

cartographic perspectives

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cartographic perspectives on the news

DRAWING THE LINE

One of the original—and most persistent—motivations for map making is the desire to delineate and revise boundaries. Boundary disputes are a source both of steady business and endless frustration for map makers, keepers, and users. The *New York Times* recently reported on two North American boundary disputes that bring to light some of the political ramifications of lines drawn on maps.

THIS OCEAN IS MY OCEAN

In "New Negotiations in Fishing Dispute" (8/7/89), the *Times* reported that "New confrontations between American fisherman and Canadian patrols on the Georges Bank, one of the world's richest fishing grounds, have brought the two nations back to the conference table . . . Last month, the Canadian authorities chased an American scalloper across 100 miles of sea for 18 hours . . ." turning back ". . . only when the fishing boat, based in New Bedford, Mass., reached United States territorial waters 12 miles off the coast of Nantucket.

"The incident was the latest of at least 10 in the past two years. In