TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES ON THE DELIMITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE WESTERN GULF OF MEXICO BEYOND 200 NAUTICAL MILES

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States (hereinafter "the Parties"),

Considering that the maritime boundaries between the Parties were determined on the basis of equidistance for a distance between twelve and two hundred nautical miles seaward from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured in the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean by the Treaty on Maritime Boundaries between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, signed on May 4, 1978 (the "1978 Treaty on Maritime Boundaries"),

Recalling that the maritime boundaries between the Parties were determined on the basis of equidistance for a distance of twelve nautical miles seaward from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured by the Treaty to Resolve Pending Boundary Differences and Maintain the Rio Grande and Colorado River as the International Boundary between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, signed on November 23, 1970,

Desiring to establish, in accordance with international law, the continental shelf boundary between the United States of America and the United Mexican States in the Western Gulf of Mexico beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured,

Taking into account the possibility that there could exist petroleum or natural gas reservoirs that extend across that continental shelf boundary, and the need for cooperation and periodic consultation between the Parties in protecting their respective interests in such circumstances; and

Considering that the practice of good neighborliness has strengthened the friendly and cooperative relations between the Parties;

Have agreed as follows:

JUN-23-00 13:30 FROM:MMS OPDC ID:703 787 1165 PAGE 2/8

Article I

The continental shelf boundary between the United States of America and the United Mexican States in the Western Gulf of Mexico beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be determined by geodetic lines connecting the following coordinates:

1. 25° 42′ 14.1″ N. 91° 05′ 25.0″ W.
2. 25° 39′ 43.1″ N. 91° 20′ 31.2″ W.
3. 25° 36′ 46.2″ N. 91° 39′ 29.4″ W.
4. 25° 37′ 01.2″ N. 91° 44′ 19.1″ W.
5. 25° 37′ 50.7″ N. 92° 00′ 35.5″ W.
6. 25° 38′ 13.4″ N. 92° 07′ 59.3″ W.
7. 25° 39′ 22.3″ N. 92° 31′ 40.4″ W.
8. 25° 39′ 23.8″ N. 92° 32′ 13.7″ W.
9. 25° 40′ 03.2″ N. 92° 46′ 44.8″ W.
10. 25° 40′ 27.3″ N. 92° 55′ 56.0″ W.
11. 25° 42′ 37.2″ N. 92° 57′ 16.0″ W.
12. 25° 46′ 33.9″ N. 92° 59′ 41.5″ W.
13. 25° 48′ 45.2″ N. 93° 03′ 58.9″ W.
14. 25° 51′ 51.0″ N. 93° 10′ 03.0″ W.
15. 25° 54′ 27.4″ N. 93° 15′ 09.9″ W.
16. 25° 59′ 49.3″ N. 93° 26′ 42.5″ W.

Article II

1. The geodetic and computational bases used to determine the boundary set forth in Article I are the 1983 North American Datum ("NAD83") and the International Earth Rotation Service's Terrestrial Reference Frame ("ITRF92").

2. For purposes of Article I:

JUN-23-00 13:30 FROM:MMS OPDC ID:703 787 1165 PAGE 3/8

(a) NAD83 and ITRF92 shall be considered to be identical; and

(b) Boundary points numbers 1 and 16 are, respectively, boundary points GM.E-1 (25° 42′ 13.05″ N., 91° 05′ 24.89″ W.) and GM.W-4 (25° 59′ 48.28″ N., 93° 26′ 42.19″ W.) of the 1978 Treaty on Maritime Boundaries. These points, which were originally determined with reference to the 1927 North American Datum-NAD27, have been transformed to the NAD83 and ITRF92 datums.

3. For the purpose of illustration only, the boundary line in Article I is drawn on the map that appears as Annex 1 to this Treaty.

Article III

South of the continental shelf boundary set forth in Article I, the United States of America shall not, and north of said boundary, the United Mexican States shall not, claim or exercise for any purpose sovereign rights or jurisdiction over the seabed and subsoil.

Article IV

1. Due to the possible existence of petroleum or natural gas reservoirs that may extend across the boundary set forth in Article I (hereinafter referred to as "transboundary reservoirs"), the Parties, during a period that will end ten (10) years following the entry into force of this Treaty, shall not authorize or permit petroleum or natural gas drilling or exploitation of the continental shelf within one and four-tenths (1.4) nautical miles of the boundary set forth in Article I. (This two and eight-tenths (2.8) nautical mile area hereinafter shall be referred to as "the Area".)

2. For the purpose of illustration only, the Area set forth in paragraph 1 is drawn on the map that appears as Annex 2 to this Treaty.

3. The Parties, by mutual agreement through an exchange of diplomatic notes, may modify the period set forth in paragraph 1.

4. From the date of entry into force of this Treaty, with respect to the Area on its side of the boundary set forth in Article I, each Party, in accordance with its national laws and regulations, shall facilitate requests from the other Party to authorize geological and geophysical studies to help determine the possible presence and distribution of transboundary reservoirs.

5. From the date of entry into force of this Treaty, with respect to the Area in its entirety, each Party, in accordance with its national laws and regulations, shall share geological and geophysical information in its possession in order to determine the possible existence and location of transboundary reservoirs.

JUN-23-00 13:30 FROM:MMS OPDC ID:703 787 1165 PAGE 4/8

6. From the date of entry into force of this Treaty, if a Party has knowledge of the existence or possible existence of a transboundary reservoir, it shall notify the other Party.

Article V

1. With respect to the Area in its entirety, during the period set forth in paragraph 1 of Article IV:

   (a) as geological and geophysical information is generated that facilitates the Parties' knowledge about the possible existence of transboundary reservoirs, including notifications by Parties in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article IV, the Parties shall meet periodically for the purpose of identifying, locating and determining the geological and geophysical characteristics of such reservoirs;

   (b) the Parties shall seek to reach agreement for the efficient and equitable exploitation of such transboundary reservoirs; and

   (c) the Parties shall, within sixty days of receipt of a written request by a Party through diplomatic channels, consult to discuss matters related to possible transboundary reservoirs.

2. With respect to the Area in its entirety, following the expiry of the period set forth in paragraph 1 of Article IV:

   (a) a Party shall inform the other Party of its decisions to lease, license, grant concessions, or otherwise make available, portions of the Area for petroleum or natural gas exploration or development and shall also inform the other Party when petroleum or natural gas resources are to commence production; and

   (b) a Party shall ensure that entities it authorizes to undertake activities within the Area shall observe the terms of the Treaty.

Article VI

Upon written request by a Party through diplomatic channels, the Parties shall consult to discuss any issue regarding the interpretation or implementation of this Treaty.

Article VII

The continental shelf boundary established by this Treaty shall not affect or prejudice in any manner the positions of either Party with respect to the extent of

JUN-23-00 13:31 FROM:MMS OPDC ID:703 787 1165 PAGE 5/8

internal waters, of the territorial sea, of the high seas or of sovereign rights or jurisdiction for any other purpose.

Article VIII

Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Treaty shall be resolved by negotiation or other peaceful means as may be agreed upon by the Parties.

Article IX

This Treaty shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, having been duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Treaty.

DONE at Washington, D.C., this ninth day of June, 2000, in duplicate, in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

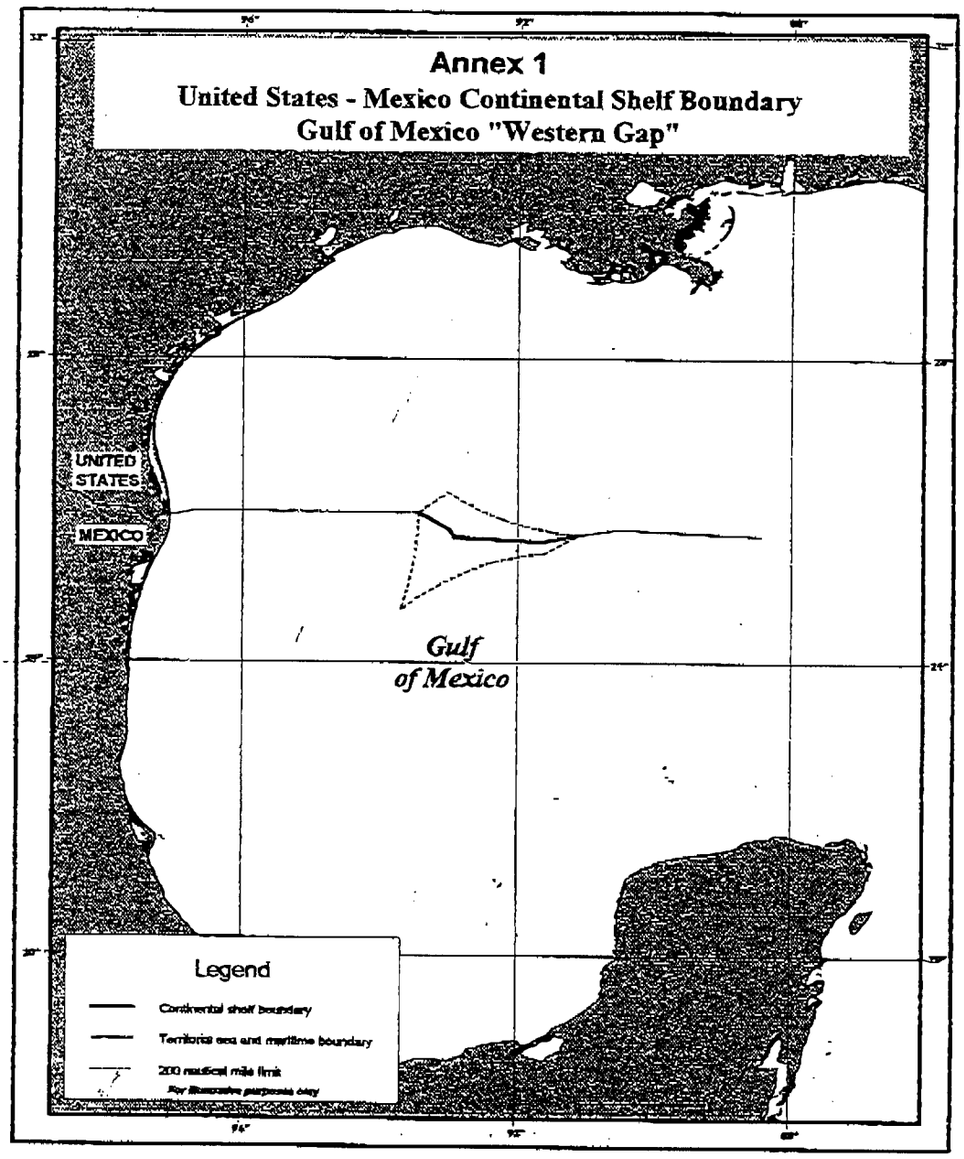
Madeleine Albright

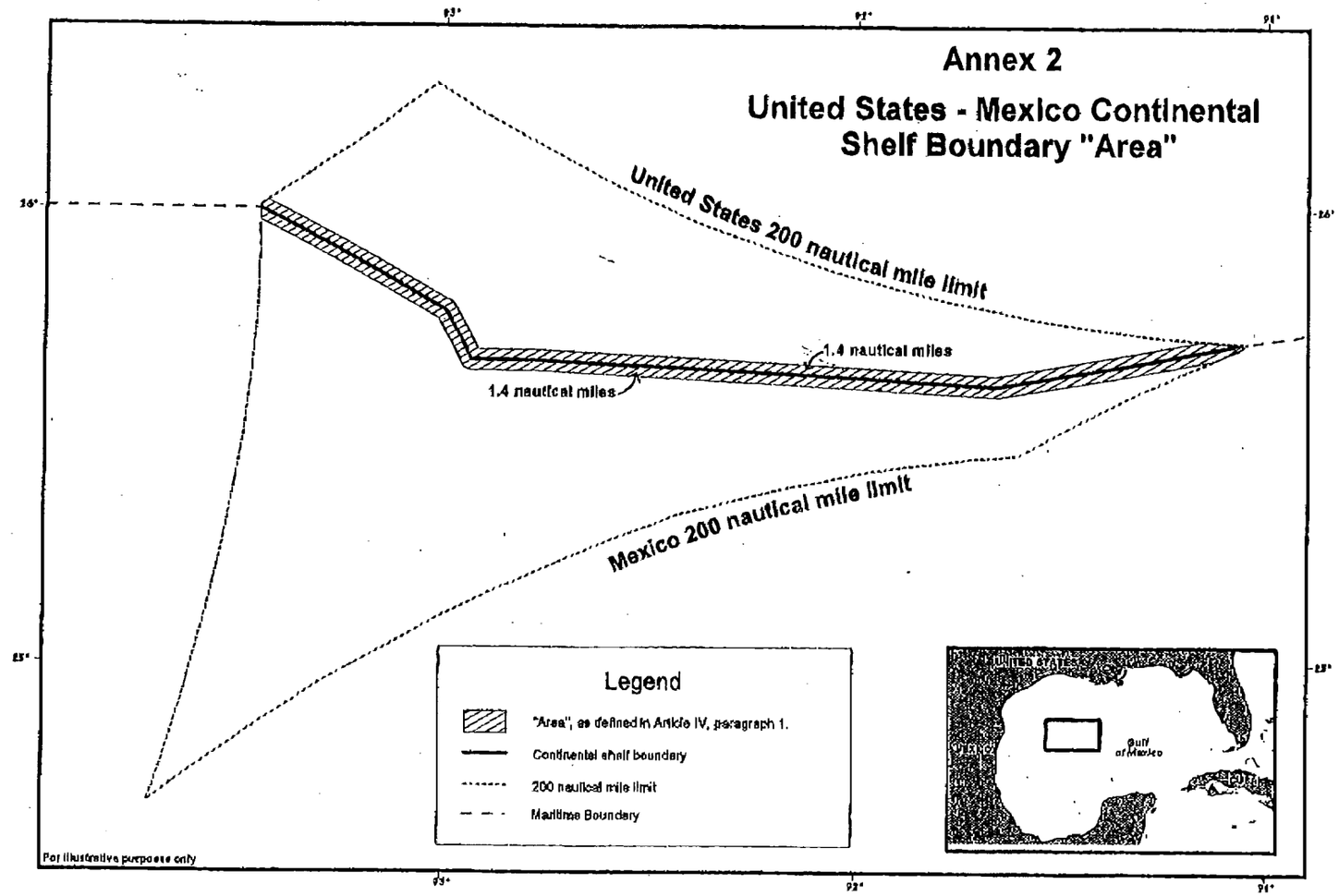
Madeleine K. Albright
Secretary of State

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES:

Rosario Green
Secretary of Foreign Relations

JUN-23-00 13:31 FROM:MMS OPDC ID:703 787 1165 PAGE 6/8


Annex 1
United States - Mexico Continental Shelf Boundary
Gulf of Mexico "Western Gap"
UNITED STATES
MEXICO
Gulf of Mexico
Legend
Continental shelf boundary
Territorial sea and maritime boundary
200 nautical mile limit


Annex 2
United States - Mexico Continental Shelf Boundary "Area"
United States 200 nautical mile limit
1.4 nautical miles
1.4 nautical miles
Mexico 200 nautical mile limit
Legend
"Area", as defined in Article IV, paragraph 1.
Continental shelf boundary
200 nautical mile limit
Maritime Boundary
Gulf of Mexico
For illustrative purposes only