

Student Name: DELETED Student ID No. DELETED Title: The last great indigenous war

The article by M. Agnes Burton “Pontiac’s Speech to an Ottawa, Potawatomi, and Huron Audience (1763)”¹ details the rallying cry of the great, charismatic, indigenous leader Chief Pontiac for a Grand Pan-Native American Alliance of nearly thirty different nations to try and stem the British and British settler conquest and theft of indigenous lands and resources after the end of the Seven Years’ War in 1763 when the French, nominally sympathetic to indigenous peoples (at least better than the English and Spanish!) had been defeated.

As Professor Dr. Ali said in one of his lectures on the 1760s, it was at a low point for indigenous Native American peoples in 1763 that the Delaware Prophet Neolin dramatically appeared from the ‘shadows of history’ and on deerskin prophesied that the British and European conquerors of indigenous lands in North America were blocking the path of freedom for indigenous peoples and needed to be defeated.² Chief Pontiac took up the difficult challenge of uniting the different indigenous peoples and nations, whose languages, objectives and cultural characteristics were different. However, as the British themselves admitted Chief Pontiac had great powers of organization.

Once organized, the Pan-Native American Alliance launched an all-out attack on the British and British settlers in North America, for months they held the interior against all enemies, proving as Dr. Ali said in his lecture, ‘that they proved conclusively, if it needed proving, that united indigenous peoples could hold their continent against all comers.’

Tragically, without outside assistance, ultimately the Alliance failed. Indigenous peoples continued fighting, and continue to fight to the present day. I have taken Professor Ali’s History 1302 and in a lecture on the ‘Destruction of Native Americans’ he concluded that indigenous Native

¹ M. Agnes Burton, “Pontiac’s Speech to an Ottawa, Potawatomi, and Huron Audience (1763),” Houston Community College System Electronic Reader for US History Survey Courses, Link: <http://view.ebookplus.pearsoncmg.com/ebook/launchText.do?values=bookID::92033::platform::1027::fromloginpage::N::invokeType::lms::launchSite::goToEBook::platform::1027::globalBookID::CM25251249::userID::4307761::scenario::1::scenarioID::scenario1::sessionID::26648308782121342279282018::smsUserID::77465579::uid::20160217163600::ubd::20160217163600::ubsd::20160217163600::hsid::5f3927a4ee0f4722886d95139969f349>

² Professor Dr. T.H. Ali, History 1301 Lecture 7 ‘The Seven Years’ War & the Growing Differences between Great Britain and her settlers in British North America,’ October 10, 2017.

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American peoples continue to fight, such as against the XL Tar sand Pipelines.³ This is what I have understood from the article and its place in the specific lecture which has helped me to understand the spirit of resistance of indigenous Native American peoples in this continent.

³ Professor Dr. T.H. Ali, History 1302 Lecture 3 'The Rise of the Jim Crow State and the Destruction and Genocide of Native Americans' January 26, 2017.