

SYNOPSIS:

« **The OYAPOCK River Bridge** »

Photography by

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The longest French frontier links Brazil to French Guiana along the Oyapock River. This river was and remains a natural means of communication between the two countries. Thanks to the construction of a bridge over the river, this area should become an eldorado in the Amazonian basin. Now the French government means to control this border.

The bridge construction project over the Oyapock river was launched during the meeting of Presidents Jacques Chirac and Fernando Henrique Cardoso and it was eventually materialized by an agreement between Presidents Chirac and Lula da Silva. It aims for the building of a road that includes a bridge over the Oyapock River which will link the district of Saint Georges in Guiana and the town of Oyapock in the state of Amapà. The opening of this 80 kilometer road in 2003 between Regina and Saint Georges should open up the East of Guiana and create a vehicular access at the Brazilian border. The construction of the bridge and its link roads is being achieved. The end of the construction site was planned for December 2010. To this day, the bridge and the road have not yet been inaugurated by Presidents Lula and Sarkozy.