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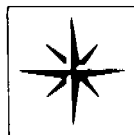
# LIMITS IN THE SEAS

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STRAIGHT BASELINES  
EAST GERMANY

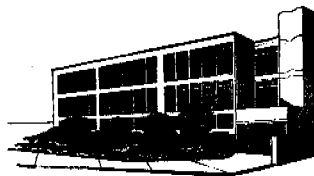


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## LIMITS IN THE SEAS

No. 52

Straight Baselines: East Germany

October 9, 1973

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The basic document of the German Democratic Republic concerning the state frontiers, including the territorial sea, was enacted on March 19, 1964. The *Ordinance for the Protection of the National Boundary of the German Democratic Republic* (*Gesetzblatt der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik*, April 21, 1964, pp. 255-62) provides in the "Regulations regarding the Administration of the Border Areas and Territorial Waters of the German Democratic Republic" for safeguarding the sovereignty and ensuring control over the waters of the state. Article 42 of Chapter IV refers to internal waters of the state; an annex delimits these as follows:

Annex to Section 42 of the  
foregoing Boundary Regulations

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Wismar Bay up to the<br>Hohenwischendorf-Huk-<br>Poel-Oberfeuer Line | 13. Vitter Bodden   |
| 2. Salzhaff   | 14. Rassower Bodden   |
| 3. Lower and upper Warnow<br>(Breitling)                                | 15. Wieker Bodden   |
| 4. Saaler Bodden  | 16. Breetzer Bodden   |
| 5. Bodstedter Bodden  | 17. Breeger Bodden  |
| 6. Barther Bodden   | 18. Big and Little Jasmunder<br>Bodden  |
| 7. Grabower Bodden  | 19. Rügischer Bodden  |
| 8. Strelasund   | 20. Griefswalder Bodden up to<br>the Peenemünde-Hafen-<br>Ruden-Thiessow Line |
| 9. Kupitzer Bodden  | 21. Achterwasser  |
| 10. Prohner Wiek [Cove]   | 22. Krumminer Wiek  |
| 11. Udarser Wiek  | 23. Peenestrom  |
| 12. Schaproder Bodden   | 24. Kleines Haff up to the<br>Newerow-Warsin Line                             |

The Notice of Mariners (*Nautische Mitteilungen für Seefahrer*), published by the *Seehydrographischer Dienst*, Rostock, No. 2 of January 1969, provided for the precise delimitation and enclosure of these internal waters. The text delimited the baseline of the GDR as follows:

Baseline for the German Democratic Republic

The baseline for the measurement of the territorial sea of the German Democratic Republic is delimited by the coastline and by straight baselines between the coordinates of the following points:

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Commencing at the German-Polish state boundary along the coastline to | 53°55.7' North<br>14°13.7' East |
| 2. Peenemuender Haken (to)   | 54°10.0' North<br>13°48.7' East |
| 3. Greifswalde Oie (to)  | 54°14.0' North<br>13°55.6' East |
| 4. Nord-Perd (to)  | 54°20.5' North<br>13°46.1' East |
| 5. Kollicker Ort, along the coastline to:                                | 54°33.8' North<br>13°40.9' East |
| 6. Ranzow (to)   | 54°35.1' North<br>13°38.4' East |
| 7. Kap Arkona, along the coastline to:                                   | 54°41.1' North<br>13°25.8' East |
| 8. Rehberg Ort (to)  | 54°38.2' North<br>13°13.2' East |
| 9. Dornbusch (Insel[Island] Hiddensee) (to)                              | 54°36.3' North<br>13°08.1' East |
| 10. Darssler Ort, along the coastline to                                 | 54°29.0' North<br>12°31.2' East |

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 11. Wustrow peninsula (to)  | 54°05.6' North<br>11°33.3' East |
| 12. Gross-Klutz-Hoved, along<br>the coastline to  | 54°00.9' North<br>11°10.9' East |
| 13. To the state boundary between<br>the German Democratic Republic<br>and the Federal Republic of<br>Germany | 53°57.4' North<br>10°54.4' East |

The decree lines have been plotted on the attached US nautical chart.

#### ANALYSIS

The East German straight baselines constitute a relatively conservative system. Basically, the system ties the major island of Rugen and several smaller subsidiary islands to the mainland. One line segment, 11-12, is a normal bay-closing line.

<u>Line</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1-2	c.21 nm	Extends along the low-water line of the coast from the seaward terminus of the Polish boundary west of the Oder River mouth.
2-3	6.4 nm	Connects the headland of the Usedom peninsula with the small island of Greifswalder Oie east of the mouth of the Greifswalder Bodden, situated between the mainland and the island of Rugen.
3-4	7.8 nm	Joins the same small island to the island of Rugen at the headland of Nord-Perd. The two segments enclose the bay-like Bodden with little effect on the seaward limits of the territorial sea.

<u>Line</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Comments</u>
4-5	13.65 nm	Encloses a bay-like indentation, Prorer Wiek, which does not meet the semicircular test for juridical bays, on the island of Rugen.
5-6	2.1 nm	The low-water coastline forms the baseline.
6-7	9.3 nm	Encloses a bay-like indentation, Tromper Wiek, which does not meet the semicircular test for a juridical bay.
7-8	8.25 nm	Follows the low-water coastline.
8-9	3.4 nm	Joins cape Rehberg Ort on Rugen to the north cape of Hiddensee island which forms the westernmost island of the Rugen group.
9-10	22.8 nm	Connects the previously described cape on Hiddensee with Cape Darsser Ort, enclosing a narrow bay-like body of water. The coastal area is backed by a series of large bodies of water tributary to the area enclosed. If considered as part of the "bay," the total area meets the semicircular test for a juridical bay.
10-11	approx. 55 nm	Follows low-water coastline of mainland in an area with no pronounced coastal indentations.
11-12	13.8 nm	Encloses a juridical bay--Wismar Bucht--from an artificially selected point on the eastern headland to the western headland.
12-13	approx. 11.5 nm	Follows the mainland low-water coastline to the limits of East and West Germany east of Travemunde.

#### SUMMARY

The East German baseline is formed by seven straight baseline segments with five intervening areas of low-water baseline. The straight baseline system constitutes approximately 43 percent of the total 175-mile baseline. The seven segments total 77.15 nautical miles. The longest line segment measures 22.8 nautical miles; the average is approximately 11 nautical miles.

The system joins the Rugen Insular System with the mainland of East Germany. While basically conservative in its conception, the system encloses several bodies of water which are not major indentations of the coast. They, in fact, do not meet the semicircular requirements of a bay. Nevertheless, the effect of these lines on the extension of the territorial sea is essentially minimal.