

(English text of Minute 229 dated January 4, 1968)

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

El Paso, Texas,  
January 4, 1968.

MINUTE NO. 229

DELINEATION OF PROVISIONAL MARITIME BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE EXCLUSIVE FISHERY ZONES OF THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO IN THE GULF OF MEXICO AND THE PACIFIC OCEAN

The Commission met in the offices of the United States Section at El Paso, Texas, at 10:00 a.m., January 4, 1968, in order to record in a Minute the delineation of the provisional maritime boundaries between the Exclusive Fishery Zones of the United States and Mexico in the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean.

The Commission noted that by an exchange of notes dated October 27, 1967, the Governments of the United States and Mexico charged the Commission to construct maritime boundaries between the two countries in the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean. This agreement provides that in the event the Commission is unable to complete the lines prior to January 1, 1968, it will, prior to that date, for the purposes of that agreement, prepare provisional lines to be used until the two countries agree on permanent boundaries.

The Commission concluded that it would prepare provisional boundaries, and observed that these boundaries would extend seaward for no more than twelve nautical miles (22,224 meters) from the base line.

The Commission thereupon reviewed Plan "A" and Plan "B" of the provisional boundaries in the Gulf of Mexico and in the Pacific Ocean, respectively, dated December 30, 1967, which are attached to this Minute and form a part thereof.

The Commission concluded that Plan "A" correctly shows the provisional maritime boundary running twelve nautical miles (22,224 meters) in the Gulf of Mexico from a point at the middle of the present mouth of the Rio Grande on the parallel of 25°57'15" North Latitude. The Commission recognized that in the event the mouth of the Rio Grande should move, the provisional boundary would move with it, continuing to run on the parallel of latitude passing through the middle of the mouth of the river.

The Commission also concluded that Plan "B" correctly shows the provisional maritime boundary in the Pacific Ocean, running seaward to a point twelve nautical miles (22,224 meters) from the base line.

The Commission then adopted the following resolution, subject to the express approval of the two Governments:

1. The delineation of the provisional maritime boundaries between the Exclusive Fishery Zones of the United States and Mexico shown on Plan "A" and Plan "B" accompanying this Minute and forming part thereof is approved.
2. The Commission will in due time inform the two Governments of changes in the latitude of the provisional maritime boundary between the Exclusive Fishery Zones in the Gulf of Mexico occasioned by changes in latitude of the mouth of the Rio Grande.

The meeting then adjourned.

(signed) J. F. Friedkin  
Commissioner of the United States

(signed) D. Herrera J.  
Commissioner of Mexico

(signed) Louis F. Blanchard  
Secretary of the United States Section

(signed) Fernando Rivas S.  
Secretary of the Mexican Section