

National Archives, Records of the Secretary of War, Letters Received, 1812, E-35 (6).

Elvirade Randolph County Illinois
Territory Feby 10, 1812

Sir

I have the onor to inform you that the messengers whom I sent for the Chiefs of the Kickapoos and of the Pottowattomies of the Illinois river have returned without being able to prevail on them to visit me according to my request---

Como the principal Chief of those bands on the Illinois sent me word that he could do nothing until he could have a conference with all the Indians who are connected by alliance and friendship with those of his own particular party-- In the mean time he advises me to be on my guard against the Winnebagoes who he says will certainly attack our frontiers to revenge themselves for the loss and injury of many of their men who were killed or wounded in the late battle at the Prophets town---

His thus evading my request augers very unfavorably. If he is not sincere in wishing a previous consultation with the other Chiefs & his conduct is an evidence of settled and decided hostility.

If he actually thought such a consultation necessary it clearly indicated his opinion that hostility agsinst us was contemplated by others if not by himself--And it evidences that their dispositions towards us are of so doubtful a character at least that we have no security against their attacks---