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CANBERRA, FRIDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER.

[1953.

PROCLAMATION

Commonwealth of Australia to wit.
W. J. SLIM
Governor-General.

By His Excellency the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS International Law recognizes that there appertain to a coastal state or territory sovereign rights over the sea-bed and subsoil of the continental shelf contiguous to its coasts for the purpose of exploring and exploiting the natural resources of that sea-bed and subsoil:

And whereas it is desirable to declare that Australia has those sovereign rights over the sea-bed and subsoil of the continental shelf contiguous to any part of its coasts and of the continental shelf contiguous to any part of the coasts of certain territories under its authority:

Now therefore I, Sir William Joseph Slim, the Governor-General aforesaid, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, hereby declare that Australia has sovereign rights over the sea-bed and subsoil of—

- (a) the continental shelf contiguous to any part of its coasts; and
 - (b) the continental shelf contiguous to any part of the coasts of territories under its authority other than territories administered under the trusteeship system of the United Nations,
- for the purpose of exploring and exploiting the natural resources of that sea-bed and subsoil:

And I further declare that nothing in this Proclamation affects—

- (a) the character as high seas of waters outside the limits of territorial waters; or
- (b) the status of the sea-bed and subsoil that lie beneath territorial waters.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia this tenth day of September, in the year of our Lord, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-three, and in the second year of Her Majesty's reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

ROBERT G. MENZIES
Prime Minister.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

PROCLAMATION

Commonwealth of Australia to wit.
W. J. SLIM
Governor-General.

By His Excellency the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS International Law recognizes that there appertain to a coastal state or territory sovereign rights over the sea-bed and subsoil of the continental shelf contiguous to its coasts for the purpose of exploring and exploiting the natural resources of that sea-bed and subsoil:

And whereas it is desirable to declare that those sovereign rights exist in respect of the Territory of New Guinea:

And whereas the Territory of New Guinea is administered by the Government of Australia under the trusteeship system of the United Nations:

Now therefore I, Sir William Joseph Slim, the Governor-General aforesaid, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, hereby declare that sovereign rights exist over the sea-bed and subsoil of the continental shelf contiguous to any part of the coasts of the Territory of New Guinea for the purpose of exploring and exploiting the natural resources of that sea-bed and subsoil:

And I further declare that those rights are exercisable by the Government of Australia as the Administering Authority of the Territory of New Guinea:

And I also declare that nothing in this Proclamation affects—

- (a) the character as high seas of waters outside the limits of territorial waters; or
- (b) the status of the sea-bed and subsoil that lie beneath territorial waters.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia this tenth day of September, in the year of our Lord, One thousand nine hundred and fifty-three, and in the second year of Her Majesty's reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

ROBERT G. MENZIES
Prime Minister.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

