
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

★ news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Flanagan - Interior 5634

For Release to PM's, DECEMBER 19, 1962

COMMITTEE ASKS EFFORT TO MEET WORLD FISHERIES COMPETITION

Five steps which would help American commercial fishermen meet the competition of foreign fishing fleets were outlined by the American Fisheries Advisory Committee at its recent meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, the Department of the Interior reported today.

The 20-member Committee was established in 1955 under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act and includes leading representatives of the commercial fishing industry from all parts of the Nation. It advises the Secretary of the Interior on fishery matters.

Steps outlined by the Committee were:

1. Increased scientific and economic research of fisheries.
2. More authority for international commissions in fish management and harvesting.
3. Modernization of United States fishing vessels and shore installations to equal those of competing nations, vessel loans, grants, and mortgage insurance where such programs apply.
4. Improvement of production and marketing techniques to build a better knowledge of fishery products and better markets.
5. Development of untapped resources which exist in tremendous quantities.

Among other problems which were discussed at the three day meeting (December 3-5) were the effects of pesticides on fish life, grading and inspection of fishery products, development of new fishing gear, and the importance of mid-America to the fishing industry as a major market for fishery products.

Frank P. Briggs, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife, opened the meeting by asking the committee to consider carefully the international implications involved in the conservation of the living resources of the sea.

Donald L. McKernan, Director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, emphasized the political and economic impact which the European Economic Community, the Trade Expansion Act and other major domestic and international developments are likely to have on this Nation's commercial fisheries consistent with yield.

Membership of the American Fisheries Advisory Committee includes Ammon G. Dunton, Whitestone, Va.; J. Roy Duggan, Brunswick, Georgia; Thomas D. McGinness, Irvington, Virginia; Roy Prewitt, Lonoke, Arkansas; Ralph E. Carr, Kansas City, Mo.; Harold F. Cary, Long Beach, California; Chris Dahl, Petersburg, Alaska; George J. Davidson, Boston, Massachusetts; Louis Fischer, Cocoa, Florida; Ray H. Full, Vermilion, Ohio; H. R. Humphreys, Jr., White Stone, Va.; Leon S. Kenney, St. Petersburg, Fla.; E. Robert Kinney, Gloucester, Mass.; John S. McGowan, Astoria, Oreg.; James McPhillips, Mobile, Ala.; John Mehos, Galveston, Tex.; Arthur H. Mendonca, San Francisco, Calif.; Anthony Nizetich, San Pedro, Calif.; Einar Pedersen, Seattle, Wash.; and Daniel H. Smith, Port Washington, Wis.

The next meeting will be in Washington, D. C., May 27-29.

x x x