

**No. 26858**

---

**FRANCE  
and  
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Agreement relating to the delimitation of the territorial sea in  
the Straits of Dover (with joint declaration and map).  
Signed at Paris on 2 November 1988**

*Authentic texts: French and English.*

*Authentic text of the joint declaration: French.*

*Registered by France on 6 October 1989.*

---

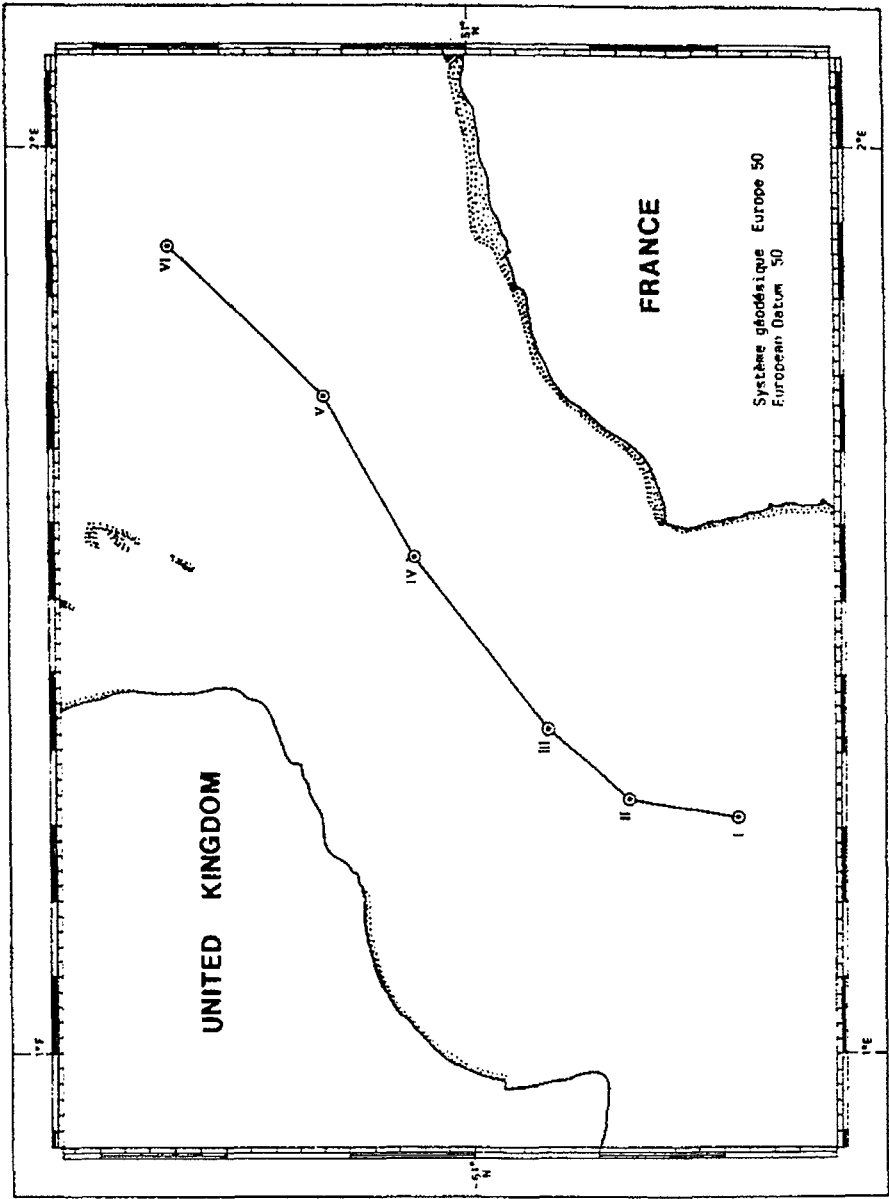
**FRANCE  
et  
ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD**

**Accord relatif à la délimitation de la mer territoriale dans le  
Pas de Calais (avec déclaration commune et carte). Signé  
à Paris le 2 novembre 1988**

*Textes authentiques : français et anglais.*

*Texte authentique de la déclaration commune : français.*

*Enregistré par la France le 6 octobre 1989.*



# AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND RELATING TO THE DELIMITATION OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA IN THE STRAITS OF DOVER

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

Considering that the boundary delimiting the parts of the continental shelf appertaining to France and the United Kingdom, respectively, in the area east of 30 minutes west of the Greenwich Meridian has been defined by the Agreement between the two Governments signed at London on 24 June 1982;<sup>2</sup>

Desiring to establish a part of that boundary as the limit between the territorial sea of the French Republic and that of the United Kingdom in the Straits of Dover;

Have agreed as follows:

## *Article 1*

1. The boundary between the territorial sea of the French Republic and the territorial sea of the United Kingdom shall be a line composed of loxodromes joining in the sequence given the points defined as follows by means of their coordinates:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
I	50° 49' 30" 95 N	1° 15' 53" 43 E
II	50° 53' 47" 00 N	1° 16' 58" 00 E
III	50° 57' 00" 00 N	1° 21' 25" 00 E
IV	51° 02' 19" 00 N	1° 32' 53" 00 E
V	51° 05' 58" 00 N	1° 43' 31" 00 E
VI	51° 12' 00" 72 N	1° 53' 20" 07 E

2. The positions of points I to VI in paragraph 1 are defined on European Datum (1st Adjustment 1950).

3. The boundary line defined in paragraph 1 has been drawn solely by way of illustration on the chart<sup>3</sup> annexed to this Agreement.

## *Article 2*

Points I and VI as defined above shall be the new final points of the boundaries delimiting the parts of the continental shelf appertaining respectively to France and to the United Kingdom in the area east of 30 minutes west of the Greenwich Meridian.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 6 April 1989, the date of receipt of the last of the notifications (of 8 February and 6 April 1989) by which the Contracting Parties informed each other of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 3.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1316, p. 119.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 51 of this volume.

These boundaries are composed of loxodromes joining:

- a) Points 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and I, and
- b) Points VI, 12, 13 and 14,

as defined by the Agreement of 24 June 1982 and by this Agreement.

### *Article 3*

Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the constitutional procedures required for the entry into force of this Agreement. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date when the last notification is received.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Paris this 2nd day of November 1988, in the French and English languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

[Signed — Signé]<sup>1</sup>

For the Government  
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland:

[Signed — Signé]<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Signed by Roland Dumas — Signé par Roland Dumas.

<sup>2</sup> Signed by Geoffrey Howe — Signé par Geoffrey Howe.

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

JOINT DECLARATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH  
REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

On the occasion of the signing of the Agreement relating to the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea in the Straits of Dover, the two Governments have agreed on the following Declaration.

The existence of a specific navigation regime in straits is generally accepted in international law in its current state. The need for such a regime is particularly evident in straits such as the Straits of Dover which are used for international navigation and which connect two parts of the high seas or two economic zones where no other route of similar convenience exists with respect to navigational characteristics.

The two Governments therefore recognize the right of unimpeded transit passage through the Straits of Dover of merchant ships, government ships and especially warships in their normal mode of navigation, and also the right of overflight by aircraft. It is understood that, in conformity with the principles governing this regime and the rules of international law, such passage shall be continuous and expeditious.

The two Governments shall continue to cooperate closely both on a bilateral basis and through the International Maritime Organization, in order to ensure the safety of navigation in the Straits of Dover, the southern part of the North Sea and the English Channel. In particular, the traffic separation scheme in the Straits of Dover shall not be affected by the entry into force of the Agreement.

The two Governments shall also, in conformity with international agreements currently in force and generally accepted rules and standards, and taking due note of the interests of the coastal States, take the necessary measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment by ships.

---