

THE QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR'S MARITIME BOUNDARIES

Victor Prescott

INTRODUCTION

Now that the former colony called Portuguese Timor is in the process of ending 24 years as part of Indonesia and becoming an independent state it will be necessary for that state, presently called East Timor, to agree on maritime boundaries with Australia and Indonesia. East Timor consists of two territories of unequal sizes (Figure1). The largest territory occupies the eastern half of the island of Timor and will be called eastern Timor for the purposes of this analysis. The smaller territory was called Ambeno-Ocussi in the colonial period, however, since it is now generally called Ocussi that name will be used in the following discussion. Ocussi is located on the northwest coast of the island. Because there are reports that the United Nations will govern East Timor for two to three years it will be interesting to see whether maritime boundaries are on the United Nations' agenda or whether such matters will be left until East Timor is independent. It will also be interesting to discover the reactions of the Australian and Indonesian governments if the United Nations seeks to open maritime boundary discussions with them.

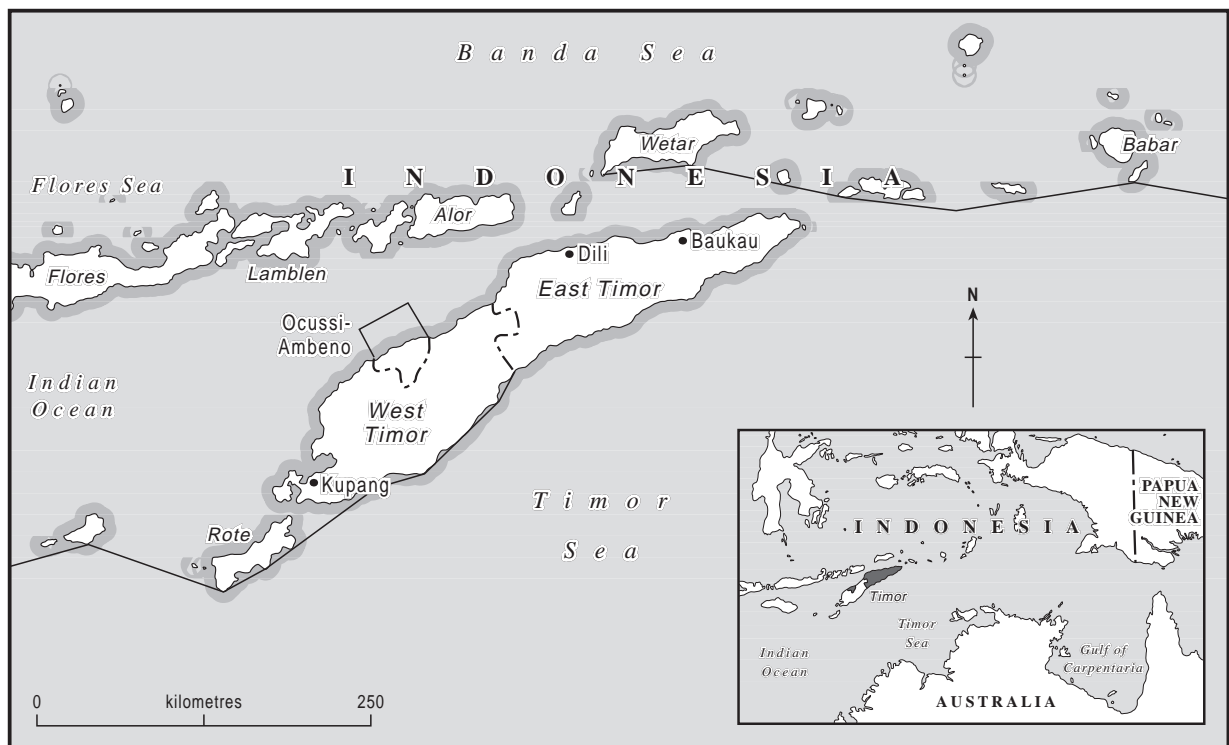


Figure1: East Timor

The Law of the Sea Convention requires states to negotiate equitable maritime boundaries and it is impossible to predict which limit will eventually be selected as equitable by any two negotiating teams. However, when preparing for negotiations, countries will invariably identify the line of equidistance between the two territories. The line of equidistance is a geometrical solution to the division of intervening seas. At every point the line of equidistance is located the same distance from the nearest point of the baselines of each state. This means that if the line of equidistance was selected as the maritime boundary each state would secure the waters and seabed which were closer to its baseline than to any other country's baseline. Having identified the line of equidistance, countries will then consider whether there are powerful arguments why the line of equidistance is inequitable and should be

adjusted in favour of one or the other state. Accordingly this study describes the lines of equidistance associated with the two parts of East Timor and then reviews arguments which the countries involved might use to argue for deviations from that line.

When lines of equidistance using all the relevant basepoints are constructed for East Timor they enclose two areas of seas and seabed. The larger area adjoins eastern Timor and involves boundaries with Australia and Indonesia in the Timor Sea and with Indonesia in Selat [Strait] Wetar and Selat Ombai. The smaller area lies along the coast of Ocussi in the Savu Sea and involves negotiations only with Indonesia.

EAST TIMOR'S LINE OF EQUIDISTANCE WITH AUSTRALIA AND INDONESIA IN THE TIMOR SEA

This boundary sector lies off the south coast of eastern Timor between the terminus of the land boundary with Indonesian Timor in the west and a point midway between Ilheu do Jaco that is part of East Timor and Tanjong Tutpateh on Pulau [Island] Leti which is part of Indonesia (The Hydrographer, 1976: 165; The Hydrographer, 1980: 116). The terminus of the land boundary between eastern Timor and Indonesian Timor appears to lie at the intersection of 9°27'15" S and 125°06'17" E. This estimate is based on the Dutch Portuguese treaty of 1 October 1904 which described the southernmost sector of the land boundary as following the thalweg of the Mota Masin and its mouth called Mota Talas (Parry, 1980: 344). This river and its mouth are shown on British Admiralty Chart 3244 which is drawn on a Mercator Projection at a scale of 1:500,000 (The Hydrographer, 1982). It is reported that the river mouth, which lies on a slight curvature of the coast between Tanjong We Toh and Cabo Tafara, is only navigable for praus¹ during the northwest monsoon (The Hydrographer, 1976: 164).

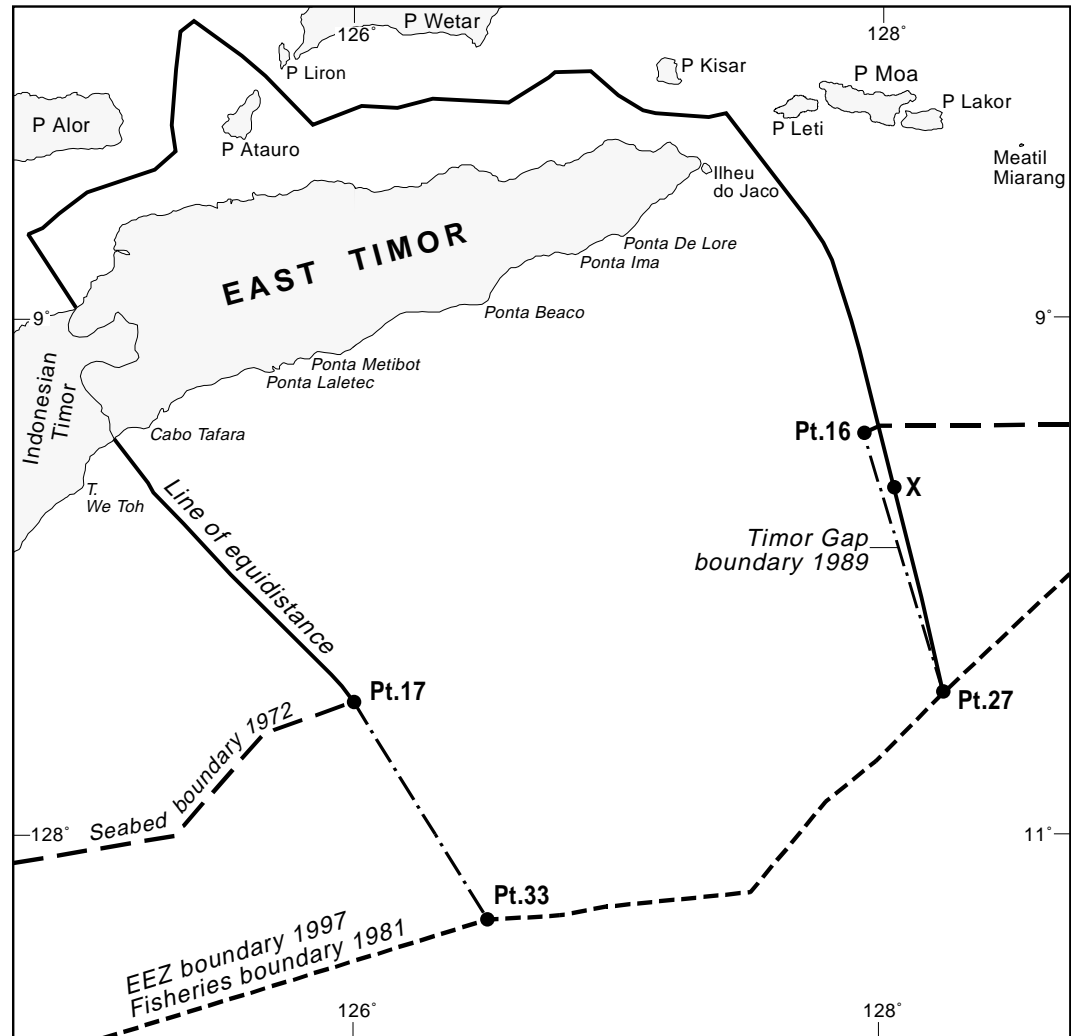
East Timor's lines of equidistance with Indonesia and Australia consist of three sectors which enclose an area of about 19,600nm².

East Timor's lines of equidistance with Indonesia and Australia consist of three sectors which enclose an area of about 19,600nm². The two sectors involving Indonesia extend from the two termini identified above to the middle of the Timor Sea. The third sector with Australia follows the alignment of the south coast of eastern Timor and joins the two boundaries with Indonesia. In all three sectors some indication of the lines of equidistance is provided by boundaries agreed by Australia and Indonesia. In the following description the western Indonesian sector will be considered first then the Australian sector and lastly the second Indonesian sector.

The line of equidistance between the adjacent territories of Indonesian Timor and eastern Timor originates at the mouth of Mota Masin and follows a southeasterly course related to Tanjong We Toh in Indonesia and Cabo Tafara on the coast of eastern Timor.

About 80 nautical miles (nm) from the coast the line reaches Point 17 defined in the 1972 seabed boundary agreed by Australia and Indonesia (Table 1), which also serves as Point (c) of Area A in the Zone of Cooperation which was defined by Australia and Indonesia in 1989 (Charney and Alexander, 1993: 1,216, 1,278). Points 17 and 16 mark the western and eastern edges respectively of the gap left in the 1972 Australian-Indonesian seabed boundary to avoid infringing areas which could be claimed by Portugal from its colony on east Timor. Efforts by Australia to engage Portugal in boundary discussions failed because Portugal wanted to wait until the Law of the Sea Conference finished its work. Eventually Portugal abandoned its Timor colony seven years before the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea was concluded. The 1972 treaty that created the gap noted that the lines connecting points 15 and 16 and 17 and 18 indicated the direction of the boundary and that negotiations with other governments that claimed sovereign rights to the seabed might require adjustments to points 16 and 17. This provision allowed for any redefinition of the points following negotiations with Portugal. Point 17 is equidistant from Indonesia's Tanjong We Toh and East Timor's Cabo Tafara and Ponta Laletec. From point 17 the line of equidistance continues to Point (d) which is very close to point 33 of the

Figure 2



Interim Fisheries Surveillance and Enforcement Line agreed in a Memorandum of Understanding by Australia and Indonesia in 1981 (Charney and Alexander, 1993: 1,238-9) (Table 2). Indeed the points might be coincident because the datum to which coordinates of points on the fisheries line are related was not specified while the datum for coordinates in the Timor Gap treaty was defined as the Australian Geodetic Datum in Annex A of the Timor Gap Treaty (Charney and Alexander, 1993: 1,277). Point 33 of the fisheries line became point (ak) of the boundary defining the Exclusive Economic Zone in 1997 (*Geopolitics and International Boundaries*, 1997, 124). Points 33 and (d) appear to be equidistant from Indonesia's Tanjong We Toh and East Timor's Ponta Laletec and Ponta Metibot. They also mark a tri-junction with Australia's Eastern Holothuria Reef located at $13^{\circ}33'51''$ E and $126^{\circ}01'38''$ E. The first sector of the Indonesian-East Timor line of equidistance extends for about 140nm.

The line of equidistance between the opposite coasts of East Timor and Australia measures about 120nm and has the configuration of a very broad arrowhead pointing towards Australia caused by the existence of Joseph Bonaparte Gulf on the Australian coast. This line is defined by three boundaries drawn by Indonesia and Australia during the period East Timor was part of Indonesia. The first boundary was the Provisional Fisheries boundary agreed in 1981. The points on each coast from which this line was based are known. On 15 May 1981 First Admiral D. U. Martojo, Indonesia's Chief Hydrographer and C. Veenstra, Australia's Assistant Director of

National Mapping signed two pages which listed the Indonesian and Australian basepoint coordinates. There were 15 Indonesian basepoints and 13 Australian basepoints. This analysis is only concerned with six of the Indonesian basepoints and four Australian basepoints. Proceeding from west to east the Indonesian points were Tanjong We Toh, Tanjong Motala clo [Ponta Metibot], Tanjong Viqueque [Ponta Beaco], Tanjong Ona Ona [Ponta Ima], Tanjong Suloro [Ponta de Lore] and Pulau Meati Mirang (Figure 2). The first and last features are still in Indonesia, the other four features are located on the coast of eastern Timor. The four Australian basepoints are Rocky Point and We-aparaly on Bathurst Island which marks the eastern entrance to Joseph Bonaparte Gulf, the Stewart Islands which mark the western entrance to the Gulf and East Holothuria Reef which is the most northerly reef of Western Australia's Kimberley Coast. There are some low rocks on East Holothuria Reef.

The second boundary was the southern limit of Zone A in the Zone of Cooperation created to close the Timor Gap in 1989 and the third was the agreed limit separating Australian and Indonesian EEZs in 1997. The points that define the three boundaries which are in the close vicinity of the line of equidistance between Australia and East Timor are listed in Table 2. As noted earlier the coordinates for the 1981 fisheries line did not specify any datum and the Timor Gap coordinates are based on the Australian Geodetic Datum. Coordinates of the boundary points marking the EEZ between Indonesia and Australia are based on World Geodetic System 1984 and the two countries may treat the WGS84 coordinates as being equivalent to coordinates of the International Earth Rotation Service Terrestrial Reference Frame (*Geopolitics and International Boundaries*, 1997: 127). The line of equidistance between Australia and East Timor lies between (d) and (l) located at the termini of the southern limit of Zone A of the Zone of Cooperation. Point (l) is very close to Point 27 on the fisheries line and is equidistant from Ponta De Lore on the south coast of eastern Timor, Indonesia's Pulau Meati Mirang, and Rocky Point on Australia's Bathurst Island.

The third sector of East Timor's line of equidistance in the Timor Sea separates its claims from those of Indonesia southeast of eastern Timor. The line is about 140nm long and joins a point midway between Ilheu do Jaco and Tanjong Tutpatch on Pulau Leti and point (l) the eastern terminus of the Australia-East Timor sector. As noted earlier, point (l) is equidistant from Pulau Meati Mirang in Indonesia and Ponta De Lore in East Timor which were both designated Indonesian basepoints in the 1981 agreement with Australia. The other point which was defined by Australia and Indonesia which indicates the location of the line of equidistance is point 16 of the 1972 seabed treaty (Table 1). That point at 9°28' S and 127°56' E is equidistant from Ponta De Lore in East Timor and Pulau Moa which is part of Indonesia. However point 16 is about 2nm closer to Ilheu do Jaco than either of these other features. This island at the eastern tip of East Timor influences the location of the line of equidistance and replaces Ponta Do Lore as an East Timor basepoint about 14 miles south-south-east of point 16. The point at which Ilheu do Jaco begins to influence the line of equidistance is marked X in Figure 2. This probably means that point 16 should be relocated 2-3nm eastwards of its present location. It was noted earlier that the Australia-Indonesia seabed treaty of 1972 made provision for the adjustments of points 16 and 17 in respect of claims by other states. The calculations made on British Admiralty chart BA 3244 (The Hydrographer, 1982) at a scale of 1:500,000 suggests that point 16 would not lie on a strict line of equidistance separating claims from East Timor and Indonesia.

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It must now be considered whether any of the countries concerned might argue that the line of equidistance would not provide an equitable boundary. It is hard to see what arguments might be used to justify a divergence from the line of equidistance. There are no islands located so as to cause a major divergence of the boundary in

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favour of one country at the expense of a neighbour which is the usual reason for countries objecting to the use of lines of equidistance.

When the authorities of East Timor are ready to discuss maritime boundaries with their neighbours it is uncertain what attitude they will adopt towards the boundary with Australia. There have been reports that East Timor wishes to preserve the Timor Gap Treaty but it is not clear if that will still be the view when negotiations start. If East Timor simply replaced Indonesia in the Timor Gap arrangements then it would acquire the same rights as Australia regarding the search for gas and oil fields in Area A and production from any commercial discoveries. The details of this comprehensive agreement are set out in the boundary compilation edited by Charney and Alexander (1993: 1,245-1,328). Presumably East Timor would also acquire fishing rights in the seas in Areas A and C which are presently held by Indonesia.

It would be possible for East Timor to seek to include the whole of Areas A and C within its EEZ because those areas are closer to East Timor than to Australia or Indonesia. The Timor Gap arrangements are related to the 1972 seabed boundary agreement between Australia and Indonesia which is one of the few boundaries of the world based on the concept of natural prolongation. While there is no doubt that the Australian continental margin extends northwards to the vicinity of the Timor Trough, countries are not obliged to take natural prolongation into account when delimiting boundaries between EEZs. If East Timor made such a claim then the Timor Gap arrangements would be ended and Australia would be faced with the prospect of negotiating EEZ boundaries. It is not known whether such a boundary could be negotiated quickly. Before making an exclusive claim to Areas A and C, the authorities in East Timor would have to consider whether they are prepared for the delay that might occur before title to those areas of Australia's continental margin is confirmed. They would also have to consider whether they would prefer to continue the Timor Gap arrangements, which would provide access to a share of any revenue produced from existing discoveries and discoveries which might be made in the near future.

The Timor Gap arrangements are related to the 1972 seabed boundary agreement between Australia and Indonesia which is one of the few boundaries of the world based on the concept of natural prolongation.

The principal discoveries within Area A are three small oilfields and one major gas-condensate reservoir. The oilfields are called Elang, which is the Indonesian word for eagle, and Kakatua and Kakatua North, named after the Indonesian word for cockatoo (Figure 3). They were found during 1994 in water depths of 75-100 metres in an area with a diameter of 10nm near the western edge of Area A. The output is a light, low-sulphur paraffinic oil with an API gravity value of 54 degrees (Wilkinson, 1998: 51). Production commenced in July 1998 at levels which produce 32,500 barrels per day which is expected to be maintained for about four years. There is some prospect that additional reserves might be found and the output increased beyond the present estimate of 29 million barrels. Bayu-Undan is a gas-condensate field located southeast of and close to the three small oilfields. It was found in 1995 in 80 metres of water and is assessed to have more than 300 million barrels of condensates and liquid petroleum gas and 85 billion cubic metres of gas. While no final decisions about development had been made by October 1999 two possible developments are being considered. The proportion of condensates is sufficient to justify a stand-alone development which is referred to as the Upstream Project (Wilkinson, 1998a: 38-9). This project involves producing gas and condensates, stripping out the condensates and returning the gas to the reservoir. This process will be carried out on a three-platform configuration supporting drilling, production and processing and will be linked to a permanently moored floating storage and offtake facility. The whole should be capable of producing 70,000 barrels a day of condensate and 44,000 barrels a day of liquified petroleum gas. The downstream development dealing with gas production is scheduled to come on stream in 2002 but there is no certainty as to which of two possible arrangements will be followed. The first involves producing liquified natural gas at an offshore location for export. The

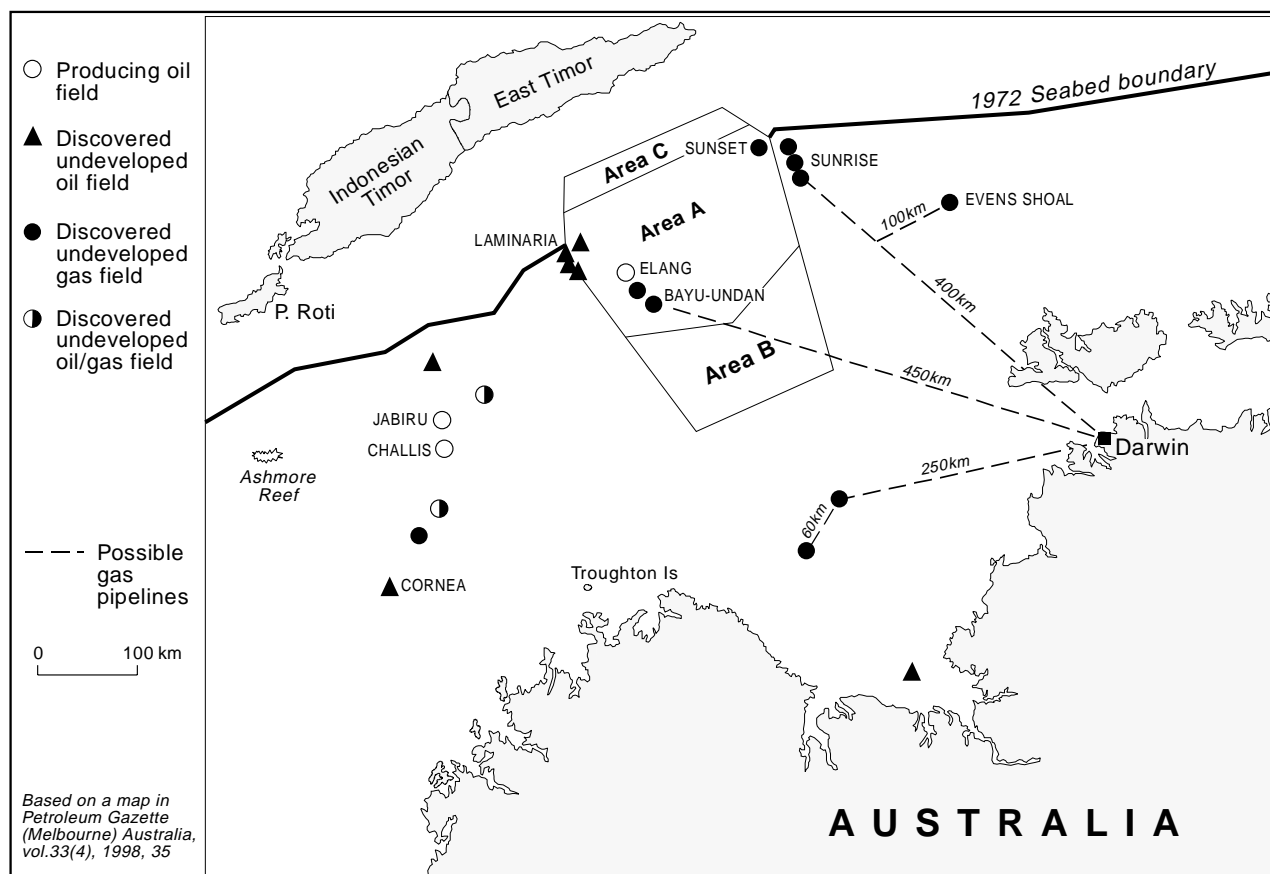


Figure 3

second requires a 450km pipeline to be built to Darwin to supply a processing plant which might supply Australian as well as overseas markets (Wilkinson, 1998a: 41). The final decision will probably depend on the size and location of markets available for natural gas. It is likely that there will be other oil and gas discoveries in Area A but there is little chance of finding a giant field (Personal communication Martin Norvick, 1999). This description of existing discoveries has been provided for two reasons. First these considerations will certainly be important when East Timor decides whether to continue with the Timor Gap arrangements or seek total control of Areas A and C of the Zone of Cooperation. Second the Australian government will wish to protect Australian investments in Area A in any negotiations with East Timor. This issue is plainly very important for East Timor which has few valuable resources because Areas A and C offer the best chances of securing revenue from petroleum products. The prospect of finding oil or gas north of Timor is poor (Private communication M. Norvick, 1999).

EAST TIMOR'S LINE OF EQUIDISTANCE WITH INDONESIA IN SELAT WETAR AND SELAT OMBAL

This sector of East Timor's line of equidistance extends from a point midway between Ilheu Do Jaco and Pulau Leti in the east to the northern terminus of the land boundary between eastern Timor and Indonesian Timor (Figure 2). This northern terminus is described in the 1904 Dutch-Portuguese treaty as the mouth of the "...Mota Biku (*Silaba*)..." (Parry, 1980: 343). This river or creek is not shown on British Admiralty chart BA3244, nor is this waterway mentioned in the British sailing directions for this coast. Maps which show the boundary between eastern Timor and Indonesian Timor locate the northern terminus at the point where meridian 124°57' E intersects the north coast of the island. That point lies about 1.5nm west of Batu Gadeh, a small village shown on BA 3244 and mentioned in the sailing directions. The coast west of Batu Gadeh is described as a wooded plain, fronted by mangroves with occasional sandy beaches (The Hydrographer, 1972:

169). It seems likely that Mota Biku dries during the southeast monsoon since it is reported that Noil Lois [Mota Loes] lying about 20nm east of Mota Biku is reported to be the only river in Timor which does not dry in the southeast monsoon (The Hydrographer, 1972: 169).

The line of equidistance in this sector is based generally on the Indonesian territories Pulau Leti, Pulau Kisar, Pulau Wetar and Pulau Alor and the north coast of eastern Timor. The exception to this generalisation is caused by an island called Atauro which belongs to East Timor. This island rises steeply from the sea to 998 metres with various villages located along the coast on small sandy beaches. It has an area of about 130km² and lies 14nm off the north coast of eastern Timor and 7nm from Pulau Liran a small Indonesian island off the southwest tip of Pulau Wetar. The Alur Pelayaran Wetar [Wetar Passage] situated between Atauro and Liran is deep and is used by local vessels and international traffic from Java and Singapore to the east coast of Australia (The Hydrographer, 1972: 172). The existence of Atauro forces the line of equidistance northwards between Pulau Wetar and Pulau Alor and contributes to the total area of about 2,800nm² available to East Timor. The seabed shelves steeply from the coasts defining Selat Ombai and Selat Wetar with depths of 2,000 metres being found within a 4nm of the coast.

There do not appear to be any obvious arguments that would enable either Indonesia or East Timor to argue with confidence that the line of equidistance related to all islands in this sector would create an inequitable maritime boundary.

EAST TIMOR'S LINE OF EQUIDISTANCE WITH INDONESIA IN THE VICINITY OF OCUSSI

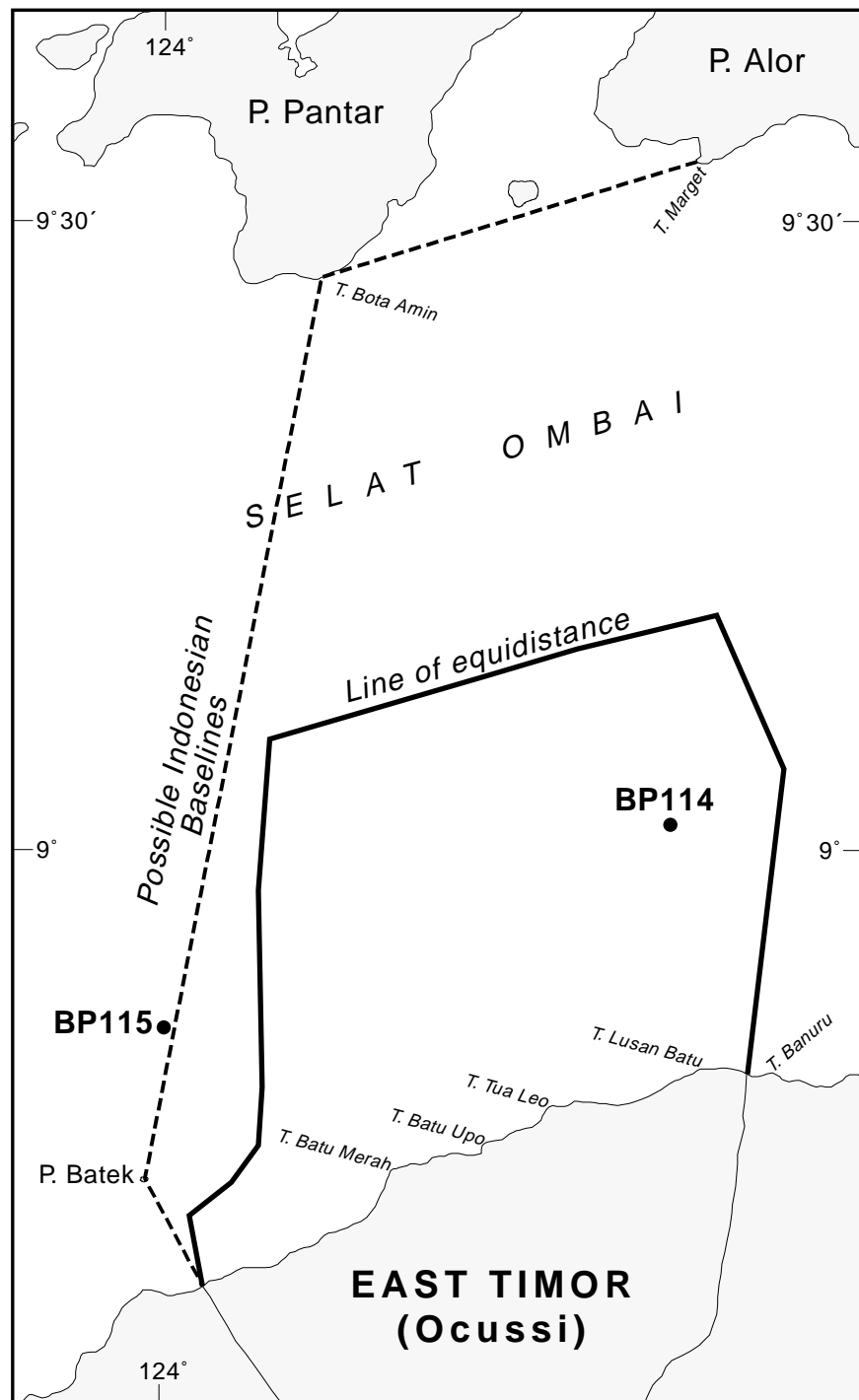
The last sector of equidistance line is that drawn between the termini of the boundary that separates East Timor's territory of Ocussi from Indonesian Timor. In the 1904 treaty, the termini are defined as the mouth of the Noel [river] Besi in the west and the mouth of the Noel Meto in the east (Parry, 1980: 342-3). The treaty editors decided it was necessary to identify the mouth of the Noel Besi as being located on the coast at a point where Pulau Batek lies on a bearing of 30°47' west of true north. Presumably the river's mouth was shown to be located at that precise point on maps used by the boundary negotiators. It would be a nice point to decide whether any changes in the location of the mouth of the Noel Besi from the point indicated by the specific bearing means that the terminus of the boundary also moves or remains at the point designated in 1904. British sailing directions note that the Noel Besi is located on the coast at the intersection of meridian 124°02' E and that Noel Meto lies 27 nm east-northeast on meridian 124°27' E (The Hydrographer, 1972: 167).

The line of equidistance between these two termini produces a roughly rectangular area, measuring about 550nm², limited by lateral boundaries related to the coasts of northern Timor and linked by a line based on the coast of Ocussi and the coasts of Indonesia's Pulau Pantar and Pulau Alor. The claim of East Timor from the coast of Ocussi is limited by the Indonesian islet Pulau Batek. This is described as a prominent white limestone islet rising to a height of 81 metres (The Hydrographer, 1972: 168). Providing this is an islet, then Indonesia is entitled to claim extended maritime zones from it. If Indonesia decided this feature was a rock within the terms of Article 121 of the Law of the Sea Convention, then Indonesia could still make extended claims from it if it can sustain habitation or has an economic life of its own. It is also the case that Indonesia as an archipelagic state is allowed to draw archipelagic baselines around its outermost islands and drying reefs which would certainly include rocks. It seems unlikely that either side could develop strong arguments that the line of equidistance would create an inequitable boundary.

INDONESIA'S BASELINES

Indonesia's baselines were proclaimed in 1961, two decades before archipelagic baselines were established in a Convention on the Law of the Sea. The configuration of Indonesian baselines clearly played an important role in the negotiation of the rules set out in Article 47 which relate to the maximum lengths of individual

Figure 4



segments of baselines and the ratio of land and sea contained within the baselines. A map and analysis of Indonesia's baselines was published by The Geographer (1971). Apart from the archipelagic concept itself the most remarkable feature of the proclaimed baselines was that they did not totally surround all the Indonesian islands. A gap was left in the area north of Timor. The section of baselines drawn westwards from the terminus of the boundary between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea terminated at Point 113 on Tanjong Pibia in the southwest of Pulau Wetar. Points 114 and 115 were located in the sea 12nm off the coast of Ocussi approximately perpendicular to the coastal limits of Ocussi. The Geographer showed a line connecting these two points and presumed first that this line had been drawn to restrict claims from Portuguese Timor and second that these points would be connected to those coastal termini during subsequent boundary negotiations (The

Now that East Timor is to become an independent state, Indonesia will need to redesign its archipelagic baselines north of Timor.

Geographer, 1971: 7). Points 114 and 115 are shown in Figure 4; Point 114 lies within the zone East Timor can claim up to a line of equidistance while Point 115 lies outside that zone. Although no formal proclamation of modifications to Indonesian baselines in the area of Timor has been seen it was assumed by Australian authorities that the Indonesian baselines diverged from Point 110 on Pulau Leti to Ponta De Lore which is the most easterly basepoint on Timor agreed with Australian authorities during the determination of the 1981 fisheries boundary. It was further assumed that the baseline then continued along the south coast of eastern Timor to Point 116 of the original Indonesian archipelagic baselines located at the mouth of Mota Masin. Now that East Timor is to become an independent state, Indonesia will need to redesign its archipelagic baselines north of Timor.

The principal problem in closing the gap between Point 113 on Pulau Wetar and the western terminus of Indonesia's boundary with Ocussi is caused by the claims which East Timor can make from Atauro Island. Atauro Island lying between Pulau Wetar and Pulau Alor creates a triangular section of East Timor's EEZ projecting between the two Indonesian islands. The most northerly extension of this projection is located at about 7°52'30" S and 125°24' E. This means that the shortest baseline connecting Pulau Wetar and Pulau Alor must lie north of that projection. The line which seems to be shortest would first connect Point 113 on Tanjong Pibia to the southern tip of Pulau Liran and then the northern tip of Pulau Liran to Pulau Reong which lies close to the northwest tip of Pulau Wetar. Then a line could connect Pulau Reong with Pulau Sika close to the north coast of Pulau Alor in the vicinity of 8°07'30" S and 124°37' E. A short line would then connect Pulau Sika to Tanjong Sika on Pulau Alor. It would then be possible for a line 19nm long to join Tanjong Marget on the southwest corner of Pulau Alor to Tanjong Bota Amin on Pulau Pantar and for the gap to be closed by a line 44nm long joining Tanjong Bota Amin to Pulau Batek and a short line of 6nm connecting Pulau Batek to the western terminus of the Indonesian-East Timor boundary in respect of Ocussi (Figure 4). Then the baselines drawn in 1961 from Point 116 at the mouth of Mota Masin, the southern terminus of the boundary between Indonesia and main part of East Timor, could continue unchanged.

CONCLUSIONS

The emergence of East Timor as an independent state will make it necessary for maritime boundaries to be drawn between the new state and Australia and Indonesia. The total area of seas and seabed which East Timor can claim within lines of equidistance with its neighbours is approximately 22,900nm², which is about the same area that can be claimed by Bangladesh, Eritrea and Trinidad and Tobago (The Geographer, 1972). The area in the Timor Sea south of eastern Timor constitutes 85% of that area and it is the area in the Timor Sea on the Australian continental margin south of the Timor Trough which provides the only opportunity for deriving revenue from oil and gas deposits. East Timor suffers from the slight geographical disadvantage that in the Timor Sea, the alignment of the Indonesian coast on either side of eastern Timor causes the lateral lines of equidistance to converge. This means that while the coastal facade generating East Timor's claim measures 140nm, the lateral lines of equidistance are only 120nm apart in the middle of the Timor Sea. This disadvantage is slightly offset by the existence of Joseph Bonaparte Gulf on the opposite coast of Australia which causes the line of equidistance with Australia to bulge in favour of East Timor. Unlike Australia and Indonesia, East Timor cannot claim the maximum extended maritime claims for 200nm from any basepoint. East Timor's claim from Ocussi is restricted by the proximity of Pulau Batek close to the western terminus of the land boundary with Indonesia. It is possible that East Timor might suggest that because it suffers the economic disadvantage of being poor, its larger neighbours should be generous in any maritime boundary negotiations involving lines of equidistance. However, in the case of East Timor, there is no gross geographical disadvantage, such as that experienced by Papua New Guinea in Torres Strait, which justifies discounting the lines of equidistance in East Timor's favour.

The emergence of East Timor will also make it necessary to redesign its archipelagic baselines to close the gap which existed in the 1961 proclamation and which is now re-established. The only slight problem faced by Indonesia in this matter is caused by the extension of claims from Atauro Island, which belongs to East Timor, between Pulau Wetar and Pulau Alor. Possible baselines have been suggested to close the gap and maximise Indonesia's areas of archipelagic waters.

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¹ Prau: type of canoe boat used in the South Pacific, especially one equipped with an outrigger and sails.

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TABLE 1

Boundary definitions in the vicinity of the Indonesia -East Timor line of equidistance

| Seabed 1972 | Fisheries 1981 | Timor Gap 1989 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 17 10°28'S, 126°E | 33 11°20'S, 126°31'E* | (c)10°28'S, 126°E (d)11°20'08"S, 126°31'54"E |
| 16 9°28'S, 127°56' E | 27 10°28'S, 128°14'E* | (l) 10°29'17"S, 128°12'24"E (n) 9°28'S, 127°56'E |

*These coordinates also defined points on the EEZ 1997 boundary.

Sources

Seabed boundary 1972: Charney and Alexander, 1993, 1216.

Fisheries boundary 1981: Map attached to the 1981 Australian-Indonesian Memorandum of Understanding.

Timor Gap boundary, 1989: Charney and Alexander, 1993, 1278-9.

TABLE 2

Boundary definitions in the vicinity of the Australia-East Timor line of equidistance

| Fisheries 1981 | Timor Gap 1989 | EEZ 1997 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 27 10°28'S, 128°14'E | (l)10°29'17"S, 128°12'24" E | (aa)10°28'S, 128°14'E |
| 28 10°45'S, 127°58'E | (k)10°43'43"S, 127°59'16"E | (ac)10°43'37.8"S, 127°59'20.4"E |
| 29 10°45'S, 127°47'E | (i)10°55'26"S, 127°47'04"E | (ae)10°55'20.8"S, 127°47'08.4"E |
| 30 11°15'S, 127°31'E | (h)11°14'24"S, 127°31'33"E | (af)11°14'18.9"S, 127°31'37.4"E |
| 31 11°8'S, 127°01'E | (g)11°17'30"S, 126°58'13"E | (ag)11°17'24.9"S, 126°58'17.4"E |
| 32 11°19'S, 126°48'E | (e)11°19'46"S, 126°47'04"E | (ai)11°19'40.9"S, 126°47'08.4"E |
| 33 11°20'S, 126°31'E | (d)11°20'08"S, 126°31'54"E | (ak)11°20'S, 126°31'E |

Sources

Fisheries boundary 1981: Map attached to the 1981 Australian-Indonesian Memorandum of Understanding.

Timor Gap boundary 1989: Charney and Alexander, 1993, 1278-9.

EEZ boundary 1997: *Geopolitics and International Boundaries*, 1997, 2(2), 123-4.