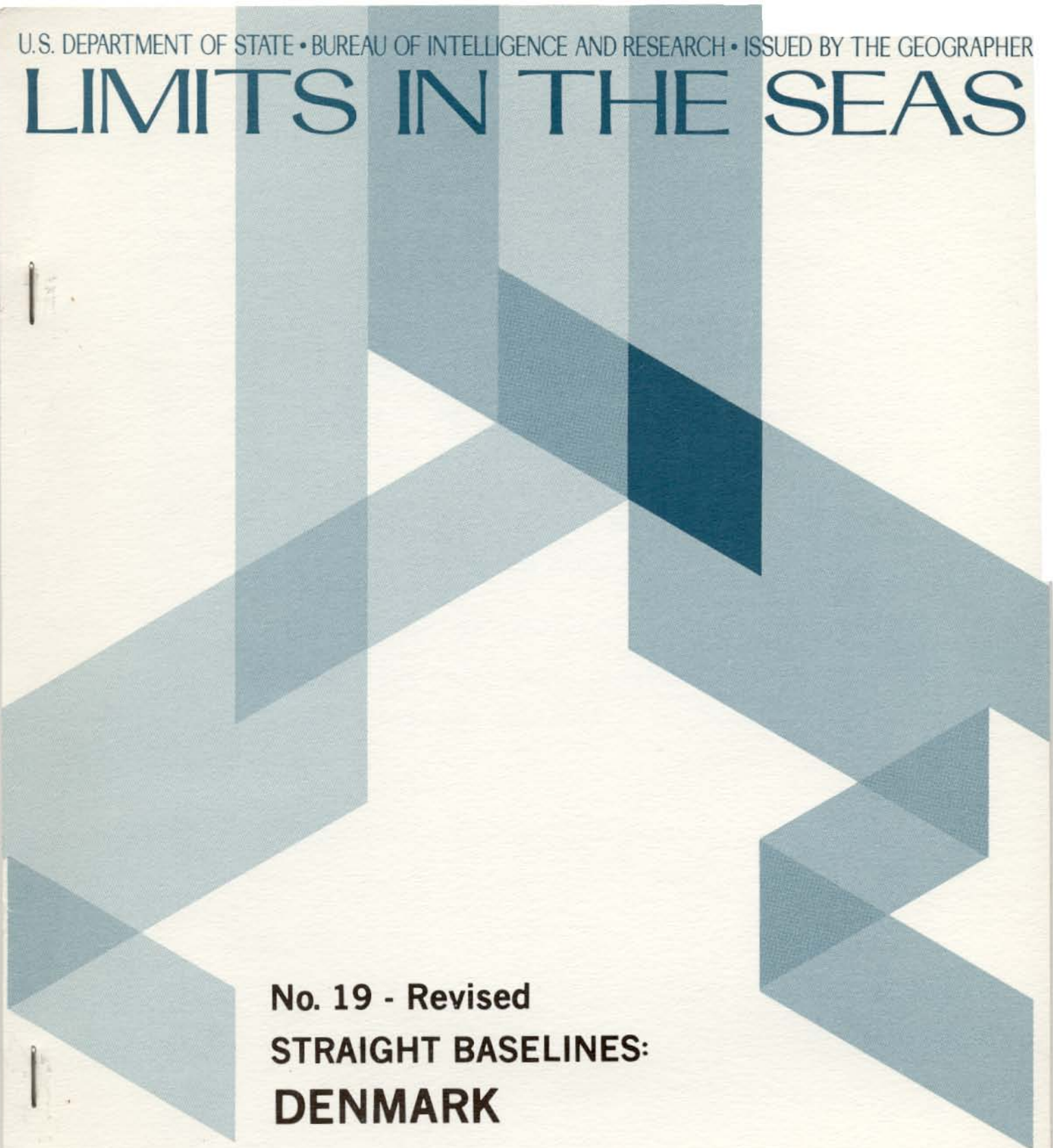


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE • BUREAU OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH • ISSUED BY THE GEOGRAPHER

# LIMITS IN THE SEAS



**No. 19 - Revised  
STRAIGHT BASELINES:  
DENMARK**

This paper is one of a series issued by The Geographer, Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the Department of State. The aim of the series is to set forth the basis for national arrangements for the measurement of the territorial sea or the division of the maritime areas of coastal nations.

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## LIMITS IN THE SEAS

No. 19 (Revised)

Straight Baselines: Denmark

December 21, 1978

The Geographer  
Office of the Geographer  
Bureau of Intelligence and Research

## **STRAIGHT BASELINES: DENMARK**

The Danish Government promulgated straight baselines by a Royal Decree of December 21, 1966, which has been modified by Decree No. 189 of April 19, 1978.

The text of the 1966 Decree is as follows, with bracketed portions indicating those provisions which have been modified by the 1978 decree:

### **ROYAL DECREE ON THE DELIMITATION OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA**

The delimitation of the territorial waters which consist of the territorial sea and the internal waters shall be governed by the following rules:

Section 1, Subsection 1. The territorial sea comprises those areas of the sea which, on the inner side are delimited by the lines referred to in section 4 and which, on the outer side, are delimited by lines drawn in such a manner, that the distance from every point on these lines to the nearest point on the inner borderline shall be 3 nautical miles (5,556 metres).

Subsection 2. The outer delimitation of the Danish Customs area and the Danish fishing territory is governed by special rules laid down by law.

Subsection 3. As far as the waters bordering upon Sweden and Germany are concerned, the outer limit of the territorial sea shall not go beyond the lines delimiting the internal waters and the territorial seas established by Declaration of January 30, 1932, between Denmark and Sweden concerning the delimitation in the Sound, cf. Executive Order No. 41 of February 22, 1932, and Executive Order No. 497 of December 21, 1923, concerning the frontier between Denmark and Germany.

Section 2. The internal waters comprise those areas of the sea, such as harbours, harbour entrances, roadsteads, bays, fjords, sounds and belts, which are situated inside the lines referred to in section 4.

Section 3. The provisions of section 2, cf. section 4, shall involve no restrictions in the existing right of passage for foreign vessels through those parts of the internal waters in the Samsø Belt, the Little Belt, the Great Belt, and the Sound, which are normally used for such passage.

Section 4. The lines to be used for delimitation of the territorial sea in pursuance of Section 1 shall be those specified below and in the appended map of the coast-line (low-water mark at mean spring-tide) or straight lines between the following points:

(All positions indicated according to the European Datum System)

- |      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 1.   | 55°04'14"N 8°23'30"E<br>thence a straight line to   | The point where the line from NW point of Sild to Rømø Flak W intersects the line delimiting the internal waters between Denmark and Germany. |
| 2.   | 55°12'40"N 8°24'14"E<br>thence a straight line to   | Rømø W  |
| 3.   | 55°19'47"N 8°24'57"E<br>thence a straight line to   | Galgerev (Fanø S)   |
| 4.   | 55°26'40"N 8°18'48"E<br>thence a straight line to   | Søren Jessens Sand  |
| 5.   | 55°28'26"N 8°17'05"E<br>thence the coastline to     | Skallingen W  |
| 6.   | 56°41'50"N 8°11'46"E<br>thence a straight line to   | Harboøre Tange NW   |
| 7.   | 56°45'21"N 8°13'29"E<br>thence a straight line to   | Agger Tange W   |
| [8   | [57°29'45"N 10°30'11"E<br>thence a straight line to | Strandby ] Replaced<br>]  |
| [9   | [57°30'00"N 10°36'18"E<br>thence a straight line to | Holm N of Graesholm ] Deleted<br>]  |
| [10. | [57°29'10"N 10°37'42"E<br>thence a straight line to | Hirsholm NE Coast ] Deleted<br>]  |
| 11.  | 57°28'57"N 10°37'43"E<br>thence a straight line to  | Hirsholm S point  |
| [12. | [57°20'01"N 10°32'16"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Saeby Harbour ] Replaced<br>]   |
| [13. | [57°00'16"N 10°20'54"E<br>thence a straight line to | Hals NE ] Deleted<br>]  |
| 14.  | 56°58'23"N 10°20'02"E<br>thence the coastline to    | Korsholm N point  |
| 15.  | 56°58'04"N 10°19'44"E<br>thence a straight line to  | Korsholm S point  |
| 16.  | 56°57'18"N 10°17'36"E<br>thence the coastline to    | Egense SE   |
| 17.  | 56°43'07"N 10°20'03"E<br>thence a straight line to  | Alsodde   |
| 18.  | 56°38'49"N 10°21'38"E<br>thence a straight line to  | Point NE of Sødringholm Wood  |

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| 19. | 56°35'46"N 10°20'35"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Udbyhøj   |
| 20. | 56°18'08"N 10°51'57"E<br>thence a straight line to | Point S of Katholm Wood   |
| 21. | 56°08'07"N 10°48'43"E<br>thence a straight line to | Hjelm E-most point  |
| 22. | 55°56'06"N 10°47'38"E<br>thence a straight line to | Bosserne-E-most point   |
| 23. | 55°52'01"N 10°40'36"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Staalhøj Hage   |
| 24. | 55°45'55"N 10°37'22"E<br>thence a straight line to | Lushage   |
| 25. | 55°37'16"N 10°37'04"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Point E of Fyns Hoved   |
| 26. | 55°28'39"N 10°44'56"E<br>thence a straight line to | Stavreshoved  |
| 27. | 55°24'56"N 10°43'41"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Risinge Hoved   |
| 28. | 55°17'27"N 10°51'11"E<br>thence a straight line to | Knudshoved  |
| 29. | 55°09'28"N 10°57'20"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Langeland N point   |
| 30. | 54°43'27"N 10°41'12"E<br>thence a straight line to | Gulstav Klint   |
| 31. | 54°49'04"N 10°25'07"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Vejsnaes Nakke  |
| 32. | 54°55'12"N 10°14'49"E<br>thence a straight line to | Point S of Vidsø Mølle  |
| 33. | 54°52'27"N 10°04'02"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Pøls Huk  |
| 34. | 54°51'11"N 9°59'18"E<br>thence a straight line to  | Kegnaes   |
| 35. | 54°49'13"N 9°56'30"E                               | E-most end point of the line delimiting the internal waters between Denmark and Germany |

Zealand and the islands S  
of Zealand

|      |  |                                 |
|------|--|---------------------------------|
| 36.  | 56°04'15"N 11°13'19"E<br>thence a straight line to<br>beacon | Sjaellands Rev life-saving      |
| [37. | 56°00'41"N 11°16'40"E<br>thence the coastline to             | Sjaellands Odde ] Replaced<br>] |
| [38. | 55°58'42"N 11°46'37"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Korshage ] Replaced<br>]        |
| [39. | 55°58'36"N 11°51'18"E<br>thence the coastline to             | Spodsbjerg ] Deleted<br>]       |
| 40.  | 56°03'09"N 12°35'37"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Point NW of Kronborg            |
| 41.  | 56°02'38"N 12°37'49"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Point at sea                    |
| 42.  | 56°02'38"N 12°37'49"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Point at sea                    |
| 43.  | 56°01'44"N 12°37'49"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Point at sea                    |
| 44.  | 56°01'00"N 12°36'46"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Point at sea                    |
| 45.  | 56°01'00"N 12°36'04"E<br>thence the coastline to             | Point NE of Snekkersten         |
| 46.  | 55°47'17"N 12°35'52"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Taarbaek Harbour                |
| 47.  | 55°47'07"N 12°40'20"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Taarbaek Rev                    |
| 48.  | 55°41'57"N 12°50'49"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Saltholm NE (point at sea)      |
| 49.  | 55°40'24"N 12°46'10"E<br>thence the coastline to             | Saltholm N point                |
| 50.  | 55°40'15"N 12°46'36"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Point on Saltholm               |
| 51.  | 55°37'16"N 12°48'58"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Svaneklapper N                  |
| 52.  | 55°36'04"N 12°49'25"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Søndre Flint                    |
| 52.  | 55°36'04"N 12°49'25"E<br>thence a straight line to           | Søndre Flint                    |

- |     |  |                                |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
| 53. | 55°36'19"N 12°47'07"E<br>thence a straight line to | Holm S of Saltholm             |
| 54. | 55°36'24"N 12°46'28"E<br>thence a straight line to | Saltholm S point               |
| 55. | 55°32'13"N 12°42'46"E<br>thence a straight line to | Drogden Lighthouse             |
| 56. | 55°30'58"N 12°35'36"E<br>thence a straight line to | Aflandshage black double broom |
| 57. | 55°19'51"N 12°27'23"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Mandehoved                     |
| 58. | 55°17'30"N 12°27'23"E<br>thence a straight line to | Stevns                         |
| 59. | 55°00'31"N 12°31'22"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Hellehavn Nakke                |
| 60. | 54°56'44"N 12°32'19"E<br>thence a straight line to | Point SW of Møn Lighthouse     |
| 61. | 54°50'08"N 12°10'01"E<br>thence a straight line to | Hestehoved                     |
| 62. | 54°33'39"N 11°58'29"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Gedser Odde SE                 |
| 63. | 54°33'35"N 11°58'20"E<br>thence a straight line to | Gedser Odde S                  |
| 64. | 54°33'38"N 11°52'25"E<br>thence a straight line to | Rødsand S                      |
| 65. | 54°35'38"N 11°30'56"E<br>thence the coast line to  | Hyllekrog                      |
| 66. | 54°50'12"N 10°57'36"E<br>thence a straight line to | Albuen                         |
| 67. | 54°53'19"N 11°01'00"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Point NW of Taars              |
| 68. | 54°54'48"N 11°01'38"E<br>thence a straight line to | Point SW of Korsnakke          |
| 69. | 55°09'37"N 11°08'03"E<br>thence a straight line to | Omø W point                    |
| 70. | 55°20'51"N 11°05'37"E<br>thence a straight line to | Halsskov                       |
| 71. | 55°28'29"N 11°04'28"E<br>thence a straight line to | Musholm                        |

- |     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
| 72. | 55°30'57"N 11°04'55"E<br>thence a straight line to | Reersø                                 |
| 73. | 55°39'50"N 10°56'06"E<br>thence a straight line to | Asnaes                                 |
| 74. | 55°44'40"N 10°52'12"E<br>thence a straight line to | Røsnaes                                |
| 75. | 55°53'11"N 11°04'53"E<br>thence a straight line to | Sejerø N point                         |
| 36. | 56°04'15"N 11°13'19"E                              | Sjællands Rev life-saving beacon Laeso |
|     | Laeso  |  |
| 76. | 57°21'52"N 10°56'00"E<br>thence a straight line to | Nordre Rønner                          |
| 77. | 57°19'27"N 11°11'50"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Syrodde                                |
| 78. | 57°17'53"N 11°11'24"E<br>thence a straight line to | Bløden Hale                            |
| 79. | 57°12'21"N 11°02'09"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Hornfiskerøn SE                        |
| 80. | 57°12'00"N 10°59'53"E<br>thence a straight line to | Hornfiskerøn SW                        |
| 81. | 57°14'31"N 10°53'53"E<br>thence a straight line to | Sønder Nyland                          |
| 82. | 57°15'30"N 10°52'15"E<br>thence a straight line to | Laesø W-most point                     |
| 83. | 57°21'21"N 10°54'12"E<br>thence a straight line to | Bordfeld                               |
| 76. | 57°21'52"N 10°56'00"E                              | Nordre Rønner                          |
|     | Christiansø  |  |
| 84. | 55°19'53"N 15°10'31"E<br>thence the coastline to   | Rock N of Tat (W end)                  |
| 85. | 55°19'52"N 15°10'33"E<br>thence a straight line to | Rock N of Tat (E end)                  |
| 86. | 55°19'27"N 15°11'31"E<br>thence a straight line to | Rock N of Christiansø                  |
| 87. | 55°19'25"N 15°11'34"E<br>thence a straight line to | Christiansø NE                         |



88. 55°19'09"N 15°11'56"E Østerskaer NE  
thence a straight line to
89. 55°19'07"N 15°11'55"E Østerskaer SE  
thence a straight line to
90. 55°19'06"N 15°11'52"E Østerskaer SW  
thence a straight line to
91. 55°19'04"N 15°11'20"E Christiansø S  
thence a straight line to
92. 55°19'25"N 15°10'36"E Graesholm SW  
thence a straight line to
93. 55°19'30"N 15°10'32"E Graesholm W  
thence a straight line to
94. 55°19'48"N 15°10'30"E Rock S of Tat  
thence a straight line to
95. 55°19'50"N 15°10'30"E Rock S of Tat  
thence a straight line to
96. 55°19'51"N 15°10'30"E Tat W  
thence a straight line to
84. 55°19'53"N 15°10'31"E Rock N of Tat (W end)

Done at Amalienborg on December 21, 1966.

Frederik

L.S

R

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Victor Gram

The supplemental order modifying the original system of straight baselines for Denmark is as follows:

**DECREE NO. 189 OF APRIL 19, 1978  
THE DELIMITATION OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA**

WE, MARGRETHE THE SECOND, BY THE GRACE OF GOD QUEEN OF DENMARK,  
make known by these presents:

As from May 1, 1978, Section 4 of the Royal Decree No. 437 of December 21, 1966 on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea is amended as follows:

1. No. 8) deleted and replaced by:  
"57°44'43"N 10°39'26"E..... Grenen  
thence a straight line to"

2. No. 9) deleted.
3. No. 10) deleted.
4. No. 12) deleted and replaced by:  
"57°13'45"N 10°33'12"E      Holm off Lyngsa  
thence a straight line to"
5. No. 13) deleted.
6. No. 37) deleted and replaced by:  
"56°12'22"N 11°40'34"E      NW-reef  
thence a straight line to"
7. No. 38) deleted and replaced by:  
"56°07'49"N 12°18'43"E      Gilleleje Harbour pier  
thence the coastline to"
8. No. 39) deleted.

Done at Amalienborg, April 19, 1978  
Under Our Royal Hand and Seal  
(signed) MARGRETHE R.

(countersigned) Poul Sogaard

## ANALYSIS

The Danish straight baseline decree is aimed at accomplishing three separate purposes. The straight baselines a) close certain bays and river mouths; b) tie certain "fringing islands" to the mainland; and c) enclose certain closely related islands within single baseline systems utilizing one major island as mainland. One of the last-named, Christiansø, is an extremely small series of rocks and islets detached from the mainland of Denmark. Because these latter straight baselines enclose a very small area, they have not been shown on the attached map. They are, however, analyzed in the following table:

| Point          | Length in n.m. |              | Comments  |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|---|
|                | Sector         | Total        |   |
| <b>JUTLAND</b> |                |              |   |
| 1 – 2          | 8.7            |              | The initial point marks the (internal waters) terminus of the Danish-German land boundary. The baseline extends northward to a spit, a distance of approximately 2.5 nautical miles from Rømø and 13 nautical miles from Jutland. The SBL does not deviate from the general direction of the coast. |
| 2 – 3          | 7.2            |              | The same geographic relationships apply. Point 3 is the seaward point of a spit extending from Fanø.  |
| 3 – 4          | 7.75           |              | The SBL parallels Fanø, about 1.25 n.m. distant, to connect with a second low-tide spit.  |
| 4 – 5          | 2.2            |              | The SBL joins Jutland, connecting the mud-flat rimmed, fringing islands with the mainland. At low tide, very little water surface exists shoreward of the SBL.  |
|                |                | <u>25.85</u> |   |
| 6 – 7          | 3.6            |              | The SBL closes the entrance of Limfjorden, a deeply penetrating waterway which, in effect, makes northern Denmark an island.  |
|                |                | <u>3.6</u>   |   |
| 8 – 11         | 15.83          |              | The system, from new point 8 (the Skaw, the northern point of Denmark), extends roughly parallel to the coast to a small group of islets (utilized in the previous system) and thence to the islet of Holm situated near the mainland. The system then joins with the following:                    |
| 11 – 12        | 15.43          |              |   |
| 12 – 14        | 17.00          |              | The SBL from points 14 through 16 closes the eastern entrance of the Limfjorden (see 6-7 above).  |
| 14 - 15        | .1             |              |   |
| 15 – 16        | 1.7            |              | The deviation from the general direction of the coast is slight.  |
|                |                | <u>50.06</u> |   |
| 17 – 18        | 4.6            |              | The southern element of this SBL closes the   |

| Point     | Length in n.m. |               | Comments  |   |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|---|---|
|           | Sector         | Total         |   |   |
| 18 – 19   | 3.1            |               | Mariager Fjord and the Randers Fjord. Both fjords are juridical bays; the straight baselines are within 8° of general trend from the coast.   |   |
|           |                | <u>7.7</u>    |   |   |
| 20 – 21   | 10.2           |               | The straight baselines from point 20, on the east cape of Jutland, through point 33 serve to tie the fringing islands of Hjelm, Bosserne, Samsø, Fyn, Langeland, and Aerø to the mainland of Jutland. The islands, which are aligned generally parallel to the Jutland coast, screen the peninsula for approximately 73 nautical miles of their 80 nautical miles' extent. In the south, between points 30 and 33, the straight baselines are roughly perpendicular to the trend of the Jutland coast, as influenced by the distribution of islands. The baseline system uses coastal portions of the major islands of Samsø, Fyn, Langeland, and Aerø as baselines.  |   |
| 21 – 22   | 12.0           |               |   |   |
| 22 – 23   | 5.6            |               |   |   |
| 24 – 25   | 8.6            |               |   |   |
| 26 – 27   | 3.8            |               |   |   |
| 28 – 29   | 8.6            |               |   |   |
| 30 – 31   | 10.65          |               |   |   |
| 32 – 33   | 6.7            |               |   |   |
|           |                | <u>66.15</u>  |   |   |
| 34 – 35   | 2.55           | <u>2.55</u>   | The segment encloses the Danish portion of the Flensborg Fjord. The terminal point marks the eastern limit of Danish internal waters on the Danish-German land border.  |   |
|           | Total          | <u>155.91</u> |   |   |
| SJAELLAND |                |               |   |   |
| 36 – 37   | 17.28          |               | The straight baselines from point 36 to point 75 serve to a) delineate the roadsteads for Copenhagen and Helsingør harbours and b) tie the adjacent islands of Hesselø, Lolland, Falster, and Møn to the main island of Sjaelland; in effect, an insular mainland is applied. The result of the application, however, serves to exclude the important passageway of the Store Baelt from the inland waters of Denmark. A narrow passage of territorial sea is maintained. These straight baselines, as a result, bear no relation to the general trend of the mainland coast of continental Denmark. However, by utilizing the major island of Sjaelland as the mainland, the system conforms to this obligation. |   |
| 37 – 38   | 21.81          |               |   |   |
|           |                | <u>39.08</u>  |   |   |
| 40 – 41   | .78            |               |   |   |
| 41 – 42   | .59            |               |   |   |
| 42 – 43   | .98            |               |   |   |
|           |                |               |   | Points 40 to 45 serve to outline the roadstead for Helsingør. At its maximum extent, the roadstead is approximately .6 n.m. from the shoreline. |

| Point   | Length in n.m. |               | Comments  |
|---------|----------------|---------------|---|
|         | Sector         | Total         |   |
| 43 – 44 | .89            |               |   |
| 44 – 45 | .48            |               |   |
|         |                | <u>3.72</u>   |   |
| 46 – 47 | 2.55           |               | Points 46 through 56 define the limits of Copenhagen roadstead. The maximum distance from the nearest land is approximately 5 nautical miles, north of Saltholm (island). Point 48 is on the Swedish-Danish boundary through the Sound. |
| 47 – 48 | 7.85           |               |   |
| 48 – 49 | 2.1            |               |   |
| 50 – 51 | 3.35           |               |   |
| 51 – 52 | 1.12           |               |   |
| 52 – 53 | 1.36           |               |   |
| 53 – 54 | .48            |               |   |
| 54 – 55 | 4.65           |               |   |
| 55 – 56 | 4.2            |               |   |
| 56 – 57 | 12.1           |               |   |
|         |                | <u>39.76</u>  |   |
| 58 – 59 | 17.2           | <u>17.2</u>   | Closes Fakse Bugt, a juridical bay.   |
| 60 – 61 | 14.45          |               | Closes Hjelm Bugt, not a juridical bay.   |
| 61 – 62 | 17.75          |               | Encloses a coastal indentation of Falster.  |
| 63 – 64 | 3.4            |               | Points 63 to 65 close off a coastal indentation formed by Falster and Lolland and serves to tie the islands together. The indentation is not a bay.   |
| 64 – 65 | 12.7           | <u>48.30</u>  |   |
| 66 – 67 | 3.85           | <u>3.85</u>   | Closes an unnamed juridical bay on Lolland.   |
| 68 – 69 | 15.2           |               | Serves with the next segment to bind Lolland to Sjælland and to enclose a large body of water--Smaalands Farvandet--which, while semi-circular, is not legally a bay. Geographically, the water is a sound.                             |
| 69 – 70 | 11.4           |               |   |
|         |                | <u>26.6</u>   |   |
| 70 – 71 | 7.7            |               | Encloses Musholm Bugt, which is not a juridical bay, in combination with segment 71-72.   |
| 71 – 72 | 2.5            | <u>10.2</u>   |   |
| 72 – 73 | 10.21          |               | Encloses Jammerland Bugt, which is not a juridical bay.   |
| 73 – 74 | 5.3            |               | Closes Kalunborg Fjord, a juridical bay.  |
| 74 – 75 | 13.70          |               | The straight baseline 75-36 encloses a double-mouthed, baylike water body. The separate mouths are formed by the island of Sejerø, situated roughly in the center.  |
| 75 – 36 | 10.35          |               |   |
|         |                | <u>39.56</u>  |   |
|         | Total          | <u>228.27</u> |   |
| LAESØ   |                |               |   |
| 76 – 77 | 9.1            |               | The straight baselines from 76 to 83 serve to tie the island of Laesø to its adjacent instances, the shore of Laesø forms the baseline (81-82 and 77-78).   |
| 78 – 79 | 7.55           |               |   |
| 80 – 81 | 4.15           |               |   |

| Point              | Length in n.m. |              | Comments   |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|--|
|                    | Sector         | Total        |  |
| 81 – 82            | 1.20           |              | Laesø is situated 10 miles from the Jutland shore.   |
| 82 – 83            | 6.1            |              |  |
| 83 – 76            | 1.1            |              |  |
|                    | Total          | <u>29.20</u> |  |
| <b>CHRISTIANSØ</b> |                |              |  |
| 85 – 86            | 1.310 meters   |              | The straight baselines between points 84 and 96 encircle the Christiansø group of islets and rocks. The group is very small; the distances of the straight baselines are in metres and not in nautical miles. At the end of the group, the metres are converted to nautical miles in the total. Christiansø is situated between 55°19'05" and 55°19'54" North and 15°10'18" and 15°11'54" East, in the Baltic Sea adjacent to Bornholm Island. |
| 86 – 87            | 70m            |              |  |
| 87 – 88            | 702m           |              |  |
| 88 – 89            | 45m            |              |  |
| 90 – 91            | 562m           |              |  |
| 91 – 92            | 940m           |              |  |
| 92 – 93            | 170m           |              |  |
| 93 – 94            | 545m           |              |  |
| 94 – 95            | 67m            |              |  |
| 95 – 96            | 65m            |              |  |
| 96 – 84            | 30m            |              |  |
| Total 4,566m       |                | 2.47         |  |
| Denmark Total      |                | 415.85       |  |

### SUMMARY

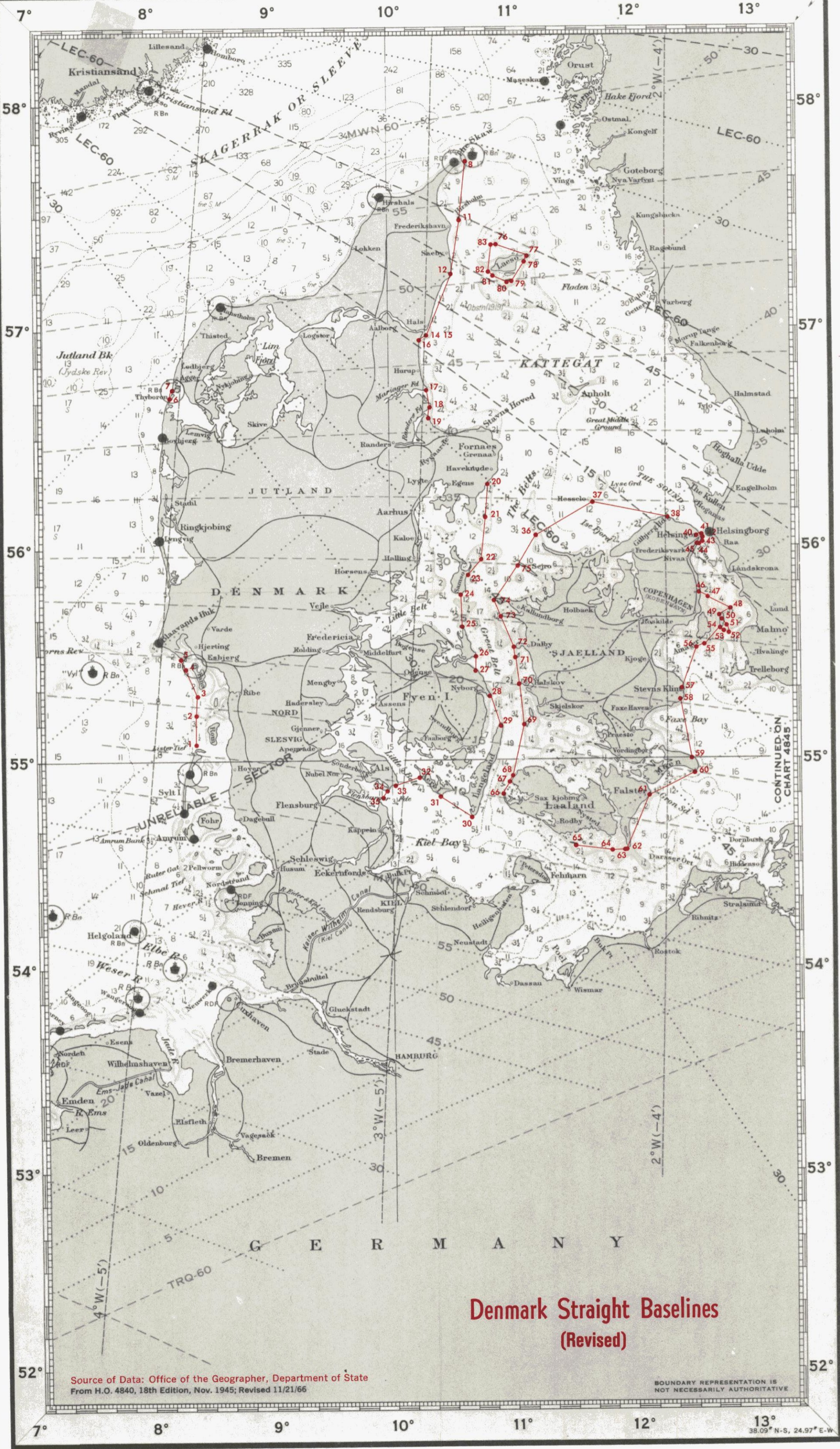
The Danish straight baselines comprise 70 lines alternating with nearly two dozen normal coastline segments. The total length of the straight baselines is 415.85 nautical miles. The average SBL length is 5.83 nautical miles if the small Christiansø lines are included or 6.99 nautical miles if they are excluded. The longest SBL measures 21.81 nautical miles between points 37 and 38. The shortest, in the Christiansø group, measures a mere 30 meters. Elsewhere, the shortest segment is approximately .1 nautical miles long.

The effect of the 1978 revision of the original straight baseline system is twofold: 1) the northeastern coastal area of Jutland is enclosed within a single system from the Skaw, the northeastern point of Denmark, to south of the Lim Fjord and 2) the island of Hesselø is included within the Sjaelland system.

Denmark has applied an insular mainland concept in three instances: a) Sjaelland, b) Laesø, and c) Christiansø. In the case of Sjaelland, the effect is to leave the Store Bælt shipping passage as territorial waters rather than to include it within the internal waters of the state. Both Laesø and Christiansø are too far removed from the mainland to be included within the Jutland straight baseline system.

Denmark has signed and ratified the Geneva Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone.





## Denmark Straight Baselines (Revised)

Source of Data: Office of the Geographer, Department of State  
From H.O. 4840, 18th Edition, Nov. 1945; Revised 11/21/66

BOUNDARY REPRESENTATION IS NOT NECESSARILY AUTHORITY