



Serial No. 2101
(A.a.4)

ICNAF Comm. Doc. 68/22

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1968

US Report on Exchange of National
Enforcement Officers 1967-68

by J.B. Skerry

Bureau of Commercial Fisheries,
Gloucester, Mass.

1. US-Canada

Fisheries enforcement officers of the United States and Canada charged with enforcing ICNAF regulations have carried on informal exchanges over a period of twelve years. The intent of the visitations has been to acquaint the officers of each country with the methods and procedures used in carrying out the Commission's regulatory recommendations. In recent years, it has also served to demonstrate that joint international inspection is feasible and possible. The exchange conducted between August 14 and September 1, 1967, was carried out with this latter thought foremost in each officer's mind.

Fishing ports and facilities were visited in Nova Scotia and New England during the onshore phase, and available ships were boarded between Sable Island and Nantucket Island during the at-sea phase. Trawl nets were measured both ashore and at sea. No violations were encountered. Free and open discussions were held in order that the officers might each have the opportunity to gain as much knowledge as was possible of the enforcement systems in use.

From the point of view of the United States, this was a very valuable exchange and continues to demonstrate that countries can conduct amicable joint inspections.