

458677

In reply refer
to G/E-47

6 JUN 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commanding Officer
Army Map Service
6700 Brooks Land
Washington 16, D. C.

ATTENTION: Map Intelligence Branch

SUBJECT: Approved Treatment of the Argentina-Chile Boundary
Between 48° - 49° S and 72° - 74° W.

REFERENCE: Letter from the Assistant Executive Officer, Army
Map Service, File N5, to the Director, Central
Intelligence Agency, 4 November 1955

1. This is in reply to your request for an approved treatment of the boundary between Argentina and Chile between 48° - 49° S and 72° - 74° W.
2. In the absence of better source maps, it is recommended that the 1:250,000 sheet #4873 of the Carta Preliminar of the Chilean Instituto Geográfico Militar be used as a base for the boundary alignment.
3. This area of the boundary lies in a region where the high peaks of the Cordillera and the continental divide are not coincidental. For this reason there was initial disagreement as to the location of the boundary.
4. The Commission appointed by King Edward VII of England established the line as follows:

"From this peak [Tres Hermanos] it [the boundary] shall follow the water-parting between the basins of the Upper Mayer River on the east, above the point where that river changes its course from northwest to southwest, in latitude $48^{\circ}12'S$, and the basins of the Coligüe or Bravo River and of the Lower Mayer, below the point already specified, on the west striking the northeastern arm of Lago San Martín at the mouth of the Mayer River.

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"From this point it will follow the middle line of the lake southward to a point confronting a spur terminating on the shore of the lake at longitude 72°47'W [later corrected] at the foot of which the boundary will be placed and will ascend the local divide to Mount Fitzroy and from there follow along the continental divide to the northwest of Lago Vidua."

5. The team which set up markers found difficulty in locating the proper positions for some of the monuments, and subsequent surveying has undoubtedly changed some of their interpretations.

6. Current boundary considerations between the two countries will probably result in a clearer definition of the boundary than has hitherto been established. Until that time, the referenced sheet #4873, based on aerial photography, is considered as reliable a source as any.

FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, RESEARCH AND REPORTS

FOIAb3b

Chief, Geographic Research

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