

CIL Seminar on Protecting Critical Maritime Infrastructure

13 July 2023

Comments by

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Part 1

Threats to Cables and Pipelines

Nord Stream Pipeline

Nord Stream pipelines from Russia

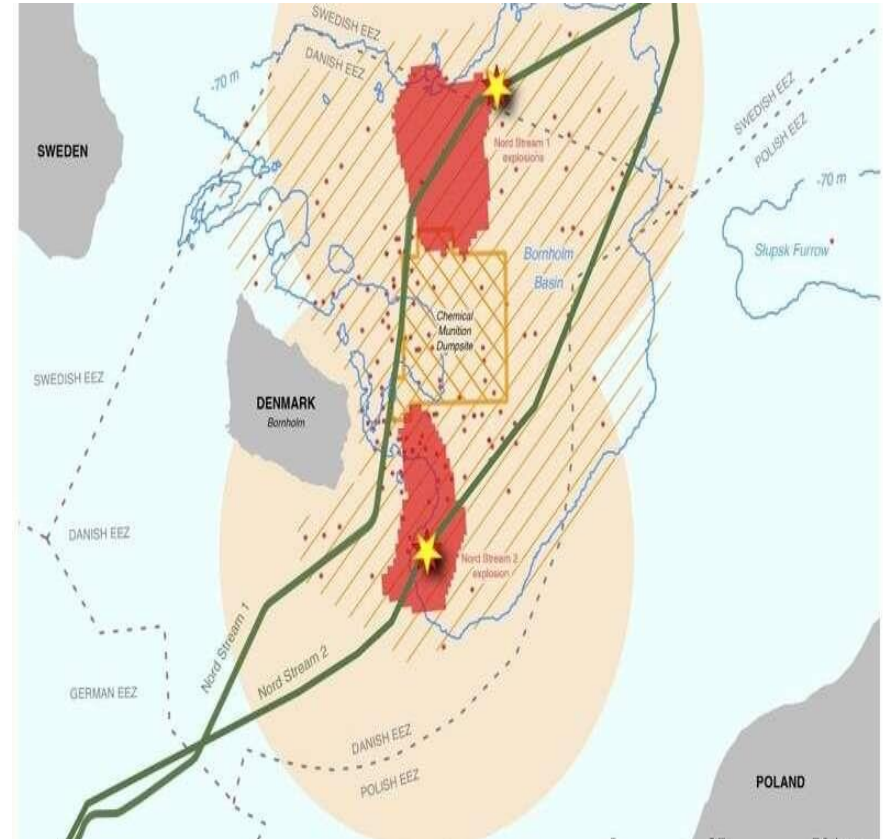
Leaks detected on both pipelines near Bornholm

- Nord Stream
- Nord Stream 2
- Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ)

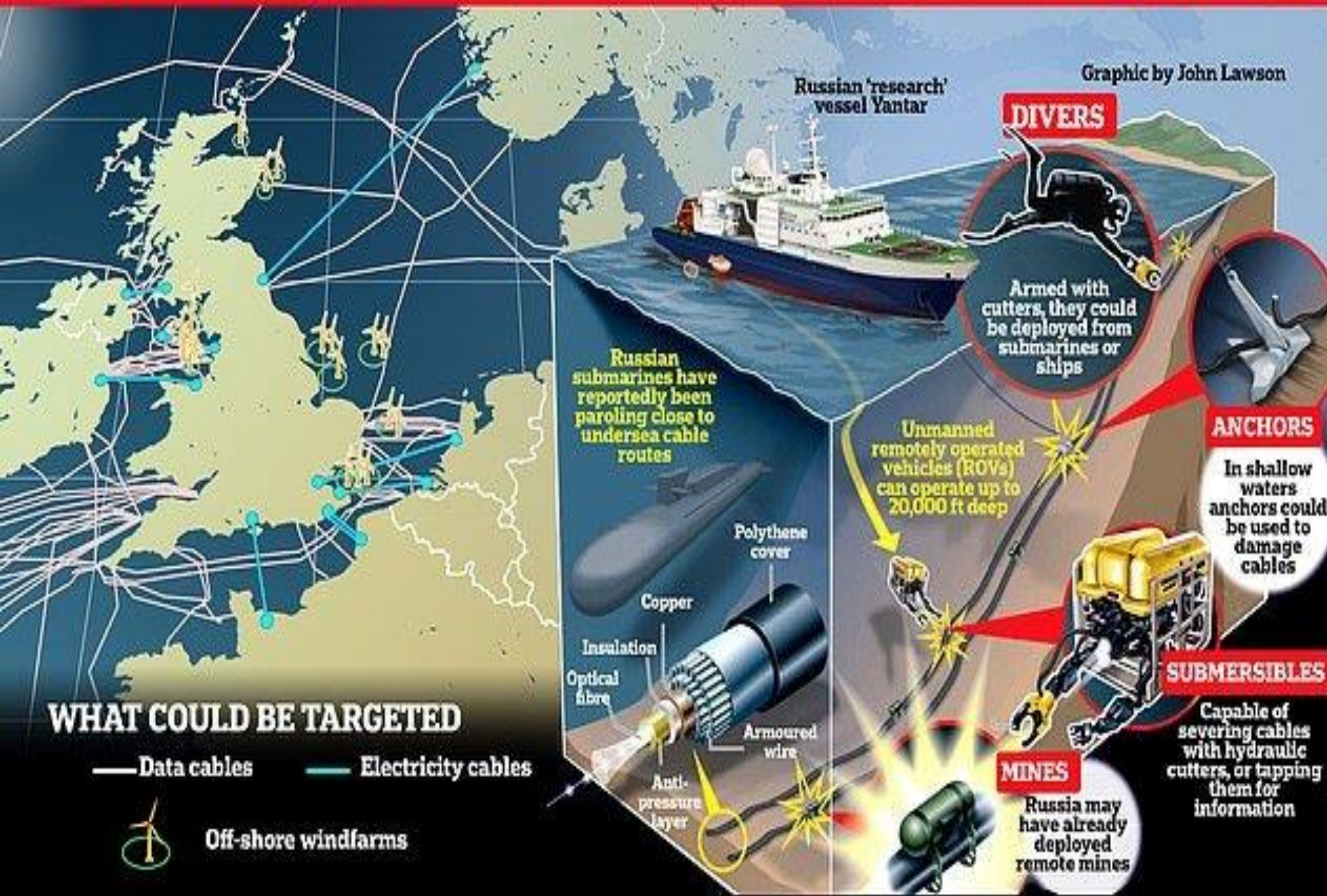


Source: Gazprom, MarineTraffic, NAVTEX (18 November 2022)

B B C

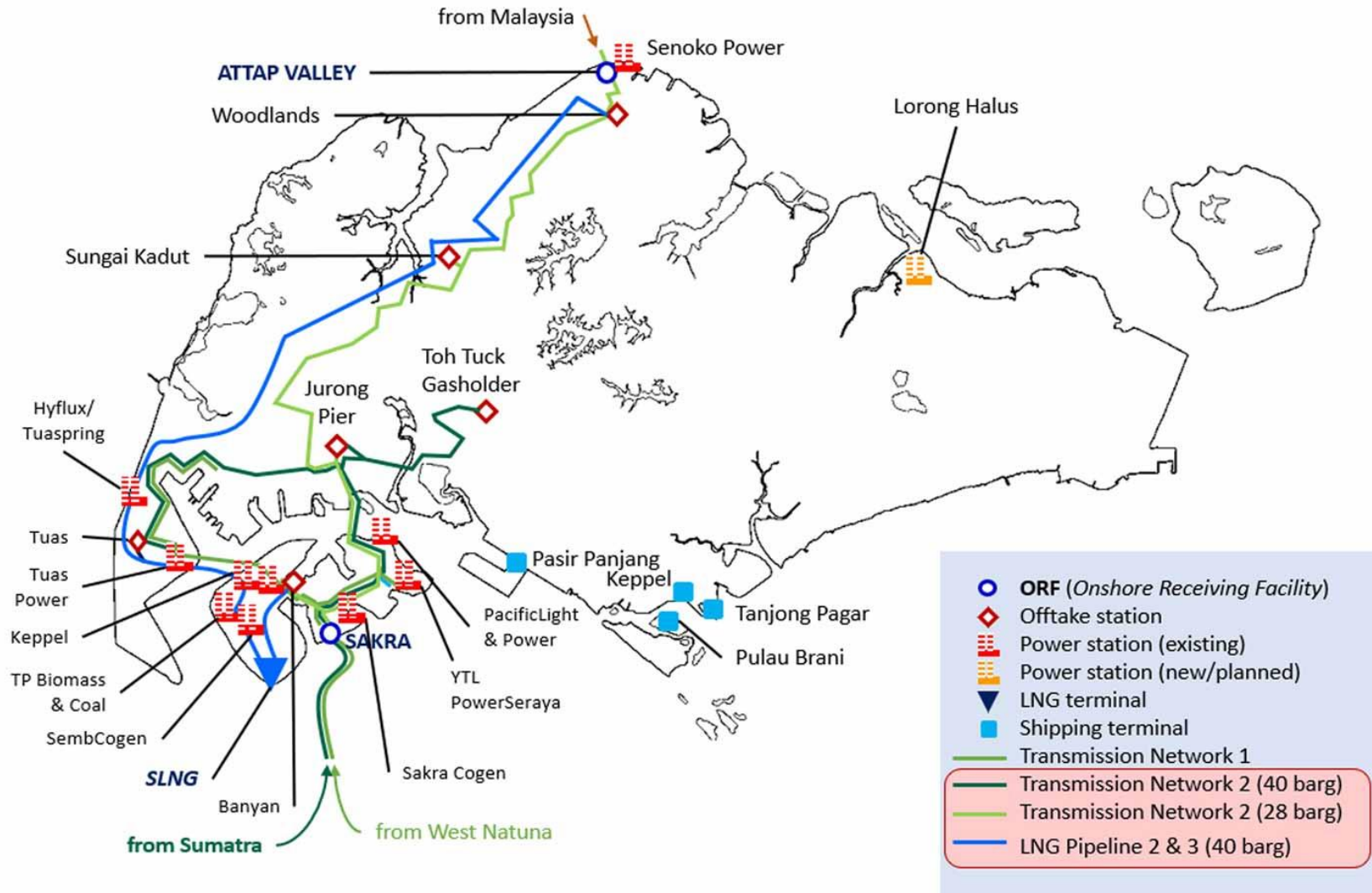


HOW RUSSIA COULD TARGET BRITISH ENERGY CABLES, DATA CABLES AND WINDFARMS



Pipeline Network Map

<https://www.gassupply.com.sg/what-we-do/useful-info/pipeline-network-map/>



Cables on Navigation Charts

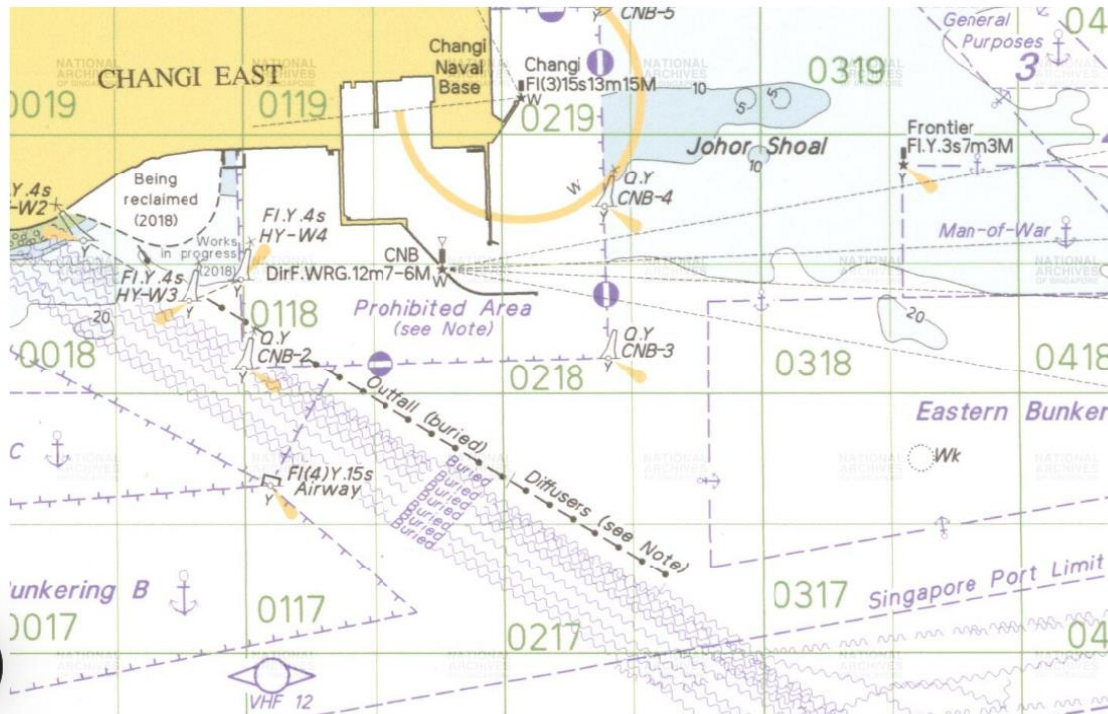
Anchorage and Aids to Navigati x +

nas.gov.sg/archivesonline/maps_building_plans/record-details/ea7de566-7ec3-11ea-8566-001a4a5ba61b

Do you have more information on this record?

[Request to View](#) [Request a Copy](#)

Processing of requests may require 3-5 working days

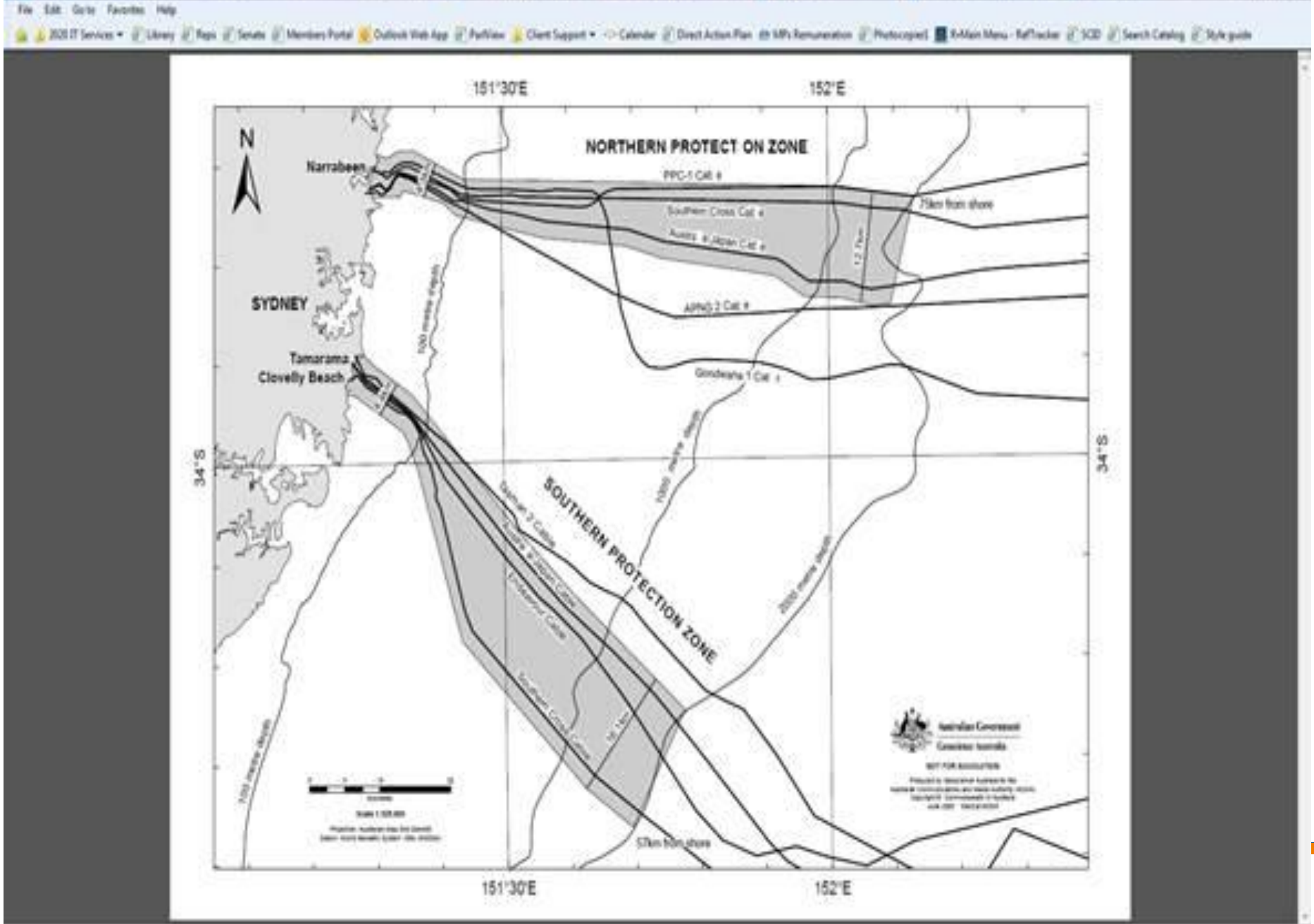


[Need Help?](#)

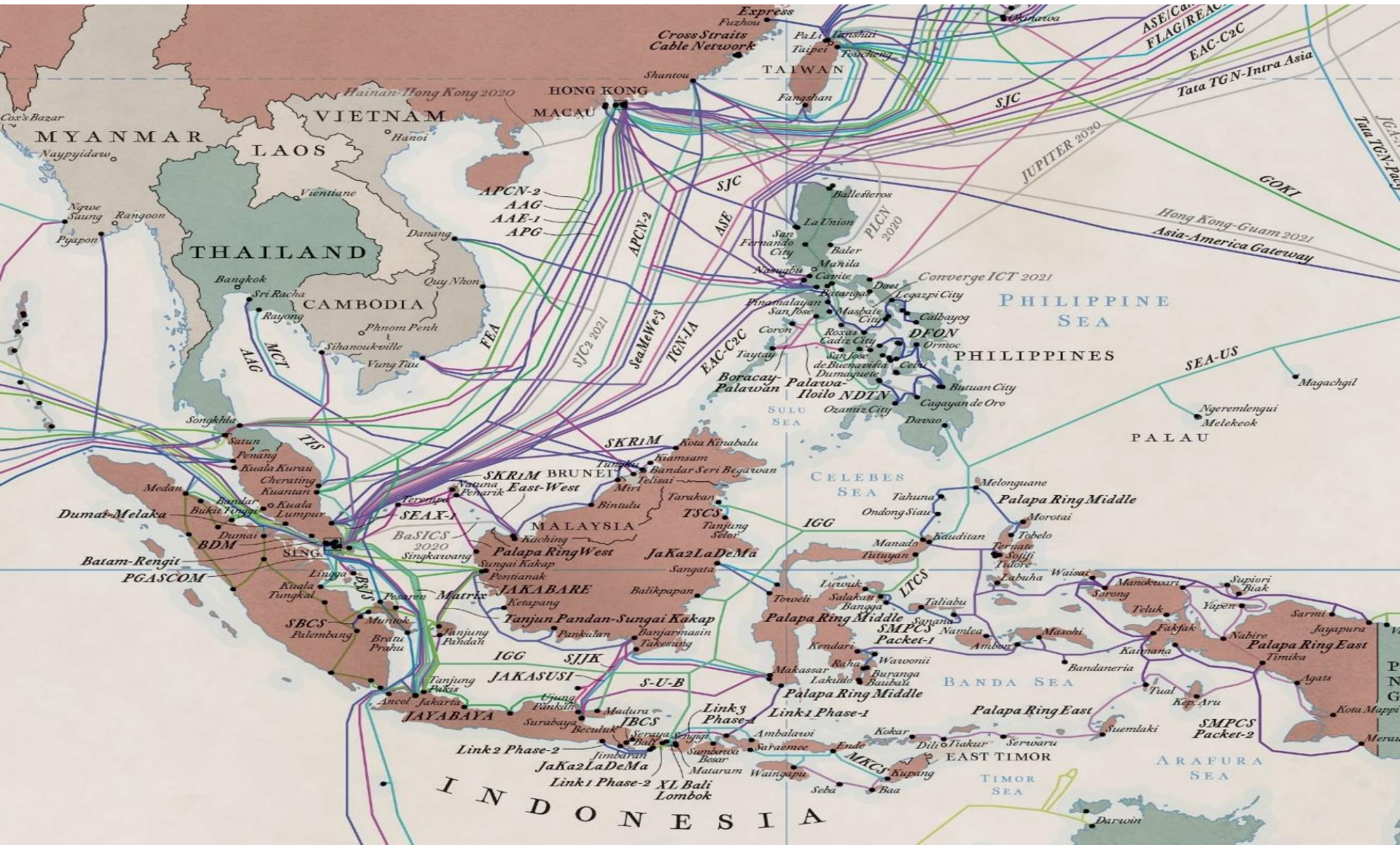
Windows taskbar with icons for File Explorer, Microsoft Word, Google Chrome, Zoom, and other applications. System tray shows 35°C, ENG, and 1:41 pm 9/7/2023.

Part 2

Trends in Laying & Repair of Submarine Cables

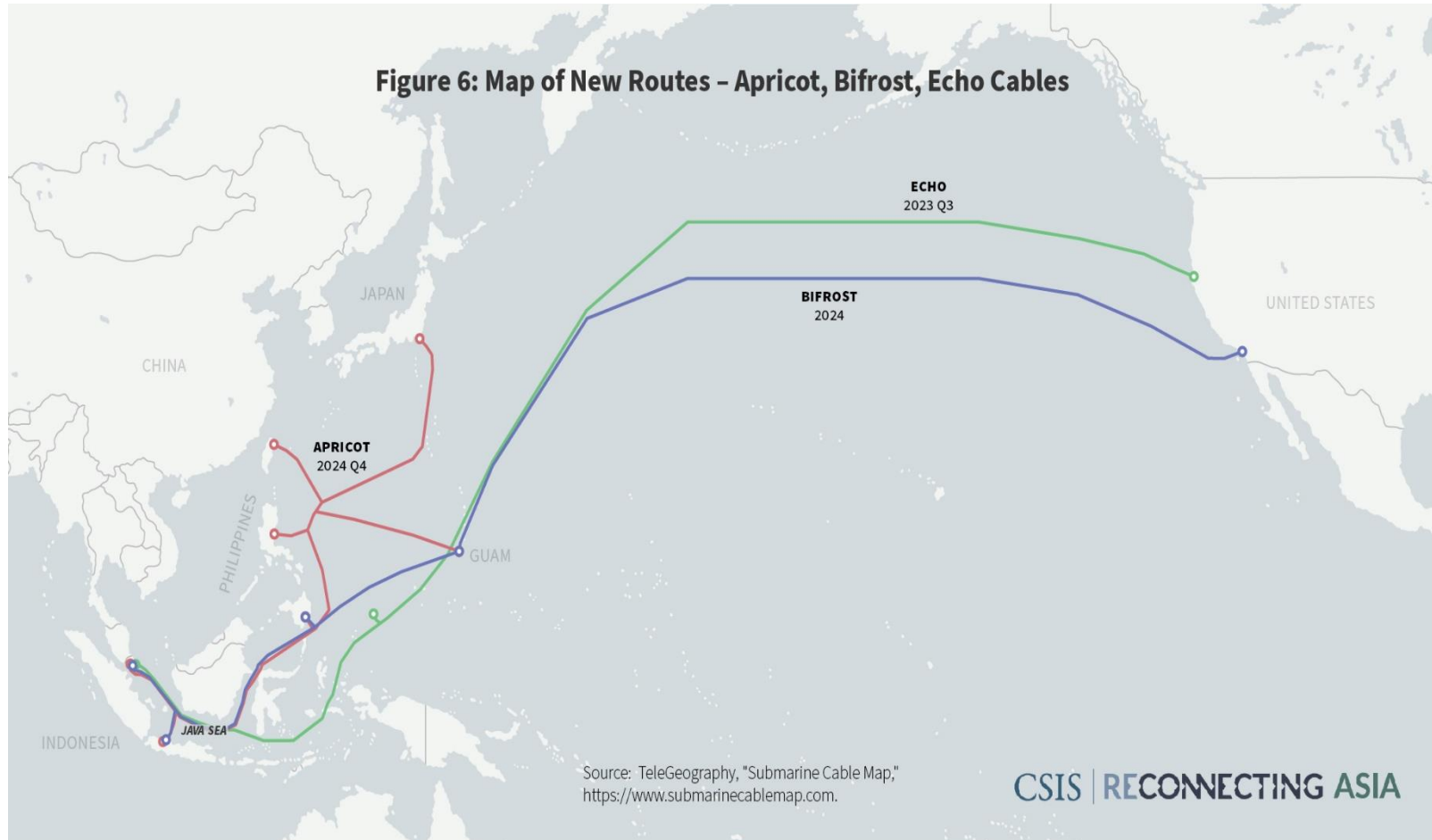


Cables in Southeast Asia

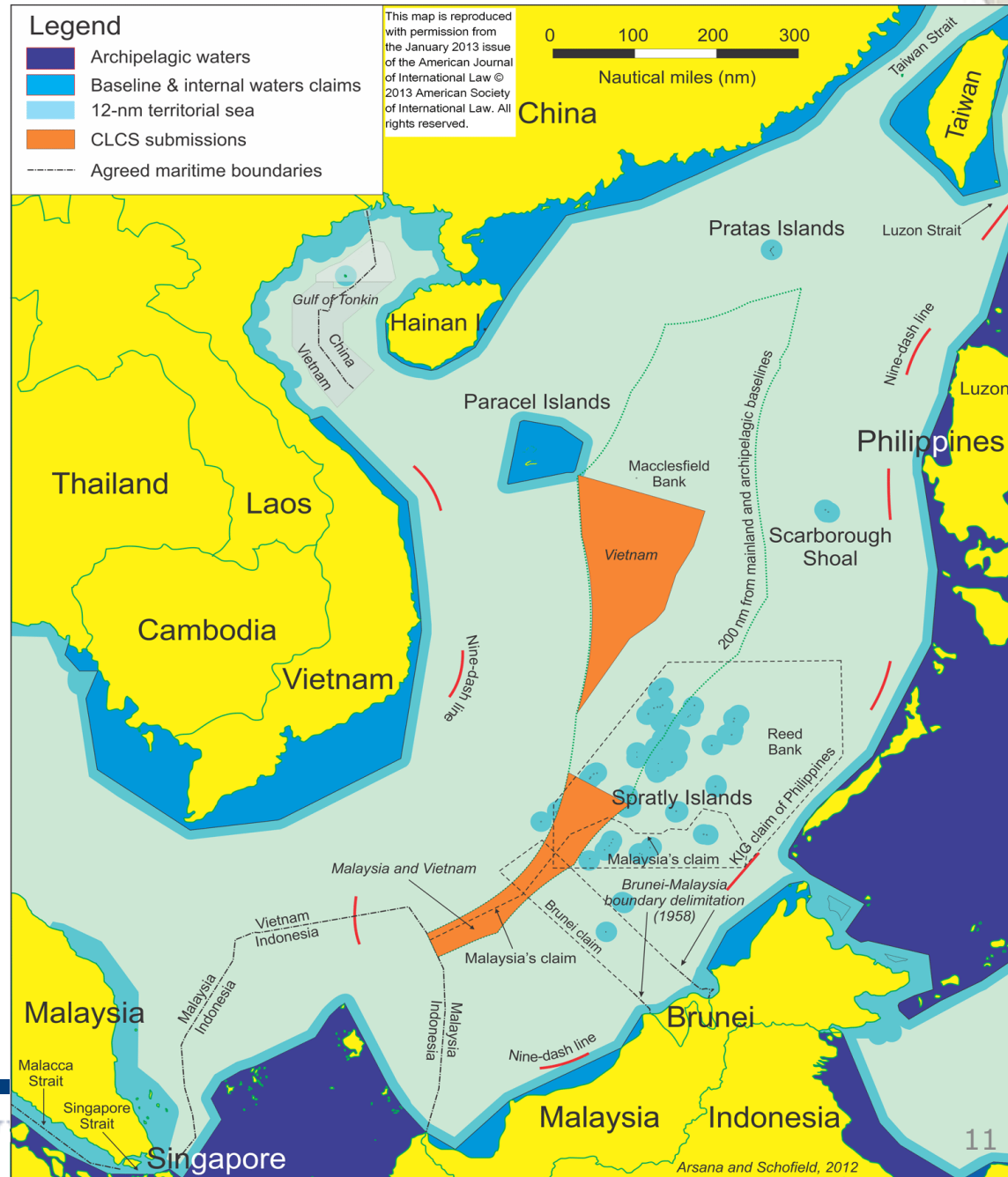


New Cables from SE Asia to US

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/securing-asias-subsea-network-us-interests-and-strategic-options>



- Map on CIL Website
- By Clive Schofield & Andi Arsana



Part 3

International Law & Global Institutions

History of International Law on Submarine Cables

- **1884** - Convention for Protection of Submarine Telegraphic Cables
- **1958** - Geneva Conventions on the High Seas, Territorial Sea and Continental Shelf (**Age of telegraphic & telephone cables**)
- **10 Dec 1982** - UN Convention on the Law of the Sea adopted
- **1 Jan 1983** – Official Birthday of the **Internet**
- **1989** – Launch of the **World-Wide Web** and new technologies for fibre optic submarine cables
- Problems:
 1. The law in the 1982 Convention is basically the same as that set out in the 1884 Convention
 2. It is almost impossible to amend 1982 UNCLOS

- No UN Specialized Agency Responsible for Submarine Cables
- UN General Assembly Annual **Resolution on Law of the Sea**
 - Total of 393 Paragraphs
 - 4 Paragraphs on laying and repair of cables
 - **4 Paragraphs exactly the same for more than 10 years**
- How many government officials know about the paragraphs or have read them?

International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC)

- **ICPC** is a submarine cable protection non-profit organization.
- Goal is to promote submarine cable protection
- The ICPC represents **97%** of the world's subsea telecom cables.
- The ICPC has more than **180 MEMBERS** in over **60 Countries**
- It provides a forum for the exchange of technical, legal, and environmental information about submarine cables and engages with stakeholders government
- Governments members of ICPC include Australia, France, Japan, Netherlands, Singapore (IMDA) & USA (US Navy)
- Seven companies from Singapore are members

ICPC Recommendations on Protection of Cables

- 1. Government Best Practices for Protecting and Promoting Resilience of Submarine Telecommunications Cables (Version 1.2)**
- 2. ICPC Recommendation #5, Recommendation for Common Format for Cable Awareness Charts, Issue 9A, 10 December 2019**
- 3. ICPC Recommendation No. 6 - Recommended Actions for Effective Cable Protection (Post Installation)**

Part 4

The Challenges

Government Agencies In “Silos”

- In most States the Ministry in charge of submarine cables is the Ministry of Communications or Telecommunications
- It deals with the licensing and regulations of telecoms companies
- It usually has no responsibility for the “security” of cables
- Cables and Landing Stations have not been designated as “Critical Communications Infrastructure” in most States
- Some States have created a new government agency for Cyber Security, but it does not deal with physical security of cables
- Guidelines adopted in 2019 by ASEAN Telecommunications and Technology Ministers (TELMIN)

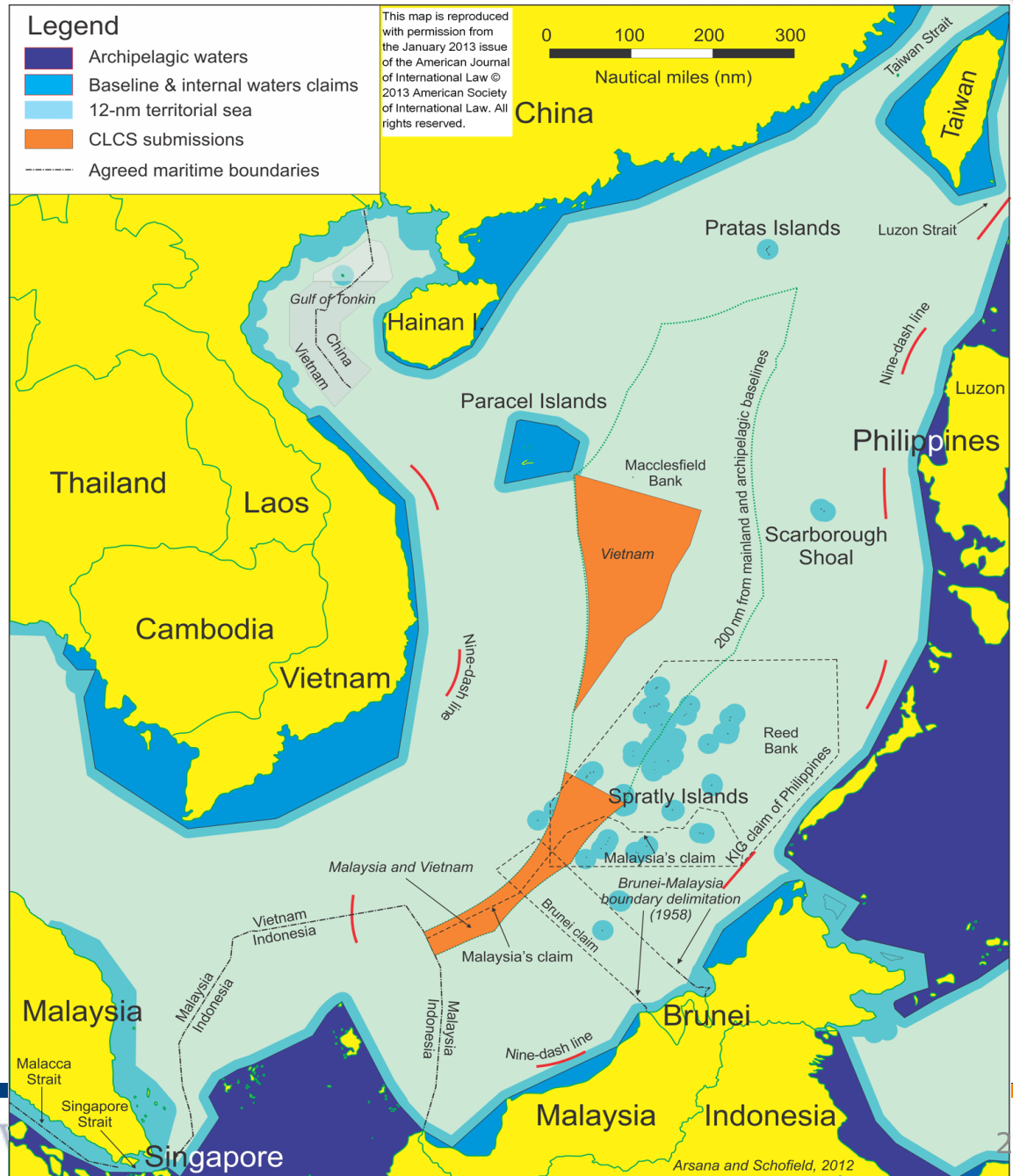
The Challenges

1. Requires unprecedented level **inter-agency coordination** and cooperation at the **National Level**
2. Requires unprecedented level of **cooperation between Government and Industry** at **National Level**
3. Requires unprecedented level of cooperation between agencies the **Regional Level**

Recommendation

- Governments and Cable Industry have common interest in protecting submarine cables
- Currently they often treat each other as **adversaries** rather than as **partners** with common interests
- Ways and Means should be explored to enhance communication and cooperation between them with the objective of establishing working **Private Sector – Public Sector Partnerships**

- Map on CIL Website
- By Clive Schofield & Andi Arsana



Thanks for your attention!

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