

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Minute No. 278

Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua
March 31, 1989

DELINEATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY ON AERIAL
PHOTOGRAPHIC MOSAICS OF THE RIO GRANDE

The Commission met in the offices of the Mexican Section in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, at 10:00 a.m. on March 31, 1989 to consider the aerial photographic mosaics prepared from aerial photographic surveys made by the two Sections of the Commission in 1982 and 1983, and review the delineation of the international boundary between the two countries on the 112 sheets that form the aerial photographic mosaics of the international boundary in the Rio Grande.

The Commission made note of Minute No. 253 entitled "Maps of the International Boundary in the Rio Grande and in the Colorado River", signed September 23, 1976, and which maps were designated "1972 International Boundary Survey" in compliance with the stipulations in Article II, paragraph C of the Treaty between the United States and Mexico to Resolve Pending Boundary Differences and Maintain the Rio Grande and the Colorado River as the International Boundary, signed November 23, 1970, which provides that: "The Commission, on the basis of the surveys which it shall carry out as soon as practical, shall with appropriate precision delineate the international boundary on maps or aerial photographic mosaics of the Rio Grande and of the Colorado River. In the future, the Commission shall make surveys as frequently as it may consider justifiable, but in any event at intervals not greater than 10 years, and shall record the position of the international boundary on appropriate maps. Each of the Governments shall bear half of the costs and other expenses determined by the Commission and approved by the two Governments for the surveys and maps relating to the boundaries".

The Commission reviewed the "Joint Report of the Principal Engineers to Delineate the International Boundary on Aerial Photographic Mosaics of the Rio Grande", dated March 30, 1989, signed by Principal Engineer Jose S. Valdez for the United States Section and Principal Engineer J. Arturo Herrera Solis for the Mexican Section. The Commission confirmed that the aerial photographic mosaics are based on aerial photographic surveys made by the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Information of Mexico in November 1982 and June 1983 and rectified in accordance with standards established by the Commission. The photographs were prepared in color by the United States Geological Survey, using a Mercator Transverse Projection on a scale of 1:25,000.

The Commissioners noted that the Government of Mexico performed the aerial photographic surveys and developed the working photographic enlargements to delineate the boundary line. They further noted that the

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Government of the United States prepared the final aerial photographic mosaics for the limitrophe section of the Rio Grande. The Commissioners considered that this division of work satisfactorily fulfills the provision in the 1970 Boundary Treaty that each Government cover half of the costs and other expenses for the surveys and drawings relating to the boundaries.

The Commission verified that the engineers of the two Sections delineated the international boundary on the 112 sheets, that form the aerial photographic mosaics, with appropriate precision and in accordance with Article II, paragraph A of the 1970 Boundary Treaty.

For the aerial photographic mosaic sheets showing the artificial reservoirs formed by the Amistad and Falcon International Dams, the Commission delineated the jurisdictional lines in accordance with Minute No. 199, entitled "Establishment of Jurisdictional Line in Falcon Reservoir", dated December 15, 1953, and in accordance with Minute No. 232, entitled "Demarcation of a Jurisdictional Line in Amistad Reservoir", dated May 9, 1968, in accordance with the provisions of Article 21 of the Water Treaty of 1944. They observed that for the reaches of the Rio Grande where the Commission is pending the delineation of the international boundary in the main channel of the river, a note was placed clarifying that the boundary line shown corresponds to that approved in Minute No. 253.

The Commissioners made a final review of the sheets that make up the aerial photographic mosaics and observed that with the above agreements, the international boundary delineated conforms to the stipulations of the 1970 Boundary Treaty and acknowledged their signatures on the sheets of the original aerial photographic mosaics provided to each Section of the Commission.

Based on the above considerations, the Commission adopted the following resolutions:

1. The 112 sheets that make up the aerial photographic mosaics of the Rio Grande, designated as the "Rio Grande International Boundary Survey of 1982", accompany and form part of this Minute. With the exceptions noted above, they show the international boundary delineated with appropriate precision in accordance with Article II, paragraph A of the 1970 Boundary Treaty and are therefore approved.
2. The "Joint Report of the Principal Engineers to Delineate the International Boundary on Aerial Photographic Mosaics of the Rio Grande", dated March 30, 1989, is approved.
3. In accordance with the division of work adopted, Mexico undertook the aerial photographic surveys and developed the photographic enlargements and the United States prepared the aerial photographic mosaics in final form. This division of work was made in

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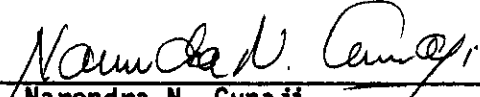
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fulfillment of the provisions in the 1970 Boundary Treaty that each Government pay half of the costs and other expenses for the surveys and drawings relating to the boundaries.

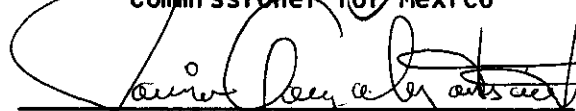
4. This Minute requires the specific approval of the two Governments.

The meeting was adjourned.


Narendra N. Gunaji
U.S. Commissioner


Carlos Santibanez Mata
Commissioner for Mexico


Manuel R. Ybarra
U.S. Section Secretary


Javier Gonzalez Toussaint
Mexican Section Secretary