

Then in similar terms is recorded the form of speech to be delivered by Mr. Post, as follows:

"Brethern, I let you know that our great King has sent me into this country to lead and command all his Majesty's Warriors and that he has given me a sword to protect and defend his subjects and to act against his enemys."

"Brethern, As I have nothing more at heart than the good and welfare of the whole community I do assure all the Indian Nations that His Majesty has not sent me to derive you of your lands and property, on the Contrary, as long as you adhere to His Interests and by your behaviour give proofs of the Sincerity of your Attachment to His Royal Person and Cause, I will defend and maintain you in your just rights, and give you all the Aid and Assistance you might stand in need of, to repress the dangers you might be liable to from the Enemy thro' your attachment to us. This I firmly mean to adhere to as long as you behave as good and faithful Allies. But on the Contrary if any of you should commit any Act of Hostility or do any injury to any of His Majesty's subjects you are sensible that I must repeat it and retaliate upon them, and you know that I have the might so to do tenfold for every breach of treaty or outrage you could be guilty of. And if any of His Majesty's subjects under my command should kill or injure any of your Indian Brethern they shall upon due proof thereof receive equal punishment. I mean not neither to take any of your Lands. But as the necessities of His Majesty's service obliges me to take post and build forts in some part of your country to protect our trade with you and to prevent the Enemy from taking Possession of your Lands and hurt both you and us, as you are sensible that if we build not Forts the French will. In that case I assure you that no part whatever of your land joining the said Forts shall be taken from you, nor any of our people shall be permitted to hunt or settle upon them. But they shall remain your absolute property and I will even promise you some presents as a consideration of land where such Forts and Trading Houses are or may be built upon."

(Exactly the same procedure was adopted by the Spanish in Florida; they first obtained the Indians' permission before building a Fort for the Spanish King. See page 8) And as it is expensif and inconvenient for us to carry provisions for our Warriors from our Settlements to those Forts, and also to supply our Brethern and Indians when they come to see us, if you will lay out a space of ground adjoining every Fort to raise corn in that Case fix yourselves the limits of that part of your Lands so appropriated to us and you will receive a consideration for it such as will be agreed between you and us to your satisfaction. (In one respect this is in line with the policy of Sir James Douglas in British Columbia. He always insisted that the Indians themselves should fix the limits of the reserves of land within which no whiteman was to be permitted to settle, thus acknowledging the Indian Title. See quotations from his instructions hereafter.) ***** As a proof of the truth and sincerity of what I have said I give you this, Brethern, King, Captains and Warriors of Many Nations. Take notice of what I am going to say in the name of the Chief Commander of all His Majesty's forces on this Continent.

Extracts from Record of a Conference at Fort Pitt, 1763.

Fort Pitt, July the 26th, 1763

At a meeting of the Shingas, Tessecumnis, Grey Eyes, Wingum, Turtle's Heart, Capt. Johnny, the Delawares and the Big Wolfe with four other Shawnese. Shingas spoke first as follows: