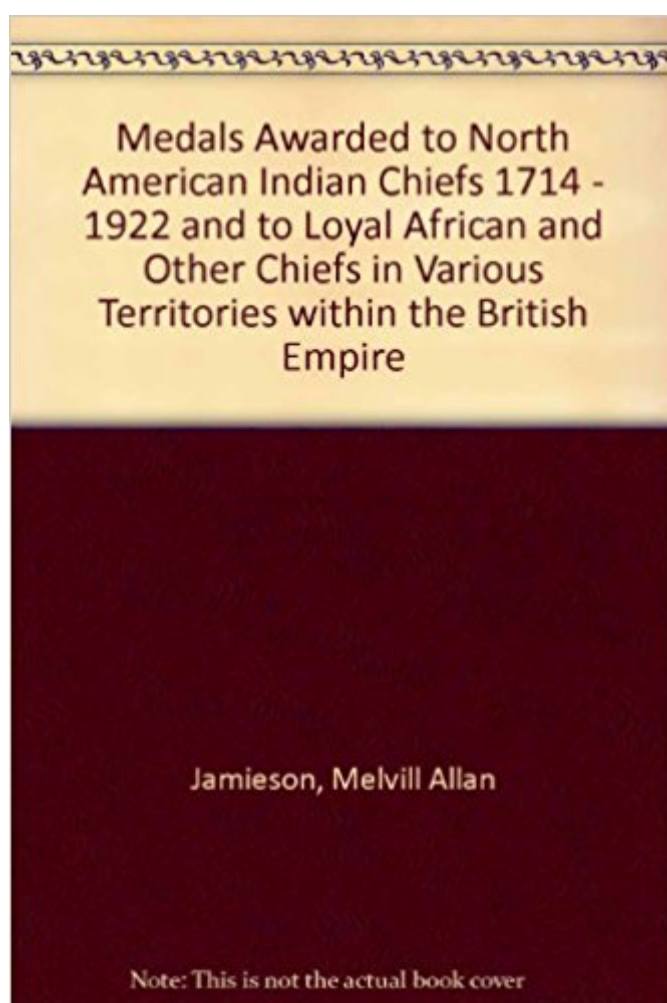


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Medals Awarded To North American Indian Chiefs 1714 - 1922 And To Loyal African And Other Chiefs In Various Territories Within The British Empire



Synopsis

During a period of just over two centuries the British Government, from time to time, presented medals to the North American Indian Chiefs as tokens of friendship, to mark the conclusion of treaties, in order to win their allegiance, or as rewards for services against enemies. Records relating to agreements and treaties between the British and the Indians date back as far as 1664, but it was not until the following century that medals and flags, as well as monetary compensation, became the sine qua non to the signing of any treaty. From 1714, when the First Indian Chief medal was issued, to 1922 some forty varieties have been noted, most of which are of considerable rarity. Unlike Indian Chiefs medals, which were first presented at the commencement of the reign of George I, no awards of medals to African Chiefs can be traced earlier than those given to Potentates of West Africa about 1830, so that more than a century elapsed after the institution of such gifts to the North American Chiefs before a similar plan was adopted to reward the Chiefs of Africa for their loyalty and allegiance to the Government of Great Britain.

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