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136 EL CAMINO  
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90212

Ray Ornett

July 17, 1981

Malcom Baldrige  
Secretary of Commerce  
14th E. Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Baldrige,

As a past president and eight year member of the California Fish and Game Commission, under then Governor Reagan, I would urge you to take a hard look at the new Pacific Fishery Management Council recommendation for the taking of anchovies off California and participation in this fishery and others by the Soviet Union.

Because marine biology is an inexact science, I also feel that the 420,000 ton quota set by the PFMC is dangerously high (approximately four times higher than quotas allowed by the Commission, and eight times higher than the fisherman have been able to catch in the past).

In my lifetime I have watched one of the most prolific areas in the world deteriorate into at best a mediocre marine fishery; all this under the watchful eye of government marine biologists.

The fact that there is a bottom in the barrel seems to be elusive. Inviting foreign nations to participate in our already ailing fisheries is a dangerous step. Russia has already overfished it's own waters, and is forced to range far and wide. Mexico has geared up just below the border to fish without restrictions by their government and, with the Russian precedent will probably want to participate in our fisheries when their resources run out.

This action, coupled with offshore drilling policies will make it increasingly difficult to elect Republicans in this state.

Only a small segment of the commercial fisheries would benefit from increased take and foreign participation, while the rest including the related recreational industries and fishing public would suffer from this abuse of the forage fish population.

136 EL CAMINO  
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90212

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I feel very strongly about this situation or I wouldn't write this letter. The problems of trying to preserve our dwindling fisheries are tough enough without the injection of international politics.

If it would strengthen my credibility, I might add that I am a heeler and a PRCA life member, number C-180.

Are you going to believe a cowboy or a biologist?

Sincerely,

  
Timothy M. Doheny

TMD/blh  
cc: Berger Bensen  
Mike Deavers

SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

555 E. OCEAN BOULEVARD - SUITE 700-A  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802  
(213) 432-2316

August 20, 1981



*Tele per MRD N/A*  
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Mr. Michael K. Deaver  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Special Assistant To The President  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Russian Factoryship  
in So. Calif. waters

Dear Mike:

Enclosed are copies of some editorials and letters. You may have copies of some of the letters as they have been directed to Secretary Baldrige with copies to the President.

The Public is really beginning to respond. The Santa Monica Outlook, San Diego Tribune, Western Outdoor News and smaller dailies have written editorials opposing any factoryship "wolfpack" operations in our Southern California fragile forage and food fisheries. They particularly oppose a venture which benefits the Russians using the products of our resources.

The Long Beach Press Telegram and Los Angeles Times have indicated they are also coming out with editorials opposing the Russian joint venture concept.

I've been on the waterfront since 1934 and never have I seen such unity of purpose involving the commercial, sportfishing, recreational and general public interests including the man on the street.

Politically, I can see nothing but good resulting from the Administration's opposition to the concept. Conversely, if the Administration approves it and one or more factoryships come on scene in these heavily trafficked Southern California waters the tremendous public resentment will become a very large political hot potato.

While I realize that this is a small problem when compared to Air Controllers, Libyan jets, etc. we're only going to get one turn at bat and we should not strike out now.

We all wish the President, his staff and you, Mike, our very best. Pride in the Nation and respect for government is returning thanks to you all.

Sincerely,

*Bill*

W. A. Nott, President

# Opinion

EVENING OUTLOOK

Ours

## U.S.S.R. seeks profits off California coasts

President Reagan may find himself with some new neighbors near his Santa Barbara ranch that he hadn't quite bargained for.

Despite Reagan's hard line approach toward the Soviet Union, the administration is currently considering a proposal that would put the Russians right off our Southern California coast by giving a Soviet fishing enterprise rights to surplus United States commercial fisheries.

In a plan conceived by the Seattle-based Marine Resources Co. (half owned by the Soviet Union), a San Pedro fishermen's union and the Soviet government, state and federal waters off the Southern California coast would be open to exploitation by a so-called Russian factory ship for taking four of our basic food and forage fishes — jack mackerel, Pacific mackerel, squid and anchovies.

Since the fish, for the most part, would come out of existing quotas already imposed on domestic fishermen, the tonnage figures sought by the joint venture do not seem excessive — 15,000 tons of jack mackerel, as much as 2,700 tons of Pacific mackerel, 2,500 tons of squid and 10,000 tons of anchovies.

What bothers us is that Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige is considering giving the Soviets any of our fish at a time when virtually all of our fisheries are in a state of decline. Biologists cannot agree, on some species, how many of these fish can safely be harvested for our own use, let alone for the benefit of a communist nation.

Unlike the wheat U.S. farmers recently agreed to sell the Russians, this proposal also states that some of those fish would be processed and canned by the Russians to be marketed in the Orient, Europe and Third World countries of Africa.

Selling a renewable resource like wheat is one thing, but selling something as fragile as the anchovy, which already is being harvested well beyond allegedly "safe" limits established by our biologists, is quite another.

Furthermore, most of those fish would be caught and then sold at sea by contracting San Pedro fishermen who would benefit handsomely. Because the sale would be made via the Seattle-based Marine Resources Co., California would lose out on substantial tax money that ordinarily would be paid if the same fish were landed, processed and then sold to the Russians through stateside markets.

The Fisherman's Cooperative Association in San Pedro initiated this proposal. They originally approached Marine Resources three years ago, seeking additional markets. They claim that existing San Pedro markets and processors can't handle the quantity of fish the co-op is capable of catching. The processors contend that the co-op's catches are so irregular that hiring additional processing crews can't be justified financially.

All of this is made possible through the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 — a misnomer if there ever was one. The act says, in brief, where a fishery is not being fully utilized by our shoreside processors and commercial fishermen, then any foreign nation may apply for a percentage of that fishery, as determined by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council. Last month the council gave its blessings to the Soviet joint venture proposal.

Presently, state and federal fisheries biologists are tying up some loose ends before the whole proposal is accepted or denied by Secretary Baldrige.

Representatives of our state and federal fisheries agencies, as well as many within our commercial fishing industries, believe the proposal is nothing more than an attempt by the Russians to gain even further access to our valuable fisheries.

The United States fishermen do not enjoy the government assistance that other countries offer their fishing industries. The Japanese, for instance, are the world's leading fishing nation; the Russians are close behind. In both countries, the respective governments subsidize their fishing industries. For these reasons, our fishermen are unable to compete in the international fisheries market.

We think the whole plan should be scuttled. The United States should have learned by now that when you go fishing with the Russians, you better carry a big hook. We see no reason to allow the Russians to move into our own backyard, much less assist them to make a profit at our expense.

# WESTERN OUTDOOR NEWS

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## EDITORIAL

### Joint Venture: Time to Shut the Door on Russia

The Russian-U.S. joint venture fishing proposal now under consideration by Secretary of Commerce Malcome Baldrige in Washington is a proposal that should never be allowed to get off the ground.

Under such a proposal, a Russian factory ship would soon be seen anchored off the coast of California, eagerly awaiting the proposed quotas of 10,000 tons of anchovies, 15,000 tons of jack mackerel, 2,500 tons of squid, and up to 2,700 tons of Pacific mackerel to be delivered by the San Pedro-based commercial fishing fleet.

While the proposed joint venture appears to be legally sound under the provisions of the 1976 Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, and while the proposed fish quotas may not seem to be great at first glance, they have a number of problems with the whole operation.

First and foremost, we would like to know why we would allow the Russians to process any of these vital fishes when our own scientists cannot even agree on a population figure for them, despite extensive research? Especially in the case of anchovy, the foundation of today's California fishery, caution must be exercised in any harvesting and/or processing program.

And even if there were an agreement on the total population of the species in question, why sell them to the Russians? While it's true that the fish would only be processed on the Russian factory ship and marketed by the project's coordinator, the Seattle-based Marine Resources Co., that company is in fact half owned by the Soviet Union.

The Russians have openly declared that they intend to consume just a portion of the fish inside their own borders, marketing the remainder to other World nations. This could be of political value to the Soviets, while not benefitting the U.S. at all, if the fish were packaged in containers bearing the Hammer and Sickle, and not the Stars and Stripes.

And under the current proposal squid, which have no official management plan to coordinate their annual harvest, would be the only species to touch California soil during the project, making it the only species subjected to state taxes. The rest of the fish would be sold by contractual agreement by the San Pedro commercial fleet outside wharveside markets, thereby bypassing existing regulations and tax laws.

The joint venture proposal would certainly benefit the San Pedro commercial fishing fleet, the Marine Resources Co., and the Soviets. It would not benefit the state of California, its millions of sportfishermen, and the remainder of the commercial fishing industry. It would certainly not benefit our already failing marine resources.

(continued on this page)

## EDITORIAL

Representatives of both the commercial and sport fishing industries feel that the proposal is just the first step in an attempt by the Russians to get a foot in the door of California's fishing grounds.

That door should remain closed to them now, and in the foreseeable future.

WON urges its readers to write both Secretary Baldrige and President Reagan denouncing the joint venture proposal. The addresses can be found in Bill Nott's letter to Sound Off, on this page. Your letters can, and will, make a difference as this issue is decided.

# Sound Off!

WON reserves the right to edit material published in "Sound Off". Every effort will be made to preserve the meaning and content of letters. All letters reflect the views of the author, and not those of Western Outdoors Publications or its staff. Submissions should not exceed 250 words in length.

## JOINT VENTURE

Dear Editor,

First, may all of us who are concerned with the possibility of a Russian factoryship processing California's marine resources in our Southern California waters thank Bill Beebe for the outstanding articles he has written covering the situation as it changes from day to day?

The coverage that your newspaper has given has in part served to focus Secretary of Commerce Baldrige's attention on the problem and has also interested the White House to the degree that a "reassessment" period has been declared.

This "reassessment" period is to allow public opinion to form and make itself felt.

There are many reasons why a joint venture composed of Soviets and U.S. businessmen using a Russian factory ship supplied by U.S. purse-seiners in So. California waters should be refused. A few of these are:

1. There have been no in-depth studies of the jack mackerel, Pacific mackerel, anchovy and squid to ascertain what the relative biomasses are and if they could sustain this onslaught. These are very important forage fish.

2. Heavy exploitation of the anchovy has been generally resisted by the Southern California public since 1963.

3. The joint venture application was approved by the Pacific Fishery Management Council by a vote of 10 to 2 (Northwesterners against Californians in Boise, Idaho.) The public was not aware of the meeting until July 6 and it was passed on July 9!

4. Russia *has* never had access to these important U.S. California fisheries and should not be given hasty consideration now just to placate a group of selfish businessmen.

5. California is the most populous state in the Nation and needs her historic food and forage fish badly.

6. In the testimony given at the July 6 meeting in Long Beach all sectors of commercial fishing including canners, processors, fresh fish markets, squid fishermen, the

lic and our fleet were opposed to the proposition. *The only sector in favor of it was the representative of a handful of San Pedro-based purse seiners who might profit from the venture!*

7. Why allow Russia to take U.S.-California resources, then process and distribute them *Under the Russian Flag* to Africa and the Orient? Not only does this bypass onshore American labor but allows Russia to again dramatize her position with third world nations!

In closing, the specter of one or more Russian factoryships tracking our failing marine resources with sophisticated electronic gear supported by the U.S. purse-seiners and spotter aircraft should frighten the hell out of all of us.

My immediate fright has turned

into resolute indignation. *IT'S TIME FOR ALL OF US TO GET INDIGNANT AND EXPRESS THAT INDIGNATION BY WRITING A LETTER TO:*

Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, United States Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230. SEND COPIES TO:

President Ronald Regan, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500

Sportfishing Association of California (SAC) 555 E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 700-A, Long Beach, CA. 90802.

Say what's in your heart, but do it now! The time is short.

Sincerely,

W.A. Nott, President  
Sportfishing Association of California (SAC)

# 'Russian rip-off' should upset everyone

The possibility that a Russian "factory ship," complete with airplane spotters, six purse seiners (from San Pedro), and fertilizer-chicken feed grinders, soon will be operating 20 miles off Southern California's coast is still very real.

The application is in front of Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige, who either approves it (and then sends it to President Reagan for signature) or disapproves it so it will be killed. Judgment on this "Russian rip-off" is being withheld for two weeks while Washington gets (1) a report on how many forage fish and squid we really have remaining, and (2) the reactions of the American people.

The prospect of this scheme actually happening should scare the hell out of every sportfisherman, environmentalist, and just plain citizen! For once, we have a chance to let ourselves be heard where it counts. After all, California is the most heavily populated state in the nation, and as it continues to grow we really need our own forage to support both our commercial and sportfishing industries — not to mention the incalculable value of recreation and health.

For the price of a couple of stamps you can truly assist in the battle — and please do! Write a short letter telling what you think about this attempted scam to: Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C., 20230. Also send a copy to President Ronald Reagan, The White House, Washington, D.C., 20500.

One thing in our favor — Secretary Baldrige



Jed Welsh

was not the Secretary who approved the presently used (and very questionable) system of estimating our anchovy population in advance. And President Reagan is a fisherman, boatman, and best of all, a Californian.

The president of the Sportfishing Association of California, Bill Nott, should be highly commended for the all-out war his organization is staging to fight this piscatorial Russian-roulette. This is a tiring project and Bill is getting older. In fact, he told me recently that when a pretty girl goes by, his pacemaker barely makes the garage door go up.

**THOSE YO-YO** albacore have done it again. First they're up, then they're down and now they're back again. As of the first of this week the boats out of San Diego (75 to 90 miles out) were sacking 'em up. The "Dreamer" — a charter boat from Queen's Wharf Landing but operating from San Diego during the albacore run — had 24 fish for six people and a 140-pound tuna on Sunday. On Monday, there were 19 fish for five anglers, including "Speed" Hutton and John Betts of Fisherman's Hardware. Several boats had 100 or more and

Eddie McEwen's "Pacific Queen" had 47 albacore and 51 dolphin-fish (mahi-mahi) for 28 passengers (and a lot of these were rent-rodders) on Tuesday.

There are lots of 12-to-20-pound blue fin tuna being hooked off the west end of San Clemente Island, but because they'll only bite very light line (10 or 12 pound) a low percentage are being landed.

**WHEN I WROTE** my letter to President Reagan I asked him if he wasn't worried about Castro. He said, "No, since we have lived to see Hitler "hitlerated" and Stalin "stalinated," he would think Castro would be the one to be worrying!"

**THE MARLIN** seem to be coming in for what could be the best spear-fish season in many a moon. There were 20 landed on Saturday and 20 more on Sunday at San Diego, and six were weighed in at Avalon on Sunday. The water temperature has actually gotten up to 72-74 degrees in the popular marlin spots. This is not good for albacore but it's perfect to attract and keep our striped friends.

Paul Albrecht, the well-known peddler of Uni-flite boats and a marlin maestro, tells me these exotic fish are showing up from Ensenada to the west end of Catalina. Returning from the albacore tournament, Paul and friends hooked (and inadvertently released) two marlin. But the topper is the San Diego party boat that, while trotting albacore jugs, had a quadruple marlin hook-up!

Boy, that'd be no place for a guy with coronary trouble!

Steven W. Nott  
99 - 63rd Place #7  
Long Beach, CA 90803

August 11, 1981

Secretary Malcolm Baldrige  
United States Department of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am a lifelong resident of Southern California and have been an ardent saltwater fisherman for 26 of my 33 years. I have always enjoyed fishing as a recreation, but I have also fished tuna, albacore, squid and anchovy commercially.

During my years of fishing, I have seen the sardines decimated and such fish as yellowtail, tuna, barracuda, halibut and white seabass that were once plentiful, now become a rarity to catch. I feel the reasons for the decline of these fish are directly related to not only ocean ecological conditions, but the worldwide pressure placed on these and other forage species by commercial fishing.

Now the Russians are applying for permission to place a factory reduction ship off the coast of Southern California. I am totally against this proposal!

The pressure that the anchovy, squid and jack mackerel are under as a food and protein source is obvious without the added impact of the "wolfpack concept" of factory ship, purse seiner and spotter aircraft method of catching and reducing.

It is amazing to me that we would even consider taking this needed income and protein source from the American people and giving it to a nation that is our greatest threat in the world.

I realize that the 30,000 tons applied for by the Russians is not that large. However, this is just "the foot in the door". It seems only logical that once granted this petition, they will be asking for additional tonnage with each year and possibly offering to pay more per ton than the local processors.

Mr. Secretary, I have been shocked in the past years by our Administrations. The Iran situation, Abscam, and the Soviet invasion of Afganistan are just a few events that have made me wonder if politicians and administrations bend towards

money and Soviet threats or have the strength to take a stand and say "enough is enough". I have great pride and faith in President Reagan and his Administration and feel confident that there is finally some backbone to our Government.

Please, Mr. Secretary, deny this petition. Let's keep this protein source, income and work where it belongs, in the United States of America.

Sincerely,



STEVEN W. NOTT

cc: President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Sportfishing Association of California  
555 E. Ocean Boulevard  
Suite 700 - A  
Long Beach, California 90802

TOM M. OLY  
6355 Topanga Canyon Boulevard  
Suite 428  
Woodland Hills, California 91367

August 14, 1981

Sportfishing Association of California  
555 East Ocean Boulevard  
Suite 700-A  
Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Sirs:

It has come to my attention that the United States is considering a joint commercial fishing venture with the Russians off the coast of California. I want you to know that I am against this proposed joint venture for the following reasons:

Number 1: As a sports fisherman in Southern California for the last 30 years, I have seen a general decline in the fisheries. Although my experience would be unscientific, there is ample scientific evidence that the fisheries have declined off the California coast.

Number 2: The providing the Russians with anchovies and Jack mackerel is especially bad because these are both bait fish. As the supply of bait fish off the California coast is reduced, so will be the number of larger fish that feed on them.

Number 3: The Russians have stated publicly that they will bury us economically. Over the years they have consistently done whatever they could to hurt our country and I think it is sheer folly to sell to a devout enemy.

Please call off this joint venture as it will do no good for our country but can do a lot of good for our enemy.

Sincerely,

  
TOM M. OLY

Secretary Malcolm Baldrige  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230

August 12, 1981

Dear Sir;

I am grossly appalled to learn of the possibility of a Russian factory-ship processing California's marine resources in our So. California waters. California is the most populous state in the nation and needs her historic food and forage fish badly.

Russia has never had access to these important U.S. California fisheries and should not be given hasty consideration now, just to placate a group of selfish businessmen.

There are many reasons why a joint venture composed of Soviets and U.S. businessmen using a Russian factory-ship in So. California waters should be refused.

There have been no in-depth studies of the Jack mackerel, Pacific mackerel, Anchovy and Squid to ascertain what the relative biomasses are and if they could sustain this onslaught. Again, I stress these are very important forage fish.

Why has heavy exploitation of the Anchovy been generally resisted by So. California public since 1963?

Why allow Russia to take U.S.-California resources, then process and distribute them under the Russian flag to Africa and the Orient? Not only does this bypass on shore American labor but allows Russia to again dramatize her position with Third World Nations!

This issue is very important to me and my family. We demand action and proper reassessment by your office now!

Cordially,



J.C. Winchell

cc. President Ronald Reagan  
Sport Fishing Association  
of California

August 10, 1981

Mr. Malcolm Baldrige  
Office of the Secretary  
United States Department of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Subject: Russian Fish Factoryship Operating in Southern  
California waters.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I have been actively sportfishing the ocean off southern California for more than fifty years. I have witnessed what was once a bountiful area deteriorate to the degree that I now seek fish that I used to throw back. No longer do I catch Baracuda, Yellowtail, Skipjack, Albacore, and Tuna. I now settle for Mackerel and Bonita when I can find them.

This I strongly believe is because commercial fishermen over fished to the point of practically wiping out sardines. They were doing a good job on the anchovy until the public became aroused. With the forage fish gone the game fish soon left.

NOW THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING.

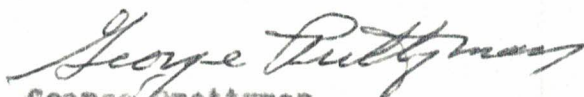
With the help of a few short sighted Americans they will decimate our fish far beyond what has occurred in the past.

We all know the old adage - "Give an inch, take a mile."

I'm behind President Reagan 100 per cent. I feel that once he is advised of the facts he will deny the Russians the opportunity to cut maneuver us as they have under previous administrations. The public will really blow a gasket when they finally learn about the rip off that is about to take place if cool heads don't prevail.

Mr. Secretary, I beseech you to prevent this from happening.

Sincerely,

  
George Prettyman

Copies sent to: President Ronald Reagan, The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
Sportfishing Assoc. of Calif. (SAC) 555 E.  
Ocean Blvd. Suite 700-A, Long Beach, Calif.  
90802

AUGUST 14, 1981

SECRETARY MALCOLM BALDRIDGE  
UNITED STATES DEPT. of COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20230

MR. SECRETARY:

I AM WRITING TO MAKE YOU AWARE  
THAT I AM VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED TO  
THE PROPOSED JOINT VENTURE FISHING  
PROPOSAL BEING CONSIDERED BY YOU AT  
THIS TIME.

AS A SPORT FISHERMAN, I BELIEVE  
THAT SUCH AN OPERATION, WHILE BENEFITING  
A FEW, WOULD WORK TO THE DETRIMENT  
OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS  
COUNTRY, NOT ONLY OF US IN CALIFORNIA.

I ALSO OPPOSE THE SALE OF WHEAT  
TO A COUNTRY WHICH IS DEDICATED TO AND  
OPENLY WORKING TOWARDS THE DESTRUCTION  
AND/OR TAKE-OVER OF OUR COUNTRY.

SINCERELY,

*Deane N. Moore*

DEANE N. MOORE  
2101 HAMER DR.,  
PLACENTIA, CA 92670

C.C. PRESIDENT REGAN  
SPORTFISHING ASS'N.  
of CALIFORNIA

AUGUST 13, 1981

SECRETARY MALCOLM BALDRIDGE  
U.S. DEPT OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20230

MR. SECRETARY:

THIS LETTER IS TO INFORM YOU OF MY FEELINGS TOWARD THE JOINT VENTURE ALLOWING A RUSSIAN FACTORY SHIP IN TO THE CALIFORNIA AREA TO PROCESS THE FISH CAUGHT BY A FEW CALIFORNIA BASED FISHING BOATS. PLEASE, UNDER NO CONDITIONS, PERMIT THIS TO OCCUR. OUR LOCAL FISHERY IS IN VERY BAD CONDITION AS IT IS AND THE REMOVAL OF ANYMORE OF THE FOOD FISH, ANCHOVIES, MACKERAL, SQUID AND WHATEVER ELSE MIGHT BE TAKEN WILL DEAL OUR RESOURCE A DEATH BLOW.

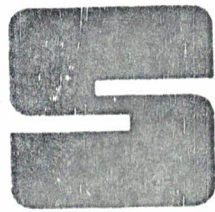
IT IS INCUMBANT UPON YOU THAT YOU PROTECT THIS VITAL RESOURCE, NOT ONLY FOR THE FOOD SUPPLY, BUT ALSO FOR THE FURTURE OF OUR STATE AND COUNTRY. THE FISHING INDUSTRY, BOTH COMMERCIAL AND SPORT, SUPPORT A LARGE SEGMENT OF OUR ECONOMY AND MUST NOT BE DESTROYED FOR THE SAKE OF A FEW SELFISH BUSINESSMAN. I URGE AND REQUEST THAT YOU STOP THIS DESTRUCTION OF OUR VITAL RESOURCE.

RESPECTFULLY

*Barney J. Caliendo*  
*4951 Brompton*

CC: PRESIDENT RONALD REGAN WASHINGTON D.C.  
SPORT FISHING ASSN OF CALIF. LONG BEACH, CA.

*Bell, Calif*  
*90201*



Swanson  
Insurance  
Service, Inc.

AUGUST 10, 1981

SECRETARY MALCOLM BALDRIDGE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20230

RE: RUSSIAN FACTORYSHIP  
IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATERS

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

NEYT, NEYT, NEYT. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT YOUR  
OFFICE CAN EXERCISE TO DEFEAT ATTEMPTS TO USE  
RUSSIAN FACTORYSHIP, IN ANY OF OUR WATERS -  
INCLUDING THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA. OUR RESOURCE  
IS LIMITED AS IT IS AND SHOULD BE HERE FOR THE  
BENEFIT OF OUR OWN PEOPLE.

SINCERELY,

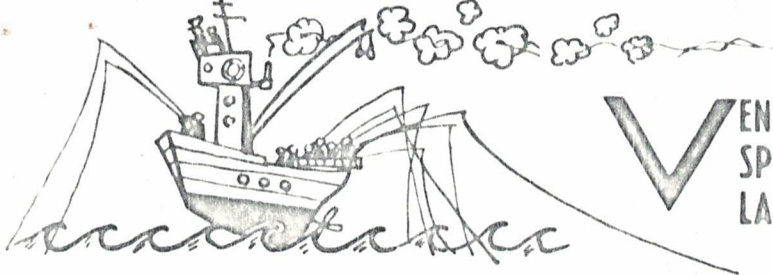
ROBERT SWANSON

RS/MS

CC PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20500

SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA  
555 E. OCEAN BLVD., SUITE 700-A  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

Post Office Box 1287 / Tustin, California 92680 / (714) 973-4660



V  
VENTURA  
SPORTFISHING  
LANDING



1500 ANCHORS WAY DRIVE • VENTURA, CALIFORNIA • (805) 644-7363

August 12, 1981

Mr. Malcolm Baldrige  
Office of the Secretary  
United States Department of Commerce  
Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As an individual member of the Sportfishing Association of California (SAC) and as general manager of a member sportfishing landing, I would like to call the following potential dangers of the proposed joint fishing venture with the U. S. S. R. off the California coast to your attention.

First and foremost our association has documented to the Federal Government many times the absolute danger of our anchovie fishery being depleted through misuse by Americans. It is my opinion that rather than helping another nation to help deplete this fishery you should be actively involved with helping to find a way to pressure this fishery which is the cornerstone of our industry which employs thousands of American people.

Further, it is a rather frightening proposition to think that America would allow its potentially most dangerous enemy to bring sophisticated electronic gear aboard ships and aircraft so close to the coast of the United States.

Please do not give the U. S. S. R. the potential to do harm to us by joining with them in this venture that they have requested.

Sincerely,

Bob Knudsen  
General Manager

BK:es

cc: President Ronald Reagan  
Sportfishing Association of California



August 11, 1981

Secretary Malcolm Baldrige  
United States Department of Commerce  
Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

There are several small businesses within Redondo Sport Fishing that are dependent upon the fragile fisheries in our coastal waters for their livelihood. We are shocked, incensed, and scared to death of the specter of Russian factoryships with sophisticated electronic gear and spotter planes exploiting our rapidly decreasing marine resources. Please believe that one factoryship with this kind of backup is capable of wiping out several species. You simply cannot allow this to happen -- do not approve the Russian Joint Venture application!!

If we allow Russia to come in with factoryships, within a very short time we can be looking at the extinction of anchovies and squid from these waters. They will go the same way that sardines were eradicated from these waters a few years back by overfishing.

You have the fate of these fragile species in your hands, Mr. Secretary. Please protect them by not approving the Russian Joint Venture application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Terry Turk".

Terry Turk, President

TT:jt

cc: President Ronald Reagan, White House, Washington, D. C. 20500  
Sportfishing Association of California, 555 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, Ca.

Secretary Malcolm Baldrige  
United States Department of Commerce  
Washington, D.C.

August 13, 1981

Dear Sir:

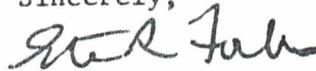
I would like to register my extreme opposition to the recent decision by the Pacific Fishery Management Council to approve a joint venture with Russia to process anchovies, mackerel and other species in California waters. This plan establishes a dangerous precedent for foreign commercial exploitation of our dwindling marine resources.

With respect to the anchovy fishery, at a time when experts cannot agree what the actual spawning biomass of this species is; when the resource is faced with increasing exploitation by Mexican fishing interests, it would seem extremely unwise to allow harvesting of this vitally important forage and bait fish by any foreign nation, much less the Soviet Union, in U.S. waters.

Additionally, it appears from recent public testimony and newspaper accounts that with the exception of the San Pedro and Seattle interests directly involved, all segments of the commercial and sportfishing industries are united in opposition to the joint venture proposal.

Caution should be the byword in matters such as these, and careful thought should be given to the potentially disastrous consequences of this ill-conceived joint venture plan.

Sincerely,



Steven R. Forbes  
829 Arden Dr.  
Encinitas, CA. 92024

AUGUST 13, 1981

SECRETARY MALCOLM BALDRIDGE  
U.S. DEPT OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20230

MR. SECRETARY:

THIS LETTER IS TO INFORM YOU OF MY FEELINGS TOWARD THE JOINT VENTURE ALLOWING A RUSSIAN FACTORY SHIP INTO THE CALIFORNIA AREA TO PROCESS THE FISH CAUGHT BY A FEW CALIFORNIA BASED FISHING BOATS. PLEASE, UNDER NO CONDITIONS, PERMIT THIS TO OCCUR. OUR LOCAL FISHERY IS IN VERY BAD CONDITION AS IT IS AND THE REMOVAL OF ANY MORE OF THE FOOD FISH, ANCHOVIES, MACKERAL, SQUID AND WHATEVER ELSE MIGHT BE TAKEN WILL DEAL OUR RESOURCE A DEATH BLOW.

IT IS INCUMBANT UPON YOU THAT YOU PROTECT THIS VITAL RESOURCE, NOT ONLY FOR THE FOOD SUPPLY, BUT ALSO FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR STATE AND COUNTRY. THE FISHING INDUSTRY, BOTH COMMERCIAL AND SPORT, SUPPORTS A LARGE SEGMENT OF OUR ECONOMY AND MUST NOT BE DESTROYED FOR THE SAKE OF A FEW SELFISH BUSINESSMEN. I URGE AND REQUEST THAT YOU STOP THIS DESTRUCTION OF OUR VITAL RESOURCE.

RESPECTFULLY,

*Donald A. Davis*

DONALD A. DAVIS

*1715 W. 152<sup>ND</sup> ST*

*Gardena, CALIF 90247*

CC: PRESIDENT REAGAN WASHINGTON D.C.

SPORTFISHING ASSN OF CALIF., LONG BEACH, CA.

8-12-81

Secretary Malcolm Baldrige  
U. S. Dept. of Commerce  
Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Secretary Baldrige,

We are outraged that you would even consider allowing a Russian fish factory ship to operate in California waters.

We have been working for years to save the anchovy. It is our last remaining forage fish. The sardine, its predecessor was decimated to the point of virtual extinction by the same kind of thinking and acting which you are contemplating.

The pressure exerted by our own fish reduction fleet and that of Mexico is more than enough. Especially,

since no one really knows appropriate harvest tonnage for this precious resource.

There are myriad other reasons why this is a truly outrageous idea; the California economy, enhancement of Russian visibility rather than our own, and the indisputable fact that one of the targeted species, the anchovy supports, almost alone now, the entire fish food chain in these waters.

Abandon this dangerous "joint venture" proposal at once!

Sincerely,  
Mr and Mrs A. J. Pickering  
3735 Globe Ave  
L.A. Ca 90066

cc: President Ronald Reagan  
S.A.C.  
U.O.N. "Sound Off"

Secretary of Commerce  
Malcome Baldrige

Dear Sir

I have been a supporter of the present administration and was appalled to read that you are considering entering into a joint fishing venture with the Russians. This agreement profits only a small group of commercial fishermen and of course the Russians. I implore you to take into consideration our dwindling ocean resources and put a stop to this agreement once and for all

Sincerely

Carl B. Slab

cc. President Ronald Reagan  
Sport Fishing Assoc.

*Anchovy*

# DOHENY RANCHES

## DOHGEL RACING STABLES

15855 OLSEN ROAD  
SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 93065  
M. H. CHRISTENSEN, Manager  
(805) 523-7211

## MAIN OFFICE

136 EL CAMINO  
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90212  
(213) 276-3154

## LAS VARAS RANCH

RT. 1, BOX 234-A  
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA 93011  
RALPH LAUSTEN, Manager  
(805) 968-9758

August 20, 1981

The Honorable Malcom Baldrige  
Secretary of Commerce  
14th E. Northwest  
Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Thank you for your prompt response to my letter. As for facts, the problems arise from a lack of facts upon which to base estimates and recommendations.

I've heard "educated" estimates of the anchovy biomass range all the way from 2 1/2 to 6 1/2 million tons in a given year. The good Lord never told these people how many fish were out there to begin with; therefore, there is no handle on which to base the results of their meager samplings.

The biologists would have you believe that they can use a totally inadequate research method, relate it to an unknown figure, and come up with a realistic assessment of a fish population.

Many of their colleagues will agree with me.

If there are as many fish out there as they say there are, why haven't the fisherman with their scanners, fathometers, power blocks, and other sophisticated gear been able to take anywhere near the much smaller quotas of the past?

When in doubt, as they always seem to be, government biologists (state and federal) historically make their recommendations for commercial quotas on the high side, as if underutilization were the cardinal sin. This fear of underutilization can result in the worst kind of brinksmanship. You don't have to fish out a resource to make it vulnerable to ecological disasters (Peru).

To another subject - I have a ranch on the coast about fifteen miles from President Reagan's place. We have a great arena with lights, sixty head of corriente steers, and good horses. I hope you can see your way clear to combine business with pleasure someday. You have an open invitation.

# DOHENY RANCHES

DOHGEL RACING STABLES  
15855 OLSEN ROAD  
SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 93065  
M. H. CHRISTENSEN, Manager  
(805) 523-7211

MAIN OFFICE  
136 EL CAMINO  
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90212  
(213) 276-3154

LAS VARAS RANCH  
RT. 1, BOX 234-A  
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA 93040  
RALPH LAUSTEN, Manager  
(805) 968-9758

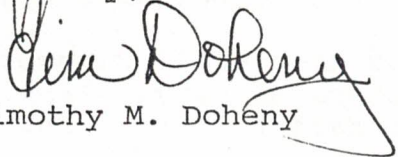
2

I know I have sixty head of steers because I counted them. I didn't count the turds in a two square foot area and extrapolate\* this number into an estimate of the biomass in a 1000 acre field.

Thank you for your patience in reading my letters. I'm sincere and, I think, fairly knowledgable about the problems in this area. No axe to grind - just concern.

Keep up the good work and remember, throw hard!

Sincerely,



Timothy M. Doheny

\*P.S. I hope this isn't one of the words you dislike.

TMD/blh  
cc: Mike Deaver



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
Washington, D.C. 20230

10 AUG 1981

Mr. Timothy M. Doheny  
136 El Camino  
Beverly Hills, California 90212

Dear Mr. Doheny:

Thank you for the letter regarding the anchovy quota off California for the 1981-82 season.

Each year an anchovy quota is developed using a procedure and formula established by the 1978 Fishery Management Plan for the Northern Anchovy Fishery. This formula allows a total harvest of one-third of the spawning biomass over one million tons. This assures that adequate numbers of anchovies will remain unharvested to conserve the stock and provide adequate forage for game fish and other marine species.

The spawning biomass of the northern anchovy fluctuates widely from year to year. The 1981 estimate of 2.8 million metric tons is double last year's figure. This accounts for the large increase in the total allowable U.S. harvest this year. The biomass estimates for this species are determined by the National Marine Fisheries Service, and are considered among the best of any species managed by the Department. Should this biomass show a decrease next year, annual quotas will be adjusted downward as appropriate.

If approved, the U.S.-Soviet joint venture arrangement would allow U.S. fishermen to sell up to 10,000 tons of anchovies to a Soviet processing vessel. This represents 2.4 percent of the total allowable U.S. catch. The Department favors such joint ventures when it appears that U.S. fishermen are able to harvest more fish than can be handled by U.S. processors. The Department is currently reviewing the merits of this joint venture proposal, and should decide by early September whether to recommend approval of the proposal by the Department of State.

If you have any additional questions concerning the northern anchovy quota or the joint venture proposal, please contact Dr. John Byrne, Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at (202)377-3567.

Sincerely,

*Richard B. Baldwin*  
Secretary of Commerce

*I want to believe a cowboy over a biologist, if he's got the facts - so please write back if you disagree on them. Very little messing with around here B*

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

August 12, 1981

*Mike here*

Honorable Michael L. Deaver  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mike,

Thanks for sending along Ray Arnett's letter to you concerning the anchovy situation.

You might be interested in my reply to Timothy Doheny.

Sincerely,



Malcolm Baldrige

Enclosure

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*Malcolm Baldrige*  
Secretary of Commerce

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10 AUG 1981

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136 El Camino  
Beverly Hills, California 90212

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Sincerely,

Secretary of Commerce

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# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

*Make  
anchovy  
file*

NOTE TO: Michael K. Deaver  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

FROM: G. Ray Arnett  
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Per your request, Mike ---

--- my staff has prepared a suggested reply for you in response to Bill Nott's letter.

It says nothing that Bill does not already know, but it does indicate your awareness of the situation. However, what Nott, Tim Doheney, and other sport fishermen in Southern California want to hear is that the White House has prevented Secretary Baldrige from approving the Pacific Fisheries Management Council's (PFMC) recommendation to take anchovies.

The anchovy reduction fishery is an extremely emotional issue in California. The Administration will take a beating from sportsmen and environmentalists if Secretary Baldrige approves the PFMC recommendation. Only a handful of Northern California fishermen will benefit, and to what extent is questionable at best. To share with Russia the commercial harvest of this important forage fish is not considered beneficial to America in general, nor pacific coast sport fishermen in particular.

It's hard to understand how the President will gain any points by allowing the PFMC recommendation to go into affect.

My political and professional recommendation is for the White House to suggest that Secretary Baldrige not approve the PFMC recommendation.

Attachment

August 6, 1981

# DRAFT

Mr. William A. Nott  
President, Sportfishing Association  
of California  
555 East Ocean Boulevard  
Suite 700-A  
Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Bill:

Since receiving your letter of July 27, 1981, we have taken a closer look at the anchovy question. So far this is what we have seen:

The Pacific Fishery Management Council, which answers to Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary of Commerce, annually updates a management plan for the anchovy resource on the west coast. This year, the Marine Resources Company of Seattle (50 percent owned by the Soviet Union and 50 percent owned by American fishing interests) has applied to the Council for a joint-venture permit to purchase and process 4 species of fish off southern California. The Magnuson Fishery and Conservation Act of 1976 permits this when American processors are unlikely to use all the fish American vessels could harvest. That determination is yet to be made.

The Council has recommended that the joint-venture be allowed to purchase 3 species from American fishermen for processing on a Soviet factory ship: 10,000 metric tons of anchovies; 15,000 metric tons of jack mackerel, and 2,500 metric tons of squid. Last year the total fish meal quota for anchovies was 166,400 tons and the U.S. fleet--the only fleet involved--landed about 62,000 tons.

This year the Council says that the fish meal quota could be increased to 359,285 tons from a total anchovy resource estimated at 2,803,000 tons. That figure already takes into account the amount of anchovies the Mexican fishery will take. The Council will be meeting soon to discuss the anchovy plan and may make additional adjustments in these figures. However, the revisions should be minor.

We are awaiting Malcolm's analysis of the joint-venture proposal in light of the suggestions that have already been made, and will consider it in context with your analysis. We are also fortunate in being able to use Ray Arnett's experience with the anchovy fishery as a sounding board for the decision we will be reaching soon.

Thank you for your assistance and expression of concern.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Deaver  
Assistant to the President



# SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

555 E. OCEAN BOULEVARD - SUITE 700-A

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

(213) 432-2316

July 27, 1981

*Ray Arnett  
for suggested  
reply  
MKD*

W. A. NOTT, PRESIDENT

PHILLO TOZER, VICE-PRESIDENT

FRANK HALE, SEC'TY-TREASURER

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PT. DUME - MORRO BAY

### CHARTER BOATS: GARRY BLACK

BOB FLETCHER

ROGER HESS

Mr. Michael J. Deaver  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mike:

Enclosed is a copy of our official position on the proposed joint venture with a Russian factory ship in Southern California waters to process anchovies, blue mackerel, squid and jack mackerel.

Also enclosed are some press clippings which are accurate as to what the proposal is all about.

This is the most momentous subject to ever hit California's marine resources. The Southern California public has a great affinity for the anchovy since overfishing removed the sardine. The man on the street feels very strongly on the subject and when you hook it up to a Russian factory ship, it's dynamite! The recreational people are against it as are 99% of the commercial fishing industry.

We need your help now as Secretary Baldrige is scheduled to act by August 1 to either approve or disapprove the joint venture.

My office phone is (213) 432-2316 and home is (213) 631-5618. Please call early or late if I can assist with further details.

Sincerely

W. A. Nott, President  
The Sportfishing Association of California(SAC)

JUL 30 RECD

98-10



# SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

555 E. OCEAN BOULEVARD - SUITE 700-A  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802  
(213) 432-2316

July 27, 1981

W. A. NOTT, PRESIDENT

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SANDY VERNAND (ALT.)  
PT. DUME - MORRO BAY

HARTER BOATS: GARRY BLACK  
BOB FLETCHER  
ROGER HESS

Mr. Malcolm Baldrige  
Office of the Secretary  
United States Department of Commerce  
Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Sportfishing Association of California (SAC) represents the 375 large commercial passenger fishing vessels in California. This fleet, in a good year, will transport 900,000 fishermen to the offshore banks and islands, performing a service to the general public of restricted income.

I have been a member of the Anchovy and Mackerel Sub-panel to the Pacific Fishery Management Council since its inception in 1975. Since 1962 I have been present in over 350 hours of discussion with scientific representatives of the California Department of Fish and Game, National Marine Fisheries Service, Scripps Institute, CALCOFI and Mexico on methods of assessing the biomass.

Interwoven throughout this discourse has always been the uncertainty reflected by the scientists as to the actual amount of the spawning biomass; what the result of a heavy take coupled with a natural catastrophe effecting recruitment would be and the great need for checks, crosschecks, egg and larva surveys, sonar surveys, egg production surveys, etc, in an endeavor to gain a handle on this fragile resource.

As recently as June of this year the NMFS Anchovy Planning Team headed by Dr. Gary Stauffer and Alex McColl were explaining the difference between the egg-larva and egg production methods of computing the spawning anchovy biomass. They were quite honest at that point in admitting they did not have a handle on the biomass NOR ANY DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE EGG-LARVA METHOD, THE VERY METHOD CONTAINED WITHIN THE ANCHOVY PLAN APPROVED BY THE PRIOR SECRETARY.

Our industry and the public who fish aboard our vessels are opposed to a joint venture with the Russians to take anchovies,

blue mackerel, jack mackerel and squid for the following reasons:

1. there have been no in-depth studies to ascertain the biomass of the blue or jack mackerel or squid to determine the importance as forage to predator fish. They are unquestionably very important links in the food chain.

2. heavy exploitation of the anchovy has been generally resisted by the Southern California public since 1963 coupled with the demise of the sardine by overfishing.

3. there has been little consideration given to this joint venture by the Council. The public was not aware of it until the July 6 meeting in Long Beach. This was the only open meeting held in Southern California on the subject with practically no advance notice in the media.

4. Russia has never had access to these important U.S. and California fisheries and should not be given hasty consideration now. These are not unused fisheries as were the joint ventures with her on the unused U.S. hake fishery.

5. California is the most populous state in the Nation with the heaviest demands on her marine resources by both the commercial and recreational industries, and needs her forage and food fish desperately.

6. in the testimony given at the NMFS July 6 meeting in Long Beach all sectors of the commercial fishing fleet, processors and canners, fresh fish markets, SAC's fleet and the recreational public were opposed to this joint venture. THE ONLY SECTOR THAT ENDORSED THE JOINT VENTURE WITH RUSSIA WAS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SMALL GROUP OF PURSE-SEINERS WHO MIGHT PROFIT FROM IT IN THE SHORT-HAUL. IN THE LONG-HAUL, HOWEVER, RUSSIA WOULD BEGIN TO CALL THE SHOTS TO THE DISMAY OF THE SEINERS.

7. because of the uncertainty of the scientists as to the true amount of the spawning biomass and their low confidence factor in the present egg-larva method of assessment why give part of a quota which lacks credibility to a foreign power?

8. why allow Russia to take U.S.-California resources, process them and distribute them UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG to Africa and the Orient? Not only does this bypass onshore American labor but allows Russia to again dramatize her position with 3rd World nations.

In summary, Mr. Secretary, we beseech you to return the joint venture application unapproved. The time to keep the head of the Russian bear out of the tent of U.S.-California resources is now!

Sincerely,

*Bill Nott*

W. A. Nott, President

The Sportfishing Association of California (SAC)



**BEEBE SHOTS**

**Sportsmen Need to Attend Meeting**

**Bill Beebe**

**SHOULD CALIFORNIA** open its fisheries to Russian exploitation?

Do you agree with the Pacific Fisheries Management Council recommendations for a 420,700-ton quota for the upcoming anchovy reduction fishing season?

Would you like to say anything about how California manages its commercial fisheries?

If you do, then you're invited to attend a special meeting of the state Fish and Game Commission Wednesday, July 29 at 9 a.m. in the council chambers of the Long Beach City Hall, 333 W. Ocean Blvd. The meeting—one of three to be conducted by the commission throughout the state in the next three weeks—is designed to gather public input for Gov. Jerry Brown to consider in his review of many of the state's commercial fishing regulations.

While the subject matter will cover only commercial fisheries, conservationists, individual sportsmen and organizations they represent are being asked to speak out at the meeting, since most of the state's fisheries are shared by recreation and commercial sectors.

Of paramount interest the welfare of the anchovy and the spector of a Russian factory ship which seeks to take them and three other important fishes. The PFMC, earlier this month, approved an application for a joint venture operation that would permit a Russian factory ship beginning as early as Aug. 1 to take 10,000 tons of anchovies, 15,000 tons of jack mackerel, 2,500 tons of squid and up to 2,700 tons of Pacific mackerel.

**THE RUSSIANS WOULD** purchase these fish from San Pedro commercial fishermen and process them at sea under terms of a contract negotiated by the Soviet government and the Marine Resources Corp. of Seattle, Wash.

Sportsmen, most segments of the commercial fishing industry and conservationists oppose the measure and have asked public support in this regard. They ask everyone to protest through their respective congress person or senator urging President Reagan to intercede. The Secretary of Commerce has until Aug. 1 to deny or approve the controversial joint venture application.

Failing in that regard, the only venue left to block the Russians from moving in on these fisheries would be the courts. All four species the Russians seek are basic in the marine food chain, so vital to all of the state's larger game and commercial species.

"In the case of the council (PFMC) and this joint venture thing, we want to make sure the Secretary (of Commerce) has the authority to give away our fisheries for which no management plan exists," said William Nott, president of the Sportfishing Association of California. "If we find that he is acting the last bit outside regulations, we are going to take legal action against all involved agencies."

**ACCORDING TO THE** 1976 federal fisheries act, state regulation prevail in fisheries where no management plan has been formulated by the council. Of the four fisheries sought by the Russians, management plans for only two—Pacific mackerel and anchovies—have been approved by the council.

"It is my personal opinion they (PFMC) acted in a very hasty manner," Nott protested. "There is no reason for it. The Russians never have had privy to these fisheries before. There's no reason to give it to them now. If they're going to give it to a foreign nation, they ought to consider Mexico."

Nott said attorneys for his association are preparing a brief to file in federal court that would halt implimentation of the Russian joint venture permit until arguments over the Secretary of Commerce authority to do so have been settled.

"They need to be shown we are not going to sit here in Southern California and just take it," Nott said of the council's actions opening state waters to the Russians. Nott said the very future of California's sport and commercial fisheries lies in the outcome of Russian joint venture plan.

"The troops (sportsmen) had better be there next Wednesday (July 29) to say what they've got to say. It may be their last chance to do it," Nott said.

# PERMIT: Russian Factory Ship Seems Assured

Continued from First Page

July 29, at Long Beach City Hall.

There are no such local hurdles for the Russian ship permit to clear, however, and it is expected to be authorized by the U.S. Department of Commerce by Aug. 1.

Despite the objections of San Pedro fish processors, conservationists, the sportfishing industry and sundry commercial marketing and fishing groups from throughout the state—organizations which are most often in disagreement on fishery issues—the fishery council recommended that a permit for the Russian ship be granted.

The recommendation has gone to the U.S. secretary of commerce to be formalized, but it would be unusual if the council's recommendation is not rubber stamped.

## Opponents Move in Washington

Representatives of the various opposing factions said they are contacting President Reagan, the California delegation to the House and Senate, and Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige urging that the permit not be issued.

The only groups to speak in favor of the Russian processing vessel at the meeting in Boise were the Fisherman's Cooperative Assn. in San Pedro, whose 20 to 25 boats will provide the fish, and the Fishermen's Union.

John Royal, president of the union whose members will man the boats, is a member of the fishery council and voted in favor of the recommendation.

The recommendation provides that under a joint venture with Marine Resource Co. of Seattle the Russian factory ship may take 10,000 tons of anchovies, 15,000 tons of jack mackerel and 2,500 tons of squid. The squid allocation was cut from 5,000 tons requested.

A request for 5,000 tons of Pacific mackerel was denied, but up to 18% of that species will be allowed incidental to the jack mackerel catch.

It has not been determined how that incidental catch limitation will be enforced. State game wardens sample each load of mackerel brought in to California ports where the same maximum percentage is allowed, but it would be costly to station a warden aboard the Russian vessel full-time to monitor the mackerel taken aboard.

## It May Anchor Off Catalina

All of the fish will be caught by U.S. purse seiners and delivered to the 16,000-ton Russian vessel, where they will be processed for eventual marketing in other countries. It is expected that the factory ship will anchor just outside the 3-mile limit, probably in the lee of Catalina Island.

The squid—which are usually caught within 3 miles of the coast—will be brought ashore before being transported to the Soviet vessel so that state tax law will apply. Fish caught outside the territorial waters are not subject to the same state taxes.

Anthony Nizetich, representing Star Kist Co., one of the two fish processors on Terminal Island, said he believes there is a question whether the permits can be issued for squid and mackerel because a fishery management plan has not been prepared for those species.

"I am writing to the National Marine Fishery Service to reiterate our opposition (to the permit for the Russian factory ship), and I hope they will authorize the studies on those species and implement regulations through a proper management plan," Nizetich said.

(National Marine Fishery Service biologists made the studies upon which the Pacific Fishery Management Council based its recommendations.)

"Under our existing regulations, we cannot give away an allocated amount (of a given species) unless an optimum yield has been established, and we only have those figures for the anchovy," Nizetich said.

## Puts Blame on Processors

Royal, speaking for the Fishermen's Union, said he has traditionally opposed joint-venture projects involving other nations but local processors have proven unwilling to take all of the fish U.S. boats can catch.

He claims the fishermen are limited by fish processors in the amount of fish they can catch, charging that the companies have refused to invest in new equipment or hire enough workers to handle what the boats would be able to bring in.

"Maybe this will get their attention and make them wake up to the fact that they have got to invest in some new processing equipment and be willing to pay some overtime and work additional shifts in order to handle what is available," Royal said.

Nizetich said the processors are caught by a "chicken or the egg" situation.

"If they (regulatory agencies) can determine a consistently large quota from year to year as indicated by the biomass, we would increase our capacity," he said.

"But Fish and Game says increase your capacity first, and we won't increase it until we can be sure we will get the fish."

## Interruptions Hamper Processors

According to Nizetich, processors have a capacity of 1,500 tons of anchovies a day, but are handicapped by interruptions caused by the broken season, restrictions against fishing on weekends or during the full moon, and fishermen sometimes fishing other species so that the reduction plants cannot rely on a steady supply of fish.

William A. Nott, president of the Sportfishing Association of California, said it is "... ironic that the U.S. is

willing to deal with a political adversary (Russia) who comes to our doorstep to pillage the forage fish which are basic building blocks in the marine food chain."

The sportfishing group, along with other sportsmen's and conservation organizations, has long opposed use of the anchovy for fish meal, claiming that the tiny silvery fish is vital as forage to feed other larger species targeted by sport anglers and commercial fishermen.

Nott called the Soviet permit request, "the head of the Russian bear."

He said that "... once it gets its head in our tent, the demands will grow, and we are establishing an obscene anchovy quota that only invites further intrusion by Russia and other nations with an eye on our fishery.

"We know from experience that we cannot catch and the canners cannot process anywhere near the 408,000-ton reduction quota that has been recommended.

"And if we have a quota that cannot be filled by our boats and processed by our canners, what would be more logical than the Russians asking for a bigger slice of the pie, especially if they already have a factory ship anchored right offshore."

# Permit for Russian Ship Seems Assured

START HERE

By JERRY RUHLow, Times Staff Writer

SAN PEDRO—Unless unusually strong political pressure is exerted in the nation's capital, there will be a Russian factory ship processing mackerel, anchovies and squid 3 miles off the Southern California coast within the next few months.

There already are a number of joint ventures involving U.S. companies and foreign factory ships operating in the Pacific Northwest, but they are catching hake and other fish not commonly exploited in this country.

This would be the first foreign operation in Southern California, and the first permitted to process species in competition with U.S. processors and distributors.

A recommendation that the Russian ship permit be authorized was adopted last week by the Pacific Fishery Management Council at a meeting in Boise, Ida.

At the same meeting, the council recommended a record commercial anchovy quota of 420,700 tons. About 12,600 tons would be allowed for bait, canning and the fresh market, with the remainder ground into meal for poultry food by processors on Terminal Island and in Port Hueneme.

## State Commission Must Act

For that quota to become effective, the state Fish and Game Commission must grant the reduction permits. It is expected that the commission will issue permits for a much smaller figure, as it did last year when the fishery council authorized a 188,000-ton quota. The commission issued permits for 80,000 tons, but the commercial fleet was able to catch only 67,000 tons in the September-to-June season.

The matter will be considered by the Fish and Game Commission at a public meeting at 9 a.m. Wednesday.

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# Soviet-fishing battle may surface before council

Molly Burrell

Staff Writer

A controversial plan to allow a Soviet fish processing ship to operate off the Southern California coast is expected to take center stage at a public meeting scheduled for 9 a.m. Wednesday in the Long Beach City Council chamber.

Although not part of the official agenda of the state Fish and Game Commission, the topic is bound to come up, commission spokesmen say.

At issue is the Russian joint venture approved by the advisory

Pacific Fishery Management Council and now before the Secretary of Commerce. It involves a six-month permit to allow a "mother ship" to process an estimated 30,000 tons of blue and jack mackerel, squid and anchovy for foreign markets.

Already the subject of heated discussion at a joint meeting of the commission and the fishery management council July 6, the proposal has drawn fire from sportfishermen, environmentalists and local processors.

They argue that such additional processing capacity would di-

vert catches from the U.S. market because fishermen could get more money per catch than at a local processing plant. They also are concerned that two of the four species involved are without a management plan to ensure their survival.

All species are basic in the marine food chain, but only the anchovy and blue mackerel are under a federal regulatory plan. And, according to provision of the 1976 federal fisheries act, state regulations prevail where no management plan has been formulated by the federal council.

Commercial fishermen favor the joint venture because it could mean more sales at better profits and be a means for the hard-pressed fishing fleet to survive.

Bill Nott, spokesman for the Long Beach-based Sportfishing Association of California, urged fishermen of all types to attend the meeting Wednesday, saying "the very future of California's sport and commercial fisheries lies in the outcome of the joint venture opening state waters to the Russians."

He also said attorneys for his association are investigating

measures to stop the plan from going into effect if it should be approved.

Long Beach attorney Clarence Hunt, representing the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, on Friday said, "We are researching the situation with regard to enjoining the venture under provisions of the fisheries management act."

A decision on the request by the Seattle-based Marine Resources Co. to operate a 16,160-ton leased ship called Rybak Primorja is reportedly due Saturday.