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DEA/9456-RW-40

*Le secrétaire du Bureau du Conseil privé  
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Secretary, Privy Council Office,  
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

SECRET. CANADIAN EYES ONLY.

Ottawa, January 3, 1958

Dear Mr. Smith:

The attached memorandum is to be considered at the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Territorial Waters that is to be held on Tuesday, January 7th, at 4:00 p.m., in Room 375, House of Commons. I understand that officials of your Department will be getting in touch with you in connection with this matter, if they have not already done so. I might also point out, for your information, that in the past the Ministers attending meetings of this Committee have in many instances been accompanied by their officials, who have been, for the most part, members of the Interdepartmental Committee that has been studying this general problem for several years.

Yours truly,

M.W. CUNNINGHAM

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

*Note du chef du Comité interministériel sur les eaux territoriales  
pour le Comité du Cabinet sur les eaux territoriales*

*Memorandum from Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee  
on Territorial Waters,  
to Cabinet Committee on Territorial Waters*

SECRET. CANADIAN EYES ONLY.

[Ottawa], January 2, 1958

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA — CANADIAN  
POSITION

I. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN CANADIAN AND U.S. OFFICIALS

On December 3, in New York, Canadian officials met with United States officials at the latter's request for the purpose of exchanging informal views on some of the important questions to be dealt with at the International Conference on the Law of the Sea which commences on February 24, 1958 in Geneva. The discussions were concerned primarily with three inter-related matters:

The breadth of the territorial sea,  
The contiguous zone for fisheries, and  
High Seas fishing.

These questions were the subject of comments which were sent by the Canadian Government on September 12 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. These comments have since been published by the Secretary-General and were also published in *Hansard* on November 28, 1957. These comments are set out in the appendix to the memorandum to Cabinet of August 12, 1957, which is attached for the background information of Ministers.