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INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

El Paso, Texas  
July 14, 1975

MINUTE NO. 249

PLACEMENT OF MARKERS ON THE LAND BOUNDARY

The Commission met in the offices of the United States Section at 10:00 a.m. on July 14, 1975, to consider the need for the placement of markers between the monuments which mark the land boundary between the United States and Mexico, to designate its location in densely populated border areas and other critical areas, and to consider criteria for installation of the markers.

The Commission observed that the land boundary is marked on the ground by 276 monuments placed at intervals that vary from 0.14 miles (0.23 kilometers) to 4.91 miles (7.93 kilometers). Most of the monuments are so far apart, the precise location of the boundary between successive monuments cannot be readily determined by the people along the border. As the population has grown and economic development has concentrated near the border, the uncertainty of the precise location of the boundary between the existing monuments has become a source of potential international problems relating to sovereignties and national law enforcement, especially in densely populated and in other critical areas.

The Commission was in accord that there is need to avert such international problems by additional appropriate designation of the land boundary between the existing monuments in the locations required. The Commission agreed that it is responsible to make this additional designation, pursuant to the jurisdiction which was extended to it over the land boundary between the two countries by Article 2 of the Treaty of February 3, 1944. The Commission agreed that the designation should be made by installing markers between the existing monuments.

The Commission agreed that the surveys for locating the markers should be performed jointly by the two Sections of the Commission, and that the work required for their installation and maintenance should be divided equally between the two Sections and be supervised by the Commission. The Commission also agreed that the markers should be of reinforced concrete, and to facilitate placement and maintenance of the large number needed, the markers should be smaller than the conventional boundary monuments.

The Commission concluded that the most urgent need for the installation of markers is along the densely populated areas and other critical areas of the land boundary between California and Baja California and agreed that markers should be placed in these areas as soon as practical. The Commission also concluded that additional markers will be needed along the boundary between the Californias and in other areas of the boundary, as the adjoining populations increase, and that

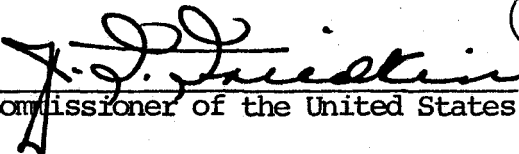
the Commission should prepare a joint program for placing and maintaining markers along the land boundary, as it determines necessary.

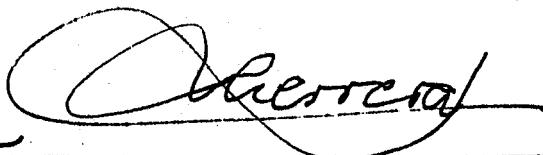
The Commission reviewed the "Joint Report of the Principal Engineers on the Placement of Markers on the Land Boundary Between the United States and Mexico," submitted by Principal Engineers Delbert D. McNealy and Norberto Sánchez G., under date of July 7, 1975, which is attached to this Minute and forms part hereof. The Commission agreed that the criteria recommended by the Principal Engineers are adequate for the placement of the markers which would designate the international land boundary between the existing monuments in whatever area the Commission determines.

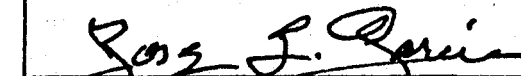
The Commission then adopted the following Resolution:

1. The "Joint Report of the Principal Engineers on the Placement of Markers on the Land Boundary Between the United States and Mexico," dated July 7, 1975, which is attached to this Minute and forms part hereof, is approved.
2. That each Section of the Commission make all the arrangements that may be necessary, with its respective Government, in order to proceed as soon as possible to carry out the work assigned to it for the placement of markers on the boundary of the Californias, in the Joint Report of the Principal Engineers.
3. That the Commission undertake a joint program for placing and maintaining additional markers on the land boundary, as it determines necessary.

The meeting then adjourned.

  
Commissioner of the United States

  
Commissioner of Mexico

  
Acting Secretary of the United States Section

  
Secretary of the Mexican Section