THE BLACKFEET CLAIM

Statement of Fact

The Stevens treaty of 1855 gave to the Blackfeet, Blood, Piegan, Gros Ventres, Flathead, Kootenai, Pend d'Oreille and Nez Percé Indians a ninety-nine year hunting lease within the following boundaries: In an easterly direction from Hell Gate or Medicine Rock Pass to the nearest source of the Musselshell River, down the Musselshell to 25 Yard Creek, up 25 Yard Creek to the Yellowstone River, thence to the northern source of the Yellowstone River, and from that point along the Continental Divide to the point of beginning. Within this territory the Indians signatory to the treaty could hunt in common, and a general stipulation was made that vested rights acquired by the Indians west of the Rocky Mountains prior to this treaty would not be abrogated by the terms thereof.

The treaty further gave to the Blackfeet, Piegans, Bloods and Gros Ventres the possession of and ownership of all the land within the following boundaries: A line drawn east from Hell Gate or Medicine Rock Pass to the nearest source of the Musselshell River, thence down the Musselshell to the Missouri River, thence down the Missouri to its junction with the Milk River, thence in a line due north to the 49th parallel, and from that point along the 49th parallel in a westerly direction to the Main Divide of the Rocky Mountains, and down the Main Divide of the Rocky Mountains to the point of beginning. Within this territory it was stipulated that the Assiniboin Indians should have hunting privileges from a point on the eastern boundary of the above described territory to a line drawn from the 49th parallel southward to Round Butte on the Missouri River.
In 1868 the Compilation of Treaties cites an agreement made with the Blackfeet Indians, but this citation is erroneous as the treaty in question refers to the "Blackfeet Sioux," who did not acquire rights under the 1855 treaty.

In 1868 a treaty was made between the United States and the Blackfeet Nation, consisting of the Blackfeet, Bloods and Piagans. This treaty purported to cede in consideration of $1,000,000, payable in twenty yearly installments, all of the territory south of the following described boundaries:

Beginning at the 48th parallel to the mouth of the Teton River, down the Teton River to its junction with the Marias River, thence to the Missouri River and down the Missouri River to its junction with the Milk River, and from thence north in a direct line to the 49th parallel. All of the territory south of these points was purported to be ceded by this treaty, but it was expressly stipulated that the treaty should not be binding until ratified by the Senate and proclaimed by the President. The treaty was never ratified or proclaimed.

In 1873 an Executive Order was promulgated by the President, giving to the Blackfeet Indians all of the land between the 49th parallel, the 104th parallel, west longitude, and the Missouri River, and this was to be added to the reserve described in the unratified treaty of 1858. This Executive Order gave further all of the land in the line drawn from the Marias River at its junction with the Missouri River, up the Missouri to the Sun River, and up the Sun River to the Continental Divide.

By Act of Congress of 1874, all of the territory described in the Executive Order of 1873 was given to the Indians specifically, but the section bounded by Birch Creek, the Marias, the Missouri and the Sun Rivers and the Continental Divide were taken without compensation. By Executive Order in 1874, that section of land bounded by the Continental Divide...
on the west, the Sun and Missouri Rivers on the south, and the
Marias River and Birch Creek on the north was open to settle-
ment. No compensation was given to the Indians.

By Executive Order of 1875, the following described
territory was given to the Blackfeet in compensation for the
territory taken by Executive Order of 1874: In a line drawn
from where the 47th parallel of latitude intersects the Mussel-
shell River, thence along the 47th parallel to its intersection
with the Yellowstone River, thence along the Yellowstone River
to the boundary of the old Fort Buford Reservation, thence
westerly along the southern boundaries of the Fort Buford
Reservation and in a direct line westward to the junction
with the Missouri River, and thence up the Missouri to the
point of beginning. It further gave all of the land between
the northern boundary of this section and the Missouri River.

On July 13, 1880, an Executive Order took from the
Indians the territory lying between a line drawn along the
47th parallel at its junction with the Musselshell and Yellow-
stone Rivers, along the Yellowstone to Fort Buford, along the
southern boundary of Fort Buford westerly to the Missouri River,
and up the Missouri to the Musselshell.

By Act of Congress, May 1, 1888, 25th Statutes at
Large, 113, the Blackfeet and Gros Ventres by agreement ceded
and relinquished to the United States the original reserve
given by the Act of 1874, keeping to themselves, however, what
may roughly be described as the present limits of the Blackfeet
and Belknap Reservations, with the addition, however, of the
present eastern half of what is now known as Glacier National
Park on the Blackfeet and what is now known as the Zortman-
Landusky Mining District in the Little Rockies on the Belknap
Reservation. By Act of June 10, 1898, the Blackfeet ceded to
the United States that section which is now known as the eastern
side of the Glacier National Park, and the Gros Ventres ceded
March 3 1863 - 1066 m. S. of Chas., claiming

March 3 1871 - 873 2079. No further trouble reported

April 10 1869 - 85 2039 - Grant End

May 4, 1869 - Grant Clarified.

May 1869 - I entered Montana.

25 May 1869 - 13 Stat. 85 C. 95, Sec 1,

July 1869 - I entered into an agreement with

July 1869 - I entered into an agreement with

End contract December 2102-13-4 etc.

3 Jan 1871x

Karl Storr. 1,760 acres

Aug 20, 182

5,400 acres

37,000 acres
Oct. 7, 1929,

Claim for $174 & 48

Quarterly statement of travel
regulations of the State.

2 years service abroad.


Quarter of leave of absence on merchant.

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