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Answered with number 258

In order to reply to Your Lordship's official letters of the 26th and 30th of the past June, numbered 224 and 229, I have in view that of the 18th of March, number 184, cited in the first, in which you relate to me the excesses committed by the French trader who was among the Orcoquizacs, Cocos, Mayeyes, and Carancaguaces, the damages he was causing us with his commerce in arms and ammunition, the noxious rumors he was spreading among those groups, and the provisions Your Lordship took to bring about his apprehension and punishment.

Now, informed of the steps taken by Lieutenant Governor Don Antonio Gil Ybarbo in compliance with your order and of the reply given by the trader Laprate to [Ibarvo's] intimation that he withdraw, claiming he was employed with a passport by Mr. Macarty, to whom the goods with which he was entrusted belonged, and that he had permission from the señor governor of Louisiana to carry out that commerce, I advise Your Lordship in spite of these and other arguments disclosed by the afore-mentioned Laprate, to order him immediately to withdraw from the rancherias of the said Indians whenever there is friendship and trade between // <sup>lv</sup> them and the Lipanes. For by this means the latter have provided themselves with arms and ammunition. And he is to permit the afore-mentioned trader to continue expending the remains of his merchandise at the villages of the nations of the interior, making him aware of the reprehensible conduct he exhibited during the time he was among the others, with the understanding that in case he again com-

mits such excess and lack of loyalty and does not request passage from the lieutenant governor when he again attempts to enter any village or rancheria in your district, he will be apprehended and appropriately punished.

In order to avoid similar incidents and so that Your Lordship and your lieutenant [governor] may restrict or enlarge trade with the Indians, [or] grant it to some and deny it to others as appropriate, I charge you immediately to make arrangements with the señor governor of Louisiana so that the passports given at the secretariat thereof and by post commanders will contain the statement that persons obtaining them must request appropriate permission or passage from the lieutenant governor at Nacodoches. Instructed in the circumstances occurring, he must issue it [i.e., them] to individuals who have given no cause for complaint, and when they are not opposed to the aims of the government. [This is to be done] under the concept that every trader is to be subject to Your Lordship's jurisdiction // <sup>2</sup> and that of your afore-cited lieutenant [governor] during the entire time he remains with the Indians and in the territory of the district of your province, in accordance with that which was provided by the Most Excellent Señor Conde de Gálvez when he was governor of Louisiana. Thus [traders] may be tried and punished for the excesses they commit there in violation of order.

Informed of the difficulties that were being experienced by the present señor governor Don Estevan Miró with supplying the necessary traders to all the nations as indicated by the copy of his official letter enclosed with Your Lordship's [letter] number 229, I hope

that both of you will attempt to surmount them together, thus facilitating at least the speedy provisioning of required [goods] to those that employ their arms against the Lipanes and for now depriving of a similar benefit only those that turn [our favors] against us, trading with those enemies; so that by virtue of this suspension, they will cooperate with the other allies to make war against them and to gain from us the same advantages as they.

Pursuant to all the preceding, Your Lordship shall send orders and instructions to your lieutenant [governor] in Nacogdoches, charging him with the greatest exactitude and vigilance [to give] compliance and also with the good method, prudence, and spirit of justice with which he is to behave //<sup>2v</sup> with respect to [both] the Indians and the traders, so that they will all be content. And in view of the excessive delay of replies from New Orleans, Your Lordship may, until you receive them from that governorship, send your official letters to the commanders of the posts most advanced towards the frontier in your province, instructing them on these provisions so that they may make them binding on the traders in your district and they may assist in observance thereof in conformity with that which was ordered by His Majesty.

God keep Your Lordship many years. Chihuahua, 3rd of August, 1786.

Jacobo Vgarte y Loyola  
[Rubric]

Señor Don  
Domingo Cabello }