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[Florida Indians - Destroying the Enemy's Towns By Night] Hostium oppida noctu incendendi ratio. XXXI.er absagen

Stock#: 97385
Map Maker: De Bry
Date: 1591
Place: Frankfurt
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 6.5 x 8.5 inches
Price: \$ 475.00



Description:

Flaming Arrows By Nightfall

Fascinating depiction of one group of Indian Warriors attacking a neighboring village by nightfall.

The image shows a nightly revenge campaign conducted by Florida Indians. The text translates as follows:

The Ostedes, motivated by a desire for revenge, sometimes arrive at night with the utmost possible silence to scout whether the guards are overwhelmed by sleep. If they find them to be so, they approach the rear of the town and, using dried moss tied to the tips of their arrows as per their custom, set them on fire and shoot them into the town. Their aim is to set ablaze the



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roofs of the houses, made of palm fronds and dried by the summer heat. Upon seeing the burning roofs, they flee as quickly as possible before the inhabitants notice. They run so quickly that it is difficult to catch up with them. Moreover, the fire provides enough trouble for the residents to free themselves and take action. These are the warlike stratagems of the Indians for destroying enemy towns. However, the damage is relatively light, since it costs only labor to rebuild new houses.

The engravings published by Theodor de Bry in his *Grand Voyages* (1591) are based upon watercolor illustrations made by Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues, are the earliest known European depictions of Native Americans in what is now known as the United States. Le Moyne, a member of the short-lived French colony known as Fort Caroline founded by Huguenot explorer Rene Goulaine de Laudonniere (ca. 1529-1574), based the watercolors on his experiences in Florida in the 1560s. De Bry later published Le Moyne's work, along with other illustrations of the New World, as part of an effort to encourage European colonization in the Americas. Jacques le Moyne de Morgues, an illustrator and explorer, sailed with René de Laudonnière on the 1564 Huguenot expedition to Florida. Laudonnière set up Fort Caroline on the St. John's River in 1564, but the settlement was destroyed by the Spanish army under Pedro Menendez de Aviles.

Detailed Condition: