

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release to the PM's OF WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1945.

As one of the pioneer tests of the feasibility of transporting seafoods by air, a shipment of whitefish taken from the Great Lakes this morning will arrive in Washington late this afternoon, according to the Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior.

The whitefish will be shipped from Detroit by plane in a new type of insulated container which is being developed for use in air transportation of fish and shellfish. On arrival of the shipment at the Washington airport, representatives of the Fish and Wildlife Service will examine the fish and the container to determine whether the necessary low temperatures have been maintained in transit.

In cooperation with Wayne University of Detroit, which is sponsoring a program of Air Cargo Research, the Fish and Wildlife Service is arranging for trial shipments of fresh fish and shellfish by commercial air lines from fishing centers in various parts of the country. In addition to today's shipment of whitefish from the Great Lakes area, shipments from Alaska, Chesapeake Bay, and New England are planned for early trial.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is interested in determining the best type of container for air shipment of seafoods, and the degree of refrigeration needed to maintain high quality during shipment. Service officials point out that the development of air transportation could make fish and shellfish available to large areas in inland states which formerly have been deprived of these products.

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