

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

24502

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~INFORMATION
January 14, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: Helmut Sonnenfeldt *HS*

SUBJECT: Canadian Fisheries Zones

On our memorandum of December 21 on this subject (Tab A), you made a note asking which interagency committee will be following up on this matter and to what end. The Law of the Sea Task Force, chaired by State Legal Advisor Stevenson, will be discussing it in relation to the forthcoming Law of the Sea Conference in 1973. They will also be watching for Canadian application of anti-pollution regulations to the new fishing zones -- expected in the next few months.

Anti-pollution regulations already exist for the St. Lawrence River. The application to the Gulf of St. Lawrence of similar regulations would not adversely affect our shipping on the Great Lakes. However, if applied to the new fishing zones, such regulations could affect our fishing boats and other vessels. There is also a legal ambiguity regarding the bilateral agreement cited by the Canadian government in exempting U.S. fishing vessels from the new zones. The Task Force will be watching these questions. It may consider a further protest if Canadian anti-pollution regulations are enacted and applied to the zones, which include international waters.

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PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
July 12, 2005