

To this end the United States in November, 1965, filed a motion in the Court for Supplemental Decree No. 1 ceding a portion of the areas off the Louisiana Coast theretofore in dispute.

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EXTRACT FROM THE MOTION OF THE UNITED STATES FOR ENTRY OF
SUPPLEMENTAL DECREE (No. 1), FILED IN THE SUPREME COURT, NO-
VEMBER 23, 1965

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Because of conflicting attempts by the parties to administer the disputed area while the suit was pending, the Court on June 11, 1956, enjoined new leasing or drilling in the disputed area by either party except pursuant to an agreement filed with the Court. 351 U.S. 978. On October 12, 1956, the parties executed and filed such an interim agreement (subsequently amended in various details). That agreement divides the disputed area into four zones, beginning at the "Chapman Line," a line described by certain federal officials about 1950 as constituting the coast line. Zone 1 is the area within three geographical miles seaward from the Chapman Line; Zone 2 is the next six geographical miles seaward; Zone 3 extends thence to Louisiana's claimed "Act 33" boundary, three leagues seaward from the Coast Guard line; Zone 4 is everything farther seaward. Without prejudice to either party's ultimate claims, the Interim Agreement provides, in general, that Zone 1 is to be administered by Louisiana and Zone 4 by the United States, without restriction. Leasing in Zones 2 and 3 is conducted by the United States, with limited participation by Louisiana, except for certain leases previously issued by Louisiana. Each party holds impounded its receipts from Zones 2 and 3 (with minor exceptions), to be released to the prevailing party (or, in certain circumstances, to be returned by the losing party to the lessee) upon determination of the title to the area from which they were derived.

On May 31, 1960, this Court held that Louisiana's boundary, within the meaning of the Submerged Lands Act, is three geographical miles from the coast line. The Court quieted the State's title to the submerged lands and resources within that distance (subject to the exceptions provided in section 5 of the Submerged Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1313), quieted the title of the United States to the submerged lands and resources seaward thereof, and directed the State to account for its receipts from the federal area since June 5, 1950. The Court retained jurisdiction to entertain further proceedings necessary or advisable to give force and effect to the decree. 363 U.S. 1; decree, 364 U.S. 502.

As appears from this summary, the only aspect of the case litigated thus far has been the width of Louisiana's maritime belt—an issue that has now been resolved by the Court in favor of the three-mile limit. Before the Court's decision can be made effective by actual identification of the respective state and federal areas, it is necessary to resolve a second issue: the location of the "coast line" from which the three miles should be measured.

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The CHAIRMAN. The committee will stand adjourned.
(Whereupon, at 12:40 p.m. the committee adjourned.)