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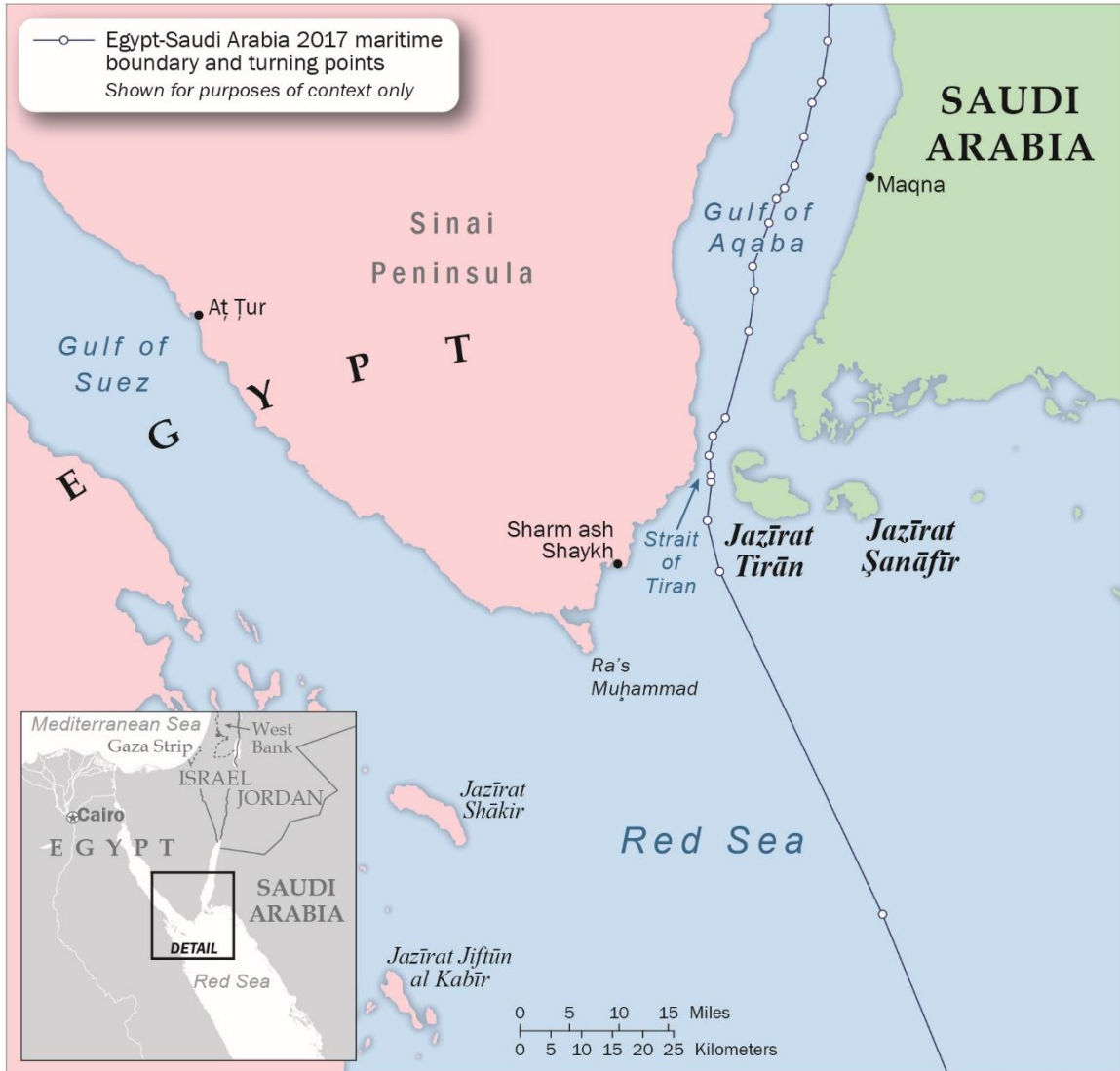
GUIDANCE ON SOVEREIGNTY OF TIRAN AND SANAFIR ISLANDS

Sovereignty depiction change: In 2016, Egypt recognized Saudi Arabia's sovereignty over the islands of Jazīrat Tīrān and Jazīrat Ṣanāfir (see Figure 1, following page) in the Strait of Tiran during the process of establishing a maritime boundary. U.S. Government maps should henceforth depict these islands as pertaining to Saudi Arabia.

Background: The United States Government had not taken a position on sovereignty of these islands, which Egypt has effectively controlled since 1950 while Saudi Arabia continued to claim sovereignty. Prior to 1950, Saudi Arabia was assumed to have sovereignty. In April 2016, Egyptian President al-Sisi announced that Egypt was transferring the islands back to Saudi Arabia in connection with a maritime boundary agreement, *Agreement of maritime delimitation between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Arab Republic of Egypt*, which entered into force in July 2017. The highest judicial body in Egypt upheld the agreement in March 2018.



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Figure 1