

## Requirement of a Model of Order of Precedence



- Boundary disputes appear all over the world.
- Disputes appear mainly where boundaries were improperly delimited or demarcated in the past, usually by colonial powers, due to lack of importance of an area or improper methods.
- Improper boundary delimitations may create political, security or economic disputes which may lead to armed conflicts.
- In the process of solving the disputes, sometimes via legal procedures, existing evidences of boundary delimitations and demarcations are taken into account.
- Thus, the order of precedence of the various evidences is important.



## The Order of Precedence of International Boundary Delimitations

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## Precise Detailed Documentation



- ❖ Is most important if jointly prepared and signed.
- ❖ Follows the demarcation and surveying.
- ❖ Includes a list of coordinates of boundary pillars or points, preferably on a common datum, a map or a layout, and additional descriptions and information.
- ❖ It's main legal strength is given by signatures of authorized representatives of both states.

## Order of Precedence of Evidences



- ❖ Official jointly signed precise boundary documentation.
- ❖ Existing original boundary pillars.
- ❖ List of coordinates of boundary pillars.
- ❖ Appearance of the boundary line on maps.
- ❖ Graphic description.
- ❖ Verbal description.

## Maps



- ❖ Maps are considered complicated evidence.
- ❖ Maps are valuable in the absence of recognized coordinates and pillars.
- ❖ Serve against a state, if a state shows on its own maps a line which supports the position of the opposite state.
- ❖ The larger the scale is, the better the quality is and the more the maps are contemporary with the original agreement, the higher their importance as evidence.

## Existing Boundary Pillars



- ❖ Are most important in the absence of a jointly agreed precise documentation.
- ❖ Get legal strength as they exist for a long period and are recognized by both sides.
- ❖ Are more important than the appearance of the line on maps.

# Verbal Delimitation



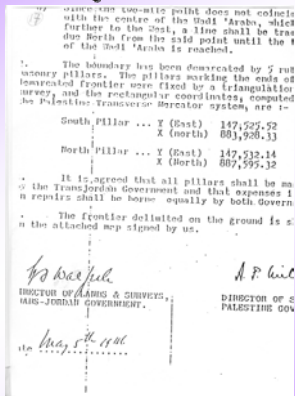
- The very basic definition and description of a boundary.
- Was used in old delimitations, especially for boundaries which followed natural geographic features.
- Is important in the absence of accurate definitions, but usually leads to boundary disputes with regard to contradicting interpretations.

# Graphical Scheme or Layout



- Usually maps or charts with no coordinate reference, and no accurate scale.
- Were used mainly in old boundary descriptions.
- Have limited weight which becomes more significant mainly if produced close to the original boundary delimitation for geographic names, and significant descriptions connected to the delimitation.

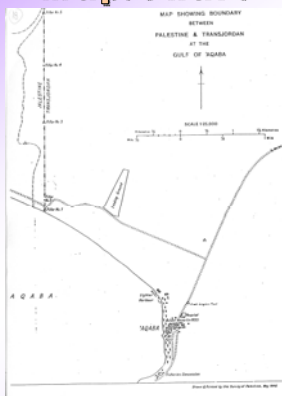
# Boundary Documentation



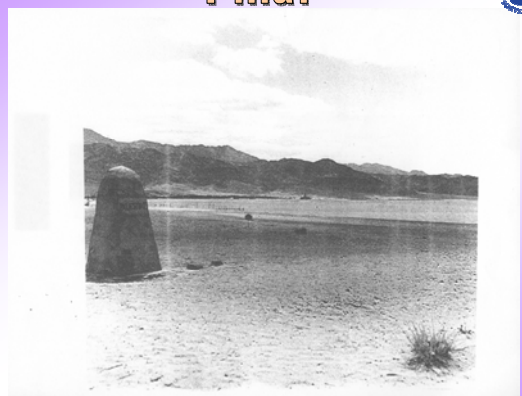
**An Example to the Order of Precedence of Boundary Evidences – The Historical Land Boundary Near the Gulf of Aqaba.**



# Map/Chart



# Pillar



## Conclusions



- Joint precise boundary delimitation is essential to reduce boundary disputes and for future boundary reconstruction.
- There is an order of precedence of boundary evidences of delimitations and demarcations of which a joint detailed boundary documentation including precise coordinates are of highest priority.
- This order of precedence should be taken into account not only in the process of solving boundary disputes, but also in the process of making a new boundary in order to save future disputes.

## Verbal Delimitation



### ORDER IN COUNCIL 1922

"...A POINT TWO MILES WEST OF AKABAH IN THE GULF OF AKABAH UP THE CENTRE OF THE WADY ARABAH, THE DEAD SEA AND THE RIVER JORDAN TO THE JUNCTION OF THE LATTER WITH THE RIVER YARMUK, THENCE UP THE CENTRE OF THE RIVER YARMUK TO THE SYRIAN FRONTIER."

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