

[Redacted Classification]

410212

**Extracts of Ministry of Welfare's Instruction to Prefectural Governments on Detection of Radioactivity dated April 26, 1954, as amended.**

**I. Detection of Radioactive Substance:** The metropolis and prefectures with ports of landing designated by the Fisheries Board will have detecting teams stationed at the above ports, and make them test the presence of radioactivity or conduct minute inspection in respect to every fishing boat which engaged in operations or navigated on the specified waters on such points as its hull, fishing-tackle, crew members and catch.

The detecting team will test thoroughly and carefully whether there exists radioactivity by use of a survey-meter in principle as to the full fishing-tackle, crewmen and catch in the order as mentioned. In the first place, the detecting of radioactivity will be made at a distance of 10 cm. from the object of test, and in case there are found abnormal counts in far excess of those of the background, changes in the count should be carefully observed by bringing the geiger count tube nearer to the object of test or moving it further from the object. And the containing of or contamination by some radioactive substance may be suspected if the count greatly increased when the count tube is brought nearer and if it decreases when the tube is moved further.

In the above test a Geiger Müller counter will be used in order to make test more accurately where abnormal counts are indicated. At the time of test, it is necessary to test with the Geiger Müller tube by using an aluminum shield so as to detect also Beta rays emanated from radioactive substances. It is also required to take such a care as to cover the end of the count tube window with the vinyl film furnished by the Welfare Ministry with a view to protecting the count tube against contamination and protecting its "end mica window" against damage.

In addition, the detection of radioactivity on specific objects will be made only after the count in the background (the count in the air over the place where the detection is to be conducted) has been thoroughly measured for the purpose of comparing and contrasting the counts in both cases with each other.

**Examination of catches:**

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a) Preliminary examination: Taking out one or two fishes from each hold storing fishes prior to their landing, a thorough examination will be made in a nearby place which is free from affects of radioactivity as to both sides of fishes the gills, fins, the base of caudals and abdomen. In the case of creatures with the abdomen and internal organs, an examination will be made carefully, with a geiger count tube brought

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S/E  
OCT 14 1954  
7

-2-

close to the abdomen. If something having radio activity or suspected to have radioactivity has been found as a result of a preliminary examination, the landing of fishes in the hold where such an article as above has been found, will be last.

b) Examination at the time of landing: Fishes will be landed separately and orderly according to the hold, and an examination must be made as to all the catch. The parts of a fishes' body where the detection is required will be the same as those mentioned under a).

In case fishes are suspected of contamination by radioactivity as a result of a preliminary examination or in the course of it, particularly when counts are large in specific parts of the fishes' body (for instance at the gills, abdomen, etc.) or when counts are large in the case of specific kinds of fishes or the fishes in specific holds, it is necessary to make careful examinations in respect to them on a priority principle.

In order to protect fishes from contamination with dusted deck and tackle in the course of landing, the deck must be carefully washed previously, and the detection of radioactivity will be conducted in a place which is free from affects of radioactivity.

Furthermore, guidance will be given not to assign to landing operations, the crewmen who have shown large counts as a result of examination, and not to use similarly contaminated clothes, gloves and footwears.

In addition, care should be taken to carry out the detection of radioactivity and landing of catches skilfully and speedily in order to keep fishes as fresh as possible and not to disturb the normal shipment of goods.

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II. Outline of Measures for Disposing of Catches: In case more than 100 counts of radioactivity per minute have been detected on a fishes' body at a distance of 10 cm., the fish will be considered contaminated, and this will be used as the basis of deciding the disposal of catches.

However, if counts exceeding 100 per minute has been detected, the entrails and gills of the fishes so contaminated will be removed and if further detection of radioactivity in the prescribed manner after the fishes' bodies were washed has revealed the fall of counts below 100, only entrails and gills will be abandoned, but the body and parts of fishes other than those to be abandoned, will be treated as eatables. Care should be taken particularly to prevent effects on public health by burying the abandoned entrails and gills in the ground and by adopting other necessary measures.

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In deciding the disposal of fishes it is necessary to pass a proper judgment with due regard to the features of each case since it is known as a result of the detection conducted so far by the Ministry of Welfare that the condition of contamination of fishes is different in each case.

The features of various cases and the policy of disposal of fishes therein are as follows:

(1) Case of contamination of the entire load:

In case no difference in count is observable between different kinds of fishes or between the storage of different holds, but the counts twice or three times as many as those of the background are indicated, and a considerable number of fishes showing counts more than 100 per minutes are discovered, measures should be taken to abandon the entire load on the assumption that it is fully contaminated.

In case the above situation has been found in respect to fishes in a specific hold, but no difference in count has been found between the fishes in all other holds and the background, such hold should be treated as a contaminated lot and its storage will be discarded. However, as it is rare that fishes are stowed in different holds according to the fishing ground, it should be particularly prudent in treating one hold as one lot.

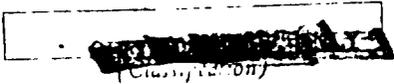
(2) In case the counts of most of fishes are the same as the counts of the background or not more than the double of the latter counts, and more than 100 counts per minute are shown only by some fishes, the last-mentioned fishes alone will be regarded as contaminated and discarded, but the others will be considered to be uncontaminated.

(3) In case more than 100 counts of radioactivity have been detected as to specific species of fishes who live in the comparatively shallow waters, these fishes alone will be considered to be contaminated and discarded.

In the case like the above, it is particularly necessary to make minute inspection in respect to other species of fishes which have habits similar to those of the contaminated fishes by taking into consideration the habits in general, food and migratory habits of the species of fishes contaminated.

As regards the disposal of fishes, guidance will be given to those concerned to throw them, as far as possible, in the currents in the ocean which do not flow to the coast or to bury them in the ground not less than two meters deep at a place where drinking water will not be affected.

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Monthly Damages Relative to Fishing Vessels  
Whose Catch was discarded after Radioactivity Inspection

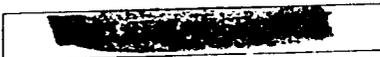
	Number of Vessels Whose Catch was Discarded	Catch discarded in Quantity (kan)	Amount of Damage (yen)
March	3	16,143.5	7,819,491
April	18	9,140.2	25,121,059
May	84	6,176.8	30,860,137
June	139	17,235.6	39,103,700
July	65	4,507.5	21,854,800
August	10	5,874.9	6,516,400
Total	319	59,378.5	131,278,587

- Remarks: (1) All figures are based on reports which were available by the end of August 1954 and more vessels whose catch was discarded, therefore, are expected especially in the month of August.
- (2) The Fukuryu Maru No. 5 and her catch discarded are included in the figures of 3 and 16,143.5 for March, while damages relative to her are not included in the figure of 7,819,491.

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OCT 14 1954

7



Number of Fishing Vessels and Catch Discarded  
 in Quantity by Fishing Grounds

	Fishing Grounds										Total		
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I				
March												3	Number of Vessels Catch discarded (kan) 16,143.5
April				1	1							18	Number of Vessels Catch discarded (kan) 8,790.2
May				4	1							84	Number of Vessels Catch discarded (kan) 914.9
June				5								139	Number of Vessels Catch discarded (kan) 126.7
July				10	1							65	Number of Vessels Catch discarded (kan) 205.7
August				3								10	Number of Vessels Catch discarded (kan) 3,817.3
<b>Total</b>	29	1	23	3	218	6	7	13	19	59,378.5		319	

Remarks: (1) Boundaries of fishing grounds, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H and I are shown on the attached map.

(2) Locations of the 17 vessels' fishing grounds in the columns of B, D, F and G are respectively shown on the attached map with the mark of X.

(Embassy note: One kan equals 8.27 lbs.)

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