International

WORLD EXPORTS OF FISH AND FISH-LIVER OILS LOWER IN 1957:

World exports of fish oils (including fish-liver oils) in 1957 totaled 185,000 short tons, a decline of over 10 percent from 1956 but slightly above the 1950-54 average.

Smaller shipments from the United States--the world's leading fish-oil exporter--accounted for about two-thirds of the decline. United States fish-oil output in 1957, at 74,450 tons, dropped one-fourth from 1956; and demand abroad, particularly in West Germany and the Netherlands, was down.

Shipments of fish oils from Norway--the second-largest exporting nation--fell 18 percent from last year because adverse weather reduced the winter and spring herring catches.

Dutch exports were less than one-third those of the previous year; but imports also declined, indicating greater use of domestically-produced oils.

Angola's record-breaking exports in 1957 were more than double its 1956 shipments. West Germany is Angola's principal market.

The Union of South Africa's fish oil exports were more than twice those of 1956, but below those of 1955. Since 1953 the Union has imposed limits of 250,000 long tons each on the pilchard-maasbanker catches of Union and South-West African fishermen. The South-West Africans easily attain the quota each year, but the Union fishermen have not yet reached it. The catch was extremely low in 1956 because of difficulties in locating fish. This was probably the reason for reduced exports that year. (Agriculture Department's Foreign Crops and Markets of July 21, 1958.)

Fish Oils (including Fish-Liver Oils): Exports from Specified Countries and Estimated World Total Averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, Annual 1955-57

Continent and Country	1957 1/	1956	1955	Average 1950-54	Average 1935-39
	(1,000 Short Tons)				
North America:					
Canada	3.0	9.2	9.3	11.6	12.0
United States	57.2	71.3	71.3	42.2	1.2
Total	60.2	80.5	80.6	53.8	13.2
Europe:					
Denmark	9.8	9.7	14.2	6.3	2/ 2.5
Germany, West	14.3	9.3	16.5	3.0	2/ 4.4
Iceland	20.9	21.3	16.3	19.6	24.5
Netherlands 3/	2.9	9.1	5.4	14.5	0.2
Norway	35.3	42.2	20.9	33.0	38.0
Portugal	4.2	4.7	5.5	3.8	4/
United Kingdom	3.4	3.8	4.4	4.0	6.0
Total	90.8	100.1	83.2	84.2	75.6
Other:					
Angola	13.4	5.7	6.3	6.7	0.7
Japan	3.5	5.0	10.2	6.8	35.0
Union of South Africa	11.4	5.4	13.3	8.9	2.2
Total	28.3	16.1	29.8	22.4	37.9
World Total 5/	185.0	210.0	205.0	177.0	135.0

1/Preliminary.
2/Prewar Germany.
3/May include some whale oil.
4/Not available.
5/Includes estimates for minor exporting countries.

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

MORE FISHERY OFFICERS FOR LATIN AMERICA:

The Food and Agriculture Organization is expanding its regular program staff of fishery officers in Latin America so as to provide more direct and detailed assistance to the governments of the Region in formulating fishery policies and in realizing their plans for fishery development.

FAO has fishery officers stationed, respectively, at the FAO Regional Offices in Mexico City and in Santiago. A third officer will be stationed at the FAO Regional Office in Rio de Janeiro in the near future. In addition, there are nine technical assistance officers in Latin America at the present time, according to a personal communication from the Chief of the Program Coordination Service, Fisheries Division, Food and Agriculture Organization, dated August 12, 1958.

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INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

AREA 3A CLOSED AUGUST 31:

The closure of fishing in Pacific halibut Area 3A took place on August 31 (6 a.m. P.S.T.). The International Pacific Halibut Commission made the announcement on August 12 since it estimated that by August 31 the catch limit of 30 million pounds for Area 3A would be reached. The early closing of Area 3A caught most vessels by surprise, but landings and weather conditions were good, and the rate of fishing was considerably better than last year. In 1957 fishing in Area 3A ceased on September 22.

International (Contd.):

The Commission at the same time it announced the closure of Area 3A also announced that halibut fishing in Areas 3B and 1A were to continue until 6:00 a.m. (P.S.T.) October 16, 1957. Also, the second season in Areas 2 and 1B commenced at 6 a.m. (P.S.T.) August 31, for a period of 7 days without a catch limit, except that in Area 2 the Cape Scott and Goose Islands grounds in Queen Charlotte Sound at the north end of Vancouver Island shall be closed to halibut fishing during the second season. After the termination of the fishing seasons indicated, all halibut areas will be closed to regular fishing until the opening of the fishing season in 1959.

The official opening date for all halibut fishing in the Pacific regulatory area this year was May 4 at 6:00 a.m. (P.S.T.), except that fishing in Area 3B commenced on April 1, 1958.

This year Area 3A was open to fishing for 119 days--25 days less than the 144 days in 1957 (the longest season for this area since 1945 when the area was open to fishing for 147 days). Prior to 1955 the trend had been towards a shorter season, but since that year fishing has been spread over a greater number of days due to a combination of several factors: (1) a decline in the number of vessels fishing for halibut; (2) labor-management disputes; and (3) voluntary tie-ups by fishermen. As compared to 119 days for Area 3A this year, Areas 3A and 3B were open for halibut fishing for 104 days in 1956, 81 days in 1955, 58 days in 1954, 52 days (shortest on record) in 1953, 60 days in 1952, 56 days in 1951, 66 days in 1950, 73 days in 1949, and 72 days in 1948.

Area 1A includes the waters south of Heceta Head, Oregon; Area 3A, the waters off the coast of Alaska between Cape Spencer and the Shumagin Islands; and Area 3B, the waters west of Shumagin Islands and in the Bering Sea.

Areas 2 and 1B were closed to fishing on July 2 this year when the quota of 26.5 million pounds for Area 2 was attained.

Under authority of the Convention between Canada and the United States of America for the Preservation of the Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, this year's regulations became effective March 29, 1958.

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TERRITORIAL WATERS

RESOLUTION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN FISHERY CONFERENCE CONDEMNS ICELANDIC UNILATERAL EXTENSION OF FISHING LIMITS:

The full text of the resolution unanimously adopted at The Hague on July 14, when representatives of seven European Nations met to discuss Iceland's extension of its fishing limits to 12 nautical miles, has now been published. The representatives of the fishing associations of all seven nations declare that they will continue to fish as before, and agree to urge their Governments to protect their fishing activities off the Icelandic coast after September 1, 1958.

The Resolution, submitted by the West German delegation, was handed to the governments of those Associations represented at the conference, and as the Associations of Norway and Sweden did not attend, it was dispatched to them for transmission to their Governments.

The full text of the Resolution follows:

"The Western European Fishery Conference, assembled at The Hague, on 14th July 1958, at which were present representatives of Belgium, Denmark, France, West Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, and the United Kingdom, note with the greatest displeasure that the Icelandic Government extended its fishing limit unilaterally to 12 nautical miles by decree on June 30th 1948.

"The Icelandic Government decree is a clear offence against International Law. The West European Fishery Associations concerned therefore protest most strongly against this unilateral action by Iceland and request their Governments to take the necessary measures to ensure that fishing vessels may as hitherto, fish up to the limits previously agreed off the Icelandic coast. The representatives of the West European Fishery Associations resolved unanimously that:

"1. Because several other countries have much older historic rights in these waters than the Icelanders, Iceland's claim to a 12 nautical miles fishing limit is without foundation. These other countries have fished there since the 15th century. Modern trawler fishing in the waters concerned was founded not by Iceland, but by other countries, at the end of the last century.

"It was only just before the First World War that Iceland began fishing with steam trawlers in the waters now claimed by her. Before the turn of the century only coastal fishing, near the coast, was carried on by Iceland, and that with small vessels. Therefore the countries who have fished off Iceland cannot give up their legal rights to fish these grounds, as by so doing they would be unable to maintain the supply of fish for the population of Europe.

"2. There can be no question of over-fishing the waters outside the recognized limits. If there were, Iceland would have to forbid trawler fishing to its own vessels as completely as it is forbidden at the moment within the four nautical miles limit to all nations, including Iceland. Nevertheless the West European Fishery Associations are ready to accept amicable agreements with Iceland on conservation measures in the waters off the Icelandic coast.

"3. In conclusion the representatives of the fishing associations of the nations here assembled, declare that they will continue to fish as before and agree to urge their Governments to protect their fishing activities off the coast of Iceland. In connection with this, they suggest that such efforts of the Governments concerned might be coordinated.

"4. Meanwhile, the West European Fishery Associations are of the opinion that they should meet again before September 1 to discuss additional ways and means to protect their industries against the effect of the unilateral action by Iceland, if previously a satisfactory solution has not been found." (The Fishing News, July 25, 1958.)

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UNITED STATES-CUBA CONVENTION FOR CONSERVATION OF GULF OF MEXICO SHRIMP RESOURCES SIGNED

The Convention between the United States and Cuba for the conservation of the shrimp resources of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico was signed at Havana, Cuba, on August 15, 1958. The Convention contemplates international cooperation between Cuba and the United States aimed at developing and maintaining the maximum sustainable yield from these shrimp resources, and fills geographic need for preserving species valuable commercially to both countries.

Note: See Commercial Fisheries Review, February 1958, p. 49.

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International (Contd.):

WHALING

AGREEMENT REACHED ON NUMBER OF CATCHER BOATS FOR 1958/59 ANTARCTIC SEASON:

An agreement has been reached between Norway, Great Britain, the Netherlands, and Japan whaling companies to restrict the number of catcher boats to 215 during the 1958/59 Antarctic whaling season. This total is one more than the number of catcher vessels used during the 1957/58 season. The nine Norwegian expeditions are allotted 95 catcher vessels, the three British expeditions 37, the one Netherlands expedition 14, and the six Japanese expeditions 69 (an increase of one over the number used in 1957/58), the United States Embassy in Oslo reports in an August 22, 1958, dispatch.

* * * * *

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION:

The Tenth Meeting of the International Whaling Commission was convened at The Hague, Netherlands, June 23, 1958, pursuant to the provisions of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling signed at Washington, December 2, 1946.

At this meeting, the Commission (1) approved the expenditures for 1957/58 and the budget for 1958/59; (2) considered recommendations made by its Standing Committees; (3) adopted amendments to the Schedule annexed to the 1946 International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling; and determined that its eleventh meeting should be convened at London, England, June 22, 1959.

Conclusions: A number of the more important decisions during the Commission's Tenth Meeting were:

The 1958/59 Antarctic limit should be 14,500 blue-whale units, the Netherlands Government dissenting. Should this dissent be followed at the appropriate time by a formal objection by the Netherlands Government to this Amendment, the Antarctic limitation will automatically revert to 15,000 blue-whale units.

Extend for further period of five years (ending November 8, 1964) the protection to humpbacks in the North Atlantic Ocean by amending Paragraph 6 (1) of the Schedule.

Extend for a further period of five years (ending November 8, 1964) the protection to humpbacks in Antarctic Area II by amending Paragraph 6 (2) of the Schedule. At the same time, the area of protection was reduced by ten degrees of longitude and will now extend from 0° to 60° West Longitude, rather than to 70° West Longitude as before.

Rejected a proposal by Norway to extend the open season for humpbacks in the Antarctic from 4 to 8 days (subsequently reduced to 6 days when the vote was taken) by amending Paragraph 6 (3) of the Schedule. Subsequently, the Commission also accepted the withdrawal of the alternative Norwegian proposal for establishment of a quota of 1,250 humpbacks as a limitation on the Antarctic catch.

The proposal by Japan and Norway to commence Antarctic whaling prior to January 7 (the beginning date now in force under Paragraph 7 (a) of the Schedule) was withdrawn in view of inability to obtain outside the Commission a limitation on the number of catcher boats operating with a factoryship.

Rejected the proposal for an extension of permitted whaling in the former Sanctuary (Area I) until November 8, 1960. This alteration of Paragraph 5 of the Schedule may be reconsidered at the Eleventh Meeting of the Commission since the prohibition now in force does not expire until November 8, 1959.

Postponed decision on the extension for a further period of five years (until February 24, 1965) of protection to blue whales in the North Atlantic Ocean in view of the reluctance of Iceland to abstain from taking this species during the past period when this prohibition has been accepted by Norway and other Contracting Governments.

Inasmuch as instruments of ratification for the Protocol containing a provision for "Methods of Inspection" have not as yet been deposited by Brazil, Mexico, and Panama, the Protocol was not in force during the Tenth Meeting of the Commission. Consequently, the Agenda items relating to (a) the appointment by the Commission of impartial observers on all whale factoryships, (b) the use of helicopters in whaling, and (c) the inspection of refrigerated ships were eliminated from further consideration during the Tenth Meeting.

Adopted recommendations intended to increase the recovery of whale marks and to insure adequate publicity regarding the purpose and importance of the whale-marking program.

Recommendations of the United States Delegation: UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE CONFERENCES: The United States Government convened the conference that negotiated the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling signed December 3, 1946, which provides for the establishment of a permanent international organization, the International Whaling Commission. The United States has repeatedly demonstrated continued support and active interest in promoting sound conservation policies in relation to the natural resources, not only for our own country, but the entire world as well. Whales, which formerly were found in all oceans, are a world resource. This has become depleted and is now in a precarious condition, and that fact is recognized by the Contracting Governments. The Delegation recommends that the United States give continuing support to international regulation of the whaling industry. United States support for and continued participation in the work of the International Whaling Commission is regarded as one of the essential factors for the successful operation of the Commission and the conservation of the remaining whale stocks.

International (Contd.):

IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS REACHED: The three amendments to the Schedule of the 1946 Convention for the Regulation of Whaling adopted by the Commission at its Tenth Meeting were in accord with the position of the United States. These amendments, if accepted by the Contracting Governments, will (a) establish a 14,500 blue-whale unit limitation for the 1959 Antarctic pelagic season, (b) extend the protection of humpbacks in the North Atlantic Ocean until November 8, 1964, and (c) extend the protection of humpbacks in Antarctic Sector II (0° to 60° West Longitude) until November 8, 1964. Immediate effect should be given to these regulatory amendments.

Objective Appraisal of the Tenth Meeting of the Commission from the Point of View of the United States: The position of the United States on the various items of the agenda, as in previous years, was determined from the point of view both of the conservationally desirable and the practically possible.

The various limitations which have been imposed through the medium of the International Whaling Convention have provided a needed restraint on the exploitation of Antarctic whale stocks. Nevertheless, the number of Antarctic expeditions has increased from 15 factoryships and 147 catcher boats in 1947 to 20 factoryships and 237 catcher boats in 1958. Furthermore, improvements in technology have been introduced which have increased the efficiency of both catcher boats and factoryships. There have been continuing efforts on the part of the whaling industry to obtain by private agreement a limitation on the number of catcher boats attached to each factoryship. During the 1957 Antarctic pelagic season all of the participating countries, with the exception of the U. S. S. R., agreed to a voluntary reduction of the number of operated catcher boats, and in 1958 a similar agreement was in effect which included all the countries concerned except for the U. S. S. R. and the Netherlands. Most segments of the whaling industry are anxious to arrive at a further private agreement for limitation of the number of catcher boats.

The view expressed in some circles of the whaling industry is that a more economical operation of the pelagic expeditions would result from such methods of limitation. In this connection, certain whaling interests have put forward the suggestion that a private agreement be negotiated which would have the effect of setting quotas for each country engaged in pelagic whaling. Such an agreement, in the eyes of the proponents, would, through setting the maximum catch in advance, have the desirable effect of making possible a limitation on the number of expeditions despatched by each country and thus bringing about a more economical operation. Under such a system, according to its proponents, it might be possible to accept a considerably reduced over-all catch limit.

As was pointed out in the report of the United States Commissioner to the Ninth Annual Meeting, reconciling commercial necessity with biological considerations and international conservation efforts to maintain whale stocks is becoming increasingly difficult in view of the mounting economic pressures. A workable balance between these conflicting interests must be maintained if the primary objectives of the 1946 Convention are to be achieved. Nevertheless, the decisions taken by the Commission in the Plenary Sessions reflected to a marked degree approval of the conservational recommendations made by the Scientific Committee.

Background: The International Whaling Commission was established in accordance with the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling which was signed at Washington, December 2, 1946, and which entered into force November 10, 1948. It is the responsibility of the Commission, as conditions warrant, to amend the provisions of the Schedule annexed to the 1946 Convention, which are, in effect the regulations governing the conduct of whaling by the Contracting Governments. These regulations relate to the conservation and utilization of whale resources and include fixing (a) protected and unprotected species; (b) open and closed seasons; (c) open and closed waters, including the designation of sanctuary areas; (d) size limits for each species; (e) time, methods, and intensity of whaling (including the maximum catch of whales to be taken in any one season); (f) types and specification of gear and apparatus and appliances which may be used; (g) methods of measurement; and (h) catch returns and other statistical and biological records.

The Commission is also charged with the responsibility for taking action, either independently or in collaboration with other governments and public or private agencies to: (a) encourage, recommend, or if necessary organize studies and investigations relating to whales and whaling; (b) collect and analyze statistical information concerning the current condition and trend of whale stocks and the effects of whaling activities thereon; (c) study, appraise, and disseminate information concerning methods of maintaining and increasing populations of whale stocks.

Included in the agenda for the meeting were:

(1) Report as to ratification of the Protocol for the Amendment of the International Whaling Convention 1946.

(2) Blue whales in the North Atlantic--report as to Iceland; whaling in the North Pacific--question as to further research.

(3) Review of the 1957/58 season's catch.

(4) The question of advancing the opening of the baleen whale season in the water south of 40° south latitude, raised by Japan and Norway.

(5) Opening of the Sanctuary.

(6) Discussion of the blue whale unit limit.

(7) Possible amendments to the Schedule.

The countries represented by Commissioners were the United States of America, Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Union of South Africa, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United Kingdom. Brazil, Mexico, and Panama were not represented by Commissioners.

Portugal and Italy were represented by observers as were the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Council

International (Contd.):

for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), and the International Association of Whaling Companies.

The United States Commissioner, Dr. A. Remington Kellogg, Director of the United States National Museum, Washington, D. C., was assisted by Stuart Blow, Foreign Service Officer, Office of the Special Assistant for Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of State, and Lieutenant Harry J. Gardener, Assistant to Senior Coast Guard Officer, Europe, U. S. Coast Guard, London, England.

Ratification of the Protocol for the Amendment of the International Whaling Convention 1946: The United States as the Depository Government notified the Commission at its Ninth Meeting (1957) that instruments of ratification for the Protocol to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946, containing a provision for "Methods of Inspection," which was signed by the representatives of the Contracting Governments at Washington on November 19, 1956, were deposited by the ambassadors of Iceland on November 23, 1956, Australia on April 8, 1957, Norway on April 15, 1957, Union of South Africa on April 25, 1957, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on May 23, 1957, Japan on May 24, 1957, Sweden on June 6, 1957, Canada on June 14, 1957, and New Zealand on June 21, 1957. Inasmuch as all Contracting Governments had not deposited instruments of ratification by June 28, 1957, this Protocol was not in force during the Ninth Meeting of the Commission.

Instruments of ratification for this Protocol have been deposited since July 1, 1957, as follows: U. S. S. R on July 3, 1957, Denmark on July 26, 1957, United States on August 30, 1957, The Netherlands on December 23, 1957, and France on April 14, 1958.

Instruments of ratification for this Protocol have not as yet been deposited by Brazil, Mexico, and Panama. Consequently, this Protocol was not in force during the Tenth Meeting of the Commission.

A motion by the Australian Commissioner, to request all commissioners to bring to the attention of their respective governments the desirability of instructing their missions in Brazil, Mexico, and Panama to stress the importance of prompt ratification of the Protocol, was made. It was seconded by the Canadian Commissioner and passed 12 in favor and 2 abstentions.

--Abstracted from the "Report of the United States Commissioner to the Tenth Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission. . ."

Angola

FISHING INDUSTRY, 1957:

The production of canned fishery products and fish meal and fish oil in Angola increased during 1957 as compared with the previous year. There was a decrease, however, in the production of dried fish (table 1).

Table 1 - Angolan Production of Processed Fishery Products and Byproducts, 1956-57

	1957	1956
	(Metric Tons)	
Canned fish	1,861	1,774
Dried fish	24,805	27,229
Fish meal	85,205	77,703
Fish oil	7,209	4,658

Angolan exports of dried fish for 1957 totaled 15,403 tons, valued at US$2.7 million. Fish meal exports amounted to 94,149 tons, valued at US$11.5 million.

Table 2 - Angolan Dried Fish and Fish Meal Exports, 1957, by Destination

Product and Country of Destination	Quantity	Value
	Metric Tons	US$ 1,000
Dried Fish:		
S. Tome and Principe	1,550	257
Mozambique	4,017	622
Federation Rhodesia & Nyasaland	955	170
Belgian Congo	6,963	1,275
French Equatorial Africa	1,200	259
Germany	683	85
Other	35	6
Total	15,403	2,674
Fish Meal:		
Portugal	890	109
Mozambique	259	32
United States	11,255	1,276
Spain	3,957	513
Germany	30,531	3,827
Belgium-Luxemburg	8,080	921
Holland	22,907	2,690
Italy	6,117	946
Other	10,153	1,178
Total	94,149	11,492

Table 3 - Angolan Imports of Dried Cod, 1957

Country of Origin	Quantity	Value
	Metric Tons	US$ 1,000
Portugal	315	189
United Kingdom	429	225
Norway	716	464
Other	13	8
Total	1,473	886

Angola (Contd.):

Angolan imports of dried cod during 1957 amounted to 1,473 tons with a value of US$886,000.

Table 3 - Angolan Imports of Dried Cod, 1957

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	Metric Tons	US$ 1,000
Portugal	315	189
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Norway	716	464
Other	13	8
Total	1,473	886

Note: Values converted at the rate of one conto (1,000 escudos) equals about US$35.

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PLANS FOR REORGANIZATION OF FISHING INDUSTRY:

The need for reorganization of the fishing industry in Angola has long been recognized, a dispatch (July 31, 1958) from the United States Consulate at Luanda points out. This has been emphasized in the last two years when the value of exports of Angolan fish meal was found to be below the prevailing market price.

The fishing industry has been the subject of detailed study, and results show a great need for reorganization and refinancing. Equipment was found to be in need of replacement.

Action is being initiated in Mocamedes where concerns incorporated in the Mocamedes Fish Guild have agreed to conditions which were imposed by the Overseas Ministry in Lisbon. The Ministry has agreed to a loan of 90,000 contos (US$3,147,000) of which 15,000 contos (US$524,000) will be spent on an installation for the freezing and filleting of fish, as well as for the purchase of vessels and 12,000 contos (US$419,500) on the enlargement, modernization, and development of the canning industry. A total of 63,000 contos (US$2,203,000) has been earmarked for new units for the processing of fish meal and fish oil. The original agreement called for repayment in ten years at 5 percent interest per annum, although an attempt is being made to extend the repayment period and reduce the interest rate.

Argentine Republic

FISHING SEASONS FOR IMPORTANT SPECIES:

The fishing season for anchovies and sardines began on September 1, 1958, and will last until the middle of October. The pack of these species is expected to amount to 50,000 cases (about 88 pounds per case net weight), according to a letter received from Mar del Plata. Also in that port, the season for Spanish mackerel will begin in November.

In the Patagonian port of Rawson, the shrimp fishery will commence in November and last for 2 or 3 months.

Bahama Islands

FISHERIES TRENDS:

Despite some of the greatest fishing waters available, production of fish almost remained static. Spiny lobster was the only commodity in any bulk, £194,089 (US$543,449) of which was exported in 1957 to Florida. There are very few companies, all very small, which buy fish for local consumption or for export other than spiny lobsters. An indication is the very low figure of £411 ($1,150) in 1957 gained by the export of scale fish.

Marine products of any quantity exported in 1957 include sponges £33,334 ($93,335), marine curios £4,482 ($12550), conch shells £4,443 ($12,440), and turtle shells £5,036 ($14,100). (United States consulate at Nassau, report dated May 28.)

Note: Values converted at the rate of £1 equals US$2.80.

Belgium

REACTION TO ICELAND'S DECISION TO EXTEND FISHING LIMITS:

Following Iceland's decision to extend its territorial waters fishing limits to 12 miles as of September 1, 1958, a report of an interview with representatives of Belgian fishing interests concerning their reactions to the Icelandic decision appeared in a June 6 issue of a Brussels daily newspaper.

Belgium (Contd.):

The Belgian fishing fleet consists of 465 vessels of various types and provides employment for 1,800-2,000 fishermen. Together with allied industries such as shipbuilding, fishing equipment, transportation, etc., the industry furnishes directly or indirectly a livelihood for thousands of individuals. The director of one of the most important Belgian fishing firms stated that the total annual volume of business of the fishing and related industries amounts to approximately 2 to 2.5 billion Belgian francs (US$40-50 million).

In view of the magnitude of the volume of business involved, the press report describes the Icelandic action as "provoking a feeling of veritable consternation" and having "a serious economic repercussion in the country."

The industry director believes that the Icelandic measure would be a serious blow to the Belgian fishing industry. Inter Alia, it would force Belgian fishing boats into other North Sea areas, many of which are already fished out, or it would force the vessels to extend their areas of operation to such places as the Bear Islands, Spitzbergen, the White Sea, or the Greenland coast. If the latter becomes necessary only the very few Belgian fishing vessels constructed to operate at long distances could fish there, and their catch would not be nearly sufficient to sustain the fishing and related industries.

Some Belgian fishing vessels have drawn the fire of Icelandic coast guard vessels, and have returned to port with bullet-marked superstructures. As a result of the situation, Belgian owners have now strictly prohibited their captains from penetrating Icelandic waters except at their own risk. Thus, if Icelandic court action is henceforth brought against a Belgian fishing vessel, the owners will refuse to pay fines and costs.

British Guiana

EXPLORATORY SHRIMP FISHING OFF BRITISH GUIANA AND SURINAM:

The Adventurer, a 67-ton trawler, was chartered in July 1958 by a firm in Georgetown, British Guiana, for a survey of shrimp possibilities offshore near the British Guiana coast. The exploratory shrimp fishing was done in cooperation with a sistership from the Orinoco River mouth to the Amazon. Reports indicated that the best results were achieved off the Surinam coast outside territorial waters, states an August 8 dispatch from the United States consulate at Paramaribo.

Colombia

BASIC FISHING REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTED:

The Colombian Government, by Decree No. 1409, July 31, 1958, authorized the implementation of certain articles of the basic fishing Decree 0376, December 13, 1957, the United States Embassy reports in a dispatch from Colombia, dated August 6, 1958.

The December 13, 1957, decree was primarily a broad general outline of Colombian fishing regulations. The July 31, 1958, decree is more specific in purpose and discusses in detail the general provisions of the former. A summary of the decree follows:

Article 1: Fishing ships flying a foreign flag will only be permitted to fish in Colombian waters for certain fish, if they are under contract to Colombian canneries, which will sell part of their production to internal markets. The Colombian firms have one year in which to invest in a plant and must provide a financial guarantee of 100,000 pesos (US$13,200).

Article 2: Companies with ships flying foreign flags must nationalize their fleets at the minimum rate of 25 percent a year.

Article 3: The Ministry of Agriculture has the authority to certify fish for export insofar as health and quality standards are concerned.

Article 4: Port officials have the authority to approve exports of fish in accordance with export regulations.

Article 5: The Banco de la Republica will fix the reintegro rate for exporters of fish.

Article 6: Inspectors from the Ministry of Agriculture have the right to board fishing ships at any time.

Article 7: Only ships flying the Colombian flag and domiciled in Colombia can fish for shrimp and certain other shellfish in Colombian waters.

Article 8: In order to obtain a license to fish for shrimp, the following conditions must be met: (1) each licensee must sign a 15-year contract with the Ministry of Agriculture, and (2) provide a bond of 150,000 pesos (US$19,800) plus 10,000 pesos (US$1,320) for each ship, to guarantee the nationalization of the ships within 6 months, and to guarantee

Colombia (Contd.):

the construction of installations for processing fish.

Article 9: Other edible fish caught while fishing for shrimp must not be thrown overboard but must be sold in Colombian markets.

Article 10: For the first five years of the 15-year shrimp contract, the fishing company is exempt from export taxes.

Article 11: Only 100 percent Colombian companies may fish for spiny lobsters, and the catch must be sold in Colombian markets and not exported.

Article 12: No authorization will be made for the processing of shellfish aboard ship. However, during the first two years, authorization may be granted for processing aboard ship in the case of tuna.

Article 13: Canning and packing ships must be anchored in port.

Article 14: The canning and packing of fish products aboard ships are subject to Colombian import regulations.

Article 15: Monies received through fines will be used in the public interest by the Fish Section of the Department of Natural Resources.

Article 16. The tax exemptions for fishing companies granted in Article 10 of the basic decree will also be extended to members of the firms.

Article 17: Starting from July 1, 1959, no licenses for shrimp boats will be granted unless the boats are Colombian-built and as far as possible constructed of Colombian materials. Boats nationalized prior to the above date are exempt from this regulation.

Article 18: Fines ranging from 1,000 pesos (US$132) to 100,000 pesos (US$13,200) will be imposed for violations of this decree.

Note: Pesos converted at rate of 7.59 pesos equal US$1.

Cuba

CLOSED SEASONS ON LANE SNAPPER, MUTTONFISH, AND SPONGES TERMINATED:

The closed season on lane snapper ("biajaba"), originally imposed on May 5, 1958, was terminated by the Cuban National Fisheries Institute effective August 8, 1958, according to a resolution published in the Official Gazette, No. 152, dated August 7, 1958.

Termination of the closed seasons on muttonfish ("pargo criollo") and sponges, effective July 18, 1958, was announced in Circular No. 153 issued by the Director General of Customs on July 23, 1958. (U. S. Embassy in Havana, dispatch, August 15, 1958.)

Denmark

FISHERMEN PROTEST 12-MILE FISHING LIMITS:

At its annual meeting Denmark's largest fishermen's association, Dansk Fiskeriforening (with a membership of 10,000) adopted a sharply-worded resolution against expansion of the maritime fishery limit. The resolution condemned both Iceland's decision to implement such an expansion on September 1, and the parallel action of the local Faroese Government with respect to their own waters. The resolution requested the Danish Government to abandon its efforts to support the Faroese expansion, unless it could guarantee against detrimental repercussions upon the sale of Danish fish and fishery products which the association fears will be the result of such an expansion.

Alleging passivity on the part of the Danish fishermen at the time the fishery limits were discussed at the Geneva Conference, the Minister of Fisheries who has vaguely defended the Government's attitude toward the Faroe Islands, elicted the opinion of the other important fishermen's association, Vestjysk Fiskeriforening (membership 4,000, almost all engaged in North Sea fishing) on a possible expansion of Danish fishing

Denmark (Contd.):

limits to 12 miles. Referring to "the many problems involved," the association advised against such a move.

It is believed that what the fishermen's associations fear is not so much the effects on their sales and landings of fish in other countries, as the possibility that West Germany will follow the Icelandic procedure. Danish fishermen draw a large part of their catch within 12 miles of the West German shores.

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LOANS FOR FAROESE FISHING FLEET:

The Danish Folketing has sanctioned loans of up to Kr. 7 million (about US$1.0 million) spread over the next three years towards the renewal of the Faroese fishing fleet. About Kr. 36 million (US$5.2 million) is to be raised to buy 8 large line vessels equipped with freezing plants, 8 cutters of 80 tons gross, and 3 trawlers, the latter already ordered from Portugal, according to an economic report on Denmark.

Local councils in the Faroese have asked the Faroese Lagting to finance the building of small cold storages in which to store frozen fillets awaiting shipment to the United States. (The Fishing News, July 11, 1958.)

France

TUNA CANNING AND TUNA FISHING CONTROVERSY:

The French tuna canning industry and the tuna fishing industry are in the midst of a controversy. Since stocks of canned tuna have been mounting too quickly, the tuna fishing industry has been urging that controls be imposed to prevent devaluation in the market. The canning industry, however, is against this and favors price reductions, thereby increasing consumption. France's annual consumption has been approximately 20,000 metric tons, but the 1958 landings are expected to yield 25,000 to 30,000 tons.

A committee will examine the situation and make final recommendations. (World Fishing, August 1958.)

Honduras

NEW FISHING REGULATIONS ISSUED:

New temporary fishing regulations aimed at protecting the marine fishing resources of Honduras, especially in the Atlantic Ocean, have been put into effect by the Minister of Natural Resources of Honduras, under the powers granted by Article 10, Decree Law No. 8, dated December 24, 1954. These temporary regulations are to be in effect until the National Congress enacts a "Law of Sea Fishing," which will be submitted for consideration during the next session of the Legislature.

According to the new regulations, fishing activities in the waters of Honduras are prohibited unless previous permission for such fishing has been granted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the following conditions are observed:

1. Of the value of exports, 5 percent must be paid to the nearest customs office.

2. An annual fee of Ł500 (US$250) must be paid to the Directorate of Social Welfare.

3. Of the fishing crews employed, 90 percent must be Hondurans.

4. Fishing vessels must be registered with the Ministry of Finance.

5. Fishery products sold in Honduras must be sold at a price lower than the wholesale export price.

6. Accounting records must be kept in Spanish and submitted to the Honduran authorities for inspection, as required.

Japan (Contd.):

Ocean Operations: Fishing, as conducted in Japan, can be classified into coastal, offshore, ocean, river, and lake fishing. Largest in scale is, of course, ocean fishing.

In ocean operations, the fishing vessels are usually organized into fleets, each with a mothership. These motherships, often of 10,000 metric tons or more, are sea-going plants which process the catches and also supply food and fuel to the fishing vessels.

Notable examples of ocean fishing are whaling in the Arctic and Antarctic, salmon and crab fishing in the North Pacific, cod fishing, tuna fishing in the South Pacific, and pearl oyster gathering in the Arafura Sea off Australia. Trawl fishing in the East China Sea and tuna fishing in the Indian Ocean and in the Atlantic are conducted by individual vessels.

Rehabilitation and Modernization: By the end of the Pacific war, the total number of fishing boats in Japan had been reduced to 279,000. Rehabilitation progressed so rapidly, however, that the total reached 480,000 in 1950, surpassing the prewar record. After that, the rate of increase declined, chiefly due to the shift of emphasis to modernization.

In 1945, only 20 percent of Japan's fishing vessels were motorized. In 1957, the figure was 39 percent. The total tonnage of fishing boats in Japan was 1,570,000 tons at the end of 1957, with motor-powered vessels accounting for 1,340,000 tons.

Substantial progress has been made also in the modernization of equipment. For instance, fish detectors have helped eliminate much of the uncertainty in fishing operations, while declinometers, radar, and loran have made it possible for fishing vessel crews to navigate under every weather condition.

Remarkable improvements have also been made in fishing nets. The synthetic fiber nets now being used have proved to be both more durable and easier to handle than the conventional cotton yarn nets.

Such modern equipment, however, is for the most part limited at present to larger-sized ships. Coastal fishing, conducted mainly by small vessels, has been left behind in the pace of technical progress.

Fishery Output: The annual catch of the Japanese fishing industry, which ranged from 4,200,000 metric tons to 4,300,000 tons (excluding whales) in the prewar period, had dropped to 2,050,000 tons in 1945 when the war ended. With the peace, fishery output steadily recovered, topping the prewar record in 1952. In 1957 it totaled from 5,300,000 tons to 5,400,000 tons.

In 1956, coastal fishing accounted for about 48.7 percent, offshore fishing 33.9 percent, and ocean fishing 17 percent of the total fish catch of the nation. Thus, although its relative importance in the Japanese fishing industry is waning, coastal fishing still supplies nearly half of the total Japanese fish catch.

The proportion of the total catch occupied by shellfish, crabs, lobsters, shrimps, cuttlefish, and other such marine life was greater in 1957 than in 1936. The hauls of mackerel and pompano have also increased considerably. The catch of salmon and of tuna, especially important for export purposes, have also exceeded the prewar level.

In contrast, sardines, which occupied 49 percent of the total fish catch in the prewar period, declined to 19 percent. Herring fishing in Hokkaido's coastal sea has dropped sharply.

Size of Enterprises: Japanese fishing enterprises range in size from giant corporations, capitalized in excess of US$14 million, to small family enterprises.

Of the 250,000 fishing enterprises in Japan, small family enterprises occupy a dominant 92 percent while large firms with more than US$277,777 in capital can be counted on one's fingers.

The largest fisheries companies all have several 10,000-ton class motherships and operate on a large scale in whale catching in the Antarctic Sea, salmon and crab fishing in the Northern Pacific, tuna fishing in the Pacific and

Japan (Contd.):

large-scale trawling. Whale meat, canned salmon and crab meat are mostly the products of these big companies.

In contrast, family enterprises are engaged in small-scale angling and net fishing in the coastal waters with small motorized or rowed boats. These fishermen operating on their own resources comprise about 80 percent of the total labor population of the Japanese fishing industry.

The central role in the Japanese fishing industry is being played by medium-size enterprises. They usually engage in offshore and ocean fishing with vessels ranging in size from 10 to 200 tons, and supply most of the fish consumed by the Japanese.

Consumption of Marine Products: Most of the nation's marine products is consumed domestically, only 9 percent being exported annually. About 87 percent of the total supply to the Japanese market is consumed as food, the remaining 13 percent as animal fodder and fertilizer. Before the war, as much as 40 percent of the total catch was used for nonfood purposes.

Fish and other marine products used as food may be classified into those consumed without processing and those consumed after processing. The former accounts for about 32 percent and the latter, 68 percent of the total, showing a decline in the percentage of the consumption of processed fishery products.

Changes have also taken place in the tastes of the Japanese. In urban centers there was a remarkable increase in the consumption of fresh, dried, and salted fish until around 1953, but the rate of increase slowed down somewhat after that. From 1954 on, however, sales of salted salmon, fish sausages and hams, fish tempura, and canned fish have grown steadily. Most remarkable has been the increase in the sales of fish sausages, a postwar innovation. Production was about two million pieces in 1953 and soared to some 200 million in 1956.

Another postwar development is the large increase in the consumption of fish foods in the rural areas. This is attributed chiefly to the development of motor-truck transportation and the rise in the general living standard of rural families.

Export of Marine Products: Marine products exports have been continually increasing and totaled some US$163 million in 1956, or 6.5 percent of total Japanese exports. Between 1934 and 1936, the annual average was about 4 percent. The exports of about 9 percent of the total output, however, were considerably below the prewar level.

A dominant portion--about 55 percent--of marine products exports from Japan in 1956 was canned fish. Frozen fish is the single item which made the greatest advance in export in the postwar period, going to five times as high as the prewar level, but the recent decline in price has hampered a further advance in the total value of this line of exports.

Fish oils and fats are also an important item, amounting to some 13 percent of total exports of marine products. Exports of pearls are steadily growing, while those of salted goods and isinglass are on the decline (Japan Report, vol. IV, no. 16, August 15, 1958).

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EXPORTS OF TUNA LOINS AND DISCS TO UNITED STATES MAY RESUME:

A plan for resuming exports of tuna loins and discs to the United States was recently formulated by the Japan Frozen Food Exporters Association and Japan Frozen Tuna Producers Association, according to trade press reports. The plan, adopted at a meeting on August 12, 1958, resolved to make formal application immediately to Japan's MITI and Fisheries Agency to approve the resumption of exports. If the plan was approved, exports were expected to begin in September 1958.

Contents of the plan had not yet been published, but it is thought to contain the following points:

(a) strict control to be exercised on production and exports of loins and discs to the United States; (b) the export quota to be held within 3,000 tons during the

Japan (Contd.):

first year, with assignment of quotas to be based on the business of the past 2 years; (c) export quotas not to be separated as albacore or yellowfin, and as loins or discs, but in the case of albacore loins, the amount will be deducted from the round fish quota in the ratio of 2 to 1; (d) loins and discs to be produced by plants designated by Japan's Producers Association, with strict quality control; (e) all products to be consigned to a joint sales company; (f) all sales to be handled by a "loins" committee of Japan's Exporters Association, with price cutting to be prevented, and the embargo on sales to California to be removed; and (g) request the Government to establish a check-price system, thought likely to be US$700 per ton for albacore loins, US$550 for yellowfin loins, and US$20 more on each for discs.

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CANNED TUNA IN AGAR JELLY:

A new type of flavored canned tuna in agar jelly, exported for the first time last year to the United Kingdom, is finding rapidly growing acceptance in foreign markets, particularly in West Germany, according to trade press reports. From January to July of this year shipments amounted to 25,000 cases to West Germany, 15,000 to Canada, 3,000 to the United Kingdom, and 1,000 to the Netherlands. In addition to that already shipped, another 15,000 cases were sold to West Germany, and it is believed that 100,000 cases can be sold by the end of the year.

Of the amount sold so far this year, about one-fourth was whitemeat tuna, the rest lightmeat. Prices of US$5.15 a case for lightmeat tuna and US$6.25 a case for whitemeat tuna are considered low, but it is expected that once a regular market for this product is developed, the price can be raised. The tuna in jelly sold to Canada has all been whitemeat, and the price has been US$6.80 a case. The demand from Canada is said to be strong, but with the current shortage of albacore, the question is whether Canada will accept lightmeat tuna in this type of pack.

The West German fishing industry has asked the Government's Ministry of Food and Agriculture to take measures to restrict the rapidly growing imports of Japanese tuna. Canned tuna from Japan made up 50 percent of West Germany's processed fish imports in December 1957, 64 percent in January 1958, and 70 percent in February 1958, a dispatch (August 14, 1958) from the United States Embassy from Tokyo reports.

The canned-tuna-in-jelly pack consists of large irregular flakes and agar jelly only slightly greater than the quantity of oil usually found in the oil pack. The flavor to one taster was strongly reminiscent of Vienna sausage.

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NORTH PACIFIC MOTHERSHIP SALMON FISHING AS OF AUGUST 10, 1958:

The 15 Japanese North Pacific salmon fishing mothership fleets (432 catcher boats) operating in the Aleutian area as of August 10 had caught 85,116 metric tons of salmon. Last year by July 25 the 14 motherships and 405 catcher boats had achieved their quota of 87,000 tons and had left the fishing grounds. The quota for these 15 fleets for 1958 was 85,667 tons but was readjusted in July to 85,169 tons.

The one fleet (28 catcher boats) operating this season in the Okhotsk area achieved its quota of 6,498 tons as of August 10. The quota for this fleet had been set at 6,000 tons, but in July was readjusted to 6,498 tons. Last year this fleet achieved its quota of 13,000 tons by July 31.

The over-all quota for Japanese North Pacific salmon fishing for 1958 is 110,000 tons: 85,169 tons for the fleets fishing in the Aleutian area, 6,498 tons for the fleet fishing in the Okhotsk area, and 18,333 tons for the shore-based salmon fleets on Hokkaido Island (Hokkai Suisan, Special Issue No. 9, August 12, 1958).

By July 31 this year the Aleutian area fleets had caught 72,683 tons of salmon. On August 3 the fleets were reported operating approximately in the area bounded by 47°36' N.-51°24' N. latitude and 160°00' E.-167°36' E. longitude. The fleet operating in the Okhotsk area (52°30' N.-154°30' E.) by July 31 had caught 5,785 tons of salmon.

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Japan (Contd.):

EXPORTS OF SELECTED FISHERY PRODUCTS TO THE UNITED STATES, JANUARY-APRIL 1958:

During the first four months of 1958, Japanese exports of frozen tuna to the United States were valued at US$4,702,000, a decrease of 2.5 percent as compared with US$4,818,000 for the same period in 1957. Canned tuna exports to the United States January-April 1958 were valued at US$4,216,000, an increase of 4.6 percent over the January-April 1957 value of US$4,029,000.

Japan's Exports of Selected Fishery Products to the United States, January-April 1958

Item	Value						Quantity					
	Mar.		Apr.		Jan.-Apr.		Mar.		Apr.		Jan.-Apr.	
	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957
	(US$1,000)						(Metric Tons)					
Tuna, frozen	1,200	1,579	1,283	688	4,702	4,818	4,198	5,243	4,359	2,315	16,414	16,366
Tuna canned	895	1,358	1,083	1,092	4,216	4,029	1,039	1,454	1,262	1,190	4,892	4,315
Crab meat, canned	452	445	467	1,031	1,501	2,158	186	181	200	398	690	877
Other canned	2,840	790	1,072	726	6,315	3,388	3,355	887	1,299	835	7,070	3,894

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SUMMER ALBACORE CATCH UNEXPECTEDLY SMALL:

The summer albacore fishing season off the Japan coast has ended with estimated landings of only about 22,000 short tons, the lowest since 1951 and little more than half of last year's landings. Of this total, freezers bought about 7,500 tons, and canners some 14,500 tons. Ex-vessel prices have risen steadily throughout the season from around US$275 to $320-320 a short ton, and appear to have averaged about twice the level of last year's low prices. Sales of frozen round fish for export to the United States at prices as high as US$350 per ton were reported in the first week of July.

It appears likely that some sales contracts for frozen fish for the United States market will have to be cancelled or filled with winter albacore or mothership fish, and that the planned canned tuna production ratio of 65 percent white meat (albacore) to 35 percent light meat (other tuna species) may have to be changed to 50 or 55 percent light meat. (United States Embassy dispatch from Tokyo, dated July 11, 1958.)

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SALMON FISHING IN NORTH PACIFIC BY MOTHERSHIP FOR 1958 COMPLETED:

On August 9 and 10, 1958, the 15 Japanese salmon fleets fishing the Bering Sea and North Pacific east of Kamchatka and the single fleet fishing the Sea of Okhotsk completed their 1958 season. This ended three months of fishing which began on May 11. The rate of catch for these fleets was much slower this year than last, and gloomy predictions were freely made during most of the season that it would be impossible to fill the catch quotas of 85,667 metric tons on the east side and 6,000 tons on the west side of Kamchatka. The final total, however, was 91,614 tons, only 53 tons short of the goal.

This successful end to the season was only made possible, however, by the action of the Japanese Fisheries Agency in modifying the terms of the fleets' licenses during the last week of fishing so that those fleets which had completed their individual catch quotas early could continue fishing and credit their excess landings to the quotas of the fleets that were falling behind. Similarly, catcher boats that were close to their limit of 24,000 red salmon were allowed to continue fishing with the understanding that fish of this species over the number of 25,200 (the original limit plus the 5-percent leeway allowed) would be credited to boats that were short. Financial settlements among fleets and catchers after their return to port are expected to present some knotty problems.

This season marks the first time since the high-seas North Pacific salmon fishing was resumed in 1952 that such extraordinary measures have had to be taken to attain the catch goal. The filling of the quota was regarded seriously be-

Japan (Contd.)

cause it was feared that a failure to do so would be used by the Soviet Union as evidence of depletion of the resource and therefore as a reason for further reductions in the catch to be allowed Japan in future years. Ironically, one of the biggest contributions to the late season readjustment (498 tons) was made by the fleet operating in the Sea of Okhotsk, an area from which Japanese fishing is to be barred after this year on the ground that salmon resources there are badly depleted. The comparatively good fishing enjoyed by this fleet has stimulated demands for a reconsideration of the Okhotsk closure among Japanese salmon fishermen, who are by no means reconciled to the loss of these rich grounds. It seems doubtful that the Russians will be disposed to make any concession there: the Chief of the Soviet Fisheries Observation Team during a tour of Japan frequently lectured the Japanese on the sad state of the salmon stocks of the Soviet Far East.

It is reported that the over-all catch limit of 11 million red salmon was exceeded, but not by more than 5 percent at most. Published estimates of the mothership pack are 520,000 cases of red salmon, 80,000 cases of silvers, 550,000 cases of pinks, and 180,000 cases of chums. Chum and silver salmon fishing was better than last year, but the pink salmon catch fell below expectations.

The 460 gill-net boats which fished for the 16 motherships are reported to have earned for the most part between $47,000 and $50,000 per boat for the season, at prices (per fish) of 83 cents for reds, 57 cents for silvers and kings, 35 cents for chums, and 21 cents for pinks.

Returning fleet managers were quoted as blaming the slow fishing this year on the 5-day delay in sailing for the grounds, bad weather during the season, unusual migration patterns of the fish, and the necessity for limiting the red salmon catch, but they were emphatic in declaring that there was no evidence of a real scarcity of salmon. The fish were simply not to be found in the same areas where they were abundant last year.

All fleets returned to their base at Hakodate between August 14 and 19, according to an August 21, 1958, dispatch from the United States Embassy in Tokyo.

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ESTIMATED SALMON PACK AND EXPORTS FOR 1958:

On August 10, 1958, the 16 Japanese salmon mothership fleets ended their 1958 fishing season with a total catch of 91,614 metric tons.

At the end of August the trade press reported that salmon fishing by vessels operating individually out of eastern Hokkaido ports was also drawing to a close for this season. In the land-based fishery about 850 vessels of over 10 gross tons (490 gill-netters, 360 long-liners) participated; including boats under 10 tons, the fleet was estimated at approximately 1,000 vessels. They landed approximately 43,000 metric tons of salmon (valued at $12.7 million), principally at the ports of Kushiro, Akkeshi, Hanasaki, and Hiroo. Prices during the season ranged from 10.5 to 13 cents a pound for chum and 9.25 to 15 cents for pink salmon.

With the mothership pack completed and land packing nearly finished, estimates of expected consignments to the Canned Salmon Joint Sales Company can now be made with some accuracy. These estimates are currently running 1,880,000 to 1,910,000 standard cases, broken down as follows: reds, 620,000-630,000; pinks, 860,000-880,000 (including 470,000 talls); chums, 220,000-230,000; silvers and kings, 120,000; and tidbits, 40,000-50,000. This is a decline from last year's 2,277,000 cases, especially in red and pink salmon (respectively 1,074,000 and 1,057,000 cases last year).

Despite this year's lower production, it is anticipated that the carryover into the new fiscal year (beginning in April 1959) will be larger than this fiscal year. The large catch of pink salmon in Alaska threatens to curtail Japanese sales of that species in the United States, and

Japan (Contd.):

their sales of chums in Belgium and the Netherlands are being held down by the competition of lower-priced Canadian fish, although a US$1 cut in the price of chums to that area on August 20 may help matters. With the new pack and the present inventory of 520,000 cases, the joint sales company will have 2.42 million cases to sell. It is said that the most that can be hoped for in the way of export sales by next March is about 50,000 cases to the United Kingdom, 500,000 cases (100,000 red and 400,000 pink talls) to the United States, and 300,000 cases to the "C" area (continental Europe, Australia, and elsewhere), leaving 1.6 million cases to be carried over into the 1959 production season.

With prospects for canned salmon sales poor, the mothership operators have increased the proportion of frozen salmon produced this year, and this product is reportedly selling well in the United Kingdom. Sales contracted to the end of May were estimated at about 2,500 tons, mostly dressed reds, and the total sales to the latter part of August are estimated at around 5,000 tons, at prices of about $940 a ton. It is predicted that exports of frozen salmon this year may approach 10,000 tons, about three times last year's and far above those of any previous year.

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CANNED SALMON TRENDS:

Japanese trade sources indicated that stocks of canned red salmon amounted to about 200,000 cases as of August 1958, as compared with approximately 600,000 cases in March and nearly 1 million cases at the beginning of 1958.

Sales of canned salmon to the United Kingdom were heavy during May-July 1958; sales to Belgium and the Netherlands (traditionally pink and chum salmon markets) amounted to 500 cases in June and 200 in July.

The total pack of Japanese canned salmon in 1958 is expected to amount to approximately 1,850,000 cases as follows: 550,000 cases red salmon, 150,000 silver, 970,000 pink, and 180,000 chum. Of this total pack, about 800,000 cases will probably be sold to the United States and Canada, and about 400,000 cases are expected to be sold in European countries, Australia, and other nations.

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FISHERIES LOANS ACTIVITIES, APRIL-JUNE 1958:

The fisheries trade press reports that during April-June 1958 the Fisheries Financing Fund of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry handled 254 requests for loans, totaling $3,552,638. Loans were granted in 176 cases for a total amount of $2,054,083, slightly less than 58 percent of the amount requested. In the two largest categories--vessel construction and outfitting, 112 loans, $1,782,722; and fishing port construction and repair, 23 loans, $78,191--the total amounts loaned were less than one-fifth and one-tenth, respectively, of the sums planned for the year. The generally low ebb of loan business by the Fund is believed to indicate that the more conspicuous needs for financial assistance to the fishing industry existing in the postwar period have now been pretty well covered; the proportion of unsuitable projects in loan applications is increasing; and the operations of the Fund are due for a general review in the near future.

Loans from the Fund bear interest rates approximately two-thirds of those charged by banks, and are used by the Japanese Fisheries Agency to further its policies for encouragement of certain fisheries and for redeployment of fishing effort from others; for example, last year financing of new vessel construction was concentrated on smaller boats (under 15 meters or 59 feet overall) as a measure for helping coastal fishermen, and this policy is being continued in 1958. Some recent developments in the Fund's activities are of indirect interest to the United States fishing industry. On July 26 the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry approved modifications to the Fund's operating rules which will permit loans for certain new types of fishing boat equipment and for trout rear-

Japan (Contd.):

ing facilities. Under the new rules, loans may be made to individuals and companies, instead of being limited to fishery cooperatives, as in the past.

The new vessel equipment items covered by the Fund's loan program are inflatable life rafts, gyro-compasses, and weather chart facsimile receivers. These items are of particular interest to tuna boat operators, and applications amounting to nearly $555,555 are expected in industry circles. For this type of equipment, loans can be made up to 80 percent of the cost to cooperatives and 60 percent to individuals and companies.

Of particular interest is the emphasis placed on trout rearing by the new loan regulations. Loans for this purpose have hitherto been restricted to cooperatives, but now loans of up to 80 percent of facility costs and $2,700 may be made to individuals. Payment is to be made over a 10-year period. The reason for the encouragement of trout rearing is the increase in exports of trout in recent years and the belief that the trade has a promising future. In 1956, 508 metric tons of trout were exported, and in 1957 exports rose sharply to 847 tons, valued at $729,710. The Japanese Fishery Agency believes that this trade, which is almost entirely to the United States, can eventually amount to 2,000 tons a year. (United States Embassy dispatch dated August 6, from Tokyo.)

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INTERIM REPORT ON FISH MEAL FACTORY-SHIP OPERATIONS IN THE BERING SEA:

The fish-meal factoryship Ginyo Maru, which began working June 20 north of Dutch Harbor, as of August 5 produced 2,500 metric tons of fish meal, 100 tons of fish oil, and 30 tons of liver oil from a catch of 12,600 tons of Alaska pollock and flatfish delivered by her 20 trawlers. Current plans were to continue until mid-November, with a production goal of 10,000 tons of meal. Despite certain difficulties in quality control, and production and recovery rates (somewhat below original estimates), the operators and other Japanese fishing companies are interested in outfitting additional ships of this type.

On August 5 the Ginyo Maru (9,636 gross tons) had been out 60 days and on its fishing grounds in southwestern Bristol Bay since June 20. The current production rate was variously reported as 60 to 75 tons of meal, 5-6 tons of fish oil, and 1.5 tons of liver oil a day, from a catch of 300-400 tons of fish a day--a recovery rate of 17-18 percent. With recovery running below the planned rate of 20 percent and daily production below the planned 100 tons of meal, the operators have apparently cut their target from 12,000 tons to 10,000 tons and intend to continue working until mid-November instead of quitting at the end of October, as originally scheduled.

The factoryship is supplied by 8 sets of pair-trawlers and 4 boats fishing independently with gear resembling the Danish seine. It appears that the pair trawlers are the more efficient of the two types. They fish close to the factoryship and pass the filled cod-ends of their trawls directly to the larger vessel for unloading, while the Danish seiners have to brail their fish aboard and then transfer them to the deck of the factoryship. The four Danish-type seiners work farther from the factoryship, on trips of up to one week's duration, and are used primarily for scouting new grounds. The pair trawlers take 3 to 5 tons in a drag and make up to 10 drags a day. The operators had counted on the catch composition including 60 to 70 percent Alaska pollock, said to produce meal of higher protein content than flatfish, but the percentage of this species was under 30 percent up to mid-July and has only lately risen to 50 to 60 percent. The pollock have been averaging 45-55 cm. (17.7-21.7 inches) fork length. The rest of the catch is a mixture of several species of flatfish.

The fish-meal plant (of Danish manufacture) is of the continuous process type in which screw conveyors and compressed air conveyors send the fish through the cooker, press, predrier, and revolving drier to the automatic weighing and bagging machinery in a matter of 3 hours. Along the way the stickwater from the press is centrifuged, concentrated, and added to the meal, increasing its protein content.

It was reported early in the operation that some trouble was being encountered because the very fresh fish delivered to the plant produced a meal that was too fluffy and light in proportion to its bulk. This is being remedied by leaving the fish on the deck of the factoryship up to 24 hours, which crowds the deck and delays the production process. Another difficulty has developed as it has been found that addition of the concentrated stickwater brings the salt content of the finished meal above the 2 percent allowed by present Japanese export standards. The operators have asked the Japanese Fishery Agency to modify the standards to permit 3.5 percent salt content in meal made aboard ship, and the Agency is reportedly ready to make this change if the operators can certify that European buyers will accept meal of this quality.

A tanker delivered 1,800 tons of fuel to the Ginyo Maru on July 27 and then proceeded to San Francisco. Plans call for the tanker to make two trips between California and the fishing ground during the operation. The first carrier to take fish meal from the factoryship, the 3,600-ton Eisei Maru, arrived August 9. Transfer of meal to the carrier has been badly hampered by rough weather and rain.

The Ginyo Maru has reported being passed close aboard on four occasions by large Russian trawlers, one of which observed the fleet's work for two days from such short range that it had to be requested to get out of the way. Three of the four Russian boats had their gear under cover and showed no signs of recent fishing activity; the fourth had fish on deck.

Despite the evident difficulties met with in this new fish-processing enterprise, the operating company has approached the Japanese Fishery Agency for permission to outfit a second fish-meal factoryship. Japan's two largest fishing companies are also reported to have unofficially asked the Agency's approval of plans to enter the field. The Agency is inclined at present to discourage any expansion of high-seas fish-meal production until it is made clear from the Ginyo Maru's experience that such enterprises can be made to pay. This type of operation has several tempting advantages from the Japanese point of view. It yields a product for export, utilizing a high-seas resource which is believed to be of great magnitude, which is little exploited at present, and which has not become the subject of international controversy. It also offers a chance for profitable fishing to small trawlers, with which Japan's home fishing grounds are overcrowded. On the other hand, the importation of the necessary machinery requires a large allotment of foreign exchange, and the world market for fish meal is unstable at present with fluctuating prices making the export prospects uncertain.

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Japan (Contd.):

FISHERY AGENCY REQUESTS TWOFOLD INCREASE IN 1959 BUDGET: The Japanese Fisheries Agency has requested a total of $13,545,288 for its fiscal 1959 budget as compared with the 1958 budget of $7,804,630. Among the major items for which large increases are being asked are: fishery surveys and investigations, $700,505 as compared with $344,092 for 1958; measures to increase production in existing fisheries, $3,352,975 as compared with $826,867; $981,356 for control and guidance of fisheries in distant waters and development of new fishing grounds, as against $552,424; promotion of foreign-based fishing, $172,800, as compared with only $14,193; and measures to improve distribution and stabilize prices of fishery products, up to $22,026 from $21,074 in 1958.

The largest single item in the 1958 budget--$1,693,943 for reinsurance of fishing vessels--is down to second place in the 1959 requests at $1,552,010. Construction of research and patrol craft, for which $648,138 was budgeted in 1958, continues to be a large item, with $844,983 requested.

There are several interesting new items in the proposed 1959 budget. Among them are $124,090 for assistance to the prefectural fishery experiment stations, to enable them to improve their research facilities; $105,420 for aerial surveys of the coasts to provide basic data for preventing tsunami and typhoon waves damage; and $85,000 for a central fishery radio station to be installed atop the Agriculture and Forestry building in Tokyo. This station will enable the Agency to keep in direct touch with its 40-odd patrol craft and with its inspectors aboard motherships, as well as to broadcast warnings of typhoons, radioactive fallout, and other emergency matters to the farflung Japanese fishing fleets, an August 21 dispatch from the United States Embassy in Tokyo reports.

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FISHING INDUSTRY TO ADOPT METRIC SYSTEM AND STANDARDIZE FISH BOXES: All Japan is scheduled to go on the metric system on January 1, 1959, after which date the traditional "shaku" and "kan" units of measurement will have no legal status, and the manufacture and sale of instruments calibrated in these units will be prohibited. The Japanese Fishery Agency has ordered the metropolitan central wholesale fish markets of the country to lead the way in this drastic change by adopting the metric system on September 1 of this year. After that date, prices are to be quoted in terms of kilograms and the monthly reports, which the central markets are required by law to submit, will show the volume of their business in metric units. This drastic departure from tradition is being greeted with considerable misgivings by people in the fisheries trade, many of whom depend for their livelihood on their ability to make rapid judgments to buy or sell at prices quoted in the familiar terms of yen per kan. In general, however, the dealers in fishery products appear to be making a conscientious effort to adopt the metric system.

The Japanese Fisheries Agency has used the changeover to the metric system as an opportunity to attempt to establish a nationwide standardization of dimensions for fish boxes. The Fisheries Society of Japan formed a committee of 40 industry representatives in April 1958 to consider this problem, and after due deliberation they arrived at a preliminary plan in May, recommending an array of 10, 15, 20, and 30-kilogram (22, 33, 44, and 66-lb.) boxes and 35-kilogram (77-lb.) tubs. This plan was strongly opposed in parts of the country where the receptacles traditionally used for fish did not fit well into the proposed standards, and regional committees were set up to see whether plans acceptable to each region could be formulated, with the hope of later working these regional plans together into a national standard. The work of the committees seems to be encountering considerable difficulty. Among the objections to standardization, other than long-established custom, is the fact that the boxes in use at present are adapted to the dimensions of fishing vessel holds, railway freight cars, and the sizes of pans used for freezing fishery products, so that changes in box measurements would entail many other costly changes.

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FISH MEAL FACTORYSHIP OPERATIONS IN THE BERING SEA: Current operations of the Japanese fish meal factoryship Ginyo Maru (9,600 tons gross) in the Bering Sea are attracting attention in industry circles as the first such Japanese venture since the war. The ship, formerly the Finnish cargo vessel Vassa, has been equipped with a continuous production fish meal plant of Danish manufacture at a reported cost of over $190,000.

Departing from Yokohama on June 8, the Ginyo Maru reached its initial operating position north of Unalaska (at 56°41' N., 165°15' W.) on June 20 and began receiving Alaska pollock and flatfish from its fleet of 20 trawlers of 80-120 ton size. Fishing is scheduled to continue until November 5, with a production goal of 12,000 tons of fish meal. The meal plant has a rated capacity of 100 tons a day, but up to July 3 it had been operating at less than 70 percent of capacity, and production as of that date was 650 tons, according to a dispatch from the U. S. Embassy in Tokyo, dated July 29, 1958.

Japan (Contd.):

The Ginyo Maru carries two technicians who are checking the operation of the fish meal plant, an inspector from the Japanese Fisheries Agency, who is collecting biological data on the fish taken, and an inspector from the Export Inspection Office, who tests the fish meal for compliance with the import standards of its intended market, West Germany.

An agreement has been made for the Ginyo Maru to operate during the 1958/59 Antarctic whaling season with the Netherlands' vessel, William Barentz, from which it will buy whale meat for processing into meal for sale in Western Europe. The plan includes stationing 25 men from the Ginyo Maru aboard the Barentz to prepare the whale meat for reduction.

The Ginyo Maru has reported considerable fishing traffic in northern waters. The vessel has passed through much of the Japanese salmon mothership fleet, been in radiotelephone contact with the sperm whaling fleet about 140 miles to the southwest of its initial operating position, and been hailed by a Russian trawler on the fishing grounds.

A Japanese company, other than the one operating the fish meal factoryship, has a fleet consisting of the 535-ton Uji Maru, two 100-ton trawlers, one 60-ton gillnetter, and a 500-ton carrier working in the Olyutorsk area northeast of Kamchatka. This fleet is scheduled to operate for a period of 103 days between May and September, with a production goal of 1,700 25-pound boxes of frozen king crab and 34,150 boxes of cod fillets. The company fished this area the year before last, but made no money, and did not send a fleet there in 1957. This year's operation is viewed as a move to hold on to the rights to the ground. Up to June 21 a production of 50 tons of frozen crab meat was reported, but cod fishing was said to be poor and the operators were counting on the herring fishing from July on to bring up the fleet's over-all catch.

As an activity to fill in the time from the end of salmon fishing to the beginning of the Antarctic whaling season, three Japanese firms have sent mothership fleets out for flatfish in the Bering and Okhotsk Seas since 1954. Production is aimed at providing low-priced food fish for the domestic market. In 1957, four fleets were sent to the Bering Sea and two to the Sea of Okhotsk. Although they produced over 22,000 tons of flatfish, prices were low and no profits were made. In view of the intensive fishing being done this year by the Ginyo Maru fish meal fleet in the Bering Sea, and the poor financial record of the flatfish fishery, it is expected this year that only two or three fleets will take part in the flatfish fishery and that operations will be concentrated more in the Sea of Okhotsk than in the Bering Sea.

In an attempt to develop new fishing grounds for small trawlers, the Japanese Fisheries Agency is sponsoring trawling for cod and flatfish by 20 vessels from Hokkaido and northern Honshu in waters of the northern Kuriles and the central Maritime Province during July-September. The fleet will be accompanied by research vessels.

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FOREIGN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENTS:

The Japanese fishing industry, with its overcrowded home waters, its great reserve of skilled and hardy fishermen, and its powerful diversified fishing enterprises, is an enormous reservoir of potential fishing effort, ready to flow out into any part of the world's seas where the natural resources and the absence of political or economic barriers offer even a slight hope of success. The considerable pressure within this reservoir is constantly expressed in plans for new overseas bases, joint operations with foreign interests, and exploration of distant fishing grounds, reports a dispatch from the United States Embassy in Tokyo, dated July 24, 1958.

According to trade sources, Japanese Fishery Agency budget drafts for the fiscal year 1959 show greatly increased support for overseas fishery expansion, preliminary figures indicating an increase of 40 times, from ¥5 million (US$13,800) in 1958 to over ¥200 million (US$555,555) in 1959. Projected items include increased financial assistance to the Kaigai Gyogyo Kyoryoku Kai (Overseas Fisheries Cooperation Association), stationing of representatives abroad, and sending an advisory group to Thailand and survey groups to Singapore, Malaya, and Africa. In view of the difficulties encountered in the past by small operators in getting into overseas operations, about ¥80 million ($222,000) is planned for assisting with their fuel and fishing gear expenses.

In Southeast Asia, the Japanese Overseas Fisheries Cooperation Association is reported to be planning establishment of a corporation to engage in joint tuna fishing enterprises with interests in Singapore and Malaya. The Singapore project, which is scheduled for realization first, envisages refrigerated storage for 500 tons, ice-making capacity of 30 tons, freezing capacity of 20 tons, and a cannery, to be supplied by a fleet of ten 100- to 150-ton tuna vessels. Meanwhile, the long-heralded plan for a tuna vessel base at Tarutau Island in Thailand appears to be bogged down with financial difficulties. Under pressure from tuna fishermen's leaders, the Japanese Fisheries Agency came up

Japan (Contd.):

with a new plan during June 1958, which would cut down construction time from 3 to 2 years, and the Agency is at present working on financial plans to be presented to the Finance Ministry. The possibility of using private United States capital has been mentioned in connection with the Tarutau project.

An operating plan for a non-tuna fishery enterprise for trawling off Australia was recently submitted for Fisheries Agency approval. The operation would use one 1,000-ton trawler and two 100-ton pair trawlers on fishing grounds (at 14°-22°S., 114°-125°E.) off northwestern Australia, during September-October 1958. Production goal would be 26,000 boxes of frozen round and filleted "sea bream" of several species. The Japanese Fisheries Agency is reported to have found no obstacle to the operation in Australian fishery law, but is hesitating to approve the plan because the proposed fishing ground overlaps the pearling grounds by some 10 miles. This could cause difficulties with Australia, which claims jurisdiction over the pearl oyster resources of the continental shelf.

In the Middle East, a Japanese-Swiss enterprise based at Haifa, Israel, was expected to materialize with the signing of a contract in the latter part of July. The enterprise plans to use one 500-ton tuna long-liner to deliver 1,000 tons of fish a year for consumption within Israel.

Considerable activity by Japanese fishing interests is reported from the Atlantic and Caribbean areas. In Recife, Brazil, completion ceremonies were held recently for a new Japanese-Brazilian seafood processing plant. The plant is reported to have a 1,000-ton refrigerated storage capacity, a 20-ton ice-making plant, a 10-ton freezing capacity, a cannery capable of producing 500 cases a day, and a sausage factory with an output of 30,000 pieces of Japanese-style fish sausage a day. The firm reportedly has under contract 8 Japanese tuna-fishing vessels working out of Recife being serviced by a freezer ship. Great hopes are held for future expansion of the tuna industry in Recife, especially for export.

For the Caribbean area, it is reported that several large tuna long-liners will supply fish to a United States cannery in Puerto Rico after first landing the fish in Haiti. Speculation is that volume will amount to about 2,000 tons a year. Meanwhile, another firm is said to be planning similar indirect exports to Puerto Rico through the Dominican Republic, the tuna to be supplied by vessels of a firm operating in the Atlantic. It is pointed out that large yellowfin tuna (over 100 lbs.) from grounds off Brazil are selling for US$330 a short ton, gilled and gutted, on the United States east coast as compared with only US$220-250 in the Italian market.

In the South Pacific area, representatives of Japanese fishing and trading firms associated with United States and local interests in Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, were to inspect the activities of their tuna fishing venture. It is reported that 50 percent of the capital in this enterprise, which started last October with 8 fishing boats and a cold storage plant, is Japanese. The visit of the Japanese businessmen is believed to portend expansion of the refrigeration facilities and possible development of fisheries other than tuna. Present annual production schedule is said to be 3,000 tons of tuna (about 60 percent albacore). Experimental fishing for shrimp and pearl shell is under way, and there are possibilities of establishment of a diversified fishing base.

The Japanese fisheries press has recently reported that negotiations are under way to bring two more ICA-financed Korean tuna long-liners into operation at Samoa to join the one which has been supplying fish to the United States-owned cannery there since last autumn. Plans for bringing tuna boats from Hawaii into the Samoan fishery are also reported. With the Japanese government said to be reluctant to increase the amount of tuna that Japanese vessels are allowed to land at Samoa (said to be 10,000 tons a year), there is fear that any future expansion of production there will bring increased participation of non-Japanese vessels in the operation.

Announced exploratory fishing plans for the Japanese Fishery Agency's 600-ton tuna research ship Shoyo Maru in 1959 include working from January-March in the Australian area, especially the Great Australian Bight. From June-November 1959, a cruise will be made to the Caribbean, with calls scheduled at Honolulu, Panama, Santo Domingo, Venezuela, Haiti, Cuba, Ecuador, and Peru. Meanwhile, the Shoyo Maru was scheduled to sail July 22, 1958, on a 72-day tuna long-lining trip to survey tuna resources in Hawaiian waters. It is explained that the concentration of fishing vessels in that area is relatively light and fishing there would not entail competition with United States fishermen.

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KING CRAB CANNERY SHIP COMPLETES 1958 SEASON IN THE BERING SEA:

The single crab cannery ship, the Tokei Maru, working in the Bering Sea (Bristol Bay area) this year, returned to Hakodate on July 11, 1958, after 97 days at sea and 72 days on the fishing grounds. The ship's pack, as had been predicted, was 59,850 cases of first-grade king crab, equalling the 57,000-case production quota plus the customary 5 percent leeway allowed by the Japanese government. It was reported that the crabs were larger than last year, but that the catch rate, 11.4 crabs per tan of net, was slightly less. The fact that the catch quota was completed several days earlier than in 1957 and nearly a month earlier than in 1956 indicates a healthy state of the resource.

The Tokei Maru left Hakodate on July 16 for Yokohama, where the pack will be unloaded. The pack includes 30,084 cases of 1-lb. cans, and 29,765 cases of ½-lb. cans of king crabs, and 376 cases of red crab, states a July 30, 1958, dispatch from the U. S. Embassy in Tokyo.

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FOREIGN TRADE IN MARINE OILS, 1956-57:

Exports by Japan of marine-animal oils totaled 74,772 metric tons in 1957,

Table 1 - Japanese Imports and Exports of Marine-Animal Oils, 1956-57

Type of Oil	Imports		Exports	
	1957	1956	1957	1956
	(Metric Tons)			
Liver Oils:				
Cod	116	9	2,230	2,684
Shark	59	45	434	803
Other fish	100	69	552	475
Body Oils:				
Fish	1	4	4	563
Whale 1/	81	13	22,448	60,955
Sperm 2/	-	-	49,104	13,349
Total	357	140	74,772	78,892

1/From baleen whales.
2/Excluding oil from baleen whales.

Japan (Contd.):

a decrease of 5.5 percent as compared with the 78,892 tons exported in 1956. The decrease was due primarily to a decline in the exports of oils derived from whales.

West Germany, the Netherlands, and United Kingdom were the largest importers of all types of Japanese marine oils in both 1956 and 1957. The United States was the most important importer of Japanese cod-liver oils in both 1956 and 1957. During 1957, the United States received about 3.2 percent of Japanese exports of marine-animal oils as compared with 15.5 percent in 1956.

Table 2 - Japanese Exports of Marine Animal Oils by Country of Destination, 1956-57

Country	Cod-Liver Oil		Shark-Liver Oil		Fish-Liver Oil		Fish Oil		Whale Oil		Sperm Oil		Totals	
	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956
	(Metric Tons)													
United States	1,991	2,101	117	102	254	244	-	-	-	-	-	9,787	2,362	12,234
Canada	77	45	13	91	29	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	119	166
Norway	78	337	66	350	8	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	152	706
Sweden	23	14	12	-	18	17	-	-	-	-	5,080	-	5,133	31
United Kingdom	8	13	30	21	44	34	-	-	-	16,728	11,322	3	11,404	16,799
Netherlands	8	54	9	100	35	15	-	-	9,035	21,688	10,488	1,999	19,575	23,856
France	18	54	49	40	98	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	165	145
West Germany	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	563	10,819	22,539	19,345	1,560	30,164	24,666
All others	27	62	138	99	66	65	4	-	2,594	-	2,869	-	5,698	226
Total	2,230	2,684	434	803	552	475	4	563	22,448	60,955	49,104	13,349	74,772	78,829

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SCALLOP PRODUCTION:

Of Japan's total scallop production, normally about 75 percent is landed in Hokkaido and most of the remaining 25 percent is landed in the Matsu Bay area at the northern tip of Honshu. The total scallop production in 1957 amounted to 33.4 million pounds of which 333,283 pounds were dried and 632,025 pounds were frozen for export.

In Hokkaido, scallop fishing for 1958 began on July 11. Estimates of 1958 production by the Hokkaido Federation of Fishery Cooperatives and the Hokkaido Government Fishery Products Section are 24.9-29.4 million pounds raw weight. The estimate is said to represent a decrease of about 10 percent as compared with the 1957 landings. Production plans for processed scallop products include about 399,000 pounds of dried scallops (as compared with 571,900 pounds last year), 660,000 pounds frozen, and 48,500 cases canned. There are said to be 242 powered vessels, 222 nonpowered vessels, and 1,550 fishermen engaged in the Hokkaido scallop fishery.

Hokkaido producers are reportedly worried over the effect on the market of expected heavy landings from Mutsu Bay, where fishing began on June 15, 1958. This area is estimated to have produced about 6.6 million pounds in June and July, with a forecast catch for the 1958 season of 15.8 million pounds. This extraordinarily large production is ascribed to measures taken by the government in the past few years to revive the scallop resource of Mutsu Bay, according to a dispatch from the U. S. Embassy in Tokyo, dated August 6, 1958.

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SOME NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN FISHING VESSEL CONSTRUCTION:

Several interesting reports on new vessels have appeared recently in the Japanese fisheries trade press. The first of two 2,000-ton freezer-cannery ships built under the Philippine reparations program was launched on June 30. Christened the Magsaysay, the vessel has a fish-hold capacity of 350 metric tons, ice-making machinery for 10 tons a day, and canning equipment capable of turning out 840 cases of fish a day. The Magsaysay was built at a cost of over US$1 million, and is equipped with freon refrigeration, radar, radio-direction finder, and echo-sounder. Main engine horsepower is given as 1,500 and speed as 10 knots. The ship is scheduled for completion and delivery in mid-September, and will be used for sardine and skipjack canning based at Iloilo, Philippine Islands. A sistership, the Estancia, is to be launched at the end of August. Each of these vessels are to carry a crew of 24 and a cannery force of 153 workers. Negotiations are under way to employ Japanese cannery technicians on these ships.

Japan's first and largest commercial stern trawler, the 1,500-ton No. 51 Taiyo Maru, returned from her

Japan (Contd.):

first trawling cruise on June 21 with about 500 tons of frozen sea bream. The vessel, which served as a refrigerated carrier ship in the last Antarctic whaling season, was completed last fall, its construction having been inspired by the large German stern trawlers. On her first dragging cruise, the Taiyo Maru fished in the Gulf of Tonkin from April 1 to June 15. The ship's officers reported that the stern trawling system was particularly good in rough weather and that less gear was lost than with side trawling. They expressed the opinion that a trawler of this type could be built up to 3,000 tons and operate efficiently. The Taiyo Maru sailed for a second trip in the Gulf of Tonkin on July 5.

The 1,200-ton Koyo Maru, a new training ship built for the Japanese Government's Shimonoseki Fisheries Institute as a replacement for the 588-ton Shunkotsu Maru was launched on June 19. Constructed at a cost of US$1,166,000, the Koyo Maru is 218 feet long, has 45 cubic meters of fish holds, will make 14 knots speed, and is equipped with an active rudder. The ship is expected to be completed early in September, and in October will take 45 fourth-year students of the Institute out for training in tuna fishing. The destination of the Koyo Maru's maiden voyage is reported as southeast of Hawaii and the Tasman Sea. (United States Embassy dispatch from Tokyo, dated July 29, 1958.)

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TUNA BOAT OWNERS' FEDERATION REVEALS PLAN FOR BASE IN THAILAND:

With the Japanese Fishery Agency reportedly still examining a plan for the long-awaited tuna fishing base at Tarutau Island, Thailand, the Federation of Tuna Fishing Associations has made public the plans worked out by its own Advanced Base Promotion Committee, apparently in the hope of spurring the government on to a speedier decision on the project. The boat owners' plan envisages the setting up of an investment company in Japan, with paid-in capital of $5.8 million, including government funds, to take charge principally of the construction of shore facilities.

A joint Japanese-Thai company would be established in Thailand with paid-in capital of $1.38 million (51 percent from Japan, 49 percent from Thailand) to operate the shore facilities and handle the sale of fish and processed products. At the start, the boat owners' federation would contract to the joint concern 50 medium-sized tuna vessels, a number which they consider the minimum that would make participation in the project worthwhile for them. Under an agreement to be made with the Thai government, the company would supply fresh and frozen fish to the Thai armed forces and other consumers within the country, while the canned tuna produced would be exported. Manufacture of fish sausage and fish meal is also planned. (United States Embassy dispatch from Tokyo, August 28, 1958.)

Kenya

JAPANESE TUNA FISHING OFF EAST AFRICA:

Japanese fishing vessels operating in the Seychelles and Madagascar area obtain their provisions at Mombasa. All vessels have full refrigeration facilities and load their catches, chiefly tuna and shark, into a mothership which ferries the fish back to Japan. No attempt appears to have been made to dispose of any of the catch in East Africa, and no Japanese fishing vessels have been operating in East African territorial waters, reports the United States Consulate at Nairobi in an August 15 dispatch.

Lebanon

IMPORT DUTY ON FISHING NETS, ETC., AMENDED:

An amendment to the Lebanese customs tariff, item No. 567--fishing and hunting nets, net bags, and other similar nets became effective on June 16, 1958, states a dispatch from the U. S. Embassy at Beirut dated July 15, 1958. Under this decree (No. 732, dated June 13, 1958), fishing and hunting nets, made of any material, are assessed 25 percent ad valorem under maximum tariff, and 11 percent under normal tariff. Formerly, only such nets made of cotton were so assessed, while those made of other materials were subject to 50 percent and 25 percent duty, respectively.

Libya

EXPORT DUTY ON SPONGES INCREASED:

The export duty on sponges was increased from 110 milliemes (31 U. S.

Libya (Contd.):

cents) to 150 milliemes (42 U. S. cents), by the Libyan Customs Directorate on July 31, 1958, states a dispatch from the United States Embassy in Tripoli, dated August 4, 1958.

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TRIPOLITANIA'S TUNA SEASON DISAPPOINTING:

Tripolitania's tuna fishing season through July 26 has proved very disappointing. A series of local storms and prolonged rough seas have handicapped the fishing vessels, while a particularly violent squall completely demolished one large "tonnara" net system at Zuara. Current reports indicate that the tuna catch will fall below the 1956 and 1957 levels despite the very promising beginning made in late May. (United States Embassy dispatch from Libya, dated July 28, 1958.)

Mexico

ENSENADA FISHERY PRODUCTS PRODUCTION, 1957:

The principal species of fish landed in the Ensenada area of the Mexican west coast were sardines--17.9 million pounds. The largest quantity of crustaceans landed were 5.7 million pounds of abalone and 2.2 million pounds of spiny lobster.

Ensenada's Production of Fish, Crustaceans, and Other Marine Products, 1957

Species	Quantity	Species	Quantity
	1,000 Lbs.		1,000 Lbs.
Abalone	5,734	Sardine	17,924
Spiny lobster	2,207	Mackerel	2,339
Clam	507	Tuna	890
Mussel	8	Rock cod	131
Abalone shells	131	Pollock	88
Conch shells	20	Corbina	32
Marine snail	2	Barracuda	30
Sargasso	22,046	Jurel	11
Marine algae	152	"Berrugata"	9
Fish meal	2,380	Anchovy	6
Fish oil	375	Mudsucker	2
Fish fertilizer	402	Marine turtle	436

In addition to the above, small catches were reported of flounder, smelt, roncador, pompano, sole, shark, cod, bonito, red snapper, and white fish.

The Ensenada canneries are reported to be operating at par, and recently the local press has urged the establishment of of additional canneries farther south in the peninsula, closer to the fishing grounds, states a July 2 dispatch from the United States Consulate at Tijuana.

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MERIDA SHRIMP FISHERY TRENDS, APRIL-JUNE 1958:

The east coast Mexican shrimp fishing industry, operating from the Merida area, exported approximately 3.7 million pounds of shrimp during April-June 1958 as compared with 3.9 million pounds for the same period in 1957. All exports of shrimp were made to the United States, according to a dispatch (July 25, 1958) from the United States Consul in Merida.

Heavy weather during the months of January, February, and March caused the fishing fleet to remain in port for extended periods of time, causing a considerable loss in catch and in the production of frozen shrimp for export. Many owners of fishing vessels have not yet financially recovered their losses. This fact, along with reported small catches made during the present quarter, is causing a serious economic repercussion within the industry. If the situation further deteriorates, there is speculation that there may be a complete collapse in the industry.

It is believed that approximately 20 percent of the shrimp catch is being sold illegally and that roughly 90 percent of local crews are engaged in this activity.

Netherlands

ELECTRIC CABLE FOR TICKLER CHAIN USED BY TRAWLER OWNERS:

A Netherlands fishing trawler owner has developed and intends to patent a new method of electric trawl fishing, according to local news sources, states an August 14 dispatch from the United States Embassy at The Hague.

The method provides an electric cable replacement for the tickler chain, which is usually attached to the mouth of the standard trawl net, and which by scraping on the sea bottom serves to scare the fish into the net. The cable produces an electric current in front of the trawl opening which not only scares fish into the net more effectively but also prevents them from leaving the net. In addition to increased catches the new device serves to reduce the net load drawn by a trawler since the electric cable does not touch the sea bottom.

A trawler out of the port of Ijmuiden was expected to conduct experimental

Netherlands (Contd.):

fishing with the new rig in the North Sea early in September.

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EXPORTS OF SALTED HERRING TO ISRAEL TO BE INCREASED:

The Netherlands Association of Herring Dealers in Ijmuiden has concluded a 1 million guilder (US$263,000) contract with Israel for the supply of more than 22,000 barrels of salt herring. The fish will be shipped between October 1958 and March 1959. At the present time there is an excess stock of herring in The Netherlands and the Association is presently negotiating with the East Germans to dispose of some of this stock, states an August 19,1958, dispatch from the United States Consul in Amsterdam.

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IMPORTS OF JAPANESE CANNED SALMON DECREASED FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1958:

Netherlands imports of Japanese canned salmon during January-June 1958 dropped sharply to only 292 metric tons--a decline of approximately 75 percent as compared with the 1,177 tons imported during the same period in 1957. A large part of the canned salmon from Japan is repackaged and exported to France, states a dispatch from the United States Embassy at the Hague, dated August 11, 1958.

Netherlands orders for canned salmon have not been placed in Japan pending the receipt of price quotations of United States and Canadian salmon. It is reported that price will be the most important factor determining where Netherlands importers place their orders.

Netherlands Imports of Canned Salmon, January-June 1958

Source	January-June 1958		January-June 1957	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Metric Tons	US$ 1,000	Metric Tons	US$ 1,000
Japan	292	268.8	1,177	1,007.7
Canada	247	215.7	96	121.1
United States	51	61.9	94	146.2
Other	25	27.0	7	6.6
Total	615	573.4	1,374	1,281.6

Note: Value converted at rate of 3.783 guilders equal US$1.

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SHRIMP AND HERRING FISHERIES TRENDS:

The herring fishery in the Netherlands has yielded 120,539 barrels of salted herring so far this year as compared with 71,090 barrels for the same period in 1957 and 117,776 barrels in 1956. Exports of lightly-salted herring to Belgium, Germany, and Norway have been good, according to a July 28 dispatch from the American Consulate at Rotterdam.

The catch of shrimp (Garnalen) so far this year has been very poor, amounting to 2,233,260 pounds as compared with 5,831,167 pounds for the same period in 1957 and 7,716,100 pounds in 1956.

Nicaragua

SHRIMP FISHERY BEING DEVELOPED:

Shrimp fishing, the latest industry in Nicaragua, has so far attracted a number of fishing vessels and there is the possibility that even more will participate. The vessels now fishing from Nicaragua are operated by 6 United States companies, 1 French company, and 3 Nicaraguan companies. All now operate under temporary licenses that permit them to export their catches without foreign exchange restrictions.

Interest in fishing concessions--especially shrimp fishing--in Nicaraguan territorial water has increased considerably since approval by the Nicaraguan Congress of the General Law on Exploitation of Natural Resources (Ley General Sobre Explotaciones de Recursos Naturales), published April 17, 1958. As of July 15, 1958, the Office of Natural Resources of the Ministry of Economy, which issues all types of concession licenses, had granted ten exploration licenses to fishing companies. These exploration licenses were issued originally for six months, but recently, the Office of Natural Resources decided that no exploration license would be valid after December 15, 1958. After that date, permanent exploitation licenses will be granted.

The purpose of a temporary exploration license, which is granted free, is to give the licensee an opportunity to become familiar with the nature of the fish species and other marine fauna existing in Nicaraguan territorial waters. In return, the licensee must keep records of his operations and findings and give a

Nicaragua (Contd.):

copy of them to the Office of Natural Resources. The copies will be used by the Office of Natural Resources as the basis for the beginning of an inventory of the country's marine resources.

The Director of the Office of Natural Resources stated that in order to obtain an exploitation license after December 15, 1958, the applicant must show evidence of an intention to establish permanent installations on the Nicaraguan mainland to process his catches. The number of vessels that each applicant will be authorized to use will be in relation to the capacity of his proposed land installation. As of July 15, thirteen vessels were being operated by companies holding exploration licenses, but there is a possibility that this number will increase to 35-40 by December 1, 1958.

Firms now holding exploration licenses are free to export their catches without restriction. The National Bank of Nicaragua does not require that foreign exchange earned from the sale of fish caught during the temporary exploration period be surrendered for cordobas in exchange for an export license, although normally all foreign exchange earned by Nicaraguan exports is surrendered to the bank for cordobas.

Licenses permitting the exportation of 40,000 pounds of shrimp had been issued to a United States firm by July 1, 1958. This firm expects to be landing a daily average of 10,000 pounds of shrimp within a short time, according to a dispatch from the U. S. Embassy in Managua, dated July 31, 1958.

Norway

BALANCE OF ANTARCTIC WHALE-OIL STOCKS SOLD:

The Chairman of the Norwegian whaling companies' marketing organization has recently announced that the balance of the stocks of unsold whale oil from the 1957/58 Antarctic whaling season, some 68,000 metric tons, has been sold at the price of £67 10s. a metric ton (8.6 U. S. cents a pound) to Norwegian refining companies. Earlier this year, about 54,000 metric tons had been sold for £77 10s. a ton (9.8 cents a pound), making the average price obtained for last season's whale oil production just under £72 a metric ton (9.1 cents a pound) as compared with the average of £85 (10.8 cents a pound) obtained during the last two previous seasons.

Recent sales of whale oil by the United Kingdom and Japan have reduced unsold Antarctic whale oil stocks to between 20,000 and 30,000 metric tons. (Oslo United States Embassy dispatch, July 22, 1958.)

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BULK-STORED FISH MEAL TESTS SUCCESSFUL:

Experiments indicating that fish meal can be stored successfully in grain silos have recently been completed in Norway. A report on the tests suggested that on the basis of the results, other types of protein feed might be stored in bulk.

The experiments were carried out to analyze changes in the quality of herring meal bulk-stored in silos, and to compare its quality with that of herring meal stored in paper bags. Feeding tests were made after the storage period to determine the meal quality.

The tests compared herring meal of extra quality, whole meal, and whole meal of unground type. The meal of extra quality was stored in a silo for 13 months, the whole meal for 21 months, and the unground type for 19 months.

Results of the silo-bag storage comparison indicated that there was a reduced content of dry matter in the meal stored in paper bags. On the other hand, the tendency towards formation of free fatty acids was more dominant in the meal stored in silos. There was no other difference in the chemical composition of the meal stored by these two methods.

In regard to the physical quality of the meal, bulk storage in a silo seems to be more advantageous because lumping can be avoided more easily by rotation.

Norway (Contd.):

Bulk storage and storage in paper bags seem to have largely the same effect on the quality of the herring meal. The report mentioned, however, that with silo storage a more uniform quality of herring meal is realized.

Quantities of whole meal bulk-stored in silos and stored in paper bags were used for feeding experiments with pigs and chickens. These experiments showed no difference regarding the rate of growth of the animals and the quality of the slaughter. (Feedstuffs, August 9, 1958.)

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CANNED FISH TRENDS, JULY 1958:

The Norwegian 1958 pack of brisling sardine as of July 19 totaled 180,600 cases, a decline of 239,000 cases from the pack of 419,600 cases during the similar period of 1957. The decline in the pack of brisling is attributed to poor fishing rather than to economic conditions. On the other hand, the pack of small or sild sardines has shown some improvement--309,000 cases as of July 19, 1958, compared with 257,000 cases through July 19, 1957.

Exports of canned fish to the United States (largest importer of Norwegian canned fish products) amounted to 3,190 metric tons from January-April 1958. This compares with 3,574 tons exported to the United States during the same period of 1957, the United States Embassy in Oslo reports in an August 22, 1958, dispatch.

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POSITION ON EXPANSION OF TERRITORIAL FISHING LIMITS:

Norway's disapproval of unilateral actions as they concern expansion of territorial fishing limits was defined again in a statement of August 1, 1958, by the Norwegian Foreign Minister.

He pointed out that Norway's interests require that an expansion of the now valid fishery boundaries take place by international negotiations which can lead to a world-wide agreement on this question. The Foreign Minister stated that "Norway hoped the United Nations General Assembly this fall will decide to call a new conference early in 1959, and that this conference will reach an agreement on the principle which will serve as the basis for future changes in the fishery limits. It is the Government's view not to undertake anything as far as the Norwegian fishery limit is concerned before it is clear whether the United Nations will call a new conference together and before it is clear whether it will achieve results."

The Norwegian Foreign Minister continued: "Only if an actual critical situation should arise along our coast this winter as the result of a mass invasion of foreign trawlers which have been excluded from the fishing places westward in the ocean could the Government be forced to deviate from the lines it desires to follow in this matter" (United States Embassy dispatch from Oslo, dated August 2, 1958).

Peru

FISHERIES TRENDS:

Peru's fishing industry is normally inactive during the second quarter of the year except for supplying domestic consumption. The 1957/58 fishing season was so adversely affected by warm ocean currents that there was no noticeable drop in activity at the end of the season. Beginning in June, however, the irregular condition of the coastal waters resulted in a large concentration of tuna off Chimbote and Piura (unique for this time of the year) that provided heavy catches for some 30 United States-based tuna boats as well as for Peruvian boats.

Principal Peruvian Fishery Products Exports, January-May 1958

	Jan.-May 1958		Jan.-May 1957	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
	Metric Tons	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 US$
Canned bonito	4,819	1,764	9,168	4,700
Fish meal	39,152	3,894	22,331	2,684
Frozen tuna	1,773	194	3,714	453
Frozen skipjack	692	75	2,291	274
Sperm oil	3,708	542	1,723	321

Note: Values converted at rate of 19 soles equal US$1 for 1957; from January to May 1958 the rate changed to 22.7 soles equal US$1.

In the beginning of the 1957/58 season, Peruvian canned bonito and tuna suffered from Japanese competition, particularly in the British market, but as the season progressed supplies of fish were so limited that Peruvian canneries were unable to supply the demand. Frozen tuna, all of which is exported to the United States, was also short due to adverse fishing conditions.

Although exports of canned bonito and canned and frozen tuna declined, exports of fish meal and sperm oil increased. It is estimated that Peru will produce 10,000 metric tons of sperm oil in 1958. (United States Embassy at Lima reports in a July 18, 1958, dispatch.)

Portugal

CANNED FISH EXPORTS, JANUARY-MAY 1958:

Portugal's exports of canned fish during January-May 1958 amounted to 22,027 metric tons (1,380,000 cases), valued at US$12.1 million, as compared with 17,143 tons, valued at US$10.9 million, for the same period in 1957. Sardines in olive oil exported during the first five months of 1958 amounted to 15,397 tons, valued at US$8.4 million.

Portuguese Canned Fish Exports, January-May 1958

Species	January-May 1958	
	Metric Tons	US$ 1,000
Sardines in olive oil	15,397	8,433
Sardinelike fish in olive oil	2,619	1,815
Sardine & sardinelike fish in brine	421	105
Tuna & tunalike fish in olive oil	610	480
Tuna & tunalike fish in brine	207	99
Mackerel in olive oil	2,284	1,049
Other fish	489	151
Total	22,027	12,132

During January-May 1958 the leading canned fish buyer was Germany with 3,363 tons (valued at US$1.9 million), followed by Italy with 3,028 tons (valued at US$1.6 million), Great Britain with 2,519 tons (valued at US$1.3 million), the United States with 2,070 tons (valued at US$1.5 million), and Belgium-Luxembourg with 1,740 tons (valued at US$0.9 million). Exports to the United States included 740 tons of sardines and 1,081 tons of anchovies. (Conservas de Peixe, July 1958.)

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CANNED FISH PACK, JANUARY-MARCH 1958:

The total pack of canned fish for January-March 1958 amounted to 3,921 metric tons as compared with 3,823 tons for the same period in 1957. Canned sardines in oil (1,994 tons) accounted for 50.9 percent of the January-March 1958 total pack, higher by 11 percent than the pack of 1,797 tons for the same period of 1957, the July Conservas de Peixe reports.

Portuguese Canned Fish Pack, January-March 1958

Product	Net Weight	Canners' Value
	Metric Tons	US$ 1,000
In Olive Oil:		
Sardines	1,994	1,124
Sardinelike fish	222	105
Anchovy fillets	970	858
Tuna	352	267
Other species (Incl. shellfish)	98	70
In Brine:		
Sardinelike fish	155	23
Other species	130	54
Total	3,921	2,501

Note: Values converted at rate of 28.75 escudos equals US$1.

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FISHERIES TRENDS, MAY 1958:

Sardine Fishing: During May 1958, the Portuguese fishing fleet landed 9,913 metric tons of sardines (valued at US$735,521 ex-vessel or $74.20 a ton). In May 1957, a total of 7,923 tons of sardines were landed (valued at US$933,391 or $117.81 a ton).

Canneries purchased 34.1 percent or 3,389 tons of the sardines (valued at US$270,716 ex-vessel or $79.88 a ton) during May. Only 39 tons were salted, and the balance of 6,485 tons, or 65 percent of the total was purchased for the fresh fish market.

Matosinhos lead all other ports in May landings of sardines with 5,203 tons or 52.4 percent, followed by Setubal 1,606 tons (16.2 percent), and Peniche 1,168 tons (11.7 percent).

Other Fishing: The May 1958 landings of fish other than sardines consisted of 2,039 tons (value US$220,976) of chinchard, and 112 tons (value US$10,331) of anchovies. (Conservas de Peixe, July 1958.)

Spain

VIGO FISHERIES TRENDS, JUNE 1958:

Fish Exchange: Landings at the Vigo, Spain, Fish Exchange amounted to 9.7 million pounds during June 1958, an increase of about 0.8 million pounds over the preceding month, but about 1.2 million pounds below the landings for June 1957. The June 1958 landings were valued at US$1,138,000, an increase of about 8 percent in value over June 1957. The increased value was due to the increase in fresh fish prices (over 25 percent for the more expensive species).

Leading species sold over the Fish Exchange were large and small hake (2.1 million pounds), horse mackerel (1.4 million pounds), and sardines (1.2 million pounds). Sardine landings increased 385 metric tons over the June 1957 figure of 138 tons. Landings of albacore tuna declined 149 tons in June this year from the 318 tons landed in June last year.

Fish Canning And Processing: Fish canning in June increased seasonally, but continued to operate at about 25

Spain (Contd.):

percent of capacity. During June 1958 canners bought over the Exchange 536 metric tons of fresh fish, only 98 more tons than in May, but 106 tons less than in June 1957. The decline in the purchases was attributed to the lower catches this June as compared with June 1957.

Fishing Vessel Loans: The Treasury Committee of the Spanish Cortes has approved a proposed extension of the "Law for the Protection and Modernization of the Merchant Fleet" which was first passed on October 26, 1956. The fishing fleet can now receive credits from the Instituto Social de la Marina of about US$2.1 million for the construction and modernization of fishing vessels. Further credits may be extended as a result of studies under way for the protection of the fishing fleet. These studies indicate that US$7.7 million is needed annually for the next 10 years for construction and renovation.

Surinam

SHRIMP FISHERY TRENDS, JUNE 1958:

Operation of Surinam's shrimp trawler Coquette continued to be limited during June because the vessel was operating alone and net repair facilities were not available. The vessel made four trips--was out 14 days in all (7 actual working days), and made only 26 drags. Total catches amounted to 1,780 pounds of large shrimp and 180 pounds of fish.

A Surinam shrimp-packing plant expected to ship 16,000-17,000 pounds of frozen shrimp to the United States--1,000 pounds of large shrimp, and the remainder sea bob.

Improvements on the ice plant at the Paramaribo shrimp-processing plant were moving ahead rapidly, according to a July 15, 1958, dispatch from the United States Consul at Paramaribo. The new flake-ice equipment had been installed and was expected to be ready to operate by the middle of August. Work on the pier (164 feet in length) was in process; and most of the piling had been driven in. Trimming of the piles, placement of stringers, and planking were also expected be finished by the middle of August .

Uganda

FISHERY DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED BY FAO EXPERT:

A fisheries expert of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations commented recently on the effects of mechanization of fishing craft on the lakes of Uganda, which has resulted in doubling the fish catch in six years. He stated that the Uganda fish catch in 1957 was about 48,500 metric tons, double the catch of 1951. This increase, he explained is the result of the introduction of nylon nets and outboard motors, which was started late in 1953. He further stated that presently there are more than 1,200 outboards installed in the fishing craft of the Uganda lakes, a development which has taken place largely as a result of the work of the Uganda Game and Fisheries Department, with no direct financial aid from the Government.

The fisheries expert has surveyed the fish marketing situation in Uganda. To accomplish this, he stated that he set up 19 points for area surveys to gather information in key markets as to where the fish came from, how they were transported and handled, what prices they fetched, and what species were preferred by local buyers. The information obtained, he continued, made it possible to see what should be done to encourage development of fish marketing. He said that he found a flourishing fishery which will continue to expand rapidly once a few bottlenecks are cleared away.

He declared that as a start, he has worked with the Government in organizing eight pilot projects, financed by the African Trade Development Fund. These projects, he said, include setting up primary fish markets, retail-wholesale markets with storage facilities and, in three remote places, fish storage facilities, with a shop attached to each to supply fishermen with equipment and material. If these pilot projects are successful, he stated, they will be developed on a larger scale.

The fisheries expert has also proposed to the Government that "feeder roads" should be built to give access to remote parts of the lakes to open them

Uganda (Contd.):

for fishing. As an example, he pointed out that the southern end of Lake Albert is rich in fish. Fishermen on the Belgian Congo side of the lake take 6,000 tons of fish a year from it and have built up a prosperous industry which includes modern processing plants. He said that he believes the Uganda fishermen could catch and market a similar amount of fish once they have access to that part of the lake. The Government has allocated US$28,175 to build a road for this purpose, he continued, and plans are already being made by a private firm to build a processing plant at the lakeside as soon as the road is built.

At present, he explained, more than 20 percent of the Uganda fish catch is sold in the Belgian Congo, providing a good trade that brings in a hard currency, the Belgian franc. He added that there is no reason why this trade should not continue or be expanded. He stated that, on the other hand, the lucrative domestic market in central Uganda had been neglected and this is the market which could absorb all the increased catch, especially as the population and the incomes are steadily increasing. He added that there are now about 5,750,000 people in Uganda, all Africans except for some 9,000 Europeans and 56,000 Asians.

In conclusion, he stated that the most interesting thing about the Uganda fisherman is that he is his own master, not indebted to merchants or middlemen as is so commonly the lot of fishermen in Africa and Asia, and while generally conservative, very shrewd, and progressive.

Union of South Africa

PILCHARD-MAASBANKER INDUSTRY, JANUARY-APRIL 1958:

Operating in three main areas in a period of intensive fishing from early April to the middle of May, the boats of the Union of South Africa Cape west coast caught more than 100,000 metric tons of pilchards, maasbanker (jack mackerel), and mackerel--nearly half the catch of an average season and the best period of almost continuous fishing in the 15-year history of the industry.

Although bad weather interrupted fishing in the second half of May, the catch for the month of April had already set a new record for the Cape West Coast. The previous best month was in January 1954 when 50,814 tons of pilchards and maasbanker were landed; another good month was in March 1955 (50,229 tons); and in May last year the remarkable maasbanker rush enabled fishermen to land 50,440 tons.

These high figures have now been left far behind by the 68,645 tons (54,736 tons pilchards and 13,909 tons maasbanker) landed in April this year; also 2,032 tons of mackerel. The catch was processed by 13 large factories, two small canneries, and a fish drying company. The amount of fish processed during the month ranged from more than 10,000 tons at one factory on the St. Helena Bay coast to just over 50 tons at one inland cannery. The average for the larger factories was 5,000 to 6,000 tons. Total production figures show an output in April 1958 of 12,319 tons of fishmeal, 1,000,860 gallons of fish body oil, and 6,105,752 pounds of canned fish (2,190,399 pounds canned pilchards, 3,336,926 pounds maasbanker, and 578,427 pounds mackerel).

The April catch of 70,677 tons brought the total for the first four months of 1958 to 146,573 tons--110,840 tons of pilchards, 15,445 tons of maasbanker, and 20,288 tons of mackerel.

In April 1957 a total of 16,895 tons of pilchards, 2,843 tons of maasbanker, and 6,876 tons of mackerel were landed. Landings in April 1956 amounted to 20,379 tons of pilchards and 3,574 tons of maasbanker.

In the past four years the fishery has become used to wide fluctuations over a single season. Several months of bad fishing have been followed by a sudden rush, huge catches for some weeks, and then another quiet period. Factory operators and fishermen are, therefore, cautious in their estimate for the remaining half of the current season.

Union of South Africa (Contd.):

From the start, the 1957 season seemed more promising than the 1956 bad year, but fishing was relatively quiet. Then came the maasbanker rush. Echo-sounders picked up huge shoals just below the surface and in the second half of May and the first half of June, the biggest maasbanker catches in the history of the industry were made. It was expected that the 250,000-ton pilchard-maabanker quota would be reached within a few months of the May-June rush, but catches were poor for the rest of the year and 1957 ended with only 211,742 tons of the quota.

This year, however, good months have come early. In January, West Coast boats were fishing in the False Bay area, a journey of 12 to 15 hours from the factories. In February pilchards appeared in large shoals in the Dassen Island area and even near Cape Town. Catches in February and March were reasonably good and by the end of the first quarter the quota total was 57,640 tons--56,104 tons of pilchards and 1,536 tons of maasbanker.

Then in April vast densely-packed shoals of pilchards appeared off the coast between Saldanha Bay and Cape Town. Shoals have been so thick that it has been difficult to move through them. An echo-recording by one boat showed a shoal at least 16 miles long and estimated by the boat's skipper to be about 2 miles wide. Even with its 60- to 65-foot boats and its larger, deeper nets, the industry has only scratched at this mass of fish.

Both nets and boats have put up some outstanding performances. One boat from Saldanha caught 220 tons of fish in a single set and three boats loaded from the net.

Later in April, boats moving south from St. Helena Bay to catch pilchards, found big shoals of maasbanker near their factories in the area off Klein Tafelberg. As in the rush of 1957, these shoals were just below the surface and had to be found by echo-sounders. The fish were again remarkably large for the species and were extremely firm and ideal for canning.

Thus the West Coast industry has been able to fish for both pilchards and maasbanker and has spread its operations over nearly 100 miles of coastal waters. By the end of May, boats were again out making good catches and landings for the month. Although below those of April, the catch may well amount to more than 40,000 tons. (The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, June 1958.)

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WHALING PRODUCTION:

The 1957 Antarctic offshore whaling season catch totaled 2,500 whales, a substantial increase over the catches made during previous seasons.

Union of South Africa Production of Whale and Sperm Oils and Whale Meat, 1953-57

Season	Whale Oil	Sperm Oil	Whale Meat	Total
	(1,000 Lbs.)			
1957 1/	15,543	8,400	12,412	36,355
1956	13,530	5,625	9,258	28,413
1955	19,739	6,164	5,932	31,835
1954	10,539	5,569	5,436	21,544
1953	10,080	4,637	8,176	22,893

1/Production for the Donkergat Station not included.

With the sale of the factoryship Abraham Larsen to Japanese interests, South Africa has now withdrawn from Antarctic whaling.

U. S. S. R.

ICELAND'S TERRITORIAL WATERS FISHING LIMITS EXTENSION SUPPORTED:

The Iceland Foreign Ministry announced on June 6, 1958, that the Soviet Ambassador had brought a message from his Government saying that it had no objection to the proposed extension of Iceland's fishing limits from 4 to 12 miles off Iceland's coasts, and that every Goverment was free to fix such limits in the waters off its coasts up to 12 miles, according to the London Times of June 6.

United Kingdom

CANNED SALMON IMPORTS FROM CANADA:

In reply to a question raised in the British House of Commons on July 8, 1958, the President of the Board of Trade stated that Great Britain had imported 8,736,000 pounds of canned salmon from Canada for the 12 months ending May 31, 1958. In his reply to the question he also stated that during comparable periods of 1937 and 1938, 18,816,000 pounds (valued at US$1,960,000) and 19,040,000 pounds (valued at US$2,240,000), respectively, had been imported (United States Embassy in London dispatch, July 14, 1958).

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GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON FAROESE FISHING LIMITS:

The British Government recently made a reply to the Danish Government's official backing of the Faroe Islands' wish to extend their fishery limits to 12 miles from September 1, 1958.

Britain would be prepared to join in negotiations with the Danes, the reply stated, but regarded formal negotiations as premature as long as the fishery dispute with Iceland remained unresolved.

Meanwhile the Danish Prime Minister had, in a broadcast from Thorshavn in the Faroes, again affirmed his Government's backing for the Faroes, and said that he would have further discussions with Britain.

The British note pointed out that a unilateral declaration has no legal effect, and that if Britain agreed to cancel the fisheries conventions of 1901 and 1955, which stipulated a 3-mile limit, this would not bind other nations.

The note also asked for the Danish Government's views on the desirability of holding a conference of nations using the Faroese grounds. Such a conference, it stated, would only be able to reach agreement on the lines of the proposals most supported at the Conference on the Law of the Sea held recently in Geneva.

Such decisions would give the Faroes less territorial waters than they now claim, and it would be essential to know whether the Faroes would accept the result. The British Government was anxious that any agreement reached should provide some degree of stability.

The note added that, as far as Britain was concerned, the present 4-mile limit around Iceland remained unchanged by Iceland's unilateral declaration extending its limits to 12 miles.

It was reported from Bonn that the Icelandic decision was felt to have created a new and serious situation, and might mean laying up part of the West German fishing fleet. It was hoped there that there would be a conference of all states bordering the Atlantic to find a successful solution to the problem.

Canada, too, expressed hope that another conference on the Law of the Sea might be arranged. The Canadian External Affairs Minister told the House of Commons in Ottawa that Canada will not extend her own offshore fishing limits at this time, and he said that Canada would regard Iceland's decision as provisional until September 1. He expressed the hope that Britain and Iceland would be able to undertake bilateral talks before that time. (The Fishing News, July 11, 1958.)

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ICELAND'S 12-MILE FISHING LIMIT OPPOSED:

Trawler captains in the United Kingdom in mid-August were briefed on sailing within Iceland's new 12-mile sea boundaries for fishing. This was a precaution against incidents with Icelanders, who intend to enforce the extension of their territorial waters from 4 to 12 miles effective September 1, 1958.

Other North Atlantic Treaty Organization powers--West Germany, Holland and France--have arranged to join the United Kingdom in opposing the action of Iceland, also a NATO member.

The British preparatory moves were disclosed by officials of the Government and the British Trawler Federation, as backstage NATO efforts for a compromise appeared to be slowing down.

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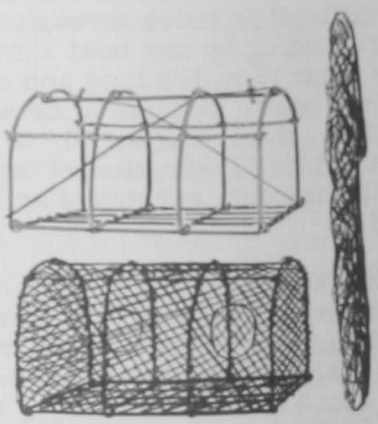
LOBSTER POT DEVELOPED WITH FOLDING STEEL FRAME:

A folding lobster pot with an all-steel frame, that reportedly can be erected in seconds, is being produced by a Yorkshire firm in the United Kingdom. The folding pot, when collapsed, is said to require one-fifth of the storage space of a rigid pot, thus facilitating handling to and from shore and stacking on decks of fishing vessels.



Folding lobster trap with metal frame.

The folding pots, which are of the Scottish creel type, are made with steel frames of $\frac{5}{16}$-inch and $\frac{1}{4}$-inch thickness.

United Kingdom (Contd.):

The frames are galvanized and protected against corrosion with bitumen paint. The base of the steel frame is 18 by 24 inches, the height is 14 inches, and the length when folded is 38 inches. The frame weighs approximately 9½ pounds. With netting added, the frame weighs about 11 pounds. Frames can also be manufactured in special sizes and shapes.

The all-steel framework is designed to make ballast unnecessary and reduce resistance to the forces of tide and undertow. Also, the strength of the steel frame is said to withstand storm damage, making it unnecessary to remove the lobster pots during gales.

The pot frames are equipped with manila-rope netting but can also be supplied with nylon netting. The netting is made in two pieces to facilitate removal for painting the frame or performing other types of maintenance.

Tests made with the new lobster pots indicate that they fish well and that the merits of folding and endurance suggest that they may well prove successful for better fishing and long-term economy. (The Fishing News, April 18, 1958, and World Fishing, August 1958.)

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NEW FISH-SMOKING MACHINE DEVELOPED:

A new fish-smoking machine, called a "fluidiser," was expected to be completely assembled by the end of September 1958. The machine, which employs the technique of fluidization, has been designed to ensure greater consistency in the production of tasty, eye-appealing, and well-cured fish. Experiments using both fish and bacon in the new device have proved very successful.

This invention comes as a climax to several years of research at the Humber Fisheries Laboratory of the United Kingdom's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The fluidization technique, which is used in other industries such as oil refining, has been applied to fish smoking for the first time in this new machine. The device is about 7-8 feet in height and resembles a rocket in shape. Inside the apparatus, a current of air generates a sandstorm of toasted sawdust, producing smoke which is then regulated. (The Fishing News, August 8, 1958.)

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SUBSIDIES FOR WHITEFISH AND HERRING INDUSTRIES:

Details of the amounts of subsidy paid to the whitefish and herring industries of the United Kingdom were given recently by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The Minister stated that the total amount authorized by the White Fish and Herring Industries Acts, 1953 and 1957, for subsidies was £17,000,000 (about US$47.7 million) which might be increased by Order to £19,000,000 (US$53.3 million).

The total amount paid under these Acts to June 30, 1958, was £12,523,690 (US$35.1 million). The amount still available from July 1, 1958, was therefore £4,476,310 (US$12.6 million) or £6,476,310 (US$18.2 million) if the full amount of £19,000,000 was made available.

Under the Acts of 1953 and 1957 the whitefish subsidy had been payable since August 1, 1953, and the herring subsidy since May 13, 1957. (Fish Trade Gazette, August 2, 1958.)

Venezuela

CANNED SARDINE EXPORTS TO MEXICO UNDER CONSIDERATION:

The Venezuelan fishing industry is considering the sale of large quantities of canned sardines to Mexico, but the matter is still in the initial stage of discussion, according to the President of the Asociacion de Industriales de la Pesca.

The sale would necessitate Venezuelan clearance for Mexican cartons and cans which would be labeled in Mexico, imported into Venezuela, packed with local sardines, and then shipped back to Mexico where the Venezuelan sardines would be granted entry. The Venezuelan Government has not been approached regarding the clearance, states a June 19 dispatch from the United States Embassy in Caracas.