

Japanese Long Liner

Statement of Governor Jay Hammond on Japanese long liner seized by Coast Guard, April 11, 1975:

I have requested U.S. Attorney G. Kent Edwards to ask for \$500,000 in fines against the Japanese long liner seized last Friday near Great Sitkin Island. The highest previous fine for fishing violations was \$350,000, but I think a record \$500,000 is justified because I believe the escalating fines levied in past years have been a deterrent to fishing violations. I made my request to U.S. Attorney Edwards by phone yesterday. I also have determined the State will not file charges against the vessel because violations of federal law carry much heavier penalties than State law presently provides, and we are, therefore, willing to leave prosecution of this case to the U.S. Attorney.