

Supply

landers were refused licences to fish this year because the Government says it is a restricted fishery.

Is that equal rights? Those boat owners from Newfoundland do not have equal rights with the Russians within our own 200-mile zone.

To make matters worse, today the Government of Canada is issuing licences to foreign countries which are excluded from a Canadian law outlined in the fisheries legislation. From time to time Nova Scotians and Newfoundlanders are dragged into court and charged with keeping an incidental catch. It could be salmon for which they are not licensed, or it could be sole for which they are not licensed, but they are charged. The cases come up quite often in the courts in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Those foreign boats fishing off Nova Scotia and Newfoundland today are exempt from that regulation. They are allowed to keep an incidental catch.

When the observer on board sees that they are catching too much fish which they are not supposed to catch, the Government simply moves the boats two miles north, east, or west. However, they are allowed to keep that catch even though they are not licensed for it, while Newfoundlanders and Nova Scotian fishermen are dragged into court and jailed.

The Government began issuing licences for inside the 200-mile zone about eight weeks ago. In other words, the Japanese, the East Germans, the Poles, the Russians, the Cubans and fishermen from the Faro Islands all received these allocations just eight or nine weeks ago from the Government of Canada. Many of them have not even picked up their licences, yet. The Government of Canada says that it is giving this fish because we are not really using it in Canada.

I want the Government to explain why the Government of Poland is fishing grey sole around the coastline of eastern Canada. Grey sole is the prime fish on the table. Why is the Government of Canada giving Poland but not Canadians the right to fish grey sole?

During the press conference on Friday afternoon, at which cabinet Ministers were present, in St. John's, Newfoundland, in the fisheries offices there on the white hills overlooking the city, in that same building, the Government was conducting negotiations for a bilateral agreement with Denmark to allow 15 large ships from the Faro Islands to come in and catch turbot in the northern cod stock area, which is the very area the Government was announcing that Canadians would have

to be drastically cut back. It was allowing 15 boats from the Faro Islands.

We do not mind perhaps one boat from the Faro Islands coming in to catch the poor beagle shark on the Scotian Shelf, because that is what they use to make shark fin soup. There is a factory freezer trawler that goes there every year to catch the poor beagle shark. However, 15 of those large ships that catch turbot are being licensed through a bilateral agreement with the Government of Canada to fish turbot in the area of the northern cod stock. Where is the northern cod stock? It is not way up in the north Atlantic. It extends around every riding in Newfoundland except the south coast. That is the northern cod stock.

The same turbot for which Denmark will get licences to catch, as agreed on Friday, is the turbot that the long liner from Shelbourne must travel 800 miles to catch off the coast of Newfoundland. That is not the worst of it. All this is happening within Canada's 200-mile zone and is licensed by the Government which says there is a crisis in the fishery in Atlantic Canada. It has issued licences to the Russians which Newfoundlanders and Nova Scotians cannot get. Licences that have been refused to Canadians to fish capelin are being issued to the Russians. It is absolutely outrageous. The Government is allowing them to fish and keep incidental catch for which Canadians are jailed.

That is the cosiness of international relations as it pertains in this case to the Soviet Union, East Germany, Poland, Cuba, the Faro Islands, and Japan. This year the Government of Canada will license over 200 floating fish plants from foreign countries to fish within 12 miles of our coastline off the East Coast of Canada. There are 250 licences to be granted to factory freezer trawlers, floating fish plants from foreign nations, to fish within 12 miles of the coast of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Québec. Yet fish plants in Canada are being closed down. Lockeport is closed. An announcement is about to be made on further reduction in quotas.

Thousands of Atlantic Canadians will be laid off. This will happen while the Government of Canada, through the Department of External Affairs, makes deals behind the scenes to issue licences to the Russians, the Cubans, the Japanese, the East Germans and the Danish to come within 12 miles of the coastline of our provinces in eastern Canada. If one were to stand on the headland in Cape Breton today, one could see a French factory freezer trawler catching cod. If one were to stand on a headliner on the northeast coast of Newfoundland in