

1732: FRENCH INDIANS INCITED TO ATTACK FOXES AND
CHICKASAW

[Extract of a letter from Beauharnois and Hocquart to the French Minister, dated, Oct. 1, 1732. MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; press-mark, "Collection, Moreau-St. Méry, vol. 10, f. 12, fol. 5."]

MONSEIGNEUR—

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The Sieur de Beauharnois has the honor to inform you, Monseigneur, by a private letter, of the condition to which the Renards are reduced, and of the attack made upon that nation by the hurons and the iroquois of the Lake of two Mountains, since That of the sieur de Villiers. He ventures to hope that his Majesty will be satisfied with his action on this occasion, and with the line of conduct that he followed in making the savages act without leading the other Nations to think that It was through his orders, or, at least, that he had any knowledge of the action of the hurons and Iroquois. This policy seemed to him to be all the more necessary that after granting the remnant of the Renards their lives on the Condition that they should send him this Summer four of the most notable persons among them, he was very well pleased to show that he kept his word while waiting for them to keep theirs. They failed to do so and this induced The Sieur De Beauharnois to send back to them The hostage in his hands, whom he ordered to tell the remainder of his nation that as they had not kept their word, he left them to the mercy of the savages who are in the Field, and resolved to exterminate their race.

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The Sieur De Beauharnois wrote this year to the Commandants of fort de Chartres in the Islinois country, of the Ouia-tonans, of the Miamis, to urge their savages to attack the Chicachas whom they were to consider as the common enemy of all the nations. He also, through the sieur De Boishebert, gave the same notice to The hurons of Detroit who raised a band to attack the remnant of the Renards—as he did not wish a single one to be left alive—that they might also turn their arms