

TREATY WITH THE MEXICAN NATION

Treaty With The Mimbres Bands of Apache

November 15, 1838

General Command of the Department of the Interior of the North.—

In the town of our Lady of Guadalupe of El Paso on the fifteenth day of November, 1838, Don José Ignacio Ronquillo, Prefect of this District, on behalf of the Mexican nation, as commissioned by the Army Commandant of this frontier, Lieutenant Don Antonio Parra, whose commission is in a document with yesterday's date, and the chieftains of the Mimbres, Antonio Mansisco, Yezcas, Cristóbal and Cigarrito the son, on behalf of their bands of the Apache tribes, with the goal of ending the grave ills which necessarily come from the way of extermination which we have endured, and so thereafter we may enjoy the good which results from a firm and lasting peace, following various conferences which have taken place in regards to this matter, have resolved to adhere to the following articles:

1st There will be peace and good will between the Mexican nation and the tribe of the Mimbres Apaches, and in particular with the Departments of Chihuahua, Sonora, New Mexico, Coahuila, Texas and Durango because these have been the departments which have suffered the immediate disasters of war.

2nd The aforesaid Apaches will be able to live in the country and mountains that are in the area of the river Gila, that of the Mimbres, the Florida and the plans of this river from this town up to the San Mateo mountains, the Apaches having the obligation to give notice to the Prefect of this district or the Military Commandant of this frontier of the areas they occupy, so as to avoid hostilities or persecutions by Mexican troops or detachments engaged in these campaigns.

3rd Each tribal Chief will divulge the exact number of men, women and children in his group, and in order to distinguish themselves from other Apaches, they will carry the same emblem which should be employed by the Gileños according to the treaties held with them, namely the use of a white handkerchief, belt or chamois worn around the head.

4th As of now, no type of rations will be issued for their subsistence, but in case they should suffer some disease or another urgent calamity, they shall be given the appropriate help.

5th They shall aid us in our campaigns against the Comanches and those nations with which the Mexicans are engaged in war, and even against some of their own rancherias that have yet to make peace, in which case they will be supplied with provisions as has been customary.

6th They may continue to trade with the communities of El Paso, Santo Eleceario el Viejo, Valo de Piedra, Norte and Colonia de San Carlos without the need of requesting passports beforehand, but should they wish to venture further into other communities of the Department, or to others within the Republic, they shall notify the Commandant General of Chihuahua, through the channel of the Military Commandants of the previously cited points, in order that the aforementioned General grant them permission in writing with an expiration date, the number of persons traveling, and the animals and weapons at their disposal.

7th In order to visit the other Apaches who are at peace, they shall obtain permission with the same requirements from the Military Commandant of the northern border.

8th All of the village Chiefs will present within forty days to this prefecture or the Military Commandant of Santo Eleceario, every type of farming tool which they currently possess, in order that he may mark them with the branding iron which will be designed for this purpose.

9th The aforesaid Indians may transport and sell all beasts of burden which have been acquired up until now, giving favor to the

Mexicans in the sale of such by their owners, with the condition that this be done under the auspices, civil or military, of a Mexican Official who shall thereby legitimize the sale.

10th The arms and munitions which they have in use cannot be sold to any individual who is in a state of war with the Mexicans.

11th The chiefs or chieftains of the aforesaid bands are obligated to turn in any criminals or delinquents found in their villages to the Mexican authorities in order that they be able to impose an adequate sentence.

12th Lastly, the same chieftains have the obligation to deliver any Mexican captives found within their domain, and to free them without demanding compensation.

In the articles which have just been well explained and understood by both of the involved parties, content of which shall be adhered to by the supreme Commanders of Mexico and it should be additionally noted: in the good faith with which this was signed by the Prefect as a result of the absence and sickness of the frontier Commander, and the signing by chieftains Antonio Mancisco, Cristóbal, Yescas and Cigarrito the son, for his father the sign of the cross was made.—José Ignacio Ronquillo, Antonio Mancisco [Francisco].—Yezcas.—Cristóbal.—Cigaritto the son, for his father.

Copy. Paso, 14 November 1838.—Jose Juaquin Guterrez.

Copy of a Copy. Galeana, 10 December 1838.—Cayetano Justianini

[Translated from the original Spanish document.]

Note: The treaty as translated from Spanish contains an error in the spelling of Mimbrenos in the Preamble. It is incorrectly shown as “Mimbrereños [*sic*]” and later incorrectly as “Mimbrereños” without the [*sic*]. It has been corrected for easy reading. Also, In the 8th paragraph, “perfecture” has been corrected to “prefecture” for easy reading. Attorney

General Goyónimo Redfeather, Chiricahua Apache Mimbrenño Ndé
Nation, July 28, 2020.