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*Archives*

## MARITIME BOUNDARIES

Treaty Between the  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and the COOK ISLANDS

Signed at Rarotonga June 11, 1980



NOTE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Pursuant to Public Law 89-497, approved July 8, 1966 (80 Stat. 271; 1 U.S.C. 113)—

“ . . . the Treaties and Other International Acts Series issued under the authority of the Secretary of State shall be competent evidence . . . of the treaties, international agreements other than treaties, and proclamations by the President of such treaties and international agreements other than treaties, as the case may be, therein contained, in all the courts of law and equity and of maritime jurisdiction, and in all the tribunals and public offices of the United States, and of the several States, without any further proof or authentication thereof.”

## COOK ISLANDS

### Maritime Boundaries

*Treaty signed at Rarotonga June 11, 1980;*

*Transmitted by the President of the United States of America to the Senate September 2, 1980 (S. Ex. P, 96th Cong., 2d Sess.);*

*Reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations February 11, 1982 (S. Ex. Rept. No. 97-49, 97th Cong., 2d Sess.);*

*Advice and consent to ratification by the Senate June 21, 1983;*

*Ratified by the President August 16, 1983;*

*Ratified by the Cook Islands September 8, 1983;*

*Ratifications exchanged at Rarotonga September 8, 1983;*

*Proclaimed by the President October 31, 1983;*

*Entered into force September 8, 1983.*

A PROCLAMATION

CONSIDERING THAT:

The Treaty between the United States of America and the Cook Islands on Friendship and Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary between the United States of America and the Cook Islands was signed at Rarotonga on June 11, 1980, the text of which, in the English and Maori languages, is hereto annexed;

The Senate of the United States of America by its resolution of June 21, 1983, two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein, gave its advice and consent to ratification of the Treaty;

The Treaty was ratified by the President of the United States of America on August 16, 1983, in pursuance of the advice and consent of the Senate, and duly ratified on the part of the Cook Islands;

It is provided in Article VII of the Treaty that the Treaty shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification;

The instruments of ratification of the Treaty were exchanged at Rarotonga on September 8, 1983; and accordingly the Treaty entered into force on September 8, 1983;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, proclaim and make public the Treaty, to the end that it be observed and fulfilled with good faith on and after September 8, 1983, by the United States of America and by the citizens of the United States of America and all other persons subject to the jurisdiction thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed this proclamation and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the city of Washington this thirty-first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred eighty-three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred eighth.

[SEAL]

RONALD REAGAN

By the President:

GEORGE P. SHULTZ

*Secretary of State*

TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE COOK ISLANDS ON FRIENDSHIP AND  
DELIMITATION OF THE MARITIME BOUNDARY BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE COOK ISLANDS

The two governments,

Desiring to strengthen the existing bonds of friendship  
between their countries and in particular between the peoples  
of the Cook Islands and American Samoa,

Noting the Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone  
Act 1977 of the Cook Islands,

Noting the Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1976  
of the United States of America,<sup>[1]</sup>

Desiring to establish a maritime boundary between the  
United States of America and the Cook Islands,

Noting that the United States of America has maintained  
a claim to sovereignty over the islands of Pukapuka (Danger)  
Manihiki, Rakahanga and Penrhyn,

Noting further that this claim has not been recognized  
by the Cook Islands,

Have agreed as follows

<sup>1</sup> 90 Stat. 331; 16 U.S.C. § 1801

## Article I

The maritime boundary between the United States of America and the Cook Islands shall be determined by the geodetic lines connecting the following coordinates:

Latitude (South)	Longitude (West)
17°33'28"	166°38'35"
16°45'30"	166°01'39"
16°23'29"	165°45'11"
16°18'30"	165°41'29"
16°08'42"	165°34'12"
15°44'58"	165°16'36"
15°38'47"	165°12'03"
15°14'04"	165°18'29"
15°00'09"	165°22'07"
14°03'30"	165°37'20"
13°44'56"	165°58'44"
13°35'44"	166°09'19"
13°21'25"	166°25'42"
13°14'03"	166°34'03"
13°11'25"	166°37'02"
12°57'51"	166°52'21"
12°41'22"	167°11'01"
12°28'40"	167°25'20"
12°01'55"	168°10'24"
11°43'53"	168°27'58"
11°02'40"	168°29'21"
10°52'31"	168°29'42"
10°12'49"	168°31'02"
10°12'44"	168°31'02"
10°01'26"	168°31'25"

## Article II

The geodetic and computational bases used are the World Geodetic System, 1972 (WGS 72) and the following charts and aerial plans:

Rose Island - U.S. Chart Nos. 83484, 6th ed.,  
March 26/77, 1:80,000 - local datum;

Manua Islands - U.S. Chart Nos. 83484, 6th ed.,  
March 26/77, 1:80,000 - corrected for WGS 72, 1980;

Swains Island - U.S. Chart Nos. 83484, 6th ed.,  
March 26/77, 1:40,000 - astro datum 1939;

Palmerston Atoll - Aerial Plan No. 1036/8h (N.Z.  
Lands & Survey), 1:50,400, 1976 - local datum;

Suvarrow (Suvorov) Atoll - Aerial Plan No. 1036/8E  
(N.Z. Lands & Survey), 1:50,400, 1975 - local datum;

Nassau Island - Aerial Plan No. 1036/8B (N.Z. Lands  
& Survey), 1:148,000, 1974 - local datum;

Pukapuka (Danger) Island - Aerial Plan No. 1036/8D  
(N.Z. Lands & Survey), 1:28,800, 1975 - local datum;

Niue - British Admiralty Chart BA 968, 16th ed.,  
March 1979, 1:150,000, corrections to 1979 - local  
datum;

Fakaofu Atoll - Aerial Plan No. 1036/7C (N.Z. Lands  
& Survey), 1:18,000, 1974 - local datum.

## Article III

On the side of the maritime boundary adjacent to the Cook Islands, the United States of America shall not, and on the side of the maritime boundary adjacent to American Samoa the Cook Islands shall not, claim or exercise for any purpose sovereign rights or jurisdiction over the waters or seabed and subsoil.

#### Article IV

The maritime boundary established by this Treaty shall not affect or prejudice in any manner any government's position with respect to the rules of international law concerned with the exercise of jurisdiction over the waters or seabed and subsoil or any other matter relating to the law of the sea.

#### Article V

The United States of America recognizes the sovereignty of the Cook Islands over the islands of Penrhyn, Pukapuka (Danger), Manihiki and Rakahanga.

#### Article VI

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Cook Islands, in the spirit of peace and friendship existing between the two governments and peoples, agree to cooperate with a view to promoting social and economic development in the Cook Islands, and to work toward the advancement of the South Pacific region as a whole. To these ends, they shall promote discussions between their peoples and appropriate government entities, in particular between the peoples of the Cook Islands and American Samoa.



Article VII

This Treaty shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.<sup>[1]</sup>

DONE in duplicate, in the English and Maori languages, of which English shall be the authentic text, at Rarotonga this eleventh day of June, 1980.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Anne C. Martindell<sup>[2]</sup>

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
COOK ISLANDS:

Thomas Davis<sup>[3]</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sept. 8, 1983.

<sup>2</sup> Anne C. Martindell

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Davis.

# AMERICAN SAMOA MARITIME REGION

- Negotiated maritime boundary
  - - - United States exclusive economic zone limit
  - Hypothetical 200 nautical mile arcs
- Mercator Projection  
Scale 1:10,500,000 at 10°S  
5334 12-83 STATE(GE)

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