

Present

- West Barker
- Ruigart Blythe
- Nicholas Goodale
- Johannes Cuyler
- Nicholas Blythe
- Dutch Ten Broeck
- West Wendell
- Johannes Lansing

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for the Indian Affairs at Albany
Septem. 25th 1731

Messrs. Johannes Louise Mandel and Isaac Key being yesterday arrived from Canada, this Board having desired to speak with them, they say that in their going up thither, they found the French employed in erecting a Fort at the Crown Point on the south end of Seneca Lake, near the carrying Place above Saratoga, in which Work there was thirty odd Men concerned, which at their Return they found completed and inclosed with Stockades, and likewise they have finished a house of forty foot, and were busy to erect Two more, who design to strengthen the same by inclosing it with a stone Wall next Spring as the aforesaid Gentlemen were credibly informed in Canada; the aforesaid Messrs. likewise say that they have heard that the French positively design to go up next Spring with Two hundred Men to Frederon dequatt, which is on the south side of Cadaroque Lake above Owego near the Senecas Country in Order to stop the English Trade at Owego; they say also (as they are informed) that John Cure was going out to bring over to the Interest of the French a New Settlement of Indians above Niagara, who have been in command with the Inhabitants of the Province of Pennsylvania

True copy examined and compared by me N. York 11 Feb. 1731

This Crown Point is but 3 Days Journey from Albany
Rip Van Dam

Province of the Massachusetts Bay
In Council 14th Jan. 1731

Resolved that his Excellency be desired to write to the Honble Mr. Van Dam President of his Majesty's Council at New York in Answer to his Letter dated the 9th of October last to signify to him that if that Government shall think proper to send a Commission to the Governor of Canada to remonstrate against his Proceedings in erecting a Fort at Crown Point within the Dominions of his Majesty of Great Britain, and to insist upon demolishing the same, and his withdrawing the Forces therefrom; This Government upon reasonable Notice thereof will readily contribute their Proportion of the Charges thereof, or send some suitable Person to accompany the Commission of New York: And in as much as the five Nations of Indians under the Dominion of Great Britain are particularly affected by the said Inroad that his Excellency be desired to write to Mr. Van Dam to engage them to join their Governments in the said Affair, and that this Province will in the meantime take Care to instruct the Agent for this at Great Britain to join with the Agent of New York in an humble Representation of this Affair to his Majesty for his Direction therein

Sent down for Concurrence
John Willard Secy

In the house of Representatives read and Concurred January 14th 1731
John Quincy Speaker

Copy examined John Willard Secretary
Copies from the Original examined by me N. York 11th february 1731
Rip Van Dam