"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP I.
KEY MAP.

I. COMMON HUNTING GROUND. TREATY OCT. 17, 1865.
II. TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE ORDER JULY 5, 1873.
III. TAKEN BY ACT APRIL 15, 1874.
III A. (INCLUDING I AND II) TAKEN BY UNRATIFIED TREATIES 1868.
IV. TAKEN BY ACT MAY 1, 1868.
V. GIVEN BY ACT APRIL 15, 1874.
VI. TAKEN BY ACT MAY 1, 1868.
VII. GIVEN BY EXECUTIVE ORDER APRIL 13, 1875.
VIII. TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE ORDER JULY 13, 1880.
VII. GIVEN BY EXECUTIVE ORDER APRIL 13, 1875.
IX. TAKEN BY ACT MAY 1, 1868.
VIII. PRESENT RESERVATION OF FORT PECK.
IX. PRESENT RESERVATION OF FORT BENTON.
X. TAKEN BY ACT JUNE 10, 1896.
XI. PRESENT BLACKFOOT RESERVATION.
XII. TAKEN BY ACT JUNE 10, 1896.

Note. Resurveyed July 30, 1880. Embraces same boundary as treaty of 1868.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP XIV.

CLAIM OF BLACKFEET AND GROS VENTRES.

"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP XIV.

CLAIM OF BLACKFEET AND GROS VENTRES.

"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP VI.

ACT OF APRIL 15, 1874.

PARTIES: The United States.
TERMS: Took land south of Marias River and Birch Creek. No consideration paid to Indians. No consent given by Indians.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP V.

EXECUTIVE ORDER JULY 5, 1873.

PARTIES: The United States.

TERMS: Put the River Crows in with the Blackfeet and Gros Ventre Indians. Added to the reservation of these Indians a section bounded on the west by a line drawn north from the junction of the Milk and Missouri Rivers to the forty ninth parallel, on the north by the forty ninth parallel, on the east by the one hundred and fourth meridian of west longitude, on the south by the Missouri River. Also gave back a section taken by the unratified treaty of 1868, namely, a section bounded by the Teton River on the north, the main divide of the Rocky Mountains on the west, and the Sun River on the east and south.

TERMS: The Gros Ventres to relinquish all rights acquired by the Treaty of 1855, except, to the territory bounded on the west by the main divide of the Rocky Mountains, on the south by the Teton, Marias, and Missouri Rivers, on the east by a line drawn north from the junction of the Milk and Missouri Rivers to the forty ninth parallel, and on the north by the forty ninth parallel. For the relinquishment made they were to receive twenty six thousand dollars annually for twenty years. Treaty to run for twenty years, and the time to be figured from the date of ratification by the Senate. Treaty not to be binding on either party until ratified.

ACTION: Treaty not ratified.
PARTIES: Blackfoot Nation, consisting of the Blackfeet, Bloods, and Piegans, and the United States.

TERMS: To relinquish all rights acquired under the Stevens Treaty of 1855, except, that territory bounded on the west by the main divide of the Rocky Mountains, on the south by the Teton, Marias, and Missouri Rivers, on the east by a line drawn north from the junction of the Missouri and the Milk Rivers to the forty ninth parallel, and on the north by the forty ninth parallel; such relinquishment to be made by the Indians to the United States. The United States to give the Indians one million dollars, payable in twenty annual installments. Treaty to run twenty years, but the time does not start running on treaty until the date of its ratification by the Senate, and the treaty is not obligatory on either party until ratified. Treaties must be included in treaties discussed.

ACTION: Treaty was not ratified. Payments were made, at irregular intervals, but three annual installments of fifty thousand dollars each, or one hundred and fifty thousand dollars has not been paid the Indians. According to the books of the Indian Office, no appropriations under the various Indian appropriation acts, on account of this treaty, are to be found in the statute at large.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP II.

RATIFIED TREATY OF 1855.

PARTIES. Blackfoot nation, consisting of the Piegans, Bloods, Blackfeet and Gros Ventre Tribes of Indians; Flathead Nation, consisting of the Flatheads, Kootenais, Pend d'Oreilles; The Nez Perce Tribe of Indians and the Assiniboine Tribe of Indians, one on hand, and the United States.

TERMS.

1. Fee recognized in the Blackfeet and Gros Ventres in I.
2. A ninety nine year Hunting Lease give to all parties, except the Assiniboines, in II.
3. Hunting Lease given the Assiniboines on the Blackfeet and Gros Ventre fee, in III.
4. No permanent camps to be established by any of the Indians within ten miles of the northern boundary of the Common Hunting Ground, in IV.
5. Indians to receive not less than twenty, nor more than thirty thousand dollars in exchange for rights of way given by them to the United States, per annum.
6. Indians to live in peace and amity with each other and with the United States.
7. No intoxicants to be imported into Indian country.
8. Indians not to harbor offenders against the laws of the United States.

RATIFICATION. Treaty was ratified by the Senate and proclaimed by the President in 1856.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP XIII.

CLAIM OF NEZ PERCES AND FLATHEADS.

1. Title to the right to hunt and fish in this hunting ground for a period of ninety nine years, which was given the Flatheads and Nez Perces by the treaty of 1855, has never been relinquished by them.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP XII.

CLAIMED BY BLACKFEET AND GROS VENTRES.

I. COMMON HUNTING GROUND. THE TITLE TO THIS HAS NEVER BEEN PROPERLY RELINQUISHED.

II. THE TITLE TO THE FEE RECOGNIZED IN THE GROS VENTRES AND BLACKFEET WAS NEVER PROPERLY EXTINQUISHED, AS RATIFICATION WAS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO ITS VALIDITY, UNDER THE XII ARTICLE OF THE TREATY, AND THE TREATY WAS NEVER RATIFIED.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

STATEMENT OF CLAIMS TO BE BROUGHT.

(NUMBERS REFER TO KEY MAP)

FIRST.

III B (including I and II) were unlawfully taken from the Blackfeet, Bloods, Piegan, and Gros Ventres by the treaties of 1868, because,

1. The fee was recognized in these Indians by the treaty of 1855.
2. The hunting lease was recognized in them in the same treaty.
3. The treaty of 1868 was not ratified in compliance with the terms set forth in Article XII of the treaty.

Suit to recover,
1. Fair value of III B and II, being part of the fee.
2. Fair value of the hunting right in I.

SECOND.

If III B (including I and II) were lawfully taken by the treaty of 1868, then the Blackfeet, Bloods, Piegan, and Gros Ventres still have one hundred and fifty thousand dollars due them, which have not been paid under the treaty of 1868.

Suit to recover,
1. The balance due these Indians.

NOTE: The above Claims are mutually exclusive. A judgment in the one, will bar a judgment in the other.

THIRD.

The Flatheads, Kootenais, Pend d'Oreille, and Nez Perces have an interest in the ninety nine year Hunting Lease given by the treaty of 1855, in common with the other Indians parties to that treaty. They have never relinquished their rights in the Hunting Lease, their claim has never been extinguished to exercise their privileges therein, and they have never been compensated for the loss thereof.

Suit to recover,
1. The fair value of the loss of these rights to the above Indians.

FOURTH.

III A was a part of the fee recognized as existing in the Blackfeet and Gros Ventres Indians by the treaty of 1855. This section was not taken by the unratified treaty of 1868, but was taken without the consent of the Indians by the Act of April 15, 1874.

Suit to recover,
1. The fair value of III A to these Indians, as of the date it was taken.

FIFTH.

The Blackfeet and Gros Ventres Indians have had some forty thousand dollars, wrongfully charged against their tribal funds.

Suit to recover,
1. Forty thousand dollars.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP ILLUSTRATING STATEMENT OF CLAIMS TO BE BROUGHT.

Zone in which permanent camps were not to be established under 1855 treaty.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP XI.

ACT OF JUNE 10, 1896.

PARTIES: The Indians residing on Fort Belknap, and the Indians residing on the Blackfoot Reservations, with the United States.

TERMS: Blackfoot relinquished territory on the western limits of their present reservation, and the Gros Ventres' and Assiniboines relinquished territory on the southern limits of their present reservation. In return the Blackfoot were to receive approximately one million dollars, and the Gros Ventres and Assiniboines were to receive three hundred and sixty thousand dollars. The treaty was to be ratified before it could be binding on either party;

ACTION: Treaty ratified.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP I.

ACT MAY I, 1888.

PARTIES: Blackfoot Nation, consisting of the Blackfeet, Piegan, and Bloods, the Gros Ventre and Assiniboines of Fort Belknap, the Assiniboines and Sius of Fort Peck, and the United States.

TERMS: Relinquishment by these Indians of all lands held by them north of Birch Creek, the Marias and Missouri Rivers except, the approximate limits of the present reservations of Fort Peck, Fort Belknap, and Blackfoot; The Indians to receive in return the following amounts: Fort Peck Indians, $155,000.00 a year, for ten years. Fort Belknap Indians, $115,000.00 a year for ten years. Blackfoot Indians, $150,000.00 a year for ten years. Treaty not binding until ratified.

ACTION:

Note: This leaves out a strip given by Sec. 0, July 13, 1880, bound by the Missouri, and a line drawn due east from the south boundary of Fort Peck, from the Missouri to the Lewis River. Whereas such territory is within the limits claimed by the Assiniboines under the Lewis Treaty.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP IX.

EXECUTIVE ORDER JULY 13, 1880.

PARTIES: The United States.

TERMS: Took away lands given by the Executive Order of April 13, 1875, except, a strip south of the Missouri River coextensive with the southern boundary of Fort Buford Military Reservation.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP VIII.

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF APRIL 13, 1875.

PARTIES: The United States.

TERMS: Gave the following tracts to the Blackfeet, Gros Ventres, and River Crows: bounded on west and north by the Muscleshell and Missouri Rivers, excluding Fort Buford Military Reservation, on the east and south by the Yellowstone River, and on the south by the forty seventh parallel.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

MAP VII.

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF AUGUST 19, 1874.

PARTIES: The United States.

TERMS: Opened for settlement all the lands declared to be outside the Territory of the Blackfeet, Gros Ventres, and River Crows, by Act of April 15, 1874, namely, all that country south of Birch Creek, and the Missouri and Marias Rivers.
"BLACKFOOT CLAIM."

BOUNDRIES.


