

Lecture Outlines
CLASS OUTLINES
AIHE, BLaST
Williamsport, PA
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Lecture 1: The Three-Way Struggle to Control a Continent

Significance of Indians in 7 Years' War

- I. Introduction:
 - A. French and English in North America, 1750
 - B. Overview of war [traditional story of English versus French]
- II. Three-way triangle
 - A. Iroquois Empire in North America
 - B. Diplomatic ends and strategies:
 - 1. END - Independence

Tanaghrisson, Seneca "half king," to the French at start of the war:

Fathers, both you and the English are white, we live in a Country between; therefore the Land belongs to neither one nor t'other: But the Great Being above allow'd it to be Place of Residence for us; . . I am not afraid to discharge you off this Land." (CC, 49)

Captain Pierre Pouchot, French commander at Fort Niagara: Indians thought it "very strange that others should fight for a country where the author of life has, in their view, created them, where they have always lived & of which the bones of their ancestors have had possession from the beginning of time. They are unwilling to recognize any foreigner as their master, just as they have none among themselves." (CC, 50)

George Croghan (Sir Wm Johnson's deputy): [Indians regarded Britain as] "a Counterpoize [to the power of the French, but with the conquest of New France] they consider us in a very difference and less favorable light, as they are now become exceeding jealous of our growing power in that Country. . . they had the highest notions of Liberty of any people on Earth [and] will never Consider Consequences when they think their Liberty likely to be invaded, tho' it may End in their Ruin." (CC, 50)

Delawares asked Christian Frederick Post: "Why don't you & the French fight in the old country and on the sea? Why do you come to fight on our land? This makes everybody believe you want only to take & settle the Land." (CC, 50)

- 2. Strategies
- C. Influencing Outcomes
 - 1. Seige of Ft. William Henry, August 1758
 - 2. Shift Alliances affect balance of power
- III. Long-term consequences
 - A. For Indians
 - B. For history

Recommended reading:

Fred Anderson, *The War that Made America: A Short History of the French and Indian War*. New York: Penguin, 2005.

_____. *The Crucible of War: the Seven Years' War and the Fate of Empire in British North America, 1754-1766*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000. (Long version with all the footnotes!)

Colin G. Calloway, *The Scratch of a Pen: 1763 and the Transformation of North America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.