an injured seaman from one of the trawlers to the factory ship but Canadian authorities said a later search of

any trace of such plans.

Although a storm moved into the area later that day there was no apparent reason why the three ships left open waters before dawn to transfer their catches, Mr. Dudka said.

Judge Nathan Green rejected a language barrier as the reason why the Cuban ships failed to respond to attempts by fisheries and naval officers to get them to stop.

He said any competent sailor should have been familiar with

destroyers, and "common sense" should have convinced the captains that a 12-hour pursuit by naval destroyers meant one wanted to

"Whether people after it, order them to issue," he said have stopped."

Tuesday (par time any member fishing fleet in North Atlantic)

# Foreign fishing fleets respect 200-mile limit

Federal Fisheries Minister Romeo LeBlanc said there does not appear to be any violations within

The total allowable catch by Canadians in the zone will rise slightly, to 330,000 metric tons from 326,000 in 1967.

Britain, however, air and rolls policing the new offshore fishing limits also went into effect there in new year, caught five Communist trawlers in the first day.

They were Romanian and Bulgarian. Both nations are officially banned under the British Fishery Limits Act.

They were sighted fishing in the English Channel, but government sources in London indicated there would be no unilateral British action in the early stages of the new offshore fishing limits.

The trawlers were warned to leave the new closed fishing zone.

The British have pressed 11 minesweepers into fisheries protection duties and one new deep sea patrol vessel is already at work. Four more of these are on order. In addition, RAF long-range Nimrod maritime reconnaissance planes are checking every fishing vessel in the new 200-mile limit during daylight hours.

On another front, two of three Cuban fishing vessels were given maximum fines after pleading guilty in magistrates' court in Halifax to charges of trespassing in Canadian territorial waters.

The trawler Playa Colorado and factory ship Océano Antartico were fined \$2,000 each and the trawler Playa Giron was fined \$1,500 as a result of a Nov. 7

incident off Nova Scotia. At the time of the incident the Canadian territorial limit was 12 miles.

The destroyers Iroquois and Algonquin, aided by military aircraft and fisheries vessels, spent almost 12 hours locating the Cuban vessels and ordering them into Halifax.

The Cuban ships were later charged under the Coastal Fisheries Protection Act. They were first spotted on radar one mile inside the former 12-mile limit.

# 200-mile zone patrol is a cinch — LeBlanc

MONTREAL — Fisheries Minister Romeo LeBlanc tends to get a little lively when cynics suggest that Canada is unable to police the 200-mile coastal fishing zone which comes into effect Jan. 1.

His officials mutter darkly about shipbuilding and aircraft manufacturing interests who are somehow behind those critics calling for a vast expansion of surveillance facilities at the expense of more funds for basic fisheries research.

The minister told a news conference last week: "Those who want me to build more vessels instead of putting a greater scientific effort into finding out what fish are in there are not performing a service to Canadian fisheries. You don't need a lot of new planes. The zone can be patrolled by a DC-3."

Research is a key aspect of making fisheries control effective: If you can predict with some degree of accuracy where fish are, how many of them, of what kinds, for how long and of what quality, you can then work out where the fishermen, both foreign and national, are likely to be. You also have the data on which to base regulations and restrictions.

By Rob Bull

to locate and identify every fishing vessel in Canada's offshore waters and keep a close eye on those areas where boundary lines cross fishing banks, LeBlanc says.

Canadian inspectors will board at sea at least one-third of the foreign fleet and one-sixth of the Canadian fleet every month.

There will be 43 fisheries conservation and protection vessels operating on the East Coast and 51 on the West Coast with other vessels on call from fisheries research and the departments of transport and national defence.

In comparison, when the United States extended its jurisdiction to 200 miles in March, the U.S. Coast Guard will use 19 ships, 16 helicopters and 10 aircraft for fisheries enforcement on its east coast.

Iceland policed an area of 200,000 square kilometres of ocean last year with five patrol boats, one aircraft and two helicopters. At the height of the cod war, the country leased one or two more trawlers.

Jon I. Arnalds, secretary-general of Iceland's ministry of fisheries, said in an interview here that a key aspect of his country's fisheries enforcement is in

# How can we prevent over-fishing by foreign fleets?

Canada now has the sovereign right to manage the living resources of the seas in a 200 mile zone and to set quotas for foreign fishing fleets.

