



title of the lands to the Indians. However, action on such a motion is outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Claims Commission whose authority is confined to granting monetary settlements.

"On May 8, 1964, the Indian Claims Commission handed down an interim opinion acknowledging that the Seminole Nation, as it existed at the time of the 1823 treaty of cession had original Indian title to almost all the lands that now comprise the State of Florida, except for the three tracts called Forbes, Pensacola and Picolata Purchases and certain Spanish land grants. Title to the reservation established by the 1823 treaty was held to have been extinguished by the 1832 treaty.

"The case was ordered to proceed for determination of (1) the net acreage of the lands ceded under the 1823 treaty, except for the reservation lands, the value of the lands as of September 18, 1823, and the amount of consideration paid under treaty; (2) the acreages of the reservation lands and the value as of May 9, 1832, and the amount of consideration paid under the treaty; and (3) the amount of credits or deductions to which the United States may be entitled.

"In view of the many steps yet to be taken in the case--most time-consuming among which is the gathering of documentary evidence of the actual acreages and value of the lands in question--it cannot be indicated with any degree of certainty how much more time may elapse before final decision is possible. As the case now stands, all issues on titles, boundaries, acreages and land values must be determined before there could be any indication of possible amount of recovery."

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