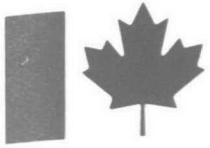


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JOINT REPORT BY SPECIAL NEGOTIATORS
ON CANADA-U.S. MARITIME BOUNDARIES
AND RELATED RESOURCE ISSUES

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, announced today the release of the Joint Report by Special Negotiators on Canada-U.S. Maritime Boundaries and Related Resource Issues.

The Governments of Canada and the United States have approved the Joint Report, the text of which is attached. The Governments have instructed the Negotiators - Marcel Cadieux for Canada and Lloyd N. Cutler for the United States - to continue their efforts to seek a comprehensive settlement of transboundary maritime issues between the two countries. The Governments have also accepted the Negotiators' recommendation to conclude interim arrangements to govern reciprocal fishing during 1978. It is expected that the proposed agreement will be signed shortly and its text released at the time of signature.

Officials of the two Governments will continue discussions on technical and legal aspects of a long-term agreement and formal negotiations are expected to resume in the summer.

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JOINT REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES BY
SPECIAL MARITIME NEGOTIATORS,
MARCEL CADIEUX AND LLOYD N. CUTLER

On August 1, 1977, the Governments of Canada and the United States appointed Special Negotiators in an effort to reach a comprehensive agreement covering their maritime boundaries and related marine resource issues. In October, 1977, the two Governments approved the basic principles of a comprehensive settlement recommended by the Special Negotiators and directed the Negotiators to continue their discussions with a view to recommending detailed terms. This Joint Report by the Special Negotiators is intended to inform Governments of the current status of the negotiations.

Since October, 1977, the Negotiators and their aides have met regularly in both countries to address the many issues involved. They have consulted closely with their respective provincial, state and industry interests. Together they have reviewed in detail proposals for:

- (1) the allocation of management responsibilities and the assignment of agreed fishing shares for each country in fish stocks of common interest on both coasts;
- (2) specific arrangements for the development and sharing of hydrocarbon resources in boundary areas; and
- (3) delimitation of the four unresolved maritime boundaries between the two countries.

The Negotiators believe that significant progress has been made toward reaching an overall agreement. Of the numerous issues to be dealt with in such an agreement, some admittedly difficult problems yet remain to be resolved and the Negotiators believe that additional reflection and consultation in each country will be required.

The Negotiators have agreed to recommend to Governments the terms of interim arrangements to govern reciprocal fishing during 1978. The proposed arrangements would continue reciprocal fishing as previously agreed with new mechanisms for consultation and resolution of differences and to help ensure that existing fishing patterns are maintained. The arrangements would remain in force through 1978 unless superseded by a comprehensive settlement or terminated by either Government after notice. In the United States, legislative action will be required to bring the interim agreement into force.

The Special Negotiators are of the view that with continuing effort a comprehensive settlement can be reached in 1978. They strongly believe that an agreement which encompasses, in an interrelated framework, the full range of transboundary maritime issues of common concern to Canada and the United States, including salmon interceptions, is the most promising means of assuring that the important maritime resources along our common borders can be effectively managed in our mutual interest.