Announcement: The Indians of the Northern and Southern Districts of North America: Levenshtein comparisons of the tribe lists from the 1764 ‘Plan for the future management of Indian affairs.’

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We welcome your comments, as well as your error reports. The URL for this resource is http://treatiesportal.unl.edu/planof1764/.

Abstract

The Northern and Southern Districts of the British government in America contained tribes of Indians that were specifically enumerated prior to the preparation of the 1764 Plan for the future management of Indian affairs. That Board of Trade policy reassigned the responsibility for Indian affairs to the imperial government, rather than leaving it to be mediated by the individual colonies. Fourteen variants of those lists, from official and public sources, were compared with Levenshtein’s edit distance algorithm to assess similarity and provenance.

Table I and Table II (Excel spreadsheets) are attached (below).