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Peru: More On Cancellation Of Fishing Contract With Soviet State-run Company

by Barbara Khol
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In late April, the Peruvian government announced plans to cancel a fishing contract with the Soviet state-run fisheries corporation SEVRIBA. (See Chronicle 05/02/91, 05/09/91 for previous coverage.) The cancellation also revoked SEBRIBA's permits to operate 20 trawlers in Peruvian territorial waters. Sevriba representative Andre Koslov threatened that he would demand $72 million in compensation from the Peruvian state fisheries services company (EPSEP), and said Soviet trawlers would not leave territorial waters until the conflict had been resolved. Koslov's remarks followed Fisheries Minister Felix Canal's announcement the contract was to be rescinded and that Peru would turn to the courts or an international forum to recover a $20 million debt from the Soviet corporation for contract violations of the contract. The Sevriba representative said the Peruvian government's claims that a 400,000-tonne limit to the Soviets' annual catch had not been respected were "totally...imprecise." (Basic data from AFP, 05/11/91)

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