The Definition of the Israeli International Boundaries in the Vicinity of Eilat

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The Boundary between Israel and Egypt at Taba

The 1906 Crisis
"The Administrative separating line as shown on the map attached to this agreement begins at the point of Ras Taba on the western shore of the Gulf of Akaba, and follows along the eastern ridge overlooking Wadi Taba...".
Map of 1906 Report

The Construction of the (Parker) Pillar at Taba on 31 December 1906
No change of line during the British protectorate over Egypt 1914-1922 and the British Mandate over Palestine 1922-1948.

1949 Armistice Agreement between Israel and Egypt.
No change in line without prejudice to the ultimate settlement.
The hill and the pillar were removed for the construction of the road from Eilat to Sharm el-Sheikh.

1970
1979 Treaty of Peace between Israel and Egypt. The boundary during the Mandate to become the International Boundary.
The Decision of the Arbitration

Since none of the parties claimed the old BP 91, and the Tribunal was only authorized to choose between the claimed positions, the Tribunal decided to adopt old BP 90 remarking the fact that the right point should be old BP 1.

The final bilateral decision:

To construct a new Pillar 91 at the location of the old BP 90 and to add two new Permanent Boundary Markers at points A and B fitting old BP 91.
1989 - The Demarcation of Boundary Marker B on the coast-line at Taba

1996 - The Documentation of the Boundary near Taba
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From a point two miles west of the town of Aqaba in the Gulf of Aqaba up to the Centre of Wady Araba.
Until 1946 the interpretation on small scale maps referred to the low area on the north western corner of the head of the gulf.
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1949 Armistice Map and 1946 Map

Map attached to the Armistice Agreement

Map Including 1946 Demarcation

1994 - Peace Agreement
GPS Measurement of BP 0 following 1995 Boundary Demarcation

The 1994 and 1946 Boundary Pillars BP 0 and BP 1
The Maritime Boundary between Israel and Jordan

The Gulf of Eilat/Aqaba
Territorial sea:

- Egypt – 12 nm
- Saudi Arabia – 12 nm
- Jordan – 3 nm
- Israel – 12 nm

UNCLOS – Article 15:

“Where the coasts of two States are opposite or adjacent to each other neither of the two States is entitled . . . to extend its territorial sea beyond the median line . . . “
Choosing a Comprehensive Method

Figure 2: Theoretical Options of a MB Between Israel and Jordan in the Gulf of Aqaba

Options of Delimitation of an Equidistance Line

Figure 3: Options of an Equidistance Line in an Adjacent Coasts Case
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The 1996 Maritime Boundary Between Israel and Jordan

Thank you for your attention