

## **Colombia's Escalating Conflict**

## **Source: TH**

**Colombia** faces a **surge in violence** as rival militias clash, threatening its **fragile peace process** and prompting a state of **emergency** with **military deployments**.

- Violence involves guerilla groups that rejected the earlier peace accords.
  - The deal **terminated** the conflict between the **Colombian government** and the Marxist-Leninist **querillas (1964-2016).**
  - Groups are fighting for control of a strategic border region with coca leaf plantations, the raw material for cocaine production.
- Hundreds of refugees sought safety in Tibu, a city in Colombia, where several shelters were established to house them.
- About Colombia: It is called "gateway to South America" due to its location connecting South
  America with Central and North America.
  - Its vast <u>grasslands</u> are called **Los Llanos** and open in both the **Pacific and Atlantic** Ocean.
  - About 10% of the world's animal species live in Colombia, despite it covering less than 1% of Earth's land area.
  - It is the world's largest producer of cocaine.



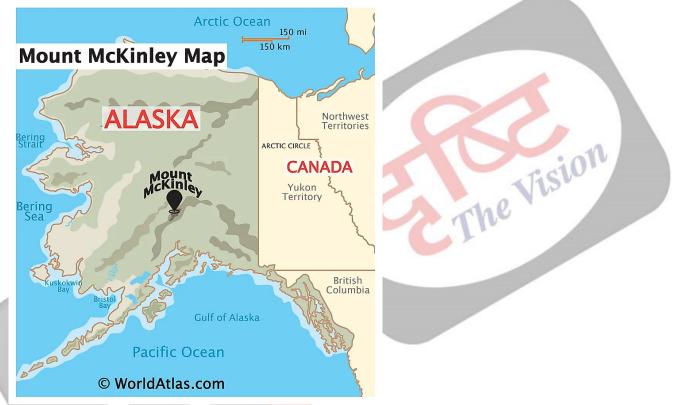
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## **Renaming Gulf of Mexico and Denali**

## Source: HT

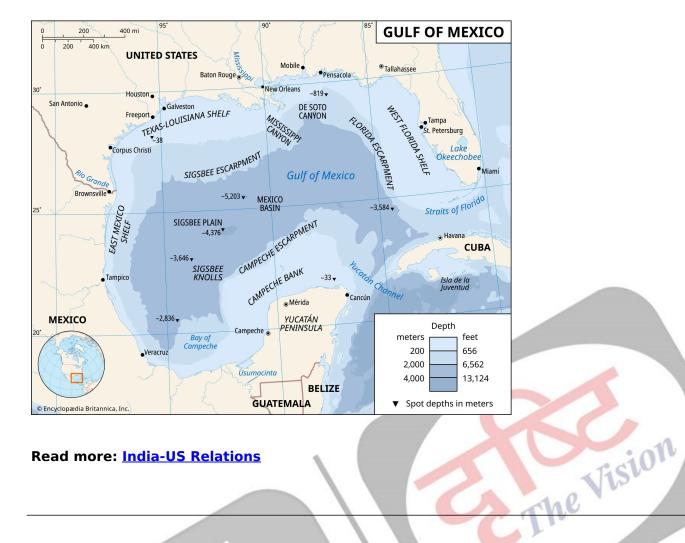
US President Donald Trump signed an executive order to rename the <u>Gulf of Mexico</u> as the Gulf of **America** and revert <u>Denali</u> to Mount McKinley, to honor American greatness.

- Governance on Naming: <u>International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)</u> (US and Mexico are members), ensures uniformity but allows domestic alternative names, with **no formal** renaming protocol.
  - Mexico and Cuba aren't bound to the new name, and international agreements still use the Gulf of Mexico.
- Gulf of Mexico: It is the world's largest gulf, bordered by Cuba, Mexico, and the US, connects to the Atlantic via the <u>Straits of Florida</u> and to the Caribbean via the <u>Yucatán Channel</u>.
  - The Gulf of Mexico supplies 14% of US <u>crude oil</u>, 5% of <u>natural gas</u>, and hosts 48% of the US petroleum refining capacity and 51% of the <u>natural gas</u> processing capacity.



• Mount McKinley: Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America, is located in Alaska and was renamed Denali in 2015 to honor the indigenous Koyukon people.

- Reverting to Mount McKinley honors President William McKinley (1897-1901) for his leadership in the Spanish-American War and US economic growth.
- Similar Global Disputes: The "Persian Gulf" vs. "Arabian Gulf" between Iran and Saudi Arabia, the "Sea of Japan" vs. "East Sea" between Japan and South Korea, and territorial naming disputes in the South China Sea.



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