The Royal Proclamation of 1763 was a document released by King George III after the French and Indian War (Seven Year’s War). It states that the British colonist may not settle beyond the new French territory that the British acquired during the French and Indian War. The Proclamation line of 1763, which ran through from Upper Canada to Georgia, prevented the British colonist to pass the west of the Appalachian Mountains because England wanted to make peace through trade with the Native Americans living in the acquired territory. But, the colonists were frustrated with the document. They wanted to settle and explore the new land for riches such as gold and silver. Many of the colonists broke the rule and The King George III had to bring thousands of soldiers along the Appalachian Mountains to stop them passing the proclamation line.

The Proclamation also established four new colonies: Quebec, West Florida, East Florida, and Grenada (which is not on the North American continent). The new colonies were Native American territory and they were under the King’s protection.

Another purpose for the creation of the Proclamation was to prevent the colonists to run away to the new territory in order to avoid getting taxed by the British government. It was easier for the British to tax people in the limited area. Also, any colonists living west of the Appalachian Mountains were forced back to the east. No illegal trading like smuggling was also not allowed.

Before the Proclamation of 1763 was created, the French and British were rivals for land in the New World. In 1754, the French and Indian War broke out after a land conflict near the Ohio River Valley. The war was fought between the French and the British, as well as the Native Indians allies. The war lasted for nine years and ended with the Treaty of Paris. The British received all of the French’s territory in the New World and a small portion of the Spanish territory. The Proclamation was created right after the Treaty of Paris to avoid land dispute with the American Indians.

Although the British won the war, it cost a great deal of money taking almost half of England’s budget. The British Parliament taxed the colonists for compensation. They passed the Stamp Act, Sugar Act, Townsends Act, and many others taxes. The colonist were fine with the taxes, but they were infuriated by the British government because the government forced them to buy products made from Great Britain only. In the end, England failed to get money due to the colonists’ constant rebellions and boycotts.

The wars, taxes, and the proclamation didn’t affect Georgia as much as the northern colonies such as Virginia or Pennsylvania. Georgia’s southern border went all the way down to the St. Mary’s River after the Proclamation was released. The new land that Georgia received was very helpful to its agricultural economy. The land provided Georgia with a waterway for trading goods, and good soil where many forests grew, which enabled the large production of timber and naval stores.

Since the colonists kept complaining the Proclamation line, King George III moved the line a little towards the west. However, the colonists were still weren’t satisfied with the British. The Proclamation of 1763 eventually became one of the main reasons why the colonist wanted to be independent from England. The colonists rebelled by boycotting and throwing tea in Boston Harbor (known as the Boston Tea Party) to stop England’s oppression. Also, the colonists wanted to represent their government to express their demands. Too much tension between the two eventually led up to the American Revolution. Eventually, the American Revolution ended the Proclamation and the British was no longer in control of the colonies.

Although the colonists and some Indians hated the Proclamation of 1763, the most of the American Indians (also known as the Indigenous people) considered the document as an important step to Indigenous rights, which were basic rights for Native Americans such as freedom of language, religion, owning land. It is called the Indian Magna Carta. The document has been for about 250 years and is obsolete, but the people of Ottawa still celebrates the Proclamation of 1763 on October 7.