

Proclamation of 1763

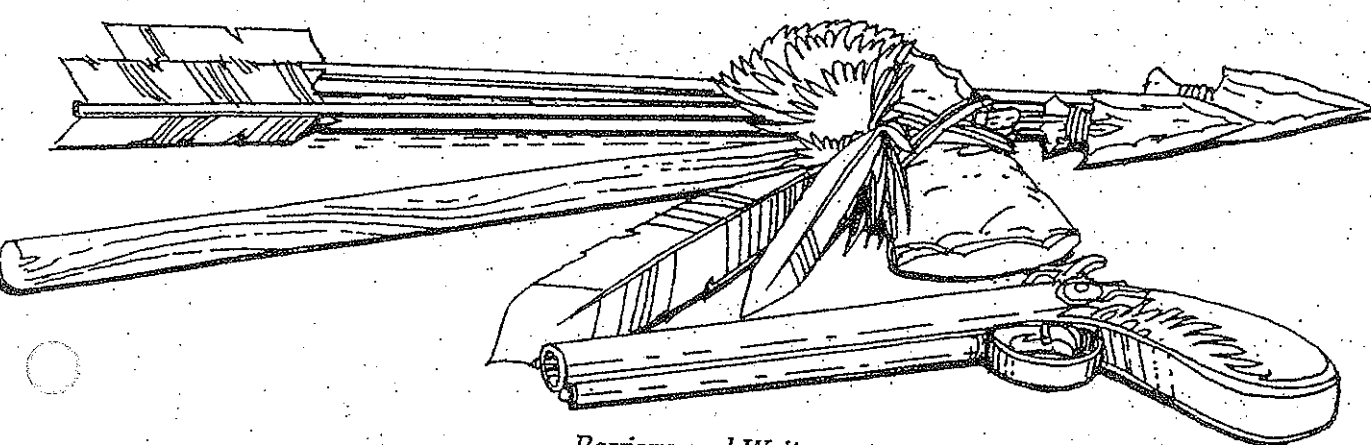
Following the French and Indian War, England then owned most of the land in North America between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. Many Indian tribes lived in the region. As English settlers moved west over the mountains, many Indians became angry. They felt the colonists were taking their property. Fur trappers, farmers, and land speculators added to the Indians' fears.

In 1763, the Ottawa chief, Pontiac, encouraged many Indians to rise and to resist the movement of the English into native lands. For months, fighting continued on the western frontier. Pontiac and his allies were able to capture all the western forts except Detroit. Both settlers and innocent tribes were killed while the conflict raged.

To bring the violence to a halt, the British Parliament passed the Proclamation of 1763, which made the lands west of the Appalachian Mountains to the Mississippi an Indian reservation, to be occupied only by native Americans. (See map, page 3.)

The result of the act was the immediate anger of two groups: colonists hoping to settle in the western lands, and the colonial land development companies which could not speculate, or buy and sell, land in the area.

Despite what next appeared to be a conciliatory gesture by England, it was not long before Great Britain was itself organizing companies for speculation in the western region.



Review and Write

- Why were the western Indians angered? _____
- What did Pontiac do about his anger? _____
- What did Parliament do to end the Indian violence? _____
- What did the Proclamation of 1763 state? _____
- Who was angered by this act? Why? _____
- Do you feel it was right for English colonists to move into the Ohio River Valley and occupy land claimed by the Indians? Explain. _____

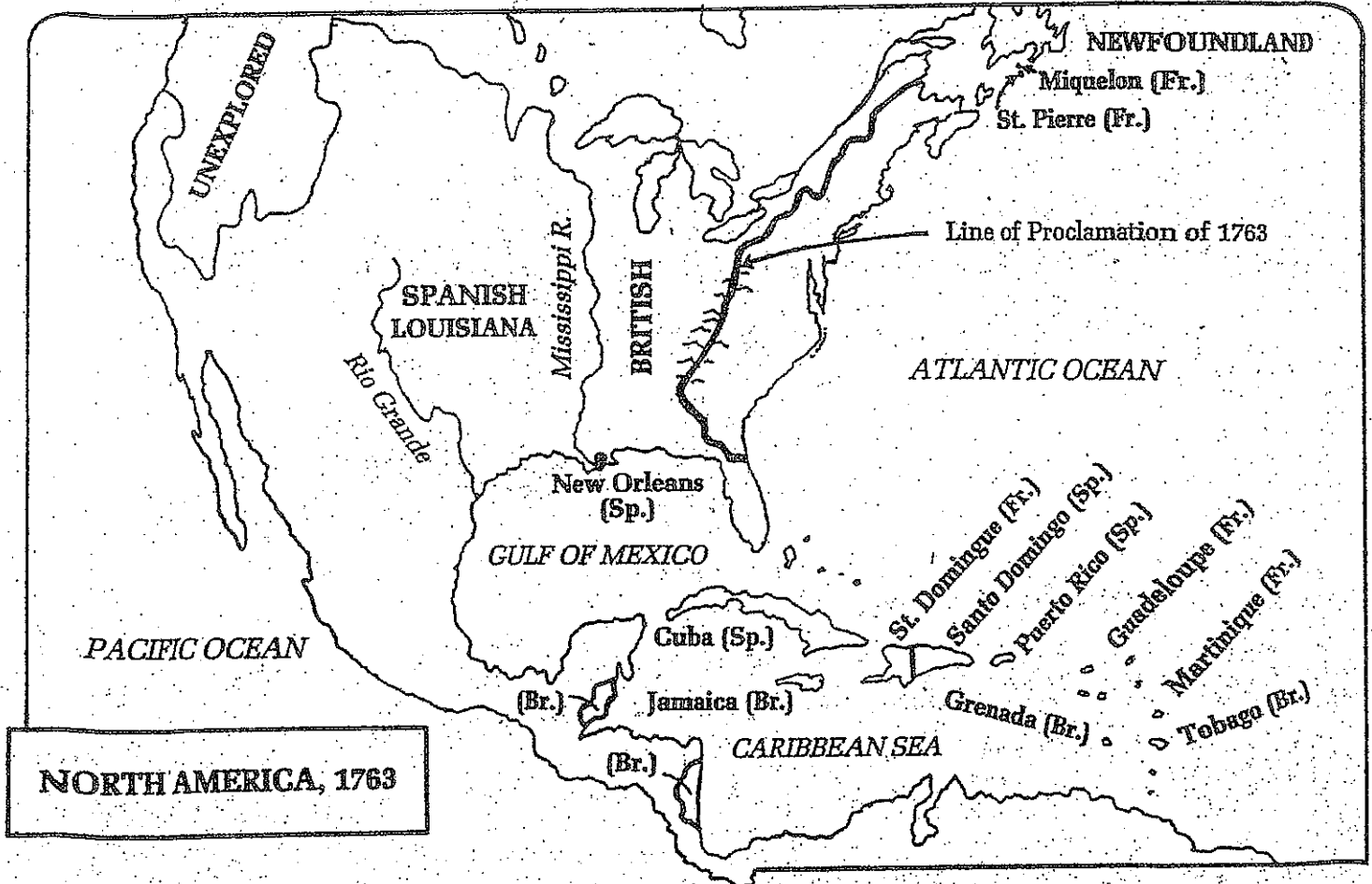
Treaty of Paris, 1763

Although the war in America ended effectively with the fall of Montreal in September of 1760, nearly two and a half years went by before a treaty was agreed upon and signed in Paris, France, in 1763. By this treaty, the face of North America changed. England received Canada and all French territories in North America east of the Mississippi River. This, however, did not include the important trade city of New Orleans. This city was ceded to Spain who had fought as a French ally.

In exchange for Spanish Florida, England returned the islands of Cuba and the Philippines to

Spain, and France retained ownership of its Caribbean islands as well as St. Pierre and Miquelon off the coast of Newfoundland. Under a separate treaty, France granted all of the Louisiana Territory to Spain to make up for Spain's loss of Florida to the English.

Thus, the French and Indian War brought an end to French domination in the Ohio River Valley. Movement west could now occur without the threat of a powerful European power blocking the way of landhungry English settlers. England now reigned supreme in much of North America.



Use the Map and Match

- a. Spain b. Portugal c. England d. Louisiana e. France

1. What European powers had claims in North America and in the Caribbean? _____
2. In 1763, what two powers dominated in North America? _____

Review and Write

1. What natural boundary separated British territory from Louisiana? _____
2. After 1763, did the French own territory in the New World? _____
If so, where? _____
3. How did losing the French and Indian War affect the position of the French? _____