



# NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR – NOVA SCOTIA

Case Concerning the Line Dividing  
Their Respective Offshore Areas



# NOVA SCOTIA SECOND ROUND ORAL SUBMISSION

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Agent for the Province of Nova Scotia

March 19, 2001

# JUNE 19, 1972: STATEMENT OF PREMIER MOORES



PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND

THIRTY SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF  
NEWFOUNDLAND

Volume 1

1st Session

Number 33

## VERBATIM REPORT

Monday, June 19, 1972



SPEAKER, THE HONOURABLE JAMIS M. RUSSELL



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## JUNE 19, 1972: STATEMENT OF PREMIER MOORES

June 19, 1972

Tape 798

JM - 1

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order!

HONOURABLE FRANK D. MOORES (PREMIER): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement to the members of the House regarding the meetings in Halifax over the weekend of the five Eastern Provinces with the four Atlantic Premiers and the Vice-Premier of Quebec.

The result of those meetings was a seven-point agreement outlining the areas of co-operation between the provinces. In arriving at the seven points, a number of topics related to offshore resources were discussed including ownership, financial arrangements and development.

## JUNE 19, 1972: STATEMENT OF PREMIER MOORES



The seven points are:

1. The proposal concerning offshore mineral resources made by the Government of Canada on November 29, 1968, and as announced in the House of Commons on December 2, 1968, is not acceptable to the five Eastern Provinces.
2. The Governments of the five Eastern Provinces have agreed to the delineation and description of the offshore boundaries between each of these five Provinces.
3. The five Eastern Provinces assert ownership of the mineral resources in the seabed off the Atlantic Coast and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in accordance with the agreed boundaries.
4. The five Eastern Provinces as a united group will seek discussions with the Government of Canada concerning arrangements related to the development of the offshore resources in those areas.

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5. The five Eastern Provinces are prepared to discuss with the Federal Government the delegation of certain aspects of the administration of the mineral resources in the seabed off the Atlantic Coast and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
6. The Premiers agreed that the concept of a Regional Administrative Authority was worthy of further study by the Provinces concerned.
7. The matter of financial arrangements in the offshore area will be a subject of further study and we have arranged for ongoing consultations.

Mr. Speaker, apart from the agreements themselves, the meetings also provided two very real benefits. The greatest benefit is perhaps the creation of a solid front to voice a single strong opinion on the offshore question rather than fragmented voices as in the past.

## JUNE 19, 1972: STATEMENT OF PREMIER MOORES



The second benefit is the joining of the Province of Quebec with the Atlantic Provinces in this matter and the common decision of each of the five Provinces that further meetings should be held soon.

The depth of co-operation and the readiness to discuss this problem by all those present at the meetings would indicate that inter-provincial co-operation on a number of other issues might be expected as well.

It must be stressed that the meetings did not attempt to make concrete decisions on particular problems. It must be clear that the meetings succeeded only in creating a common philosophy on the question and a procedural method will follow through.

Premier Regan of Nova Scotia, who chaired the meetings, stated strongly that further co-operation between the Governments represented and the gathering of a great deal of scientific and other information must come before final decisions are made on matters such as sharing administration costs and duties.



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Steps have been taken to inform the Prime Minister of Canada of the decisions that were made.

I think the meetings were very worthwhile, not just for Newfoundland but for Eastern Canada as a whole. I think that if we work and produce on the base built in Halifax over the weekend, we can come up with some really worthwhile achievements.

Newfoundland has a unique case, Mr. Speaker, regarding offshore ownership. All the five Provinces in Eastern Canada have claims to offshore resources, but Newfoundland has a claim in writing, drafted and signed by Federal Authorities and that is Term 37 of the Terms of Union.

Legally and constitutionally, Newfoundland has the strength to fight any attempt to take these resources away.



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Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to report the degree of co-operation that there was between the ministers, the first ministers, at Halifax, and to report back to the House that it was a very united position that the five Eastern Provinces took in this very important matter to our Province.

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# PREMIER MOORES' KNOWLEDGE



## *Minutes of a Meeting held May 9, 1972*



Annex 47

DATE

May 15, 1972

SUBJECT  
SUBJ

MINUTES OF A MEETING BETWEEN HON. D.S. MACDONALD, PREMIER FRANK MOORES OF NEWFOUNDLAND, HON. JOHN CROSBIE, NFLD. MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HON. WM. DOODY, NFLD. MINISTER OF MINES, AGRICULTURE AND RESOURCES, HON. R.L. CHEESEMAN, NFLD. MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND DR. S. PETERS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO PREMIER MOORES, HELD MAY 9, 1972 IN OTTAWA

- 1) This is to report a meeting held on May 9, 1972 in Ottawa between Hon. D.S. Macdonald, Minister of Energy, Mines & Resources



## PREMIER MOORES' KNOWLEDGE



### *Minutes of a Meeting held May 9, 1972*



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7) Premier Moores raised the question of the distribution of the Provincial portion of offshore revenues amongst the Provinces, and was reminded by Mr. Doody that the five Atlantic Provinces had, some years ago, agreed on boundary lines and spheres of interest.

The Minister noted the problem of Sable Island in discussions with Nova Scotia and the boundary issue with France. The question of

# DR. PETERS CONFIRMED THE 1964 AGREEMENT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

OTTAWA KIA 054, June 20, 1972

## MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER

### Offshore Mineral Rights

- I telephoned this morning but you were at a meeting. Attached are notes of telephone conversations with Lords Macdonald of Nova Scotia and Sp. Peters of Newfoundland, along with the letter sent to the Prime Minister by Premier Roper on Sunday, and the Prime Minister's response to questions in the House yesterday afternoon.

I understand from talking to the Federal-Provincial Relations Secretariat that Gordon Robertson is discussing with the Prime Minister this morning whether the offshore mineral rights problem should be raised this afternoon at the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Federal-Provincial Relations. If the Prime Minister does raise this matter, it will be in the context of the letter from Premier Roper and he will probably subject the opinions of Ministers as to whether we should now be pressing for court action. The Cabinet Committee meeting is scheduled to start at 2:45 p.m. in Room 2405.

*(I am not sure if the letter is a reminder meeting, with 1st, 2nd & 3rd of the committee will be held before the meeting. This is the first time I have not been invited to a Provincial Relations meeting, but will attend the meeting of 1st June)*

B.G. Donohy

c.c. A.J.M. - Energy Development

B.G. Donohy/ft

*John to be contacted Tuesday June 20, 1972. He is not a Minister, but a Deputy Minister. He will be in the office of the Prime Minister. He is a very busy man and will not be able to be contacted until the end of the week. He is a very busy man and will not be able to be contacted until the end of the week. He is a very busy man and will not be able to be contacted until the end of the week.*

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## DR. PETERS CONFIRMED THE 1964 AGREEMENT



### *Telephone Conversation with Dr. Peters on June 19, 1972*



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#### NOTE FOR FILE

Telephone Conversation with Stu Peters Monday Afternoon, June 19  
Meeting of Premiers of the Atlantic Provinces on Offshore Mineral Rights

*yes Monday*  
I spoke by telephone with Stu Peters, Executive Assistant to Premier Moores, ~~this~~ afternoon in regard to the meetings of the Premiers of the five Atlantic Provinces held in Halifax on Saturday and Sunday, June 17 and 18.

Dr. Peters had attended the meeting, and said that Premier Regan was the Chairman. In general, he corroborated the information received from Innis MacLeod that morning. He said that the main preoccupation of the East Coast Provinces was the issue of revenues - they wanted to be certain

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## DR. PETERS CONFIRMED THE 1964 AGREEMENT



### *Telephone Conversation with Dr. Peters on June 19, 1972*



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-- giving the same information to the Press (attached is a copy of the telex, sent over Premier Regan's name, obtained from Privy Council Office this morning). **In summary, the seven points agreed upon were as follows:**

1. The federal offer made by the Prime Minister in his letters to Provincial Governments of November 29, 1968, and in his statement in the House of December 2, 1968, is not acceptable.
2. **The Premiers agreed to mutual interprovincial boundaries in the Offshore.**
3. The Provincial Governments assert ownership over mineral rights in accordance with these boundaries.



*Telephone Conversation with Dr. Peters  
on June 19, 1972*

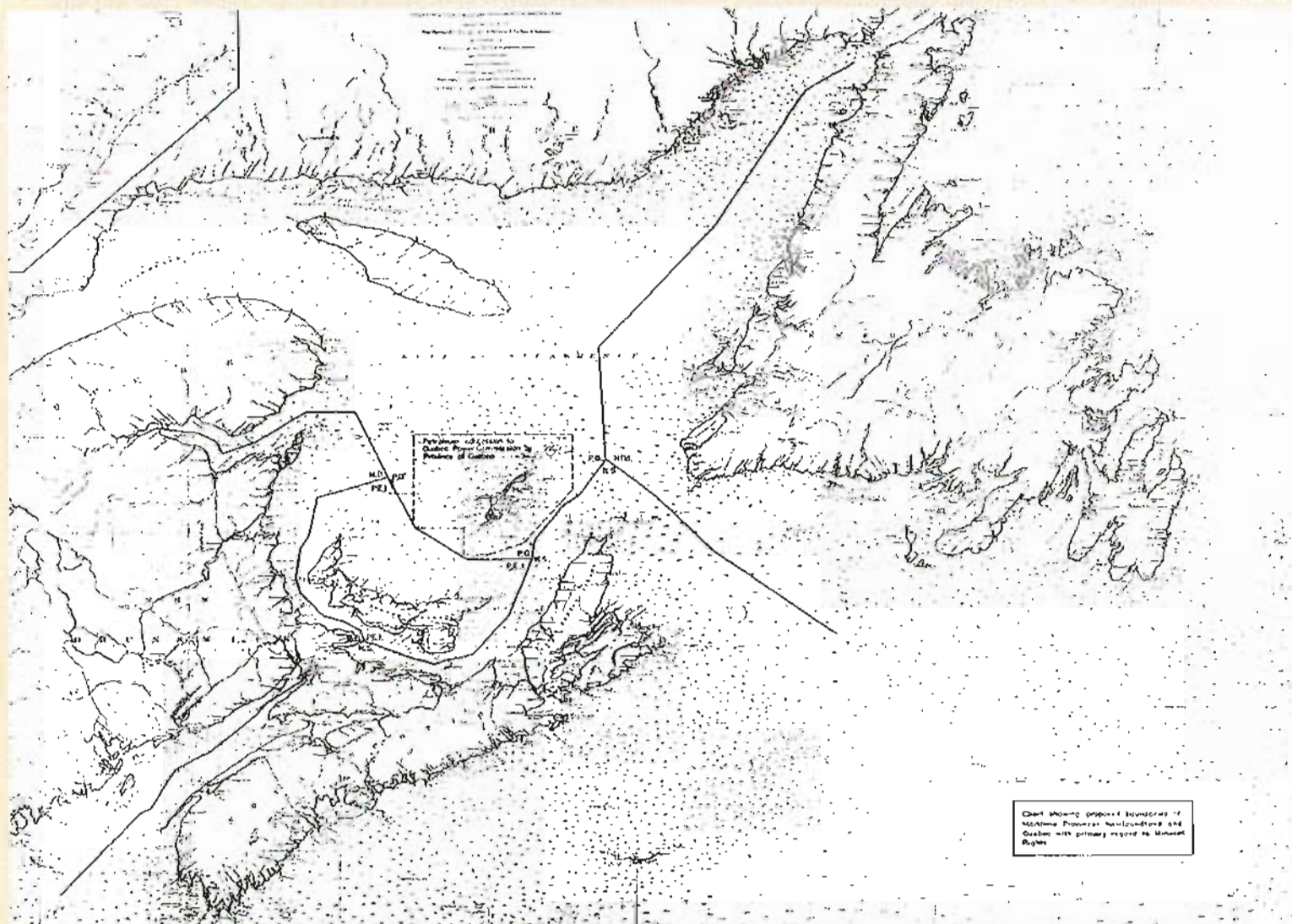


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There is nothing startlingly new as concerns points 1 through 4. Point 1 has been pretty obvious for some time now; point 2 involves jurisdictional offshore boundaries that were agreed upon by Provincial Governments years ago and presented to the Federal Government in 1964; as regards point 3, these Provinces have been asserting ownership, or trying to do so, for some time; and as regards point 4, at the original instigation of Quebec.



# THE 1964 AGREEMENT

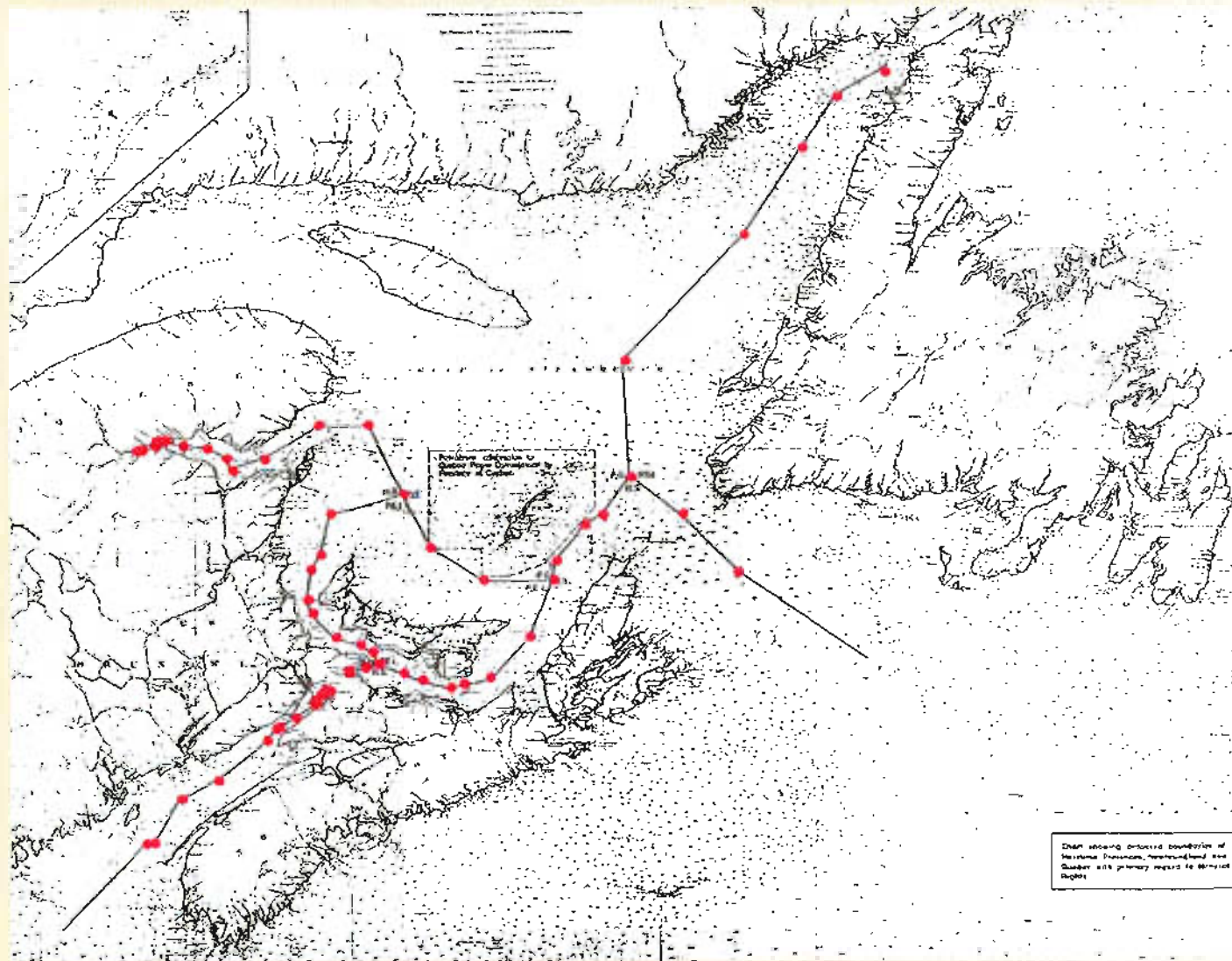


Source: Annex 32

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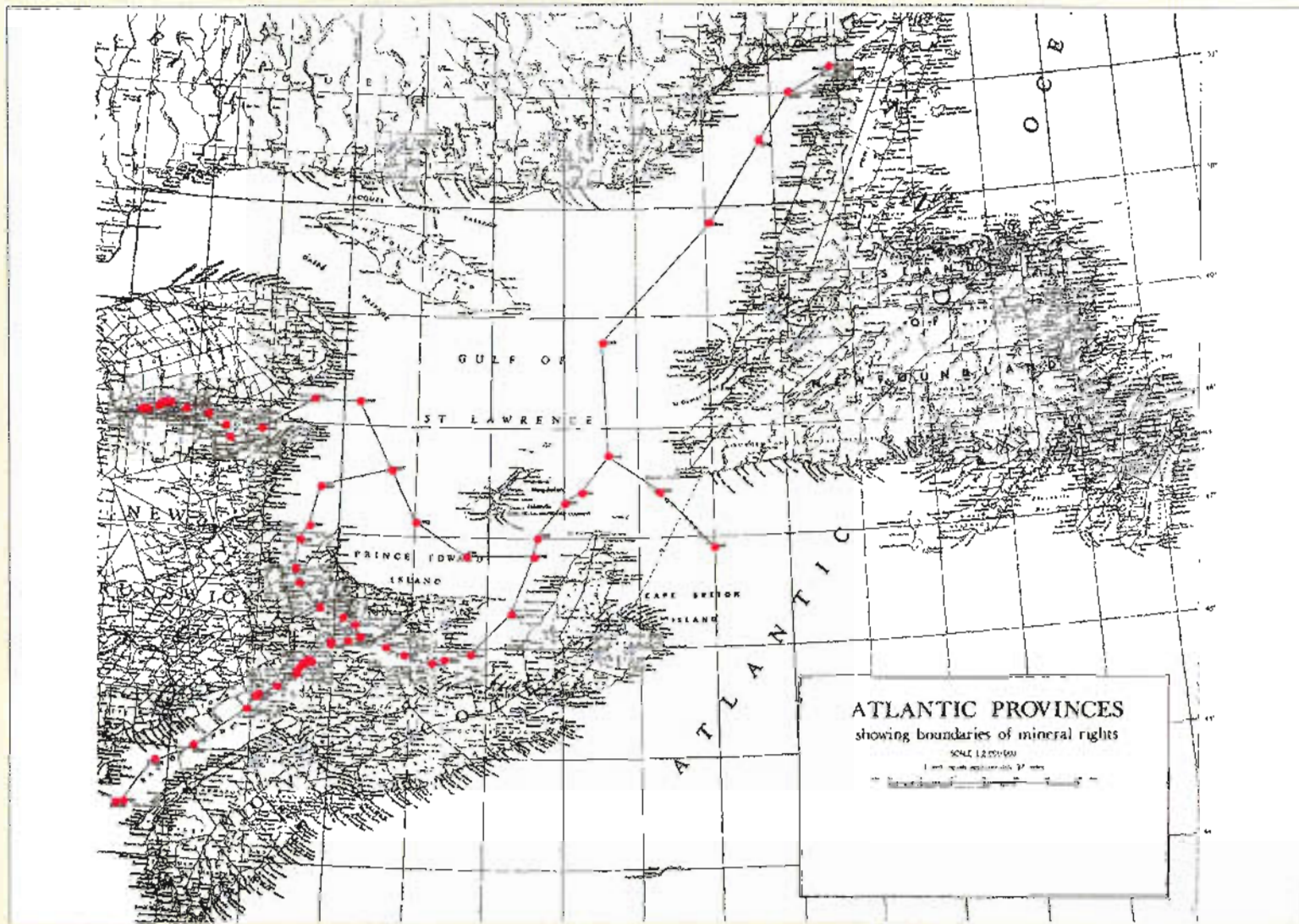
## THE 1964 AGREEMENT WITH 1972 TURNING POINTS



Source: Annex 32

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# THE 1972 TURNING POINTS

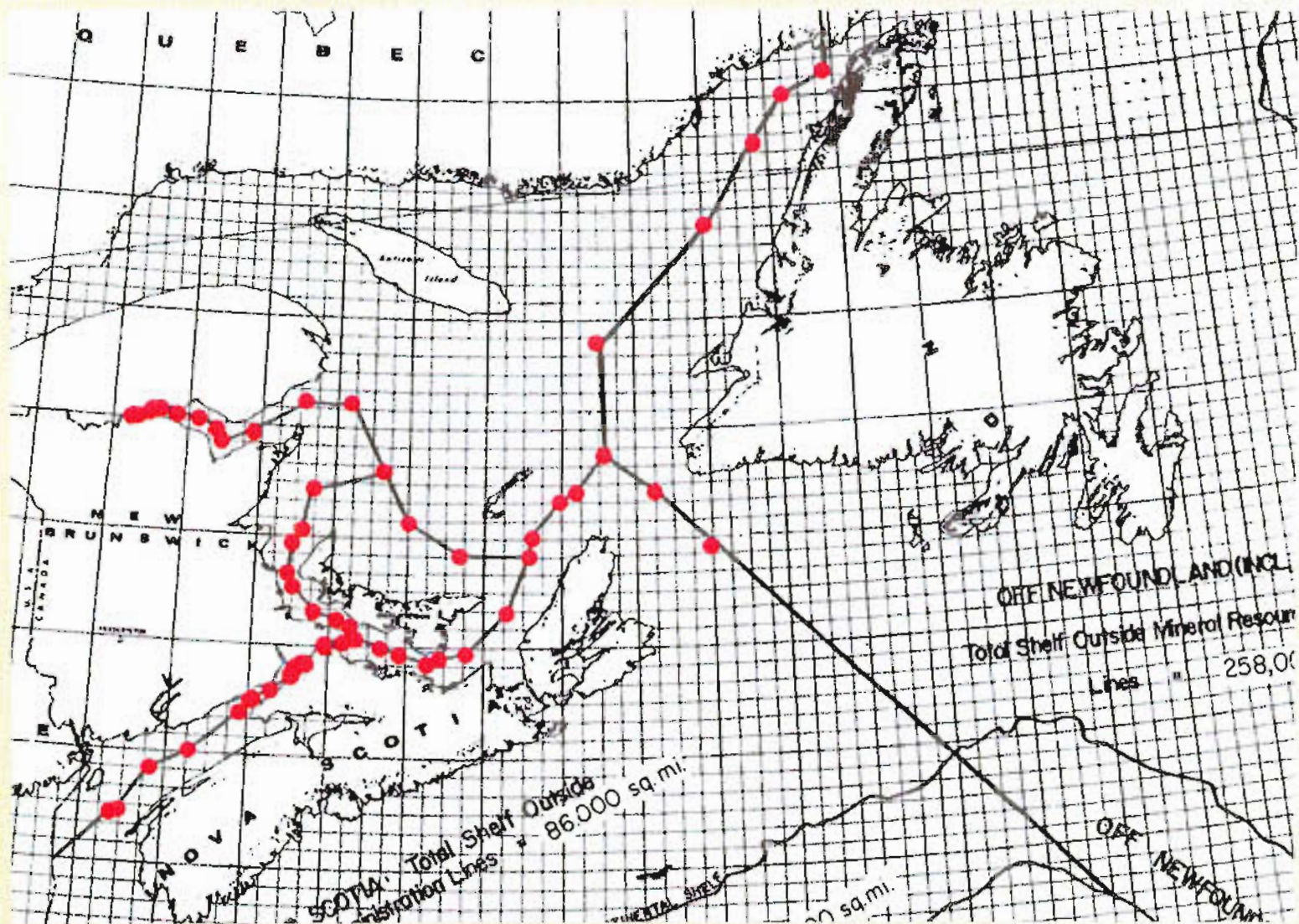


Source: Annex 42

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## CROSBY MAP WITH 1972 TURNING POINTS



Source: Annex 51

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# 1964, 1972 AND CROSBY MAP COMPARISON



FIGURE 30

Reproduction of Figure 4:  
The 1964 Agreement as Depicted on Canadian Hydrographic  
Service Chart 4480 and Presented to the Federal-Provincial Conference

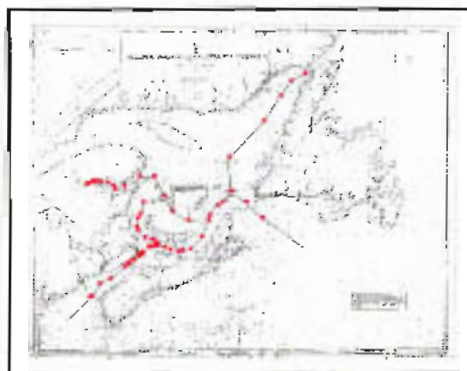


FIGURE 4  
The 1964 Agreement as Depicted on Canadian Hydrographic Service Chart 4480 and Presented to the Federal-Provincial Conference

Reproduction of Figure 7:  
Boundary Turning Points as Approved by the Premiers in 1972

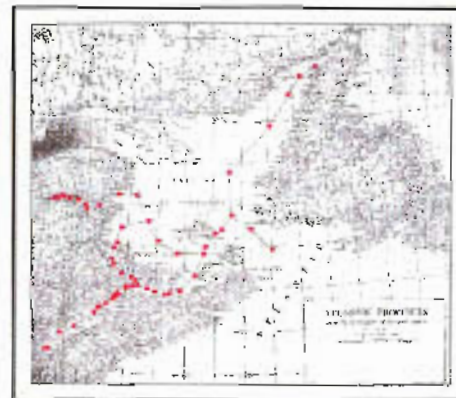


FIGURE 7  
Boundary Turning Points as Approved by the Premiers in 1972

## 1964 and 1972: A Comparison

The 1972 turning points have been superimposed on the 1964 Agreement map (Figure 32) and on the East Coast Offshore map presented to the Premiers in 1972.

These illustrations demonstrate that the boundaries established in 1964 are the same as those defined by the turning points in 1972, and as those that appeared on the East Coast Offshore map presented to the Premiers in 1972.

These illustrations appeared in larger versions as Figures 4, 7 and 9 in the Nova Scotia Memorial.

Reproduction of Figure 9:  
East Coast Offshore Map Presented to Premiers in 1972

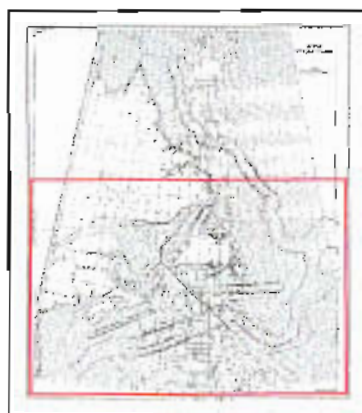
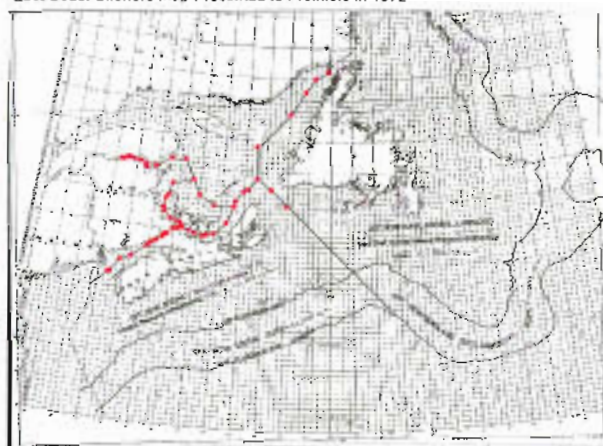


FIGURE 9  
East Coast Offshore Map Presented to Premiers in 1972

Enlarged Reproduction of Figure 9  
East Coast Offshore Map Presented to Premiers in 1972



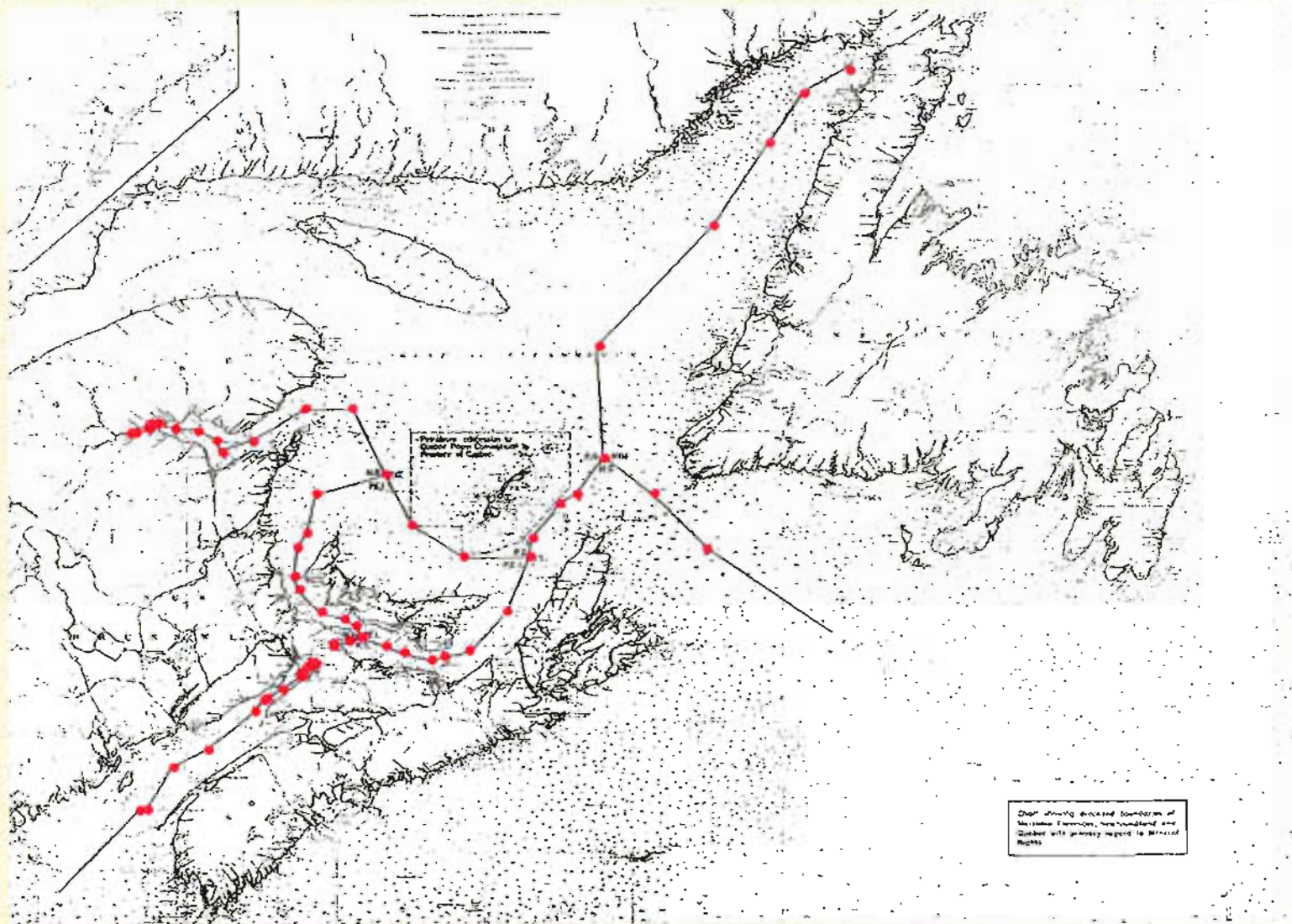
Boundary Turning Points as  
Approved by the Premiers in 1972

Source:  
See Nova Scotia Memorial,  
Figures 4, 7 and 9.

Source: Figure 30

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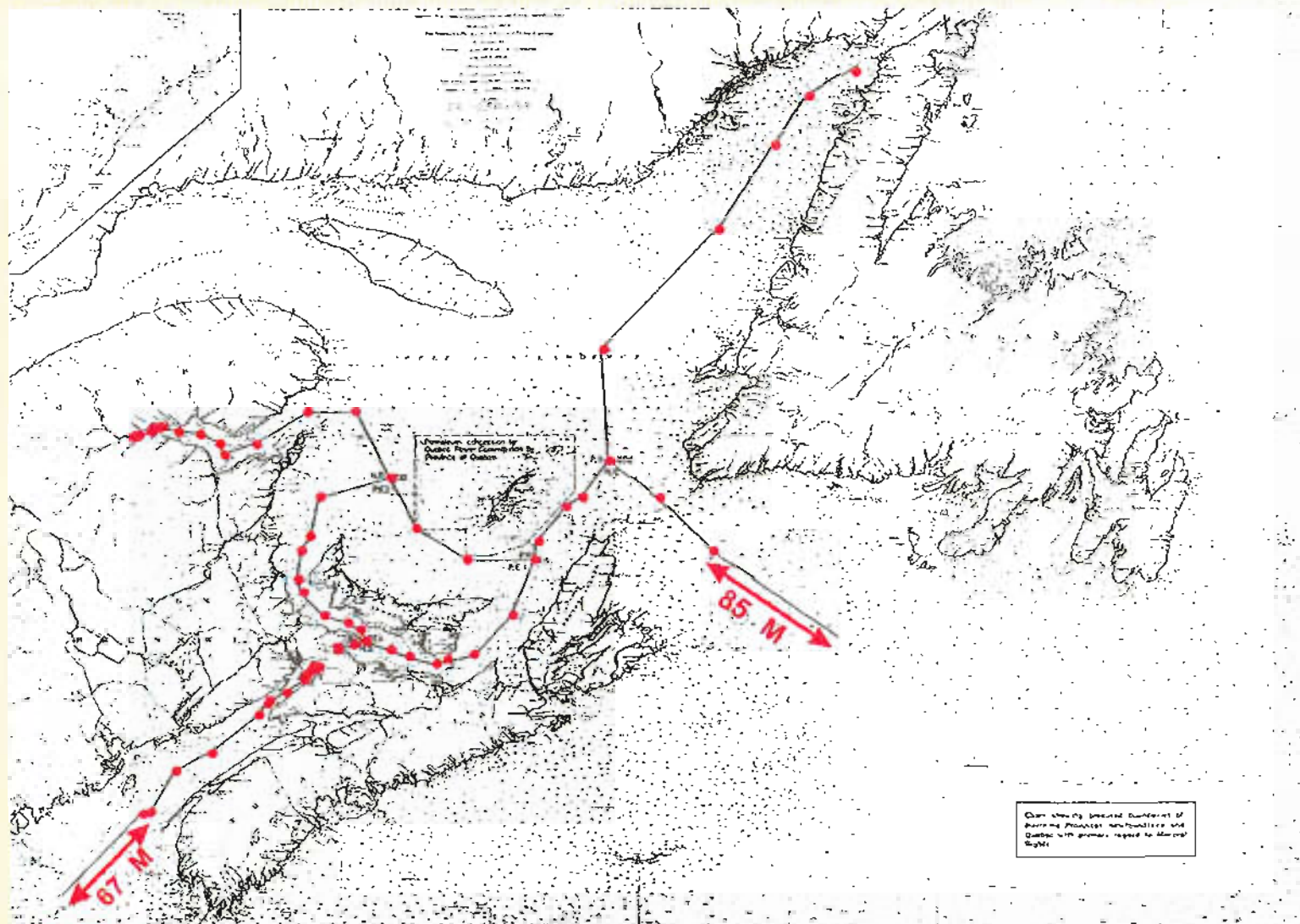
## THE 1964 AGREEMENT WITH 1972 TURNING POINTS



Source: Figure 4



# BOUNDARIES TO INT'L WATERS ON AN AZIMUTH



Source: Figure 4



April 10, 2008 01:28 PM EDT

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*D.E. Costley*

National Archives of Canada RG 22, ~~Energy~~ Energy, Mines  
and Resources, Vol 218, File 6

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## PREMIER MOORES' KNOWLEDGE



Dr. Crosby's notes for his **June 6, 1972** meeting.



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### NOTES RELATED TO REVENUE-SHARING MAP FOR BRIEFING SESSION WITH PREMIER MOORES

Newfoundland - 13,500 square miles (23%)

Prince Edward Island - 5,500 square miles (9%)

Nova Scotia - 3,500 square miles (5.5%)

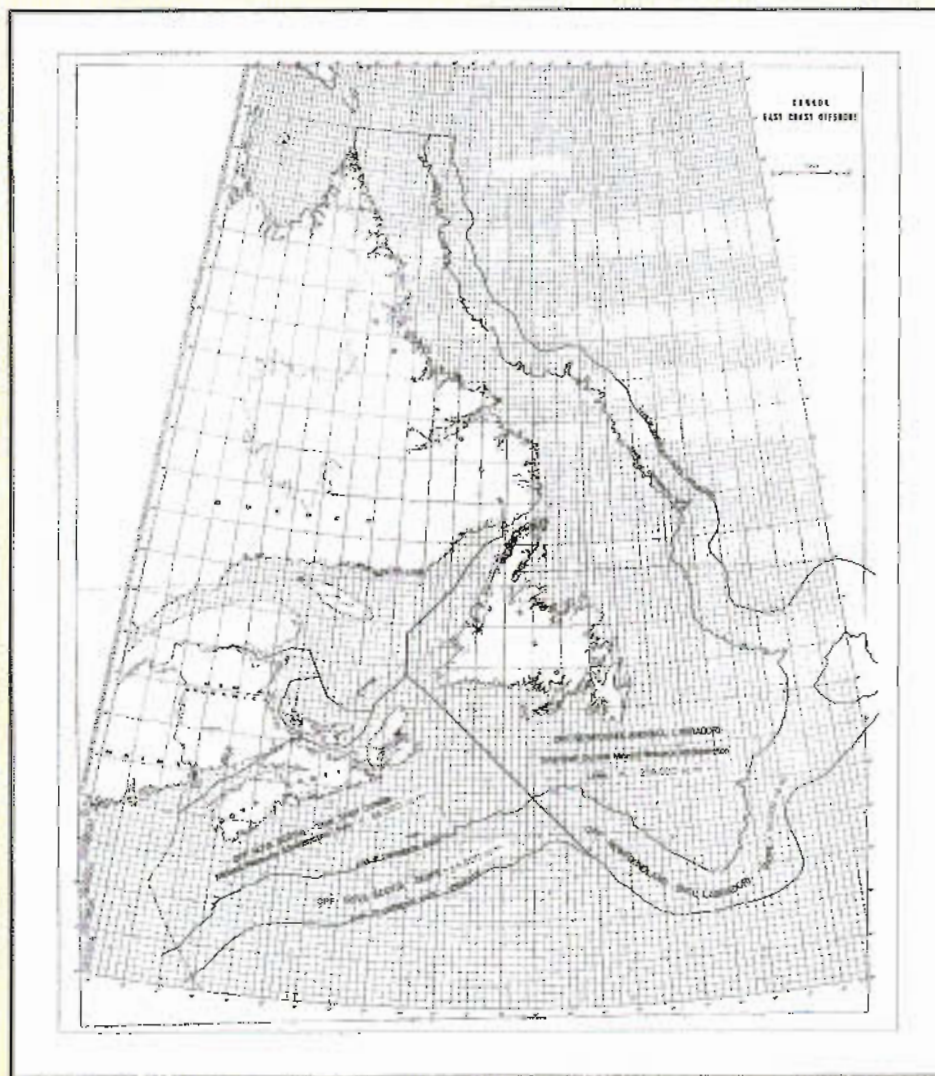
Newfoundland - 244,500 square miles (75%)

Nova Scotia - 83,000 square miles (25%)

# PREMIER MOORES' KNOWLEDGE

FIGURE 9

East Coast Offshore  
Map Presented to  
Premiers in 1972



Source: Figure 9

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# PREMIER MOORES' KNOWLEDGE



East Coast Offshore.



Figure 9

