



International Boundary Study

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Benin (*Dahomey*) – Nigeria Boundary

(Country Codes: BN-NI)

**The Geographer
Office of the Geographer
Bureau of Intelligence and Research**

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY STUDY

No. 91

BENIN (DAHOMY) – NIGERIA BOUNDARY

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BENIN (DAHOMY) – NIGERIA BOUNDARY

I. BRIEF

The Dahomey - Nigeria boundary is approximately 480 miles in length. It extends between the Gulf of Guinea (Bight of Benin) and the Republic of Niger tripoint at the median of the Niger river. Inland from the Gulf of Guinea, the boundary is demarcated by pillars to the Okpara and then follows the thalweg of the Okpara for about 100 miles. The remainder of the boundary consists primarily of straight-line segments, arcs of circles, and sectors parallel to roads.

II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In 1845 French possessions in western Africa were divided between Senegal with headquarters at Saint-Louis and Les Rivières du Sud (Southern Rivers) with headquarters on the Ile de Goree (two miles east of the present city of Dakar). Les Rivières du Sud comprised all French settlements south of Senegal to, and for a short time including, Gabon, under the admiral in Command of the Naval Station on the Ile de Goree. During 1851 Bouet-Willaumez of Les Rivières du Sud concluded a treaty of friendship and commerce with King Gezo of Dahomey. On February 26, 1859, French settlements south of the Ile de Goree were placed under the Governor of Senegal. Porto Novo was established in 1863 as the first of a number of French protectorates in Dahomey. A decree of February 4, 1879 placed the French settlements along the Bight of Benin (Gulf of Guinea) under the administration of Gabon. Les Rivières du Sud was made a colony in 1882 with a Lieutenant Governor responsible to the Governor of Senegal. In 1883 French protectorates were established, or in some cases re-established, for Grand-Popo, Petit-Popo (Anecho), Porto-Novo, and Porto-Seguro, and they were known as the Etablissements du Golfe de Guinée. As a result of the Berlin Conference of 1885, German claims on the Gulf of Guinea were recognized with the cession of Porto-Seguro and Anecho to Togo. On August 4, 1886, a French decree placed the remainder of the Etablissements du Golfe de Guinée under the Lieutenant Governor of Les Rivières du Sud.

The Lagos area of Nigeria was ceded to the United Kingdom by a local monarch in 1861, and was titled the Settlement of Lagos and Dependencies. In 1863 the Settlement of Lagos was made a member of the West African Settlements subject to the Governor of Sierra Leone. During 1874 the Settlement of Lagos and the Gold Coast Colony were detached from the West African Settlements and both were administered by the Governor of the Gold Coast. Twelve years later the Settlement of Lagos was detached from the Gold Coast Colony and made a separate colony. In June 1885 the United Kingdom proclaimed an Oil Rivers Protectorate between the Settlement of Lagos and Kamerun.¹ During July 1886 the British chartered the Royal Niger Company which was given authority to administer territories in the interior of Nigeria held by treaties and concessions.

¹ The Oil Rivers Protectorate was renamed the Niger Coast Protectorate on May 13, 1893.

With the expansion inland of both Dahomey and Nigeria, the Anglo - French convention of August 10, 1889 delimited a boundary between the territories from the Gulf of Guinea northward to the parallel of 9° N.

Article IV. - Section 1. On the Slave Coast, the line of demarcation between the spheres of influence of the two powers shall be identical with the meridian which intersects the territory of Porto Novo at the Ajarra Creek [Adjarra], leaving Pokrah or Pokea to the English Colony of Lagos. It shall follow the above-mentioned meridian as far as the 9th degree of north latitude, where it shall stop.

In an attempt to clarify further the location of the meridian in Article IV of the Anglo - French Convention of August 10, 1889, Annex 2 of the same treaty affords the following information:

Section 1. "The meridian which intersects the territory of Porto Novo at the Ajarra Creek" shall be taken to mean:--

1. (To the north of the Porto Novo Lagoon) the middle of the stream of the Ajarra or Ajera River to the point where the said river ceases to separate the Kingdom of Porto Novo from that of Pokrah, and from thence the meridian thereof as far as the 9th parallel of north latitude.

2. (To the south of Porto Novo Lagoon) the meridian of the middle of the Ajarra River, where it flows into the Porto Novo Lagoon.

The frontier line has been based in this convention upon the sketch survey of the inland water communication in the Colony of Lagos, by Harbour-Master Speeding, 1886.

On December 17, 1891, Les Rivières du Sud, which included the Etablissements du Golfe de Guinée was declared independent of Senegal. A decree of March 10, 1893 made the Etablissement du Golfe de Guinée a colony independent of the Les Rivières du Sud. The new colony was titled Benin with a governor directly responsible to Paris. On March 10, 1894, a decree changed the name of the colony from Benin to Dahomey.

On October 12, 1896, a joint report by British and French Commissioners delimited the boundary northward to the ninth parallel.

The boundary, starting from Point A [near Dopen], ascends the River Iguidi (Igouidi) up to where it is found by the River Igirawun (Igouiraoun), leaving the town of Idiroko to the Colony of Lagos.

From thence it ascends the River Igirawun to a point 200 metres beyond the intersection of the river by the road from Ilashe to Ifoyin.

Ilashe remains in Lagos Colony.

From thence the boundary follows a fictitious line traced 200 metres parallel with a roadway, and leaving the roadway on its left.

This roadway (the first portion of which is the Ilashe -- Ifoyin road, starting from the river) runs north from Point B by the following farms:

Ikotun (Ikotoun),
Idagbon (Ilagbo),
Ilore (Ilore),
Isagbano (Isagbano),
Okeoko (Okeoko),
Igbado (Bado),
Madogan (Ogouissou).

All of which form part of the Colony of Dahomey; and by Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) and Ibeyun (Ibayan), which belong to Lagos Colony.

From Point B up to the River Amidu (Amidou), the boundary-line runs to the right of the roadway. At this river it crosses to 200 metres to the left of the roadway, following it up to the point where such roadway is intersected by the River Itu (Itou) [Ibu]. From thence the boundary follows the course of this river until it meets the River Buru (Bourou). It then follows the River Buru up to a point 200 metres beyond the bridge which spans it on the road from Ilimon.

Isale (Issale) and Ilimon (Ilemon) belong to the Colony of Dahomey.

Isuku (Isouko) and Asa (Aso) to the Colony of Lagos.

From thence the boundary-line runs at a distance of 200 metres to the left of and parallel with the roadway, which, passing Ishada (Ichada), Mokofi (Ibokofi), Ibeyan (Ibiyan), and Tobolo (Tobolo) [Tabolo] all of which belong to Lagos Colony cuts the River Iguna (Gauna) [Igunu] exactly on the meridian.

The boundary then follows the meridian up to a point 200 metres south of the road from Ketu to Idofa by Alagbe. From thence the boundary-line runs parallel with the road leading to Idofa via Alagbe at a distance of 200 metres on the right of the road as far as the River Yewa (Yeoua).

The boundary-line then ascends the Yewa River up to a point 200 metres below the river's intersection with the road from Idanyin proceeding north; Idofa (Idofa) and Meko (Meko) belonging to Lagos Colony.

Ilikimo (Likimon), Idanyin (Idanhim), Idjalu (Idjalou), and Iselu (Selou) belonging to the Colony of Dahomey.

From thence the boundary-line runs parallel with, at a distance of 200 metres to the right of it, the above-mentioned road up to where the road crosses the Okpara River.

Less than 100 metres from this crossing, on the right bank of the river, a cairn of stones in the shape of a pyramid was erected to distinguish the spot where lunar transit observations were taken.

The boundary-line then follows the thalweg of the Okpara River up to the 9th parallel.

Article II of the Anglo - French Convention of June 14, 1898 accepted the delimitation of October 12, 1896, and it also extended a boundary between British and French territories northward to the Niger river.

II. The frontier between the British Colony of Lagos and the French Colony of Dahomey, which was delimited on the ground by the Anglo - French Boundary Commission of 1895, and which is described in the Report signed by the Commissioners of the two nations on the 12th October, 1896, shall henceforward be recognized as the frontier separating the British and French possessions from the sea to the 9th degree of north latitude.

From the point of intersection of the River Okpara with the 9th degree of north latitude, as determined by the said Commissioners, the frontier separating the British and French possessions shall proceed in a northerly direction, and follow a line passing west of the lands belonging to the following places, viz., Tabira, Okuta (Okouta), Boria, Tere, Gbani Ashigere (Yassikera), and Dekala.

From the most westerly point of the lands belonging to Dekala the frontier shall be drawn in a northerly direction so as to coincide as far as possible with the line indicated on Map No. 1 annexed to the present Protocol, and shall strike the right bank of the Niger at a point situated 10 miles (16.093 metres) upstream from the centre of the town of Gere (Guiris) (the port of Ilo [Illo]), measured as the crow flies.

A French decree included Dahomey in French West Africa on October 17, 1899. Also during the same year, the Royal Niger Company surrendered its charter, and the British Government assumed control of the company's territorial acquisitions in the south by annexing them to the Niger Coast Protectorate which was renamed the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria in January 1900. To the north the Royal Niger Company's holdings became the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria. In 1906 the Colony of Lagos was joined with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, and the new entity became known as the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

An Anglo - French agreement of October 19, 1906 established the present Dahomey - Nigeria boundary, along with minor changes made by the demarcation protocol of July 20, 1912. An Anglo - French boundary commission completed the placement of pillars or beacons along the boundary from the Bight of Benin to the Okpara in 1912. As of January 1, 1914, the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria and the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria were amalgamated to form a single state called the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria.

In 1946 Dahomey, while remaining a part of French West Africa, was made an overseas territory and a member of the French Union. On December 4, 1958, the Republic of Dahomey became an autonomous member of the French Community. Dahomey was proclaimed independent on August 1, 1960 following an agreement with France.

The Federation of Nigeria consisting of the Northern Region, Western Region, Eastern Region, Southern Cameroons, and the Federal Capital of Lagos, was organized on October 1, 1960, and it proclaimed a Federal Republic three years later. The designation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria was abolished on May 24, 1966, and the name was changed to the Republic of Nigeria.

III. ALIGNMENT

The Anglo - French agreement of October 19, 1906 and amendments made by the demarcation protocol of July 20, 1912 (approved by an exchange of notes on February 18, 1914) determine the Dahomey - Nigeria boundary as follows²:

1. Starting on the coast of the Gulf of Guinea at the point at which it is intersected by the meridian passing through the middle of the mouth of the Ajara River where it flows into the Porto Novo lagoon, the frontier runs north along this meridian until it reaches the middle of the mouth of the River Ajara.
2. Thence it runs in the shortest straight line to the thalweg of the River Ajara.
3. Thence it ascends the thalweg of the River Ajara, its upper course being called the Iguidi (Igouidi), as far as the ravine [Itu] entering the river from the north immediately to the west of Idiroko, leaving the town of Idiroko to the Colony of Lagos.
4. Thence it follows the ravine [Itu] to its northern end.³

² Details of the demarcation protocol of July 20, 1912 relative to the boundary between the Gulf of Guinea and the Okpara are contained in the exchange of notes of February 18, 1914 included as Part III of the Appendix to this study.

³ The Amendments of Detail and special remarks included in the exchange of notes of February 18, 1914 indicate a change in the boundary as delimited by the Anglo - French Agreement of October 19, 1906 between the Itu ravine and the crossing of the Ilashe - Ikotum road and the Igirawun river. The new

5. Thence it follows a line drawn to a point on the north side of the shortest road from Ilashe (Ilashe) to Ikpaboro on the right (west) bank of the River Igirawun (Iguiraoun).
6. Thence it runs 200 metres northward from the road, then westward parallel with the road at 200 metres distance until 200 metres east of the first road branching northward to Ikotun (Ikotoun), which road it then follows northward to Ikotun (Ikotoun) at a distance of 200 metres parallel to and eastward of it.
7. Thence it follows a road running through the following places, as far as the River Amidu (Amidou), keeping always on the same side of the road and at the same distance from it: Ikotun (Ikotoun), Idagbon (Ilagbo), Igbado (Bado), Modogan (Ogouissou), Agangan, continuing as far as the River Amidu (Amidou) along the road to Ibeyun (Ibayan). Ikotun (Ikotoun), Idagbon (Ilagbo), Ilore, Isagbano, Okoko, Igbado (Bado), and Modogan (Ogouissou) are in French territory.
8. On reaching the thalweg of the River Amidu (Amidou), the frontier follows it upstream to a point 200 metres from and on the west side of the road.
9. From this point it runs parallel to the road which passes through Ibeyun (Ibayan) and Majano, keeping always on the same side of it, as far as its intersection by the River Ibu (Ibou) [Idi]. Ohumbe (Ohoumbe), Ibeyun (Ibayan), and Majano are in British territory.
10. Thence it follows the thalweg of the River Ibu (Ibou) downstream to its junction with the River Buru (Bourou), leaving Isale (Issale) in French, and Isuku (Isouko) and Asa (Aso) in British territory.
11. Thence it follows the thalweg of the River Buru (Bourou), leaving Ilimon (Illemon) in French territory, to a point 200 metres beyond the bridge which spans that river on the road from Ilimon (Illemon).
12. From this point the frontier runs parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres from the road to a point at which, after passing Ishada (Ichada), Mokofi (Ibokofi), Ibeyan (Ibayan) and Tabolo, all of which are in British territory, it crosses the River Igunu (Gauna).
13. Thence it runs due north to a point 200 metres south of the road from Ketu (Ketou) to Idofa by Alagbe (Itagbe), the latter being in French territory.
14. Thence it runs eastward parallel to that road as far as the River Yewa (Yeoua).

alignment is provided by the demarcation contained in Part III of the Appendix between boundary pillars 13 and 20.

15. Thence it ascends the thalweg of the River Yewa (Yeoua) to a point 200 metres below the intersection of that river with the road running northward from Idanyin (Idanhim) [Idigny], leaving Idofa and Meko in British territory, and Ilikimo (Likimon), Idanyin (Idanhim), Ijalu (Idjalou), and Iselu (Selou) in French territory.
16. Thence it runs northward parallel to that road and 200 metres distant from it, leaving the road in French territory, until it meets the thalweg of the River Okpara (Ocpara).
17. Thence it follows the thalweg of the River Okpara (Ocpara) up-stream to a point where the thalweg is cut by a line drawn on the north side of, parallel to, and 1 kilom. from, the more southerly of the two roads between Tabira and Weira (Ouoria).
18. Thence it follows this line eastwards to a point 5 kilom. from the wall or enceinte of the village of Tabira.
19. Thence it runs in a straight line to a point situated 5 kilom. from the wall of Tabira on the northern road from Tabira to Weria (Ouoria).
20. Thence in a straight line to a point situated 4 kilom. from the wall of Tabira on the road from Tabira to Tandu (Tandou) [Tindu].
21. Thence in a straight line to a point situated 5 kilom. from the wall of Tabira on the direct road from Tabira to Kabo [Kabogourou].
22. Thence in a straight line to a point situated 5 kilom. from the wall of Tabira, and 1 kilom. from the road from Tabira to Kenu (Kenou), measured at right angles to, and on the north of this road.
23. The frontier then follows a line parallel to the direct road from Tabira to Kenu (Kenou), on the north of, and 1 kilom. from, this road, to a point situated 2,100 metres from the wall or enciente of the village of Kenu (Kenou).
24. Thence a straight line to a point situated 4 kilom. from the wall of Kenu (Kenou) on the road from Kenu (Kenou) to Kabo.
25. Thence a straight line to a point situated 8-1/2 kilom. from the centre of the town of Okuta (Okouta), on the road from Okuta (Okouta) to Kabo.
26. Thence it follows the circumference of a circle of 8-1/2 kilom. radius, having for centre the centre of the town of Okuta (Okouta), to a point situated 1 kilom. from the direct road from Okuta (Okouta) to Boria, measured on the west of, and at right angles to this road.

27. Thence it runs parallel to the road from Okuta (Okouta) to Boria, at a distance of 1 kilom. from, and on the west of, this road, to a point situated 6 kilom. from the wall of the village of Boria.
28. Thence it follows a straight line to a point situated 4 kilom. from Boria on the road from Boria to Wandu (Ouandou).
29. Thence it follows a straight line to a point situated 4 kilom. from the wall of the village of Siia (Chuya) on the road from Siia (Chuya) to Sandiru (Sandilo) and Dididuru (Diguidourou) [Diguidirou].
30. Thence in a straight line to a point situated 4 kilom. from Siia (Chuya) on the direct road from Siia (Chuya) to Tera (Tinra).
31. Thence in a straight line to a point situated 1 kilom. from the intersection of the Big Shira (Chira) River by the direct road from Siia (Chuya) to Guri (Gore), measured at right angles to, and on the west of, this road.
32. Thence it runs parallel to the road from Siia (Chuya) to Guri (Gore), on the west of, and at a distance of 1 kilom. from it, to a point situated 4 kilom. from the centre of the village of Guri (Gore).
33. Thence it follows on the west side of Guri (Gore) the circumference of a circle of 4 kilom. radius, described round the centre of that village as centre, to a point situated 1 kilom. from the road from Guri (Gore) to Yashikira (Yassikere) [Yashikera] measured at right angles to, and on the west of, this road.
34. Thence it runs parallel to, and 1 kilom. to the west of the road from Guri (Gore) to Yashikira (Yassikere) to a point situated 8 kilom. from the centre of Yashikira (Yassikere).
35. Thence it follows on the west side of Yashikira (Yassikere) the circumference of a circle of 8 kilom. radius described round the centre of Yashikira (Yassikere) as centre, to a point situated 8 kilom. from the centre of Yashikira (Yassikere) on the road from Yashikira (Yassikere) to Nikki (Niki).
36. From this point the frontier follows a line which is a tangent to a circle of 4 kilom. radius, having Grand Bete as centre, and on the north-west side, as far as the point where the tangent meets the circumference of that circle.
37. Thence it runs in a straight line to a point situated 4 kilom. from the wall of Grand Bete, at a distance of 1 kilom. from, measured at right angles to, and to the north-west of, the direct road from Grand Bete to Karunzi (Garoussi).

38. Thence it runs parallel to the road from Grand Bete to Karunzi (Garoussi) on the west of, and at a distance of 1 kilom. from this road, to a point situated 4 kilom. from the wall of the village of Karunzi (Garoussi).
39. Thence in a straight line to a point situated due west of Karunzi (Garoussi), 4 kilom. from the wall of that village.
40. Thence it runs direct to a point situated 4 kilom. from the wall of Karunzi (Garoussi), and 1 kilom. from the road from Karunzi (Garoussi) to Kenumbe (Kenombe), measured at right angles to and on the north-west of this road.
41. Thence it runs parallel to the direct road from Karunzi (Garoussi), to Kenumbe (Kenombe) on the west side of, and at a distance of 1 kilom. from that road to a point situated 4 kilom. from the centre of the village of Kenumbe (Kenombe).
42. Thence it follows on the west side of Kenumbe (Kenombe), the circumference of a circle of 4 kilom. radius, described round the centre of Kenumbe (Kenombe) as centre, to a point, situated 1 kilom. from and to the west of the road from Kenumbe (Kenombe) to Besi (Bessi) measured at right angles to this road.
43. Thence it runs parallel to the road from Kenumbe (Kenombe) to Besi (Bessi), on the west of and at a distance of 1 kilom. from this road to a point situated 8 kilom. from the centre of Besi (Bessi).
44. Thence it follows on the west side Besi (Bessi), the circumference of a circle of 8 kilom. radius described round the centre of Besi (Bessi) as centre to the intersection of this circumference with the road from Besi (Bessi) to Sakamanji (Sakamandji).
45. Thence it runs in a straight line to a point situated 12 kilom. from the wall or enceinte of Dakala on the road from Dekala to Lu (Lou) and Daganzi [Dagassi].
46. Thence in a straight line to a point situated on the road from Dekala to Gauzhi (Gaodgi) at a distance of 3-1/2 kilom. from the centre of Gauzhi (Gaodgi).
47. Thence it follows on the east side Gauzhi (Gaodgi), the circumference of a circle, 3-1/2 kilom. radius, described round the centre of Gauzhi (Gaodgi) as center, to a point 1 kilom. from the road from Gauzhi (Gaodgi) to Basso, measured at right angles to, and to the south of, this road.
48. Thence it runs parallel to the road from Gauzhi (Gaodgi) to Basso, to the south-east of, and at a distance of 1 kilom. from this road, to a point situated 5 kilom. from Basso.
49. Thence it follows a tangent drawn from this point, on the south-west of Lusi

(Lousi) to a circle of 3-1/2 kilom. radius, described round the centre of the village of Lusi (Lousi) as centre. It continues along this tangent to its intersection with a perpendicular to the road from Lusi (Lousi) to Babanna the perpendicular being drawn from the point half-way between Lusi (Lousi) and Babanna.

50. Thence it follows this perpendicular as far as the point half-way between Lusi (Lousi) and Babanna.

51. Thence it runs in a straight line to a point situated 5 kilom. from Lusi (Lousi), and 1 kilom. to the east of the road from Lusi (Lousi) to Naganzi (Nagandgi) [Neganzi].

52. Thence it runs parallel to the road from Lusi (Lousi) to Naganzi (Nagandgi), to the east of, and at a distance of 1 kilom. from this road, cuts the road from Babanna to Naganzi (Nagandgi), and runs parallel to, and at a distance of 1 kilom. to the east of, this last road, to a point situated 4 kilom. from the centre of the village of Naganzi (Nagandgi), and 1 kilom. to the east of the road from Babanna to Naganzi (Nagandgi).

53. Thence it follows to the east of Naganzi (Nagandgi), the circumference of a circle of 4 kilom. radius, described round the centre of Naganzi (Nagandgi) as centre, as far as the point on the south-east of Naganzi (Nagandgi), at which this circle is touched by the longest common tangent to it and to another circle of the same radius described round the centre of the village of Kade (Koure) as centre.

54. Thence it follows this tangent until it touches the circumference of the circle described round Kude (Koure).

55. Thence it follows this circle to a point situated to the east of, and 1 kilom. from, the road from Kude (Koure) to Kankali (Kankari), the distance being measured at right angles to the road.

56. Thence it follows a line parallel to, on the east side of, and at a distance of 1 kilom. from, the road from Kude (Koure) to Kankali (Kankari), to a point situated 5 kilom. from the centre of Kankali (Kankari).

57. Thence it follows on the east side of Kankali (Kankari), the circumference of a circle of 5 kilom. radius, described round the centre of the village of Kankali (Kankari) as centre, until it meets, on the east side, the longest tangent common to the last-mentioned circle and to another circle of 4 kilom. radius described round Gusin - Sura (Gouri - Sare) [Goussin Sari] as centre.

58. Thence it follows this common tangent to its intersection with the longest tangent common to this last-mentioned circle, and to another of 5 kilom. radius, described round Daku (Dako) as centre.

59. Thence it follows the last-mentioned tangent as far as its intersection with the circumference of the circle of 5 kilom. radius described round Daku (Dako).
60. Thence it follows the circumference of this circle, always on the east side of the road from Segbana to Samia, to a point situated 1 kilom. from, and on the east of, the road from Daku (Dako) to Samia.
61. Thence it follows a line parallel to, on the east of, and 1 kilom. from, the road from Daku (Dako) to Samia, to the intersection of the said parallel line with the thalweg of the River Wan (Oua) [Waratena, Shodu].
62. Thence it follows the thalweg of the River Wan (Oua) up-stream to its intersection with a line passing through the following two points:--
- (1.) A point situated 3 kilom. true west of the intersection of the River Wan (Oua) and the road from Daku (Dako) to Samia.
 - (2.) A point situated on the road from Ilo to Lugu (Lougou) 37 kilom. from the enceinte or wall of Ilo, the distance being measured along the road.
63. Thence it follows this line to that above-mentioned point on the road from Ilo to Lugu (Lougou).
64. Thence it runs in a straight line to a point 8 kilom. south, 23° west (true), of the cairn situated at the junction of the roads from Madekale (Madikale) to Tuandi and Madekale (Madikale) to Lolo, which cairn is about 3,000 metres from, and south of the River Niger.
65. Thence in a straight line to the cairn mentioned in paragraph 64, and thence in the same straight line produced until it terminates at its intersection with the median line of the River Niger.

APPENDIX

I. Documents

1. Arrangement between Great Britain and France, respecting the Delimitation of the English and French Possessions on the West Coast of Africa. Signed at Paris, August 10, 1889. Edward Hertslet, The Map of Africa by Treaty, 3v. 3d. ed. (London: Harrison and Sons, 1909), Vol. 2, pp. 729 - 736.
2. Report of the British and French Commissioners for the Delimitation of the Boundary between the Colonies of Lagos and Dahomey. Signed at Paris, October 12, 1896. British and Foreign State Papers (BFSP), Vol. 91, 1898 - 9, pp. 103 - 108.
3. Convention between Great Britain and France, for the Delimitation of their respective Possessions to the West of the Niger, and of their respective Possessions and Spheres of Influence to the East of that River. Signed at Paris, June 14, 1898. BFSP, Vol. 91, 1898 - 9, pp. 38 - 57.
4. Agreement between Great Britain and France relative to the Frontier between the British and French possessions from the Gulf of Guinea to the Niger (Southern Nigeria and Dahomey). Notes exchanged at Paris, October 19, 1906. BFSP, Vol. 99, 1905 - 6, pp. 217 - 229. Also United Kingdom Cd. 3303 (1907).
5. Agreement between the United Kingdom and France respecting the Delimitation of the Frontier between the British and French Possessions from the Gulf of Guinea to the Okpara River. Treaty Series 1914, No. 5, Cd. 7278, with Map G.S.G.S. 2688 (also see Cd. 7214).

II. Maps

1. Dahomey: scale 1:100,000; published 1947 by Service Geographique de l'A.O.F. (French West Africa); sheets B-31-XV-II (Porto Novo) and B-31-XV-4 (Pobe).
2. Dahomey: scale 1:200,000 published 1947 - 67 by Institut Geographique National (Paris and Dakar); sheets NB-31-XXI (Zagnanado), NC-31-III (Save), C-31-X (Nikki), C-31-XVI (Dunkassa), and NC-31-XXII (Gaya). (boundary pillars and associated numbers indicated on sheets)
3. Map of the Franco - British Frontier from the Gulf of Guinea to the R. Okpara: scale 1:250,000; published 1913 by United Kingdom War Office; G.S.G.S. No. 2688.
4. Nigeria: scale 1:500,000; published 1960 by Federal Surveys, Nigeria; sheets 9, 5, and 1. (Boundary pillars and associated numbers indicated on sheets)

III. The Delimitation of the Frontier between the British and French Possessions from the Gulf of Guinea to the Okpara River (February 18, 1914)

Table of Beacons

No.	Positions on the Ground	Reckoned from the preceding Beacon		Remarks
		Bearing (Degrees)	Distance (Metres)	
	Initial point. Middle of the mouth of the River Ajara (Adjara). Width of the lagoon = 900 metres. Distance between the south bank of the lagoon and Beacon No. 1 = 174 metres.			
1	On the first bank of firm ground rising from the swamp.	180	1,714	
2	On the direct path (north side) from Poguidi to Fasimi.	180	409	
3	In the palm on plantation the line of beacons.	180	359	
4	On the direct path (north side) from Poguidi to Ashiri.	180	354	
5	To the south of, and about 100 metres from, the last houses west of Ashiri, near the point on the water which is in French territory and between the two oil-works in the English village of Ashiri.	180	383	
6	On the path from	180	363	

	Hovidokpo to Kwawme by Akpame (north side of road).		
7	To the south of the Akpame palm plantation on the line of beacons.	180	203
8	In the middle of a tongue of wooded land jutting out of the swamp south of Akpame.	180	729
9	On the south bank of the big swamp between Akrake and Kwawme and about 200 metres north of the Akrake - Kwawme road.	180	1,050
10	In the forest on the north side of a farm road and on the line of beacons.	180	1,300
11	In a clearing on the north side of a farm road and on the line of beacons.	180	464
12	Beacon on the sea-shore.	180	548

NOTE: -- Returning
to the initial point:
the centre of the
mouth [approximately
2°42'30" E.] of the
River Ajara (Adjara).
From there the
frontier ascends the
thalweg of the River
Ajara (Adjara), of
which the upper
course is called the
Iguidi (Igouidi), to
the mouth of the Itou
Ravine, the thalweg
of which it ascends
until it leaves it
at Beacon 13. This
part of the frontier

has not been beaconsed,
as the rivers form a
natural definite frontier.

13	Double beacon on the Itou Ravine at the intersection of the ravine and the direct path Igolo - Ilashe.	---	---	
14	On the direct road from Ayetedjoun to Owoteddo.	27-1/2	1,500	
15	On the road from Ayetedjoun to Ogaousa farm.	27-1/2	400	The two extreme points arc in French territory; the road which joins them touches the frontier at Beacon 15.
16	On the road and to the south-east of the Ogaousa farm.	51-1/2	500	
17	On the Ifanhim - (Ifoyin) Ilashe road by the British route.	51-1/2	1,600	
18	On the road from the village of Igirawun (Iguiraoun) to Ilashe IX.	51-1/2	800	
19	On the road from the village of Igirawun (Iguiraoun) to Idi - Iroko by the British route.	51-1/2	900	
20	Double beacon at the crossing of the Ifanhim (Ifoyin) - Ilashe road and the Igirawun (Iguiraoun) River.	51-1/2	550	From Beacons 20 to 24 the frontier follows thalweg of Igirawun (Iguiraoun) River.
21	Double beacon marking the course of the Igirawun (Iguiraoun) on the road from the village of	6	1,600	

	Igirawun (Iguiraoun) to Adetawna.		
22	Double beacon marking the course of the Igirawun (Iguiraoun) on the road from the village of Igirawun (Iguiraoun) to Kawkaw.	347	1,300
23	Double beacon marking the course of the Igirawun (Iguiraoun) at the watering- place of Baodjo village.	2	500
24	Double beacon near the source of the Igirawun (Iguiraoun).	40	300
25	200 metres north- east of the road from Aro to the source of the Igirawun (Iguiraoun) and on the path from Baodjo to Itawraw.	28	350
26	200 metres east of the Baodjo - Atanatan road and on the direct path from Aro to Itawraw.	357	200
27	North-east of the farms situated on the east of the Baodjo - Atanatan road, about 1,700 metres from Baodjo market.	30	700
28	200 metres east of the Baodjo - Atanatan road on a farm path leaving the road 1,100 metres south of the	9	1,300

	Baodjo - Atanatan and Baodjo - Idagbon (Ilagbo) road- crossing.		
29	200 metres east of the Baodjo - Atanatan road on a farm path leaving the road 700 metres south of the Baodjo - Atanatan and Baodjo - Idagbon (Ilagbo)road-crossing.	0	400
30	On the Baodjo - Atanatan road 200 metres north of the bifurcation of the paths Baodjo - Atanatan and Baodjo - Idagbon (Ilagbo).	330	1,000
31	200 metres north of Idagbon (Ilagbo) on the path Idagbon (Ilagbo) - Oke Iwaw.	288	1,900
32	200 metres north of the last houses of Idagbon (Ilagbo) on the Idagbo (Ilagbo) - Ajilinde path.	271	600
33	On the direct path from Bedo to Ajilinde 200 metres north of the crossways Bedo - Ajilinde and Idagbon (Ilagbo) - Modogan (Ogouissou).	260	1,000
34	On the direct path from Bedo to Ogunjawbi passing west of Ajilinde and 200 metres north of the crossways Bedo - Ogunjawbi and Idagbon (Ilagbo) - Modogan (Ogouissou).	303	500
35	200 metres north of the the road Idagbon (Ilagbo) - Modogan (Ogouissou)	313	2,250

	on a farm path beginning about 1,000 metres east. of the point where the road meets the Government road Modogan (Ogouissou) - Sakete.		
36	On the path 200 metres east of the farm lying about 150 metres east of the bend in the Government road. (The bend is 600 metres south-east of Modogan market).	330	650
37	200 metres east of the east exit from Modogan market on the path from the market to Ogunjawbi.	315	500
38	200 metres east of the Modogan market - Akpake road on a farm path leaving the road about 1,100 metres from Modogan market.	25	1,050
39	200 metres east of the Modogan market - Akpake road on a farm path leaving the road near the sources of the Modogan River.	348	1,100
40	200 metres east of the Akpake - Apeshi (Akpetchidje) road on a farm path leaving the road about 700 metres from Akpake.	15	1,900
41	200 metres east of the Akpake - Apeshi (Akpetchidje) road on a farm path leaving the road about 1,700 metres from Akpake.	33	1,300
42	200 metres east of the most easterly houses of the village of Apeshi	1	2,700

	(Akpetchidje).		
43	On the Apeshi (Akpetchidje) - Ikotan road 200 metres east the watering point of Apeshi (Akpetchidje) on the Gbon River.	18	1,200
44	200 metres east of the place called Tamoro on the road from Apeshi (Akpetchidje) to Ohumbe (Ohoumbe).	348	2,400
45	200 metres east of the place called Kobedio on the road from Apeshi (Akpetchidje)- Ohumbe (Ohoumbe).	19	900
46	200 metres east of the Apeshi (Akpetchidje) - Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) road on a farm path leaving the road about 500 metres south of the River Amidu (Amidou).	0	1,800
47	Three beacons bearing the number 47--		
	(1.) On the River Amidu (Amidou) 200 metres below the crossing of the Apeshi (Akpetchidje) - Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) road.	21	600
	(2.) On the River Amidu (Amidou) at the crossing of the Apeshi (Akpetchidje) - Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) road.	255	200
	(3.) On the River Amidu (Amidou) 200 metres above the crossing of the Apeshi (Akpetchidje) - Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) road.	255	200
48	200 metres west of the Apeshi (Akpetchidje) - Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) road on a farm path leaving	21	700

	the road about 250 metres south of Ohumbe (Ohumbe) market.		
49	200 metres west of the Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) - Ibeyun (Ibayan) road on the farm path which leaves Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) market.	335	500
50	200 metres west of the Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) - Ibeyun (Ibayan) road on the path from Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) to Ouinka.	300	2,100
51	200 metres south-west of the Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) - Ibeyun (Ibayan) road on the path from Ibeyun (Ibayan) to Ouinka.	316	500
52	200 metres west of the Ohumbe (Ohoumbe) - Ibeyun (Ibayan) road on the path from the watering point of Ibeyun (Ibayan); the watering point is about 180 metres west of the beacon.	325	450
53	West of the Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Mojana road and on the path from Ibeyun (Ibayan) to Okeita, about 300 metres north-west of the bifurcation of the two roads.	333	1,000
54	200 metres west of the Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Mojana road and on a farm path which leaves the roads about 900 metres north of the bifurcation Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Mojana and Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Okeita roads.	10	900

55	200 metres west of the Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Mojana road and on a farm path which leaves the road about 1,800 metres north of the bifurcation of the Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Mojana and Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Okeita.	30	700	
56	200 metres north-west of the Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Mojana road and on a farm path which leaves the road about 1,800 metres north of the bifurcation of the roads Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Mojana and Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Okeita.	31	250	
57	200 metres west of the Ibeyun (Ibayan) - Isale (Issale) road and on the path Isale (Issale) - Okeita.	18	1,000	
58	On the Mojana - Isale (Issale) road and about 800 metres south of the River Ibu (Ibou).	10	2,300	This river is really called the Idi.
59	About 200 metres south-east of the last houses of Isale (Issale).	28	1,600	
60	About 200 metres north-east of the last houses of Isale (Issale).	9	600	
61	On the River Ibu (Ibou) about 500 metres north of the last houses of Isale (Issale).	305	300	NOTE.-- From Beacon 61 to 67 the frontier follows the thalweg of the Rivers Ibu (Ibou) and Buru (Bourou).
62	Double beacon marking the River Ibu (Ibou), on the path from Ilimon (Illemon) to Isuku.	53	3,300	

63	Double beacon marking the River Buru (Bourou) on the path from Ilimon (Illemon) to Iselu.	58	3,500
64	Double beacon marking the River Buru (Bourou) on the path from Agbele to Asha.	5	300
65	Double beacon marking the River Buru (Bourou) at the end of the path leading to the watering point of Agbele.	314	2,400
66	Double beacon marking the River Buru (Bourou) at the end of the path leading to the watering point of Ilimon (Illemon).	310	1,500
67	Beacon at the crossing of the Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokoli (Ibokofi) road over the River Buru (Bourou).	319	4,300
68	200 metres west, measured along a farm path which leaves the Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokofi (Ibokofi) road about 50 metres north of the crossing of the road over the River Buru (Bourou).	24	300
69	200 metres west, measured along a farm path which leaves the Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokofi (Ibokofi) road about 800 metres from the crossing of the road over the River Buru (Bourou).	45	700
70	200 metres towards the west on the road from	71	1,000

	Mokofi (Ibokofi) to Iga market, measured from the bifurcation of the roads Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Iga market and Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ilimon (Illemon).		
71	200 metres west of the Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokofi (Ibokofi) road, measured along the farm path leaving Ishada (Ichada) directly to the west.	71	900
72	200 metres west of the Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokofi (Ibokofi) road, measured along the farm path leaving Ishada (Ichada) in a north-westerly direction.	40	200
73	200 metres west, measured along a farm path leaving the Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokofi (Ibokofi) road about 1,200 metres north of the bifurcation of the roads Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokofi (Ibokofi) and Ilimon (Illemon) - Ishada (Ichada).	15	1,200
74	200 metres north-west, measured along a farm path leaving the Ilimon (Illemon)- Mokofi (Ibokofi) road about 1,250 metres south of the River Ibale.	32	850
75	200 metres west, measured along a farm path leaving the Ilimon (Illemon) - Mokofi (Ibokofi) road about 200 metres south of the River Ibale.	49	900
76	200 metres west of the	47	1,100

	Ilimon (Illemon) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road, measured along the farm path leaving Mokofi (Ibokofi).		
77	200 metres north-west, measured along a farm path leaving the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road about 1,000 metres south of the River Fadawa.	20	550
78	200 metres west, measured along a farm path leaving the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road about 100 metres south of the River Fadawa.	35	700
79	In the bush 200 metres west of the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road and opposite a point situated about 1,700 metres north of the River Fadawa.	14	1,850
80	In the bush 200 metres west of the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road and opposite a point situated about 4,000 metres north of the River Fadawa.	351	2,400
81	In the bush 200 metres west of the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road and opposite a point situated about 4,500 metres north of the River Fadawa.	350	450
82	In the bush 200 metres west of the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road and	358	1,100

opposite a point
situated about 5,600
metres north of the
River Fadawa.

83	200 metres south-west, measured along a farm path which leaves the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road about 2,400 metres south of Ibeyan (Ibiyan) cross-roads.	350	1,500
84	200 metres south-west, measured along a farm path which leaves the Mokofi (Ibokofi) - Ibeyan (Ibiyan) road, about 1,600 metres south of Ibeyan (Ibiyan) cross-roads.	352	800
85	435 metres measured west from Ibeyan (Ibiyan) cross-roads along the farm path.	359	1,700
86	200 metres south-west of Tabolo (Tobolo) cross-roads on the farm path leading south-west.	301	1,600
87	200 metres west of Tabolo (Tobolo) cross-roads on the farm path leading west.	310	150
88	200 metres west of the Tabolo (Tobolo) - Ketou road, measured along a farm path which starts about 600 metres west of Tabolo (Tobolo) cross-roads.	295	550
89	200 metres west on the Pankou road, measured from the bifurcation of the roads Tabolo (Tobolo) - Ketou and Tabolo	314	600

(Tobolo) - Pankou.

90	In the bush 200 metres west of the Tabolo (Tobolo) - Ketou road, measured from a point situated on the road about 2,500 metres north-west of Tabolo (Tobolo) cross-roads.	320	125
91	In the bush 200 metres west of the crossing of the Tabolo (Tobolo) - Ketou road over the second river from the Tabolo (Tobolo) cross-roads.	345	1,000
92	On the River Igunu (Gauna), 250 metres above the south point of crossing of the River Igunu (Gauna) and the Tabolo (Tobolo) road.	16	350
93	On the Tabolo (Tobolo) - Ketou road 560 metres north of the south point of crossing of the River Igunu (Gauna) on this road.	0	325
94	On the line of the meridian of the River Igunu (Gauna).	0	3,200
95	On the line of the meridian of the River Igunu (Gauna).	0	1,830
96	On the line of the meridian of the River Igunu (Gauna).	0	1,000
97	On the line of the meridian of the River Igunu (Gauna).	0	2,600
98	On the line of the meridian of the River Igunu (Gauna).	0	1,830

99	On the line of the meridian of the River Igunu (Gauna).	0	1,100
100	On the road 1,000 metres south of Ilara (Ilou Ayra), measured along the path starting from the fetish temple in the village.	0	1,480
101	85 metres west of the point of astronomical observation of Ilara (Ilou Ayra).	0	940
102	On the main path in the north-western part in Ilara (Ilou Ayra).	0	160
102 bis	To the north of Ilara (Ilou Ayra) on the path from Kobedjo to Alagbe (Itagbe).	0	140
103	50 metres from Igbaka II, on the path leading west.	0	170
104	200 metres west of a point situated 200 metres south of the ruins of Alagbe (Itagbe).	0	875
105	200 metres south of the ruins of Alagbe (Itagbe).	90	200
106	200 metres south-east of the ruins of Alagbe (Itagbe), on the road from Ilikimo (Likimon) to Ilara (Ilou Ayra).	66	175
107	200 metres south of the Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa) road and 200 metres east of the Ilikimo (Likimon) - Ilara (Ilou Ayra) road.	37	300
108	200 metres south of	77	1,100

	the Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa) road and on the Oke Odo - Ilara (Ilou Ayra) path.			
109	200 metres south of the Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa) road, measured from a point situated on the road about 1,250 metres east of the bifurcation of the roads Oke Odo - Ilara (Ilou Ayra) and Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa).	105	1,300	
110	200 metres south of the Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa) road, measured from a point situated on the road about 1,900 metres west of the crossing of the River Yewa (Yeoua).	90	800	
111	200 metres south of the Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa) road, measured from a point situated on the road about 400 metres west of the crossing of the River Yewa (Yeoua).	85	1,550	
112	Double beacon on the River Yewa (Yeoua), 200 metres south of the crossing of the Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa) road.	89	250	NOTE.-- From beacon 112 to 118 the frontier follows the thalweg
113	Double beacon on the River Yewa (Yeoua) at the crossing of the Ketou - Idofa (Idawfa) road.	14	200	of the River Yewa (Yeoua).
114	Double beacon on the River Yewa (Yeoua) at the crossing of Ilikimo (Likimon) - Idofa (Idawfa) road.	20	450	
115	Double beacon on the River Yewa (Yeoua)	356	2,600	

at the crossing of
Iselu (Selou) - Meko
road.

116	Double beacon on the River Yewa (Yeoua) on the road coming south-east from Idiya.	359	2,400
117	Double beacon on the River Yewa (Yeoua) about 2,400 metres as the crow flies, and below the crossing of the Idanyin (Idanhim) - Iwoye (Youoye) road.	323	7,300
118	Double beacon on the River Yewa (Yeoua), 200 metres below the crossing of the Idanyim (Idanhim) - Iwoye (Youoye) road.	304	2,200
119	In the bush 200 metres east of the Idanyin (Idanhim) - Iwoye (Youoye) road opposite a point situated about 500 metres north of the crossing of the River Yewa (Yeoua).	29	600
120	On the Iwoye (Youoye) - Meko road 200 metres south-east of the bifurcation of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Idanyin (Idanhim) and Iwoye (Youoye) - Meko roads.	23	500
121	200 metres north-east, measured along a farm path which leaves the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road about 250 metres north of the east entrance of the village.	0	700
122	In the bush 200 metres north-east, measured from a point on the	340	1,400

	Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road about 600 metres south-east of the crossing of the River Ikomi.		
123	In the bush 200 metres north, measured along the path leaving the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road 50 metres west of the crossing of the River Ikomi.	310	800
124	In the bush 200 metres north-east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 800 metres west of the crossing of the River Ikomi.	185	600
125	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 3,000 metres north of the crossing of the River Ikomi.	355	2,000
126	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 3,700 metres south of the crossing of the River Adougbe.	355	4,100
127	In the bush 200 metres east of the crossing of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road over the River Adougbe.	357	3.700
128	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 2,300 metres north of the crossing of the	13	2,500

River Adougbe.

129	In the bush 200 meters east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 800 metres north of the crossing of the River Afo.	8	3,500
130	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 3,600 metres north (place called Alla Soka (Allaye Tchoka) of the crossing of the River Afo.	352	2,900
131	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road and opposite a point situated about 4,800 metres north of the crossing of the River Afo.	340	1,200
132	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road and opposite a point situated about 1,800 metres south of the crossing of the River Olopakan.	25	1,500
133	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point about 300 metres north of the crossing of the River Olopakan.	8	2,100
134	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 3,100 metres north of the	352	2,800

	crossing of the River Olopakan.		
135	In the bush 200 metres north-east of the bend in the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 550 metres east of the crossing of the Onitie River.	10	1,400
136	In the bush 200 metres north of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 200 metres west of the crossing of the Onitie River.	283	900
137	In the bush 200 metres north-east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 1,600 metres west of the crossing of the River Onitie.	283	1,150
138	In the bush 200 metres east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated about 2,000 metres north of the crossing of the River Onikpako.	348	3,700
139	In the bush 200 metres east of the crossing of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road over the River Okpe-Soukou.	312	1,800
140	In the bush 200 metres north-east of the Iwoye (Youoye) - Jabata road opposite a point situated 2,250 metres north-west of the crossing of the road over the River Okpe-Soukou.	337	2,400

141	On the Wasimi road, measured 900 metres to the east from the bifurcation of the Jabata - Wasimi and Jabata - Iwoye (Youoye) roads.	298	850
142	At the point where the path from Jabata meets the Okpara (Ocpara), about 800 metres north of Jabata (the point of permanent water supply).	298	1,000

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