SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda*

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR
REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIFTH CONFERENCE

A Symposium: "The Board—Yesterday, Today
and Tomorrow

Submitted by United States of America**/

* E/CONF.85/1 Rev. 1
**/ Prepared by Dr. Richard R. Randall, Executive Secretary, US
Board on Geographic Names
A SYMPOSIUM "THE BOARD--YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW"

The attached program of a symposium held during the Centennial Celebration of the US Board on Geographic Names shows the extent of participation by former and present members of the Board and its staff and by other individuals as well. It is estimated that since its founding 100 years ago, approximately 600 individuals have been officially involved with the work of standardizing geographic names for US purposes. Included have been heads of federal departments, principal officers of offices within departments, and other Federal employees with outstanding credentials in geography, cartography, linguistics, and other fields.

As noted, the purpose of the symposium was to provide perspectives about the past, present, and future contributions of the Board. All involved with the event agreed the occasion was a fitting tribute to the many accomplishments of the Board.

The US national report provides more information.
THE BOARD: YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

A Symposium on the Occasion of the Centennial of the United States Board on Geographic Names: 1890-1990


PROGRAM

Thursday, September 6, 1990

8:30 AM Registration. Outside Mumford Room
9:00 AM Opening.
John A. Wolter
Chief, Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress and Chairman, BGN Centennial Committee
9:10 AM Introduction.
Rupert B. Southard
Immediate past Chairman of the Board, US Geological Survey (ret.)
9:20 AM Keynote Address.
Dr. Kelsie B. Harder
Distinguished Teaching Professor, Potsdam College of the State University of New York
10:00 AM The Board is Created.
Donald J. Orth,
BGN Executive Secretary for Domestic Geographic Names, US Geological Survey
10:45 AM Break
11:15 AM The Board and International Programs.
Richard R. Randall
BGN Executive Secretary, Defense Mapping Agency
12:00 Noon Break
2:00 PM Voices from the Past. Former BGN Members, Staff and Others
Burton J. Adkinson, (former member from Library of Congress)
Cyril Barsky, (former staff member of Foreign Names Committee and member from Department of Defense)
Ernie Berringer, (current staff member of Domestic Names Committee)
Lester Dingman (former BGN Executive Secretary for Domestic Names)
Lewis G. Glover (former deputy member from Department of Agriculture)
Theodore J. Liard (former chief of names staff for Foreign Names Committee)
Walter Ristow (former member from Library of Congress)
Charles D. Rouse, (former staff member of Foreign Names Committee, chairman of BGN Advisory Committee on Undersea Features, and deputy member from Department of Defense)
3:30 PM The Wonderful World of Geographic Names: Things Learned and Things Yet to be Learned.
Meredith F. Burrill
BGN Executive Secretary Emeritus
4:00 PM Conclusion. Rupert B. Southard
Immediate past Chairman of the Board, U.S Geological Survey (ret.)
6:00 PM Exhibition opening and reception at the Library of Congress
Friday, September 7, 1990

8:55 AM Introduction. Ralph E. Ehrenberg
Chairman of the Board, Assistant Chief,
Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress

9:00 AM Panel: How the Board Works with Foreign and US Agencies.
Moderator: Sandra H. Shaw, Department of State

H.A.G. Lewis, Chairman, United Kingdom Permanent
Committee on Geographical Names
Henri Dorion, Chairman, Canadian Permanent
Committee on Geographical Names
Jay Haymond, President, Western States Geographical Names Council

10:00 AM Panel: Names and Automated Data Processing
Moderator: Donald J. Orth, BGN Executive Secretary for
Domestic Geographic Names,
U.S. Geological Survey
Roger Payne, Chief, Names Branch, U.S. Geological
Survey
Clare Durand, Computer Systems Analyst, Scientific Data
Department, Hydrographic/Topographic Center, Defense Mapping Agency

10:30 AM Break

11:00 AM Panel: What do Federal Agencies Require of the Board?
Moderator: Donald D. Loff
Director of Engineering, Rocky Mountain Region,
U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture

Mapping Agencies
Richard A. Berg
Chief, Scientific Data Department
Hydrographic/Topographic Center, Defense Mapping
Agency, Department of Defense
Mark Flannery
Cartographer, Pacific Northwest Region,
U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture
Tracy A. Fortmann
Program Analyst, Office of Policy
National Park Service, Department of Interior
Charles E. Harrington
Geographer, National Ocean Service, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
Department of Commerce
Rupert B Southard
Immediate past Chairman of the Board,
US Geological Survey (ret.),

Standardizing Agencies
Robert C. McArtor
Chairman, GPO Style Board, Government Printing Office
Henry Tom
Computer Specialist, National Institute of
Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce
Robert M. Hiatt
Assistant to the Director, Office of the Director
for Cataloging, Library of Congress

Foreign Policy Agency
Bradford L. Thomas
Geographer, Office of the Geographer, Bureau of
Intelligence and Research, Department of State
12:30 PM Noon Break
2:00 PM Panel: What do State, Professional, Commercial and
   Institutional Organizations Require of the Board?
   Moderator: Richard R. Randall, BGN Executive Secretary,
             Defense Mapping Agency
   State Organizations
   Grant Smith
   Director, United States Place Names Survey,
   Eastern Washington University
   Professional Organizations
   Meredith F. Burrill
   Former President, Association of American
   Geographers
   John Snyder
   President, American Cartographic Association,
   American Congress on Surveying and Mapping
   Mary Lynn Bird
   Director, American Geographical Society
   Commercial Organizations
   Patrick Healy
   Cartographic Manager, Rand McNally and Company
   Institutional Organizations
   John B. Garver, Jr.
   Senior Assistant Editor and Chief Cartographer,
   National Geographic Society
3:00 PM Round Table Discussion: The Board Meets Requirements of
   Federal, State, and Other Organizations
   Moderator: Sterling J. Wilcox,
             Vice Chairman of the Board
             Director of Engineering, U.S. Forest Service
             Department of Agriculture
   Richard L. Forstall
   Chief, Population Distribution Branch,
   Population Division, Bureau of the Census
   Commerce Department
   Tracy A. Fortmann
   Program Analyst, Office of Policy, National Park
   Service, Department of Interior
   Carl Nellis
   Cartographer, Hydrographic/Topographic Center,
   Defense Mapping Agency, Department of Defense
   Donald J. Orth
   BGN Executive Secretary for Domestic Geographic Names,
   US Geological Survey
   Richard R. Randall
   BGN Executive Secretary, Defense Mapping Agency
   Lewis L. McArthur
   Chairman of the Interim Committee of the Oregon
   Geographic Names Board
3:45 PM Audience Questions and Comments
4:00 PM Formal Closing Ceremony: Thanks to Past Members and Staffs.
   Ralph E. Ehrenberg, Chairman of the Board