

OFFICE OF THE GEOGRAPHER AND GLOBAL ISSUES
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

No. 15

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GUIDANCE ON DEPICTION OF GAZA STRIP AND WEST BANK

1. This guidance amends previous guidance on depiction of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank requiring the following disclaimer:

"Israeli occupied--status to be determined"

2. The disclaimer for both the **Gaza Strip** and the **West Bank** is now to read as follows:

**"Israeli-occupied with interim status subject to
Israeli/Palestinian negotiations--final status to be determined."**

3. Other elements of the cartographic depiction of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank remain as before, to wit (see map, page 3):

a. The boundary of the Gaza Strip with Israel is **not** to be depicted as an international boundary. It is to be depicted as an *other line of separation*, and labelled "**1950 Armistice Line**." The boundary of the Gaza Strip with Egypt is to be depicted as an international boundary.

b. The boundary of the West Bank is **not** to be depicted as an international boundary. The boundary circumscribing the West Bank on the north, west, and south is to be depicted as an *other line of separation*, and labelled "**1949 Armistice Line**." The eastern boundary, in the Dead Sea and along the Jordan River, is to be depicted as an *other line of separation*, and labelled "**1967 Cease-Fire Line**."

c. The names **Gaza Strip** and **West Bank** are to be printed in a type face distinctly different from that used for independent states.

* On small scale maps or maps showing both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, it may be preferable to use asterisks after the names "Gaza Strip" and "Jericho," to refer the reader to a single printing of the disclaimer in the margin.

d. The names Judaea and Samaria are approved by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names **only** as names of historic regions, areas which have no definite boundaries. Their use on the map is **not** recommended, as it leads to misunderstanding. If these names are depicted, they are to be printed in a type face distinctly different from that used for independent states, local civil divisions, or for "Gaza Strip" and "West Bank."

Action. Please disseminate this guidance to all personnel in your organization concerned with cartographic production.



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** Israeli occupied with interim status subject to Israeli / Palestinian negotiations – final status to be determined.*

0 30 kilometers
0 30 miles

Names and boundary representation are not necessarily authoritative
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