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INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY STUDY

Series A

LIMITS IN THE SEAS

No. 16

CONTINENTAL SHELF BOUNDARY: FINLAND-SOVIET UNION

The Geographer
Office of the Geographer
Bureau of Intelligence and Research

CONTINENTAL SHELF BOUNDARY: FINLAND-SOVIET UNION

The Governments of the Republic of Finland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed an Agreement on May 20, 1965, relating to the division of the continental shelf in the Gulf of Finland. Ratifications were exchanged and the Agreement came into force on May 25, 1966. Both Finland and the Soviet Union are parties to the 1958 Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf.

The Agreement set forth the following principles:

The Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Having regard to the favourable development of relations between Finland and the Soviet Union, founded on the 1948 Finnish-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, and to the interests of Finnish fishermen,

Desiring to define the boundaries of sea areas and continental shelf in the Gulf of Finland and thus contribute to the further development of good-neighbourly relations between the two countries,

Having regard to the Geneva Conventions of 1958 on the territorial sea and the contiguous zone and on the continental shelf,

Have decided to conclude this Agreement and have for that purpose appointed as their plenipotentiaries the undersigned, who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties agree that the sea frontier between Finland and the USSR and the boundaries of Finnish and Soviet territorial waters in the section of the Gulf of Finland to the north-east of the island of Suursaari (Gogland) shall be drawn as follows:

The sea frontier between the Republic of Finland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall follow a straight line in a south-westerly direction from the terminal point of the sea frontier fixed in 1940 and confirmed by the 1947 Treaty of Peace with Finland, whose co-ordinates are 60° 15' 35" north latitude and 27° 30' 43" east longitude, to the point whose co-ordinates are 60° 13' 42" north latitude and 27° 27' 50" east longitude and shall then turn and follow a straight line in a west-south-westerly direction to the point whose co-ordinates are 60° 12' 19" north latitude and 27° 18' 01" east longitude, which shall be the terminal point of the sea frontier between Finland and the Soviet Union.

From the aforementioned terminal point of the sea frontier, the boundary of Soviet territorial waters shall follow a straight line in a south-westerly direction to the point, situated on the boundary of Soviet territorial waters fixed in 1940 and confirmed by the 1947 Treaty of Peace with Finland, whose co-ordinates are 60° 08' 49" north latitude and 27° 04' 36" east longitude.

The boundary of Finnish territorial waters shall follow a straight line in a westerly direction from the aforementioned terminal point of the sea frontier to the point, situated on the boundary of Finnish territorial waters fixed in 1940 and confirmed by the 1947 Treaty of Peace with Finland, whose co-ordinates are 60° 12' 19" north latitude and 27° 13' 49" east longitude.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties agree not to extend their fishing and other areas in the section of the Gulf of Finland to the north of the island of Suursaari (Gogland) beyond a line marking the middle of the water area between the boundaries of Finnish and Soviet territorial waters fixed in 1940 and confirmed by the 1947 Treaty of Peace with Finland.

The said line shall begin at the point whose co-ordinates are 60° 10.6' north latitude and 27° 11.3' east longitude and run in a generally westerly direction through the point whose co-ordinates are 60° 10.6' north latitude and 26° 57.9' east longitude and the point whose co-ordinates are 60° 10.4' north latitude and 26° 54.9' east longitude to the point whose co-ordinates are 60° 08.8' north latitude and 26° 47.9' east longitude, which shall be the initial point of the median line in the section of the Gulf of Finland to the west of the island of Suursaari (Gogland).

Article 3

The Contracting Parties agree not to extend their territorial waters or their fishing and other areas in the section of the Gulf of Finland to the west of the island of Suursaari (Gogland) beyond the median line passing through the points whose geographical co-ordinates are the following:

60° 08.8' north latitude and 26° 47.9' east longitude, 60° 06.8' north latitude and 26° 38.4' east longitude, 60° 06.4' north latitude and 26° 32.6' east longitude, 60° 00.0' north latitude and 26° 20.8' east longitude, 59° 59.4' north latitude and 26° 13.1' east longitude, 59° 58.4' north latitude and 26° 08.4' east longitude, 59° 52.0' north latitude and 25° 58.5' east longitude, 59° 52.9' north latitude and 25° 28.0' east longitude, 59° 53.6' north latitude and 25° 10.6' east longitude, 59° 52.4' north latitude and 24° 57.6' east longitude, 59° 50.8' north latitude and 24° 49.7' east longitude, 59° 44.5' north latitude and 24° 24.8' east longitude, 59° 37.4' north latitude and 23° 54.8' east longitude, 59° 31.9' north latitude and 23° 30.1' east longitude, 59° 32.0' north latitude and 23° 10.0' east longitude.

Article 4

The lines of the sea frontier and of the boundaries of Finnish and Soviet territorial waters referred to in article 1 as well as the lines referred to in articles 2 and 3 and the geographical co-ordinates through which the said lines pass are indicated on charts Nos. 400, 403 and 404 (date of issue: 1964), which are annexed to this Agreement. All the co-ordinates referred to in this Agreement conform to the system of co-ordinates employed in the charts.

