

Frank Hails IWC Meeting as Conservation Success

NOAA Administrator and U.S. Whaling Commissioner Richard A. Frank hailed the 31st meeting of the International Whaling Commission, which ended in London on 13 July, as "the greatest success for whale conservation in the organization's history." Frank applauded the IWC decision to adopt a proposal to ban whaling by factory vessels. "It is clear that the end of commercial whaling is now in sight," he said.

Frank noted that the IWC has created a whale sanctuary in the Indian Ocean and has reduced whaling quotas worldwide to achieve a reduction in take of some 75 percent. He reported that the IWC also agreed to phase down whaling by Chile and Peru over 3 years. After that time these countries will have no quotas and they have indicated their intent to abandon whaling. The two

South American countries had recently joined the IWC at the urging of the United States.

"The effect of other quotas," Frank said, "will curtail Soviet whaling activities, and it is likely the Soviet Union may soon announce its intention to phase out of whaling." At the meeting, Japan also announced it no longer would import whale meat from non-IWC countries. "This could well end pirate whaling activities outside IWC regulations by ships like the *Sierra*," Frank said.

This was the first IWC meeting that included all the major whaling nations—Japan, USSR, Norway, Iceland, and Brazil—augmented by newly joined members—South Korea, Chile, Peru, and Spain. The only significant whaling operation outside the IWC is by Taiwan.

GRADE STANDARDS SET FOR SEVERAL FISHERY PRODUCTS

U.S. Grade Standards for fish fillets, frozen minced fish blocks, and frozen fried scallops were published in the *Federal Register* on 6 June 1979, 44(110):32385-93, by the National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA. The effective date was 23 July 1979.

The U.S. Standards for fish fillets establish quality standards for grades of fish fillets made from all commercial species. This will allow consumers a wider selection of commercial species at the marketplace on the basis of Grade A, B, or C quality standards. It will also facilitate trade in fish fillets of all commercial species and not just those cur-

rently covered by specific standards.

The U.S. Standards for grades of frozen minced fish blocks are based upon recent recommendations and information submitted to the Department of Commerce. This rule will ensure users of the quality of minced fish blocks, thereby facilitating trade and expanding markets for products made from such blocks.

The U.S. Standards for grades of frozen fried scallops are amended to include breaded scallops and to reflect current industry practices. Copies of these grade standards are available from the National Seafood Quality and Inspection Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 3209 Frederic St., P.O. Drawer 1207, Pascagoula, MS 39567.

Lawrence Named NOAA Assistant Administrator

Samuel A. Lawrence, until recently Vice President for Financial and Planning Services at Cornell University and for 2 years Executive Director of the Stratton Commission, has been named Assistant Administrator for Administration of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Stratton Commission, officially known as the President's Commission on Marine Science, Engineering, and Resources, was instrumental in developing recommendations which resulted in the creation of NOAA in 1970. Lawrence served as Executive Director of the Commission from 1967 to 1969.

A native of Providence, R.I., Lawrence held a series of senior administrative posts at Cornell. He joined the university in 1970, after a 1-year assignment with Aluminum of Canada during which he conducted a special survey of the international ocean freight industry.

From 1954 to 1967, Lawrence was a senior examiner and an assistant division chief with the U.S. Bureau of the Budget, and prior to that was with Van Norman Machine Tool Co., in Springfield, Mass., and the New York Citizens Budget Commission.

Lawrence received his B.A. in sociology from Harvard University, and his MA in public administration and Ph.D. in Political Science from The American University. He also attended Brookings Institution under a Federal Executive Fellowship in 1963 on leave from the Bureau of the Budget. There he conducted a survey of the economics and politics of American merchant shipping. His award-winning book, "United States Marine Shipping Policies and Politics," published by the Brookings Institution, resulted from this survey.

He also has written "International Sea Transport," a book on international political and legal issues relating to merchant shipping, and has held professorial appointments at Georgetown and George Washington Universities. Lawrence is married to the former Mary W. Miller, and is the father of three children.