

FUR SEAL CONFERENCE-Mike Zacharof of St. Paul Island discusses the North Pacific Fur Seal Conference with Senator Ted Stevens in the Senator Ted Stevens in the Senator's Washington, D.C., office. They were both delegates to the conference between the U.S., the USSR, Japan and Canada in December.

Hammond has mixed feelings--Fur seal negotiations

Governor Hammond said he has mixed feelings over the results of the recent North Pacific Fur Seal renegotiation, which took place in Washington, D.C., December 1-12, 1975. Parties to the treaty are Canada, Japan, U.S.S.R. and the United States.

"The fact that Japan refused to allow inclusion of new articles to prevent pollution or to allow new management principles or techniques was discouraging," Hammond said.

Because of Japan's uncooperativeness, the U.S. only agreed to a four-year treaty instead of the usual six years.

Hammond added, "Within four years we hopefully will have extended fisheries jurisdiction either unilaterally or multilaterally and then we can insist on the necessary conservation practices."

On the brighter side, the Governor said. "I was very pleased to see that the new treaty recognizes subsistence use of fur seal meat for food by our natives on the Pribilofs when it is not possible to provide these people with sufficient seal meat for subsistence from seasonal commercial harvest or research activities. and further that wording was included to seek humane practices when harvesting, capturing, or marking fur seals."

Alaska was represented by Mike Zacharof of St. Paul Island and Charles H. Meacham of the Governor's Office.