

Chronology of the Indians

By Bud Hannings

2nd 1833 — Congress would merge the Rangers and the 1st Regiment of Dragoons, initiating the rebirth of the "U.S. Cavalry!" Official birth-date of the Cavalry 12-12-1776.

June 15th 1834 — Colonel Henry Dodge, with 500 Dragoons, leaves Fort Gibson heading for the Arkansas Territory to search out and destroy the Comanche, Pawnee and other hostile Indian tribes who had gone out of reach of the U.S. Infantry.

1835 — A detachment of the U.S. 7th Infantry is dispatched from Fort Gibson with orders to proceed under the command of Captain Stuart and establish another Fort (Fort Coffee) which is to be located approximately 13 miles further up the River.

December 28th 1835 — The "Dade Massacre" Seminoles ambush 112 Soldiers as they march to reinforce Fort King, Florida. Two men manage to escape.

May 19 1836 — Approximately 100 Comanches raid the Texas settlement of Parker's Fort in Limestone County, Texas. John Parker is savagely mutilated with his genitals ripped out and scalped. Granny Parker is tied to the ground, lanced and raped. Total casualties — 5 dead, 5 women and children are kidnapped. The two women captives, Elizabeth Kellogg and Rachael Plummer are the first known white women taken captive by Comanches. (Both are raped that night in full view of the three children.)

May 26 1837 — Representatives of the Apache Kiowa, and Tawakoni Tribes sign a Peace Treaty at Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. This is the first treaty adopted between the U.S. and these Indians.

March 9th 1840 — Council House Fight — "Mook War — Ruh" and 12 other Comanche War Chiefs with their families arrive in San Antonio for a peace parley. They return two captives including one brutalized woman, Matilda Lockheart (her nose burnt to the bone "both nostrils wide open and denuded of flesh" and she has been sexually abused). The Texans demand release of all other captives, holding the Chiefs. A fight starts as the Indians attempt to escape. Sixty five Indians are killed during the skirmish.

March 26 1840 — One woman held captive by the Comanches, Mrs. Webster, steals a horse, escaping from their village with one of her children. She arrives at San Antonio safely. Booker Webster, her son, and one 5 year old child survive. All other white captives held by the Comanches are "skinned, sliced and horribly mutilated, finally being burned to death" (described by Booker Webster).

August 4 1840 — Comanches under "Buffalo Hump" bypass San Antonio with their war party of over 1,000 braves. Texas Ranger Ben McCulloch would track their trail, sending riders in all directions to raise a Militia force which pursues the Indians for their hostile actions.

August 6th 1840 — The Comanches encircle the town of Victoria, Texas and massacre several people on the outskirts; however, the town is able to blockade the streets, preventing total disaster. The Comanches, fearing house-to-house fighting, retreat, taking many of the town's horses and mules with them.

August 7 1840 — Buffalo Hump's warriors move swiftly, leaving death and destruction as they raid

along Peach Creek, towards the Gulf of Mexico.

August 8 1840 — The Comanches raid Linville, Texas (vicinity of San Antonio). The savages take Daniel Boone's granddaughter captive, killing her baby and throwing her over a horse for their pleasure. Most of the other settlers escape to safety in boats. The Indians loot and burn the town.

August 8th 1840 — Captain McCullough and his Texas Rangers arrive as Linville is being burned. After picking up additional men, his force exceeds a hundred. He pushes on towards the coast, pursuing Buffalo Hump.

August 10th-12th 1840 — Texans from all over are converging on Plum Creek, knowing Buffalo Hump's force must cross at that point. Tonkawa Chief Placido and 14 of his warriors join the Texans acting as scouts. The Texans devastate the Comanches, pursuing them for approximately 15 miles towards Austin. As the Comanches flee, they tie their captives to trees, shooting them with arrows.

October 1840 — Texans under the command of Colonel John M. Moore, on the trail of the Comanches since the battle of Plum Creek, finally discover a Comanche camp of approximately 100 warriors, near the Red Fork of the Colorado, and seek revenge for the Linville Massacre. The Texans attack, killing Indians at will. The Indians lose approximately 130, including women and children. The Texans suffer 1 fatality.

Early 1846 — Colonel Stephen W. Kearny had previously taken an expedition into Nebraska to locate a strategic area for a Fort to assist settlers as they traveled westward. His choice of locations had been in the vicinity of the Missouri River at the mouth of Table Creek. The troops depart Fort Leavenworth during early 1846 and begin construction but the number of settlers that pass in the vicinity of the Fort is sparse, causing a Battalion of troops to winter there for the winter 1847-48, and then the troops move on to the Platte River and re-establish a Fort along the Oregon Trail. The new more adaptable Fort will also be named Fort Kearny.

November 1846 — Major William Gilpin, with approximately 180 men, in addition to 60 Mexicans and Pueblo Indians, crosses the Cordilleras mountains to join with Doniphan to engage the Navajo Indians.

January 19 1847 — **BENT MASSACRE** — Pueblo Indians under Chief Tomasito massacre some settlers and Governor Bent of the New Mexican Territory. Bent is shot with a pistol, scattering his head, after being wounded three times by arrows. The Indians also scalp him.

February 3 1847 — The U.S. Army, accompanied by 6 pounder cannons, successfully attack the Pueblo de Taos and its Garrison of Pueblo Indians. At battle's end, Americans lose 15 dead, 47 wounded. Indians suffer 150 dead and heavy amounts of wounded. This battle ends the Pueblo insurrection and avenges the Bent Massacre.

1849 — The San Antonio-El Paso Road is opened to travelers and immigrants. During 1853, the Federal Government awards a Mail contract to George H. Giddings. His company subsequently uses this route to transport the U.S. Mail. During 1857, the contract is awarded to James Birch who will be remembered for the "Jackass Mail" To continue the story of the U.S. Mail, the "Butterfield Overland Mail" initiates mail service during 1859 carrying between St. Louis and San Francisco.

June 2 1849 — Fort Kearny, Nebraska is a solid edifice along the Oregon Trail but the Garrison is not sufficiently supplied to lend the proper amount of assistance to the wagons as they pass heading for California and points west. By this date, according to the records of a Lieutenant Woodbury, 4,400 wagons have passed the new Fort, not including those that passed on the other side of the Platte River.

October 22nd 1854 — The U.S. Army establishes a new military post which is to assist with the

protection of the Santa Fe Trail. Life for the Indians in the area has changed rapidly since the free flow of settlers heading West. Fort Lamed becomes the northern anchor of a chain of Forts defending the southwestern frontier against hostile Indians. Fort Lamed is responsible for the Kansas section of the Santa Fe Trail.

March 1854 — Apaches ambush approximately 60 troopers under Lt. Davidson, on the northern New Mexico plains. Fewer than 20 men survive the ordeal.

June 1854 — General John Garland, commander of troops in New Mexico, initiates two campaigns against the Apaches.

October 1854 — U.S. Major General Persifer F. Smith selects a location in the Davis Mountains in Western Texas, for the location of a new Fort to be constructed for the defense of the area. The Fort is named in honor of Jefferson Davis (Secretary of War and later President of the Confederacy). Six companies of the U.S. 8th Infantry move west to establish and construct the new Fort which is located in the vicinity of Limpia Creek in a Box Canyon. In other activity, American troops chase down Apaches who have attacked a wagon train on the El Paso-San Antonio trail, killing 6 warriors and 1 chief.

January 1855 — U.S. Cavalry under the command of Captain Thorn departs Fort Thorn on the Rio Grande and meets up with Captain Henry Stanton, to search and destroy Apaches along the Penasco River, 200 miles to the east. The Americans lose Captain Stanton and two troopers. The Apaches lose approximately 15 warriors dead.

March 1855 — The First & Second U.S. Cavalry Regiments are authorized by Congress through the efforts of Jefferson Davis. The 2nd Cavalry is known as "Jeff Davis' Own" This Regiment is given new breech-loaded Springfield rifles.

June 1855 — Mescalero Apaches sign a treaty ending their war with the United States. They have been badly defeated by Garland's Campaign.

July 1855 — The Gila Apaches also seek to sign a peace treaty, agreeing to become peaceful farmers.

November 1856 — Major Kendrick is sent to find Apaches raiding the herds of friendly Navajo Indians. One of the men with him is Henry Linn Dodge, Navajo agent. Dodge is ambushed and killed by the Apaches. Colonel Miles and a contingent of 400 Soldiers are dispatched to capture the Apaches who murdered Dodge. June 23rd 1857 — U.S. troops are withdrawn from Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. In accordance with agreements from the treaty with the Cherokee nation, the post will be given to the Cherokees on September 9, 1857. The present-day town of Keetoowah, Oklahoma is established on the site.

July 20 1857 — A 20 man detachment from the 2nd Cavalry under Lt. John Hood is ambushed near Devil's River, Texas. A Comanche force of over 100 braves attack. The detachment withstands the assault, killing 19 of the braves and wounding many more. The Cavalry suffers 2 dead, and 5 wounded, including Lt. Hood.

July 21 1857 — The 8th Cavalry from Fort Hudson arrives to reinforce Lt. Hood with supplies.

April 22 1858 — Rip Ford, a scout, leaves Camp Runnels, Texas, with a force of over 100 Texas Rangers and approximately 100 Indian scouts, heading towards Oklahoma to search out and destroy Indians. The force encounters a massive Comanche village on May 11th. The Americans, after initially being attacked, countercharge, dispersing the unorganized Comanches. The Indians lose approximately one third of their warriors. May 6th 1858 — Colonel E. J. Steptoe and his command of 157th Infantry and Dragoons are attacked by over 1,200 Indians, at Fort Walla Walla, Washington Territory. The

command suffers heavy losses; however, they hold the Indians off. The Army has less than three rounds of ammunition per man when the Indians withdraw.

September 1858 — Colonel George Wright's troops cross the Snake and Pease Rivers to revenge the defeat of Colonel Steptoe. His troops handily defeat the Indians at "Four Lakes." At day's end, not one American casualty is suffered. The Indians lose approximately 500 men.

October 1 1858 — The U.S. 2nd Cavalry marches almost 100 miles in 37 hours to surprise a Comanche war camp north of the Red River, at Rush Springs, Oklahoma Territory. The Indians are under Chief Buffalo Hump. Fifty-six Indians are killed, but the balance, almost 500 Indians, escape. U.S. Major Van Dorn (later a Confederate General) commands the Soldiers. Van Dorn defeats the Indians in another battle at Crooked Creek during 1859.

1860 — The Apaches allow the Butterfield stagecoach line (Butterfield) to pass safely through their Territory to keep Soldiers from coming in force.

October 1860 — The Cavalry is dispatched from Fort Buchanan to recapture a young boy kidnapped by Apaches. (He is the adopted son of a settler, John Ward). The troops return without finding the boy.

December 17th 1860 — Texas Ranger Sul Ross with 60 Rangers and about 70 Settlers and Scouts, pursue Comanche Chief Nawkohnee. The Rangers are joined by a detachment of the 2nd Cavalry, consisting of 20 men. The village is crushed by the Americans; however, the Chief and his braves are hunting. Only women and children are in the camp (Pease River, Quanah, Texas).

December 17th 1860 — During the Cavalry raid on Nawkohnee's camp, a white woman and child are discovered. The woman turns out to be Cynthia Ann Parker, one of the children captured during the raid on Parker's Fort in 1836. She speaks no English and has become the wife of Nawkohnee.

February 4 1861 — Second Lieutenant George Nicholas Bascom and a command of 50 Troopers go to the stagecoach post at Apache Pass, demanding that Cochise return Felix Ward or Cochise will face prison at Fort Buchanan. Cochise escapes but 6 warriors are taken prisoner. The Indians are hanged. Fighting continues for several weeks between the Cavalry and the Apaches until reinforcements including Infantry and Dragoons arrive. The Apaches will continue to fight for the next 12 years.

February 13-14 1861 — Reinforcements from Fort Buchanan and additional troops from Fort Breckenridge arrive and finally break the siege at Apache Pass. The Chiricahua Apaches under Cochise withdraw to the high country, choosing not to fight when the additional troops arrive. The siege on Lt. George Bascom's 60 man command has been lifted. Assistant Surgeon Bernard Irwin and 14 additional men are part of the rescue team. These men start their 100 mile march on mules, but then recapture horses held by Indians and participate in breaking the siege.

February 19 1861 — Captain Irwin, after locating the bodies of the six captives held by Cochise and seeing them being devoured by vultures, immediately orders the hanging of the six Apache prisoners being held.

March-April 1861 — Three of the six Apaches hanged on the return march to Fort Buchanan are close relatives of Cochise. Approximately 150 white men are killed trying to pass the Overland Trail, probably in retaliation for the hanging of the Apaches.

August 1861 — By this time, the Union troops have abandoned Fort Davis and it is Garrisoned by Confederates. Apache Chief Nicholas decides to steal cattle and horses from the new residents of the Fort and he is pursued by a detachment of 13 men, led by Lieutenant Reuben E. Mays. The Apaches, numerically superior, stop running on the 12th and ambush the Confederates who unsuspectingly ride into the canyon which has nearly 100 warriors deployed on both sides. The

encounter is deadly and only one man, their Mexican guide, is able to escape death. The Confederates abandon Fort Davis during spring, 1862 after their unsuccessful campaign to win the Southwest and no troops occupy Fort Davis until it is regarrisoned by U.S. troops during 1867.

September 27th 1861 — Mangus Coloradas, Apache Chief and father-in-law of Cochise, attacks the town of Pinos Altos. The town is heavily fortified by Arizona Guards with breech rifles who repel the attack.

September 28 1861 — A wagon train is attacked by Mangus Coloradas and his Braves as it leaves Pinos Altos. Once again, the Arizona Guards drive them away, saving the train from disaster.

November 1861 — Chief Opothleyohola leads 4,000 Creeks towards Union, Kansas and is attacked by Indians allied with Confederates and Texas Cavalry along the way. Seven hundred Indians are killed.

July 4 1862 — Union Cavalry assisted by an artillery outfit armed with howitzers, under the command of Captain Thomas Roberts, depart Tucson, acting as an advance guard, and begin to move through Apache Pass en route to Sante Fe. They are followed by the main guard under Captain John C. Cremony.

July 14 1862 — Apaches ambush a group of 14 miners approaching Apache pass from the east, killing all. While the miners at the other end of the pass are being ambushed, the Apaches watch the advance guard under Roberts begin to climb Apache Pass from the opposite end.

July 15 1862 — **BATTLE OF APACHE PASS** Captain Roberts' troops are ambushed by Apaches. Artillery drives the Indians away, allowing the troops to reach water. Men dispatched to warn the main guard are all wounded. One trooper, John Teal, reported dead, actually saves the day. After his horse is shot from under him, he manages to stay alive and wound Mangus Coloradas. Teal, reluctant to leave his saddle for the Apaches, walks 8 miles, saddle over his shoulder, to reach Cremony's camp. American losses after passing through Apache Pass — 2 dead, several wounded. The Apaches suffer 63 dead. The Apaches have never before seen the 8 pounders, which blasted them. The Apaches call the cannon "Shooting Wagons!" Within a month, Fort Bowie is completed and insures safe passage through Apache Pass.

August 1862 — General Carleton builds Fort Bowie at the approach to Apache Pass. The Fort is built with no opposition because the Apaches have fled to Mexico, waiting for Mangus Coloradas' wounds to heal.

August 17th 1862 — Four Santee Sioux Indians massacre three men and two women on a farm near their reservation in southwest Minnesota. The Indians appear on the pretense of a friendly target shoot but after the settlers' guns are emptied, the Indians open fire to kill.

August 1862 — Several hundred settlers are massacred throughout Minnesota by Santee Sioux who take to the warpath, taking scalps and in some cases, bashing in the heads of children. Some settlers manage to escape the Indian massacre and arrive at Fort Ridgely, Minnesota. Captain March takes a detachment of 48 men to search for the Sioux. One half of this detachment is wiped out by the Sioux.

August 22nd 1862 — Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, Garrisoned by a mere 180 Soldiers and armed Civilians, withstands a large-scale Indian attack by Sioux under Little Crow. Artillery Sgts. Whipple and McGee, firing at point blank range, save the fort from capture. While buildings burn and women scream, pleading to be shot rather than be taken by the Indians, Lt. Timothy Sheehan rallies the troops for a last stand, positioning the guns for a final salvo. The cannon fire sends the Sioux off in panic. The Indians retreat, the Fort is saved.

August 23 1862 — A large party of Santee Sioux now attack New Ulm, Minnesota. The defenders are able to drive them off.

September 18 1862 — Colonel Henry Sibley moves out to attack Sioux under Little Crow at the Yellow Medicine River. Advance scouts have been ambushed but Sibley's artillery hold off the major Sioux attack, causing them to retreat.

September 26 1862 — The Sioux turn over 269 prisoners, mostly women and children, to Colonel Sibley. Sibley moves on, capturing Indians until the prisons at Fort Snelling and Fort Mankato are filled to capacity.

October 1862 — Colonel Kit Carson on the way to Fort Stanton receives orders from General Carleton. 'ALL INDIAN MEN OF THAT TRIBE [Mescalero Apaches] ARE TO BE KILLED WHENEVER AND WHEREVER YOU FIND THEM:' Carson expresses shock, but goes on towards Fort Stanton to carry out his orders.

October 1862 — Carson's troops who are dispatched from Fort Stanton find only deserted Indian camps. However, another troop under James Graydon find a tribe under Chief Manuelito. The Apaches state that they are on their way to Sante Fe, to "beg for peace:' Graydon's troops commence firing, killing Manuelito and 10 other warriors, plus women. Others manage to escape. Carson sends his feelings of being upset, to General Carleton, who responds: "IF YOU ARE SATISFIED THAT GRAYDON'S ATTACK ON MANUELITO WAS NOT FAIR AND OPEN, SEE THAT ALL HORSES AND MULES ARE RETURNED TO THE SURVIVORS:'

November 1862 — Colonel Kit Carson escorts Chief Cadette to Sante Fe in search of peace but he receives an ultimatum from General Carleton: "SURRENDER AND GO TO THE RESERVATIONS ON THE PECOS OR BE KILLED!' Most of the tribe comply but about 100 braves flee West to join the Gila Apaches.

December 28 1862 — Thirty-nine Sioux, convicted of brutal crimes against the settlers in Minnesota, are put to the gallows.

January 17 1863 — Apache Chiefs Mangus Coloradas and Geronimo, along with several warriors expecting to talk peace under the flag of truce with Soldiers at Pinos Altos, are taken prisoner. Mangus is shot during the night. Brigadier General Joseph West has instructed two sentries "MEN, THAT OLD MURDERER HAS GOT AWAY FROM EVERY SOLDIER COMMAND AND HAS LEFT A TRAIL OF BLOOD 500 MILES ON THE OLD STAGELINE. I WANT HIM DEAD TOMORROW MORNING. DO YOU UNDERSTAND? I WANT HIM DEAD:'

January 17 1863 — The 1st U.S. Cavalry engages the Indians at the Lava Beds, California. Major John Green receives the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions leading his men over the lava, against the concealed Indians.

January 27 1863 — Colonel Patrick Edward Connor, 3rd California Infantry, attacks the Shoshones under Chief Bear Hunter at the Battle of Bear River, in the Utah Territory. Colonel Connor becomes a General because of this great victory. The Army suffers 20 dead and 46 wounded. The Indians have over 200 dead. It becomes safe for settlers to travel through the Utah Territory by fall, 1863.

March 1863 —Apaches seeking revenge for Mangus' death begin attacking settlements while Cavalry is destroying Apache villages and their stock.

December 1863 —The Governor of the Arizona Territory, John N. Goodwin, and his military escort enroute to Fort Whipple encounter friendly Apaches. The troops, assuming all Apaches hostile, open fire, killing approximately 20 warriors. This prevents any further treaties from being signed and Arizona becomes open Territory for raiding Apaches.

October 13 1864 — Little Buffalo and a force of over 700 warriors cross the Brazos approximately 10 miles outside Fort Belknap, Texas. The Comanches mutilate one man and a boy, raid the

Fitzpatrick Ranch, killing one woman by stripping her naked and mutilating her body, then take the other women and children captive.

October 13 1864 — Thornton Hamby, a Confederate Soldier, assisted by women loading his pistols, holds off an attack by Little Buffalo on the Bragg Ranch. Hamby kills Little Buffalo and the Comanches withdraw.

November 29 1864 — A promise of peace given to the Indians by Major E. W. Wynkoop is broken, and more than 600 Colorado State Militiamen under the command of Colonel J. M. Chivington attack the reservation in the vicinity of Fort Lyon, Colorado, devastating the tribe, mostly comprising women and children. Chief White Antelope is killed, but Chief Black Kettle escapes. Chief Black Kettle raises both a white flag and the American Flag, but the Soldiers fire relentlessly.

May 12 1865 — A contingent of the 1st Nebraska Veteran Cavalry repel an Indian attack at Gilman's Ranch, Nebraska. Pvt. Francis Lohnes receives the Medal of Honor for gallantry during this action.

May 19 1866 — Colonel Henry B. Carrington's troops leave Fort Kearny, Nebraska, guided by Jim Bridger the Indian scout. They reach Fort Laramie on June 16th, with intentions of rebuilding Fort Connor on the Bozeman Trail, plus building two additional Forts about 100 miles apart. (Fort Connor is renamed Fort Reno).

July 1866 — George Armstrong Custer, now finished with the war, spends time as Commanding Officer in Texas and returns to civilian life, receives a commission as Lieutenant Colonel in the newly formed 7th Cavalry which will be deployed against the Indians. Custer joins the Regiment during 1867 at Fort Riley, Kansas and the legend begins anew. The U.S. is pushing West. The rails are stretching through Indian Territory and the Army is going to have to protect the settlers and the trains. There is no doubt that major confrontations are coming, especially after the humiliating defeat at Fort Kearny with the massacre of Fetterman's command, during December of 1866.

July 15 1866 — Colonel Carrington's men begin building Fort Kearny. Indians attack logging parties nine times between July 14th and July 29th.

August 1866 — Two men, Gilchrist and Johnson, are captured by the Indians near Fort Kearny, and tortured to death by a slow fire. Their skulls and parts of their skeletons are recovered a week later.

October 31 1866 — Fort Kearny is complete. A Stars and Stripes holiday is celebrated and the troops watch the First Garrison Flag fly over the Fort.

December 6 1866 — Lt. Bingham and Sgt. Bowers are killed during an engagement with Indians near Ft. Kearny. Lt. Grummond escapes, thanks to the speed of his horse, making it safely back to the Fort.

December 21 1866 — The Sioux attack a lumber train, commanded by Captain Brown, outside of Fort Kearny. Captain Fetterman previously boasted, "GIVE ME EIGHTY MEN AND I'LL RIDE THROUGH THE ENTIRE SIOUX NATION". A relief force of 81 men led by Captain Fetterman would be sent to relieve the beleaguered train, with direct orders not to move any further. Additional troops led by Captain Ten Eyck arrive to reinforce Captain Fetterman's patrol, only to find 40 naked soldiers who had been killed and scalped by a Sioux war party that exceeded 2,000 men. Captain Fetterman and Brown both have bullet holes in the head. Fetterman advances beyond Lodge Trail Ridge, northwest of the post. Only two civilians among the entire command have automatic weapons (Springfield Muzzle Loaders).

December 22 1866 — Colonel Carrington and 80 men search for the remainder of Fetterman's command and find 32 additional bodies in the same vicinity. All are likewise naked and scalped. In a battle that lasts less than half an hour, Fort Kearny loses 25 percent of its troops because one

Officer, Fetterman, had disobeyed orders. The relief force under Carrington now returns to Fort Kearny in hopes the lightly-defended Garrison was able to hold. A white light glowing atop the Fort lets the returning troops know the Fort remains secure.

December 22-23 1866 — A Frontiersman, John "Portugee" Phillips, begins a 235 mile journey through Indian country, hoping to arrive at Fort Laramie to get reinforcements for Fort Kearny. He arrives on Christmas Eve and as he enters the gates of the Fort, his horse falls down dead. This gallant ride is accomplished by a civilian volunteer because no soldier would do it. This infamous defeat convinces the Army of the need for repeater rifles. General Sherman gets them the new rifles which arrive in the Spring to act as an equalizer for the army.

January 3 1867 —In an official letter from Colonel Carrington to the Assistant Adjutant General, Omaha, Nebraska: "THE GREAT REAL FACT IS THAT THESE INDIANS TAKE ALIVE WHEN POSSIBLE AND SLOWLY TORTURE' " IT IS THE OPINION OF DR. S.M. HORTON THAT NOT MORE THAN SIX WERE KILLED BY BALLS. THE WHOLE ARROWS — HUNDREDS OF WHICH WERE REMOVED FROM NAKED BODIES, WERE ALL USED AFTER REMOVAL OF CLOTHING:' This defeat at Fort Kearny, to which Carrington refers, has been remembered as "FETTERMAN'S FOLLY:'

February 1867 —Sgt. George Grant, Company E, 18th U.S. Infantry, during the month of February, is used to dispatch important messages between the command at Fort Phil Kearny and Fort C.F. Smith in the Dakota Territory. This dangerous assignment has him battling severe weather, including blizzards and rain, in addition to continual attacks by hostile Indians. His valor and bravery during this most important assignment earn him the Medal of Honor.

March 1 1867 —Nebraska is admitted to the Union as the 37th State.

March 22 1867 —American troops depart Fort Kansas, heading for the Plains to confront Cheyennes in Kansas. The command includes infantry and artillery. The 7th Cavalry participates in this expedition. The expeditionary force arrives at Fort Lamed, Kansas during April. General Hancock orders Edward Wynkoop to direct the Cheyenne leaders to come to the Fort for a parley. Afterwards, the Indians are ordered to come to the Fort with the entire tribe but complications set in and the Indians do not arrive as expected. This prompts Hancock to set out after the Cheyenne.

April 15-May 2 1867 — The Army under Hancock moves towards the Cheyenne camp at Pawnee Fork. An altercation is imminent but the Cheyenne under Roman Nose withdraw to their camp and are shortly surrounded by the 7th Cavalry. During the night, the Indians evacuate the camp to the embarrassment of Hancock's command. Orders are given to give chase but the end result is fruitless. The Indians scatter and disappear on the plains. As the Army pursues the Indians, the Indians strike along the Smoky Hill Line. The 7th Cavalry returns to Fort Hays during the beginning of May without capturing any Indians. The village at Pawnee Fork has been burned by the Army because the Cheyenne have fled. General Hancock returns to Lamed with the Infantry. Hancock's expedition ends without success. He eventually meets Custer at Fort Hays and shortly thereafter returns to Fort Leavenworth. The Indians are on the warpath and Custer is stranded at Fort Hays until his troop is ready to initiate the pursuit.

June 1867 — Custer departs Fort Hays searching for hostiles. The 7th encounters some braves but no heavy fighting occurs and the troop arrives at Fort McPherson on June 10th. The command remains until the 18th when they depart, upon orders issued by General Sherman, who conferred with Custer on the 16th and directs him to seek out the Indians and kill them.

June 24th, 1867 — A band of Pawnee Indians attack Custer's encampment at the Republican River.

Custer's pickets are on the alert and quickly respond. The entire troop is up and firing in an instant. The Oglalas, led by Pawnee Killer are thwarted. Later in the day, another band of Indians appears within range of the 7th Cavalry. Custer dispatches 50 troopers, led by Captain Louis Hamilton to pursue but the Indians are setting an ambush. The Cavalry breaks off in two groups and the detachment led by Hamilton hits heavy opposition, but Army firepower allows them to fight their way out.

June 1867 — The troops at Fort Phil Kearny receive new "breech-loader" Springfield 50 calibre rifles. They are the first troops in Indian country to receive them.

June 29 1867 — The U.S. 9th Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Wesley Merritt advances along Limpia Creek in Texas to re-establish Fort Davis. The 9th Cavalry is a newly organized Colored Regiment. Fort Davis will later be Garrisoned by 12 companies of combined Infantry and Cavalry. These Colored troops are called "Buffalo Soldiers" by the Indians. 2nd Lieutenant Henry Ossian Flipper, the first black graduate of West Point, is stationed at Fort Davis and during 1881 is accused of embezzling government funds. Flipper is found innocent of that charge but guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer, and dismissed from the army. During 1976, the U.S. Army agrees to review the court transcripts and clears his name, granting Lt. Flipper an honorable discharge.

July 7th 1867 — Custer departs his position on the Republican River and heads for Fort Wallace. Several men desert the command and Custer, concerned about discipline and survival of the command, orders the men pursued with orders to kill them. Three men are captured and shot. Custer is aware that a small detachment led by Lieutenant Lyman Kidder has been dispatched by Sherman to locate Custer's command and deliver orders directing Custer to Fort Wallace. Custer rushes towards Fort Wallace and searches for the Kidder detachment. Four days later, on the 11th, the detachment is located. Unfortunately, the men had been massacred by the hostiles and the ten bodies had been horrendously mutilated.

July 12, 1867 — Custer's command reaches Fort Wallace, Kansas. The horses are tired and there has still been little contact with the hostiles. The Indians on the other hand have been raiding all over the Territory leaving, wrecked telegraph lines and hundreds of dead whites in their wake. The detachment of Lt. Kidder has killed two braves before they are annihilated and they are to date, the only Indians known to have been killed by the Army since the beginning of the campaign by Hancock earlier in the year. Custer cancels the campaign and begins to move his command towards Fort Harker, Kansas to resupply the command.

The Indians still hold the upper hand against the Army on the Plains. The Forts are scattered along the Plains but their numbers are insufficient to protect such a wide area. The Indians, although great in numbers, are not armed with enough weapons to match the Army's firepower at the Forts so they concentrate on quick hit and run raids and ambushes of supply trains. The trains "Iron Horses" are penetrating deeper into the Plains causing more difficulty for the Indians who now have more competition going after the buffalo. (July 1867)

August 2 1867 — Approximately 40 Soldiers and Civilians are surrounded and attacked by a force of over 1,500 Sioux warriors near Fort Phil Kearny, Wyoming. The new breech-loaded rifles allow the Soldiers to beat off the attack known as the "WAGONBOX FIGHT" As the Sioux approach, Sgt. Samuel Gibson and two other soldiers leave their post without orders, with Gibson explaining the reason for leaving the post to their captain. The captain's response: "YOU HAVE DONE NOBLY MY BOY: 'MEN FIND A PLACE IN THE WAGONBOXES, YOU WILL HAVE TO FIGHT FOR YOUR LIVES TODAY:' Captain Powell responds to the savage charge, "MEN HERE THEY COME! TAKE

YOUR PLACES AND SHOOT TO KILL:' These 40 defenders turn back the attackers and force them to withdraw. Sgt. Gibson, after the battle states: "THANKS TO GOD AND LIEUTENANT GENERAL SHERMAN, WE WERE ARMED WITH THE NEW WEAPON:' Lt. Jenness and Troopers Doyle and Haggerty are killed at the battle. Eleven hundred Indians are killed or wounded. The Americans under Powell lose 3 killed and two wounded. In other activity, Indians also attack a hay detail in the vicinity of Fort Smith. Lieutenant Sigismund Sternberg with his command of 19 troopers and 6 civilians hold off the Indians. The Indians inflict 3 killed and 3 wounded against the Americans.

August 3 1867 —The discipline of Powell's command saves their lives at the Wagon Box Fight on the previous day. The Indians, under Crazy Horse, had attempted to trick Powell into a trap, such as that used against Fetterman but the plan was unsuccessful and the rapid fire weaponry proves too much for the Sioux. This is the last major assault against Fort Kearny on the Bozeman Trail. Crazy Horse concentrates on smaller raids.

March 1868 —The U.S. decision to abandon Forts Kearny, Reno and Smith is made by President Grant after consultation with Sherman. During the following month, a treaty will be signed at Fort Laramie.

March 1868 —Outlaws attack a powder train, heading from Fort Harker to Fort Dodge, Kansas, in the vicinity of Plum Creek, Kansas. Sgt. James Fegan, 3rd U.S. Infantry, singlehandedly repels the attack, wounding two of the bandits and chasing off the rest. The train arrives safely at Fort Dodge.

April 1868 —The Treaty of Laramie is signed guaranteeing about one half of South Dakota to the Sioux as a reservation. The Black Hills were a part of this area and considered sacred ground to the Indians. Fort Laramie, previously a fur trading outpost in Wyoming, was purchased by the U.S. Government during 1849 to be used as an army post to protect the Oregon Trail. Subsequently during the mid-1870's, the fort sees extensive service against the Sioux and Cheyenne.

May 1868 —The Indians on the plains still control most of the terrain. The Army has not been able to contain the many raids that have been sprung all across Kansas. General Sherman is becoming distressed at the situation and as summer rolls along, decisions will unfold to reinitiate campaigns against the Plains Indians.

May 30 1868 —Pvt. Edgar R. Aston, 8th U.S. Cavalry and two additional men, through their perilous movements, secure a safe passageway from the valley in San Carlos, Arizona for an immobilized Infantry column. Their mission goes through hostile Apache terrain.

July 1868 —The U.S. Army begins to dismantle its Garrisons that stretch along the Montana Road.

August 1868 — Fort Phil Kearny is abandoned by the Army after reaching an agreement with Chief Red Cloud of the Sioux nation.

August 1868 —General Sheridan directs Major George Forsyth to recruit 50 frontiersmen from the garrisons of Forts Hays and Harker in Kansas. These specialized troops will be used against Chief Roman Nose.

September-October 1868 —The U.S. Cavalry would initiate campaigns against Indians in Kansas and Colorado. The intent is to track down the Cheyenne warriors under Chief Roman Nose. General Sheridan dispatches Colonel George Alexander Forsyth and approximately 50 men from Fort Hays, Kansas, for the mission. This campaign ends in October, when reinforcements are rushed to the cavalry's aid at Beecher's Island on the 27th.

September 2nd 1868 —A detachment of four men would be attacked by a hostile force of approximately 50 Indians in the vicinity of Fort Dodge, Kansas. Corporal Leander, 3rd U.S. Infantry, comes to their aid and the detachment holds out until reinforcements arrive to drive the attackers away.

September 24th, 1868 —A telegram is received by General Custer at his present home in Michigan where he and his wife have been staying since he was suspended from duty for allegations that he had deserted his position at Fort Wallace and had deserters shot. Custer was suspended for one year on October 10th, 1867 but his main accuser had not been present at the court martial. The dismal situation of the army on the plains prompts the telegram from Generals Sheridan, Sully and Sherman to report for duty and assume command of the 7th Cavalry. Custer hardly places the telegram down before he is preparing to jump on the next train heading to Fort Hays, Kansas.

October 1868 —Custer drills his command heavily, instilling discipline, sharpshooting, horseback training and the ability to force march. Custer is preparing his command to take on the hostiles. As the 7th completes its training there are several skirmishes with renegade Indians who begin attacking wagon trains and the herds in the vicinity of Fort Hays.

October 17 1868 —THE BATTLE OF BEECHER'S ISLAND — (Yuma County, Colorado) — Fifty Frontier scouts under the command of Col. George Alexander Forsyth face approximately 600 Indians comprised of Northern Cheyenne, Sioux and Arapahoes, under Chief Roman Nose. Two volunteers, Stillwell and Trudeau, sneak away dressed as Indians, to get reinforcements from Fort Wallace. The defenders, almost starved, manage to hold on until reinforcements arrive to save them on the 27th. Chief Roman Nose is defeated and killed at the battle. A detachment of the U.S. 10th Cavalry under the command of Captain Louis H. Carpenter are the first troops to relieve Forsyth. Carpenter receives the Medal of Honor for his actions during the campaign and in particular for his forced march to relieve the beleaguered scouts of Forsyth at Beacher's Island, Colorado.

November 11 1868 — A contingent of the U.S. 8th Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians at Cienega Springs, Utah.

November 12 1868 — The U.S. Army initiates its winter campaign against the Sioux as Sheridan and Custer depart Fort Hays, Kansas heading for the Oklahoma Panhandle to destroy the Indians at their winter camps. These Indian encampments have not been previously endangered by the army and the Indians feel safe that they could continue their raids into Kansas and Texas. The columns of Infantry and Cavalry head south to a point on the North Canadian River where Camp Supply will be established just across the Kansas border within quick striking range of the Panhandle. A vicious blizzard will hit the area during the latter part of the month and play an important part in the plan to locate the Indians. The Cavalry, using the miserable weather to their advantage, move out on the 23rd with the music of "The Girl I Left Behind Me" easing the strain of the difficult journey ahead. Several days later, Custer's troops discover Indian tracks and realize the kill is near. The cavalry successfully follows the trail and will locate the main camp which is at Kettle Island on the Washita. The cavalry has finally found a large force of the enemy after years of frustration. Reconnaissance is carried out and the 7th will prepare to attack from four sides at the first beam of sunlight on the 29th.

November 1868 — BATTLE OF BLACK KETTLE ISLAND — U.S. troops are dispatched from three different Forts with orders to converge upon and strike hostile Indian camps in the Oklahoma Panhandle. The troops which depart Fort Lyons in Colorado are to rendezvous with troops from Fort Bascom and Camp Supply both of which are in New Mexico. The contingent which arrives and contributes the most devastating damage during the campaign is the 7th Cavalry, commanded by Lt. Colonel Custer who orders an assault at dawn on the 29th of November. The 7th Cavalry with sabres drawn and pistols blazing, swoop down on the camp located on the Washita, Oklahoma Territory from four different sides as their Regimental music, the Garryowen is blaring. The U.S. Cavalry inflicts

severe damage upon the Southern Cheyenne before withdrawing and taking over 50 women and children prisoner. During the operation, Custer discovers that these Indian camps are spread extensively all along the Washita River. The Americans lose 21 Soldiers killed, including Captain Lewis M. Hamilton (Grandson of Alexander Hamilton) and 13 wounded. Chief Black Kettle is killed at this action.

November 30 1868 — Custer's victory has presented several problems. The captured horses have to be destroyed before they pull back and the captives are taken back to Camp Supply. The official losses have been slim to Custer's command but one contingent branches off in pursuit of escaping braves and is later found killed. The village contains various articles that prove the Indians have participated in raids against the whites and although the raid did cost the lives of some women and children, it has been noted that it was hard to distinguish which was which especially when some women and children bore arms. Custer feigns a march against the other villages along the Washita but when darkness falls, the 7th changes direction and returns to Camp Supply. Two white captives are murdered by the Indians as the Cavalry attack.

December 25 1868 — A contingent of U.S. Cavalry commanded by Major Andrew Evans defeats a Comanche war party at the northern fork of the Red River in the Battle of Soldier Spring.

March 15 1869 — Lt. Colonel Custer captures four Chiefs at Medicine Arrows and Little Robe (Cheyenne villages in the Oklahoma Panhandle). Custer demands the release of two white women or he will hang three of the four chiefs. The Sioux would release the women captives and the Indians subsequently surrender.

May 16 1869 — Hostile Indians attack a Cavalry scouting party led by Lt. John B. Babcock, 5th U.S. Cavalry, at Spring Creek, Nebraska. Babcock's presence of mind allows his troops to hold off the larger Indian force until reinforcements arrive. Babcock's actions earn him the Medal of Honor. He gallops to the high ground, then remains on horseback while ordering his men to dismount and fire at will.

June 4 1869 — The Army and hostile Indians engage at Picacho Mountain, Arizona. George Gates, the Bugler of Company F, 8th Cavalry, kills a brave, capturing his weapons. Gates would become recipient of the Medal of Honor for gallantry during this action.

Summer 1869-Winter 1871 — The Indians have kept active with raids in various locations across the Plains. Sporadic actions listed take note of many instances where the Cavalry is involved with skirmishes; many of which have prompted troopers to display extraordinary courage that has them receive the Medal of Honor. General Custer spends the summer and winter based at Fort Hays and devotes much time to keeping his command in top shape.

July 3 1869 — The U.S. Cavalry would engage hostile Indians at Hell Canyon, Arizona. Sgt. Sanford Bradbury is the recipient of the Medal of Honor for bravery during this action. Another Soldier, Corporal Paul Haupt of the 8th Cavalry, also receives the Medal of Honor.

July 8 1869 — A detachment of three men led by Corporal John Kyle, Company M, 5th U.S. Cavalry, would repel an Indian force of 8 men in the vicinity of Republican River, Kansas. Sgt. Co-Rux-Te-Chod-Ish (Mad Bear) is accidentally wounded by his own command as he breaks ranks in an attempt to capture a hostile Indian. Mad Bear, the Indian Scout, also receives the Medal of Honor for his heroism during this battle.

July 11 1869 — The U.S. 5th Cavalry along with Indian scouts under the command of Major Eugene Carr, defeat the "Dog Soldier" Cheyennes at Summit Springs, Colorado. Cheyenne Chief Tall Bull is killed at this battle.

August 25 1869 — The army battles hostile Indians at the Agua Fria River, Seneca Mountain, in Arizona. Corporal Michael Corcoran and several other troopers of the 8th U.S. Cavalry receive the Medal of Honor for bravery during this action.

September 23 1869 — The U.S. 8th Cavalry clashes with an Indian force at Red Creek, Arizona. Sgt. Charles D. Harris becomes the recipient of the Medal of Honor for gallantry during his engagement.

October 14 1869 — Pvt. David Goodman 8th U.S. Cavalry becomes the recipient of the Medal of Honor for bravery in action against the Indians at Lyry Creek, Arizona.

October 20 1869 — The Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians in the Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona. Corporal Charles H. Dickens, 8th U.S. Cavalry, becomes the recipient of the Medal of Honor for his heroism during this engagement. Pvt. Edwin Elwood also receives the Medal of Honor for gallantry.

October 28 1869 — 1st Lt. George E. Albee of the 41st U.S. Infantry, along with two other Soldiers, would encounter and attack a force of eleven Warriors at Brazos River, Texas. The Soldiers drive the hostiles away.

April 15 1870 — Brigadier General George Stoneman assumes command of the Arizona Territory.

May 15 1870 — The Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians at Little Blue, Nebraska. Pvt. Heth Canfield and Pvt. Michael Himmelsback, both of the 2nd U.S. Cavalry, would become recipients of the Medal of Honor for gallantry during this action.

May 20 1870 — A detachment of the 9th Cavalry while on a scouting mission in the vicinity of Kickapoo Springs, Texas, engages a hostile Indian force. Sgt. Emanuel Stance of the 9th Cavalry, receives the Medal of Honor for heroism during this action.

July 12 1870 — The army would engage Indians at Wichita River, Texas. The 6th U.S. Cavalry participates. One of the men who receives the Medal of Honor for bravery during this action is Sgt. George H. Eldridge.

October 5 1870 — The U.S. Cavalry engages a band of hostile Indians at Wichita River, Texas, driving them off. Pvt. James Anderson of the 6th U.S. Cavalry receives the Medal of Honor for heroism at this action. Corporal Sam Bowden of the 6th Cavalry is another who receives the Medal of Honor.

January 24 1871 — An Indian raiding party crosses the Red River into Young County, Texas, ambushing a small wagon train, killing the 4 colored teamsters. (Brit Johnson and his three partners)

April 30 1871 — Infuriated civilians would destroy a peaceful Apache village in the vicinity of Camp Grant, Arizona, in retaliation for an Apache raid on American settlers. This confrontation initiates additional war between the whites and Apaches. The Apaches continue fighting until 1886. The leaders of the Grant massacre are arrested but subsequently exonerated by a Tucson jury.

May 5 1871 — The Army engages hostile Indians in the Whetstone Mountains, Arizona. Pvt. Hermann Fichter of the 3rd U.S. Cavalry is among those who receive the Medal of Honor for heroism in this action.

May 18 1871 — WAGON TRAIN MASSACRE — A teamster who escapes the brutal attack, described what happened, including the wounded teamster: "TIED HIS HEAD DOWN ON WAGON WHEEL, RIPPING OUT HIS TONGUE AND BUILT A FIRE UNDER HIS FACE THEN TOOK AXES, CUTTING THE DEAD TO PIECES:" This story convinces Sherman to order pursuit on the 19th. This occurs at Cox Mountain, Texas, near Fort Richardson. The Apaches who set up the ambush at Salt Creek Prairie, Texas allow a small wagon train to pass through safely, while they waited for the larger train that follows. General William Tecumseh Sherman was with the first

train. After discovering that the wagon train had been wiped out, he orders the arrest of three Kiowa leaders Satanta, Big Tree, and Satank. Chief Satank is killed while attempting to escape. Chiefs Big Tree and Satanta are tried and convicted, receiving prison terms of two years. Subsequently, during 1876, Satanta, while in custody, chooses to take his own life.

June 4th 1871 —Lt. Col. George Crook replaces General Stoneman as commander of Arizona Territory.

September 1871 —The 7th Cavalry receives orders to depart Fort Hays and report for duty in the South. Custer and his 7th Cavalry are separated into smaller commands and given responsibility for seven states. The Regiments main headquarters is at Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

October 10 1871 —Hostile Indians attack the Army on the Brazos River, Texas, driving a portion of the men into retreat. Lt. Robt. G. Carter 4th U.S. Cavalry, holds the left line firm, refusing to move an inch. His command successfully holds off the hostiles until reinforcements arrive to save the command.

January 1872 —General Sheridan directs Custer to report for special duty to escort the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia on a hunting expedition on the Plains while the Duke is visiting the United States. General Custer becomes such a success with the Royal visitor that Sheridan permits Custer to remain with the Duke for the balance of his tour. Subsequently, during February, 1873, Custer gets his wish. Orders arrive to regroup the 7th and take the Regiment to Fort Abraham Lincoln, outside of Bismark, North Dakota. The Army anticipates trouble with the Sioux who are living in the area where the Northern Pacific Railroad is about to penetrate, especially since the Sioux expect no white men or Iron Horses because of the Treaty of 1868.

March 28 1872 — A detachment of the U.S. 4th Cavalry, in pursuit of cattle thieves running from New Mexico are intercepted at Colorado Valley, Texas. Sgt. Wilson receives a Medal of Honor for his heroism and he receives a second award later at Red River, Texas.

April 26 1872 A detachment of the 3rd U.S. Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians at Loupe Fort, on Platte River, Nebraska. Sgt. John Foley and Pvt. William Strayer receive the Medal of Honor for bravery during this action.

May 23 1872 —The U.S. Cavalry engages the Tonto Apaches at Sycamore Canyon, Arizona. Sgt. Richard Barrett, 1st U.S. Cavalry, receives the Medal of Honor for his actions during the charge against the hostiles.

July 13 1872 —During an engagement between a contingent of the U.S. Cavalry and hostile Indians at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, Pvt. Michael Glynn, 5th U.S. Cavalry, singlehandedly fights 8 Indians, killing or wounding 5, and driving the rest away.

August 5 1872 — A contingent of the 11th U.S. Infantry drives off a band of Indians who attack a mail train near Fort Griffin, Texas.

August 27 1872 — Sgt. James Brown, Company F, 5th U.S. Cavalry, in command of a detachment of 3 troopers defeats a larger force of hostile Indians at Davidson Canyon in the vicinity of Camp Crittendon, Arizona.

August 1872 —The U.S. 2nd Cavalry, operating from positions along the Yellowstone River, reach striking distance of the Sioux under Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull who are encamped near the Powder River in eastern Montana. The hostiles spot the cavalry and the infantry which accompanies them to insure the safety of American engineers who are establishing the rails. The Sioux strike the army encampment at Arrow Creek on the 14th and the skirmishing continues for several hours most of it from fair distances. Chief Crazy Horse is uninjured, but his horse is shot from under him during one

of the charges.

September 8 1872 — During a clash with hostile Indians at Date Creek, Arizona, Sgt. Frank F. Hill, 5th U.S. Cavalry, captures a hostile Apache Chief despite his severe wounds. Hill will be a recipient of the Medal of Honor for his heroism during this action.

September 29 1872 — The U.S. 4th Cavalry would engage a hostile Indian force at Red River, Texas. Sgt. William Foster and Pvt. Edward Brannigan become recipients of the Medal of Honor for their actions during this battle.

November 1872 —The Modoc Indians would begin an uprising along the California-Oregon boundary lines. The Modocs are deeply entrenched in the lava beds of northern California.

December 27-28 1872 — **BATTLE OF SKULL CAVE** — Troops under the command of Lt. Col. George Crook defeat Apaches, killing approximately 75. By April of 1873, the remainder of the tribe under Chief Nanni Chaddi, surrender at Camp Verde, Arizona. Captain W. H. Brown with a detachment of the 5th Cavalry and a number of Apache scouts, attack hostile Apaches in the Arizona-Tonto Basin Country, defeating them badly. Unwilling to give up, the Apaches fight with tenacity until most defenders perish. Only a small amount survived to surrender.

December 1872 —Troops attached to Crook's command capture Apache Warriors.

January 2 1873 — Pvt. James Lenihan of the 5th Cavalry receives the Medal of Honor for heroism during an engagement with Indians at Clear Creek, Arizona.

January 17 1873 —U.S. troops engage with Modocs at the Lava beds in California. The Indians holding invincible positions continue to fire at troops all day. Nightfall permits the Army to withdraw from the invisible enemy.

January 22 1873 —The U.S. Cavalry engages a band of hostile Indians at Tonto Creek, Arizona. Pvt. George Hooker Company K, 5th Infantry, shows extraordinary courage, and gives his life during the battle. Hooker becomes the recipient of the Medal of Honor for his gallantry during this action.

March 1873 —The U.S. Army is moving against the Sioux in the north country. Forts are being constructed along the Missouri River in North Dakota in addition to others being built on the outskirts of Sioux Territory. Events of 1872 prompts the Army to bolster forces against the Sioux. Custer departs Memphis, Tennessee with a large force and Colonel Stanley (Civil War Major General by Brevet) is also heading towards Fort Lincoln with a strong force of troops and civilians. Stanley is the Commanding Officer during the journey.

March 25 1873 — The 5th Cavalry would engage with a group of hostile Indians at Turret Mountain, Arizona. Sgt. Daniel Fisher receives the Medal of Honor for his heroism during this action. Another engagement between the 5th Cavalry and Indians occurs on the 27th.

March 27 1873 —A contingent of soldiers engages an Indian force at Turret Mountain, Arizona. 1st Sgt. William Allan 23rd U.S. Infantry receives the Medal of Honor for gallantry during this action.

April 6 1873 —A Peace Treaty is signed with the Apaches at Camp Verde, Arizona. The Treaty gains Lt. Colonel Crook the rank of Brigadier General.

April 11 1873 —General Canby, while under a flag of truce, is murdered by the Modoc Chief Captain Jack and his warriors. American troops ultimately flush out the Modocs and execute those responsible for the brutal murder. In addition to the death of General Canby, the Reverend Eleaser Thomas is also killed by the Modocs.

May 4 1873 —General Sheridan orders Colonel Ranald S. Mackenzie to take the 4th Cavalry to Fort Clark (20 miles from the Rio Grande), and: "TAKE WHATEVER ACTION YOUR OWN

JUDGEMENT DEEMS FITTING." This order appeared to include crossing into Mexico to stop the Indian raids, even at the cost of a fight with Mexican troops.

May 6 1873 —The U.S. Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians in the Santa Maria Mountains, in Arizona. Sam Hoover, a bugler with Company A, 1st U.S. Cavalry, receives the Medal of Honor for heroism during this engagement.

May 17 1873 —Colonel Mackenzie and approximately 400 men of the 4th Cavalry cross the Rio Grande into Mexico and on the 18th devastate three Apache villages near Santa Rosa. The battle report seems intentionally vague, saying little; however, the troops burn the villages and return with one Chief and 40 women and children as prisoners. No conflict between the cavalry and the Mexicans develops.

June-July 1873 —The U.S. Cavalry and hostile Indians become embroiled in many skirmishes in the vicinity of Castle Done and the Santa Maria Mountains, Arizona. Sgt. Patrick Martin and Capt. James Burns both of the 5th Cavalry, receive Medals of Honor for gallantry during this campaign.

July 8th-11th 1873 —The U.S. Cavalry engages hostile Indians in the vicinity of Fort Selden, New Mexico. During these skirmishes, Sgt. Leonidas S. Lytle of the 8th Cavalry receives the Medal of Honor for valor.

July 1873 — The army expedition force reaches the mouth of the Powder River by the end of July but not to the surprise of the Sioux who are aware of the progress of the expedition. Within a few days, the two forces begin to engage at the mouth of the Tongue River.

August 4 1873 — The Sioux begin to tangle with the Cavalry. As the 7th awaits the balance of the force, they post pickets and relax along the Tongue River. Sioux Warriors make a dash towards Custer's position, hoping to draw the cavalry into a trap. Firing erupts but the horses do not stampede and the advance cavalymen send out a detail to get the hostiles. As the troopers encroach the woods, they halt and as it turns out, make the proper decision. The woods were hiding the main war party. Some of the hidden warriors are from the same band who massacred Fetterman's command at Fort Kearny. Custer, a genuine Yankee Doodle, and his horse called "Dandy" have outrun the galloping Sioux, foiling the day for Crazy Horse. The cavalry detachment is rejoined by the remainder of the main body and 85 Soldiers pour fire upon the attackers scattering them in all directions. The 7th then remounts and drives the Indians away. Casualties are light on both sides. General Custer, in conversation with Bloody Knife his trusted Crow Scout (on right) and others while resting during the expedition along the Yellowstone.

August 8-11 1873 —Bloody Knife, Custer's trusted Crow Scout, locates a Sioux village and after Custer is informed, the 7th Cavalry begins to move against the Sioux. They approach the village on the 9th, anticipating a surprise assault but the Sioux have moved across the Yellowstone River. The current is an obstacle which prevents pursuit. The Sioux, eagerly awaiting a chance to kill Custer in revenge for the 7th's attack on Chief Black Kettle, rise early on the 11th and move against Custer, firing from the opposing bank of the Yellowstone. Some Indians easily swam the Yellowstone, ignoring the treacherous currents that block Custer's men. The hostiles under Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull crept closer to the 7th's lines and Custer reacted, by ordering the men to mount and prepare to charge. Custer gallops in the lead with the music of the "Gary Owen" blaring. This unpredictable charge confounds the Sioux who retreat and subsequently move their village along the Big Horn River, moving south. Custer, who was not riding "Dandy," has his horse shot from under him but in quick motion, remounts and continues the chase. The Sioux escape and the fighting ceases with the cavalry returning to Fort Lincoln and the Indians withdrawing to Powder River Territory and passed the winter

without any major incidents.

October 3 1873 —Modoc Chiefs Captain Jack, Boston Charley, Black Jim and Schonchin are hanged on the Parade Field of Fort Klamath, Oregon.

Spring of 1874 —General Sheridan authorizes the establishment of a fort in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Custer's 7th Cavalry is subsequently dispatched from Fort Lincoln which is to be the main base camp.

April 2 1874 — The U.S. Cavalry skirmishes with hostile Indians at Apache Creek, Arizona. Sgt. George Deary of the 5th Cavalry exhibits much gallantry during this action and becomes a recipient of the Medal of Honor.

June 8 1874 —Cochise dies and his son Taza becomes head of the Chiricahua Apaches.

June 27 1874 — A group of American hunters are attacked at dawn by a combined Cheyenne-Kiowa and Comanche war party, but the Americans manage to successfully repel the attack. There are 28 buffalo hunters who hold off approximately 700 Indians at "Adobe Walls" in the Texas panhandle.

July 2 1874 —Custer's force moves out of Fort Lincoln with trains numbering over 100 wagons, two companies of infantry, a piece of heavy artillery, several Gatling guns, complemented by ten companies of the 7th Cavalry. In addition, Custer assembles a large group of Indian scouts, including Bloody Knife, his trusted Crow companion. The American expeditionary force approaches the hills towards the latter part of July and enters the Black Hills on the 25th, and makes camp in what would be present day Custer, South Dakota on the 27th. The troops remain in the hills for several weeks before returning to Fort Lincoln with information that the Black Hills are not being used by the Sioux. The expedition returns to Fort Lincoln with the entire trip being uncontested by the Sioux, a fact which has never been explained or fully understood.

July 20 1874 —Washington gives General Sheridan authority to wage war on any and all hostile Indians.

August 30 1874 —Colonel Nelson A. Miles' command intercepts Kiowa and Comanches leaving their reservation, and inflicts heavy casualties on them in the Antelope Hills of Oklahoma.

September 9-11 1874 — The U.S. Army engages in heavy fighting with hostile Indians in the vicinity of Upper Washita, Texas. Sgts. Fred S. Hay and William De Armond of the 5th U.S. Infantry, become recipients of the Medal of Honor for their heroic actions during this engagement.

September 12 1874 — BUFFALO WALLOW FIGHT In a spectacular battle, four enlisted men and two army scouts withstand a ferocious attack by 125 Comanche and Kiowa Indians in present-day Hemphill County, Texas. In a letter to the Adjutant General from Commanding Officer Col. Nelson Miles, dated September 24th, 1874 — "HOW THE WOUNDED DEFENDED THE DYING AND AIDED THE WOUNDED BY EXPOSURE TO FRESH WOUNDS" — "THESE ALONE PRESENT A SCENE OF COOL COURAGE, HEROISM AND SELF SACRIFICE, PROMPTING US TO RECOGNIZE, BUT WHICH WE CANNOT FITLY HONOR:'

September 24-27th 1874 — General Ranald Mackenzie's troops on a search and destroy mission, discover the winter camp of the Kiowa-Comanches, located in the Palo Duro Canyon, near Amarillo, Texas. The cavalry marches for 24 hours to surprise the camp, capturing all Indian supplies. Mackenzie heavily defeats the combined camps of the Cheyenne, Comanches and Kiowas, on the 25th. In addition, the cavalry captures almost 1,500 Indian horses. The Indians are forced to begin surrendering during the upcoming winter. Private Adam Paine is among those who receive the Medal of Honor for heroism.

November 1 1874 —Sgt. Bernard Taylor Company A. 5th U.S. Cavalry, receives the Medal of

Honor for courage in rescuing Lt. King of the 5th Cavalry from hostile Indians in the vicinity of Sunset Pass, Arizona.

December 2nd 1874 —Hostile Indians engage the 6th Cavalry at Gageby Creek in the Indian Territory. 1st Sgt. Dennis Ryan becomes a recipient of the Medal of Honor for his courage during this battle.

December 8th 1874 —The U.S. Cavalry engages and pursues hostile Indians at Staked Plains, Muchague Valley, Texas. Pvt. Frederick Bergerndahl, 4th U.S. Cavalry receives the Medal of Honor for heroism during this extended chase.

April 12th 1875 —Alchesay, Sgt. of Indian Scouts, receives the Medal of Honor for heroism during the campaigns against the Apache, during the winter of 1872-73. Another courageous Indian Scout, Corporal Elsatsoosu, also becomes the recipient of the Medal of Honor for consistent bravery during the Apache campaign.

April 23 1875 — A detachment of 6 men from the U.S. 6th Cavalry, including Pvt. Peter Gardiner and Pvt. Simpson, sneaks behind Cheyenne lines at Sappa Creek, Kansas. This surprise attack causes the hostile Indians to withdraw from their once formidable positions, allowing the main column of the 6th Cavalry to proceed without further harassment.

April 25 1875 —Isaac Payne, a trumpeter of Indian Scouts and three other men attack a hostile force of 25 Indians at Pecos River, Texas. Payne and the others become recipients of the Medal of Honor for their extraordinary courage during this action.

June 12 1875 —Taza, Chief of the Chiricahua and approximately 325 of his people, begin a move to the San Carlos Reservation. Nearly 400 Apaches refuse, fleeing to Mexico. Among those who flee, is Geronimo.

July 9 1875 — General Crook headquartered at Big Horn, Montana, requires important messages be communicated between himself and his staggered forces to insure the safety of his command, including those in the field. Pvt. James Bell Company E, 7th U.S. Infantry risks his life by volunteering to successfully carry these most important documents through Indian terrain, keeping General Crook informed of the situations concerning the success of his campaign.

1876-1879 —Renegade Apaches initiate raids until their skirmishes turn into full-scale warfare. Apaches, under Victorio Mimbreno, upon his death, follow Nana into the Sierra Madre Mountains, joining there with Geronimo.

March 1 1876 — General George Crook departs Fort Fetterman, Wyoming with just under 1,000 troops, heading up the Bozeman Trail towards the Powder River.

March 17 1876 — Colonel J.J. Reynolds attacks the encampment of Crazy Horse on the Powder River. The Indians counterattack and Colonel Reynolds withdraws to rejoin General Crook. William C. Bryan, a hospital steward, accompanies a Cavalry charge prior to the retreat. Bryan has his horse shot from under him, yet continues to fight, saving two men from capture. During the retreat, Albert Glavinski, a blacksmith of Company M, 3rd Cavalry, receives the Medal of Honor as part of the rear guard, holding off the Indians, and allowing the main force to retreat towards Crook's main command.

April 28 1876 — A contingent of the U.S. 23rd Infantry clashes with hostile Indians near Fort Hartstuff, Nebraska. During this engagement, the Indians become well fortified in the hills. Lt. Charles H. Heyl, with the assistance of three other men, successfully dislodge the hostiles, saving the army from suffering unnecessary casualties. This detachment, in recognition of their extraordinary bravery become recipients of the Medal of Honor.

May 1876 — General Terry and Lt. Colonel Custer depart Fort Abraham Lincoln, Nebraska, heading

for the Yellowstone River in search of the Sioux and Cheyenne camps. In addition, Colonel John Gibbon's command is advancing from Fort Ellis, Montana to rendezvous with the troops of Terry and another column commanded by General Crook which departed Fort Fetterman, Wyoming Territory. The combined force is to assault and destroy the hostile encampments but as the converging troops are advancing on their objective, obstacles interrupt the plan and the Indians score a major victory. General Crook encounters a large enemy force at the Rosebud River on the 17th of June which halts his progress. The other two columns join at the mouth of the Rosebud River and attempt to split their force and assault from two different directions with a synchronized assault. The attack plans go astray on the 25th of June when the annihilation of Custer's 7th Cavalry occurs at the Little Big Horn.

May 17-18 1876 — The 7th Cavalry departs Fort Lincoln heading for the Black Hills. It was touchy for a while whether or not Custer would be with the regiment because of several personal problems stemming from politics but after a last minute plea and the intercession of General Terry, Custer moves out with the 7th, marching to the tune of "The Girl I Left Behind Me." The famed Battle of Little Big Horn is one march away and the gallant 7th Cavalry unknowingly rides to immortality.

June 1876 — Geronimo initiates raids in Sonora, Mexico, stealing horses, mules and cattle, moving them north across the border for sale in New Mexico. These raids continue until March, 1877.

June 17 1876 — BATTLE OF ROSEBUD — Scouts under General Crook's command discover a force of Sioux and Cheyenne approaching Crook's column which is halted at the Rosebud River. The Indians engage Crook's command in a heated six-hour battle that forces General Crook to maintain his position and await supplies before rejoining the Little Big Horn expedition. The Indians, immediately after the battle of the Rosebud, begin moving towards the Little Big Horn to join the other thousands of warriors camped along the valley. This battle takes place approximately 40 miles South of the Little Big Horn. General Crook calls the battle a victory but the fact he is forced to withdraw negates his claim. General Crook's command consists of 15 cavalry companies in addition to five infantry companies and several hundred civilians. In other activity, Major Marcus A. Reno sends out scouts who locate an Indian trail moving out of the valley moving across the Wolf

Mountains and exiting in the direction of the Little Big Horn. Major Reno, unaware of the situation of General Crook at the Rosebud, does not bother to inform his superiors.

June 21 1876 — General Terry, Colonel Gibbon and Custer, unaware of Crook's withdrawal, meet to discuss battle plans against the Indians, on the steamboat Far West. The scouts determine they will find the Indians on a stream called "Greasy Grass", also known as "Little Big Horn." The following day, the U.S. 7th Cavalry pass in review in front of General Terry prior to their march against the Sioux at the Little Big Horn.

June 25-27 1876 — THE BATTLE OF THE LITTLE BIG HORN — Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer's troops, unaware of General Crook's stalemate against the Indians at the Rosebud River on the 17th, are advancing from the south, following the Rosebud towards suspected Indian positions at the Little Big Horn. General Terry, advancing with the command of Colonel Gibbon, has maneuvered his command along the Yellowstone in order to assault from the north. This circuitous route takes additional time and causes the main column to remain far behind the 7th Cavalry Regiment. Custer, in all probability, feels his force strong enough to deal with the Indians; however, the size of the Indian force exceeds 12,000, including between three and four thousand braves.

Custer divides his force into three separate commands, retaining five Companies of the 7th Cavalry for his assault force and delegating three each to Major Reno and Captain Benteen.

The Sioux and Cheyenne holding the valley are not surprised and have sufficient numbers to assault

the forces under Custer encircling them and simultaneously trapping Benteen and Reno. The warriors riding their horses bare-back fire incessantly at the besieged 7th picking off the Soldiers trapped at the Little Big Horn. Other massive war parties move out of the camp to intercept Major Reno's command near Garryowen Post Office, situated approximately four miles from where Custer is making his last stand. Reno's command gives the Indians bitter opposition but his command is simply overpowered by the superior numbered Indians which forces the Cavalry to retreat hastily towards some cliffs. Captain Frederick Benteen, who is speeding forward under orders from Custer, locates Major Reno and the combined force holds off the hostiles but they cannot locate Custer's command, which is being devastated by the swarming braves. Custer's 7th, although finished, does not capitulate, firing until the last man is killed. Major Reno and Captain Benteen force their way to the sounds of gunfire, hoping to join Custer but upon arrival at a vantage point later called Weir Point, all signs of battle have ceased and there is no indication of the whereabouts of Custer.

The bloodied battlefield displays no signs of the cavalry because they had been slain in a struggle to the death; this band of courageous men who had been outnumbered by a ratio of as many as 20 to one. The hostiles had felled Old Glory, silenced the Regimental Bugle and in the aftermath of the massacre, driven the fallen heroes into a glorious legend that subsequently inspired the cavalry to avenge the slaughter by increasing their intensity as they fight relentlessly, galloping across the Plains, sabres drawn and guns blazing until the Indians are thoroughly defeated. The crazed Indians begin closing to finish off Benteen and Reno, but quick maneuvering by the remnants of the Regiment enables them to take cover at the cliffs overlooking the Little Big Horn to prevent another disaster. The remnants of the original 600 men of the 7th Cavalry hold their positions and repulse successive hostile assaults throughout the balance of the 25th and again on the 26th. Finally the main command under General Terry, advances to relieve the besieged survivors of the 7th Cavalry on the 27th.

The victorious Sioux and Cheyenne under Sitting Bull, Two Moon, and others determine that the main column under Terry is too strong and choose to withdraw, rather than face the challenge of fighting the combined forces of Terry and Gibbon. General Custer and his entire command are killed, totalling approximately 225 men (Indian scouts subsequently count nearly 200 naked mutilated bodies at the Little Big Horn). In addition to the losses of Custer's five Companies, 47 men attached to Benteen and Reno are killed and 52 troopers are wounded prior to the arrival of General Terry and Gibbon. Indian losses are approximately 100 killed. This is a major victory for the Indians, but it turns out to become the catalyst for the total demise of the Indians as powerful foes.

The U.S. Cavalry would relentlessly seek revenge during the coming months, causing massive defeats for the Sioux and Cheyenne. Chief Sitting Bull withdraws to Canada, perched to attack the Montana-Dakota borders, but most of the ill-equipped Indians are driven back to the Reservations. The force of well over 2,500 Indians at Little Big Horn, sought revenge for the Custer victory at Black Kettle Island. Sgt. Richard R Hanley and Sgt. George Geiger are among many of the famed 7th, who would receive the Medal of Honor for their heroism during this most devastating defeat.

June 27 1876 — As America was preparing for its 100th Birthday, telegraph lines are announcing the National disaster at the Little Big Horn, on the plains of the Dakotas, throughout the country, to the dismay of the entire country.

July 8-11 1876 —The U.S. Cavalry is constantly engaged with hostile Indians in the area protected by Fort Seldon, New Mexico. Corporal Frank Battling, 8th U.S. Cavalry receives the Medal of Honor for bravery against the enemy during this particular skirmish.

July 9 1876 — Once again important dispatches pertaining to the well-being of the Army necessitate the transport of important dispatches from the field to General Crook at Big Horn, Montana. Pvt. William Evans 7th U.S. Infantry, volunteers to get the messages through. He successfully evades capture and death while traveling through treacherous Sioux Territory. Evans becomes a recipient of the Medal of Honor for this most courageous mission.

July 17 1876 —**BATTLE OF WARBONNET CREEK** Col. Wesley Merritt and his 5th Cavalry, attached to Fort Robinson, Nebraska, attack and defeat the Cheyenne in the vicinity of Fort Robinson. William E. Cody (Buffalo Bill) becomes a national hero because of his actions at this battle.

August 1 1876 — Colorado is admitted to the Union as the 38th State and, North Dakota on the same day as the 39th State.

September 9 1876 —Colonel Anson Mills and his troops defeat the Indians under Crazy Horse at Slim Buttes, Dakota Territory.

October 21 1876-January 8th 1877 — The U.S. Army and U. S. Cavalry clash with hostile Indians at Cedar Creek and other locations in Montana. John Baker, a Musician attached to Company B, 5th U.S. Infantry, is among the men who receive the Medal of Honor for bravery above and beyond the call of duty during these actions.

November 25 1876 —A contingent of the U.S. 4th Cavalry is attacked by a superior force of hostile Indians at Powder River, Wyoming. Although gravely wounded, Sgt. Thomas Forsyth, with his small command holds off the main assault. In addition, Forsyth rescues his wounded Commanding Officer. **November 26th 1876** — Col. Mackenzie's forces rout the Cheyennes at the Battle of the Big Horn Mountains. These troops are under the command of General Crook.

January 8 1877 — **BATTLE OF WOLF MOUNTAIN** U.S. troops devastate a force of over 500 Sioux and Cheyenne under Chief Crazy Horse, at Wolf Mountain, Montana. Capt. Edmund Butler, 5th U.S. Infantry, exemplifies distinguished heroism during this action, and Capt. James S. Casey leads a successful charge against the larger Indian force.

January 13 1877 — A war party of 14 hostile Indians ambushes a five-man detachment of the U.S. 3rd Cavalry in the vicinity of Elkhorn Creek, in Wyoming. Three of the five men are wounded; however, they repulse the attack.

January 20-22 1877 — The U.S. Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians in and around Bluff Station, Wyoming. Sgt. William B. Lewis, 3rd Cavalry, becomes a recipient of the Medal of Honor for his courage during this engagement.

January 24 1877 — A contingent of the 9th U.S. Cavalry is dispatched to attempt to force a band of hostile Apaches to surrender in the Florida Mountains, New Mexico. The Apaches surround and attack the cavalry. Brutal fighting ensues, but the smaller cavalry unit manages to break out and return safely. Corporal Clinton Greaves receives the Medal of Honor for bravery during the escape.

Spring 1877 — The Nez Perce Indian War breaks out with the killing of settlers in the Idaho Valley.

April 22 1877 —Indian Agent John Philip Glum traps and captures Geronimo at Ojo Caliente. Glum proceeds to move all Warm Springs Apaches to San Carlos. They arrive there on May 20th.

May 7 1877 — A Sioux war party attacks the 2nd U.S. Cavalry at Little Muddy Creek, Montana. The cavalry successfully repels the assault. One man, Corporal Garland, badly wounded at an earlier battle, still fiercely directs his men until the Indians withdraw. His courage makes him recipient of the Medal of Honor. Another, Farrier William H. Jones, of the 2nd Cavalry, also receives the Medal of Honor for gallantry during this battle.

June 17 1877 — About 100 cavalry men dispatched from Fort Lapwai to avenge the death of four

whites are solidly defeated at the Battle of White Bird Canyon in Idaho Territory, by warriors under Nez Perce Chief Joseph. The cavalry loses 34 men. During the cavalry withdrawal, Lt. William Parnell and a small detachment of men return under heavy fire from the pursuing Indians to rescue a fellow soldier who has his horse shot from under him. The detachment manages to save the stranded trooper and the cavalry, although badly beaten, make it back to the main command. The cavalry then prepares for a new attack in July.

July 11 1877 —General Oliver Howard departs with just under 500 men (combined infantry and cavalry) to catch the Nez Perce who devastated the soldiers at White Bird Canyon, Idaho. They catch them on the 11th near Clearwater, Idaho, and after a bitter two-day battle, rout the Indians, driving them in fast retreat towards Canada. During this tremendous battle between the Army and Indians, a detachment of the 4th U.S. Artillery led by Lt. Charles Humphrey, expose themselves to intense fire while recovering an abandoned Howitzer and two Gatling guns, positioned immediately before the Indian positions.

August 9 1877 — Colonel John Gibbon's troops, including the 7th U.S. Infantry, clash with the retreating Nez Perce Tribe at Big Hole River, Montana. The cavalry fails to retain them. Chief Joseph continues to dart towards the safety of Canada. His successful withdrawal places his tribe within one day's march from the Canadian border. Pvt. Wilfred Clark (Sharpshooter), 2nd U.S. Cavalry, becomes the recipient of the Medal of Honor for bravery during this action.

August 20 1877 —A small detachment of men from the 1st U.S. Cavalry led by Captain James Jackson, under heavy enemy fire, manages to recover the body of their trumpeter, at great risk to their lives, during the battle at Camas Meadows, Idaho. Pvt. Wilfred Clark, a hero at Big Hole River on the 9th, again shows tremendous valor at this battle.

September 1877 —Victorio leaves the San Carlos Reservation, with over 300 Apaches to begin raiding and killing settlers. Over 10 ranchers are killed before the Army captures them. The renegades are temporarily returned to the Warm Springs Reservation.

September 30 1877 — The U.S. 2nd Cavalry and the U.S. 5th Infantry intercept and initiate a five day siege on Chief Joseph's tribe in the vicinity of Bear Paw Mountain, Montana. The continuing bombardment of U.S. Light Artillery in addition to the Cavalry, forces the surrender of Chief Joseph on October 5, 1877, ending the Nez Perce War. 1st Lt. George W. Baird, 5th Infantry, receives the Medal of Honor for heroism during this engagement. Lt. Mason Carter leads a devastating charge inflicting many losses on the enemy. Another detachment led by Capt. Edward Godfrey also causes severe casualties to the Indians. Godfrey is badly wounded, but insists on continuing his successful charge.

December 14 1877 — Sgt. James Brogan, Company G, 6th U.S. Cavalry, singlehandedly fights off two hostile Indians. Brogan has his horse shot out from under him. Determined to continue the fight, he follows the Indians on foot through Simon Valley, Arizona.

May 30 1878 — Chief Buffalo Horn ravages Southern Idaho, until June 8th, when he is killed by settlers. After the death of Buffalo Horn, his followers move to Steens Mountain, Oregon where braves led by Chief Egan join them.

June 23 1878 — Captain Reuben F. Bernard's 1st Cavalry would attack and defeat the Indians under Chief Egan at Silver Creek, forcing them to retreat. These Indians are Paiute and Bannock.

July 8 1878 — General Howard's command would rout the Indians (Umatila) at Birch Creek, but the fleeing Indians reach the Indian Agency at Pendleton, Oregon.

July 13 1878 — Captain Evan Miles' Infantry engages hostile Indians under Chief Egan at

Pandleton, Oregon, driving them away. Chief Egan is pursued by a Umatila who returns with Egan's scalp.

September 4 1878 — U.S. Cavalry troops defeat the Bannock Indians at Clark's Fork River, Montana, forcing them back onto the reservation.

September 1878 — Northern Cheyenne, attempting to leave their prison reservation in Oklahoma to return to their lands in Montana, are pursued by U.S. troops and armed American civilians. The Indians would be hit by constant strikes during their return journey through Kansas, Nebraska, Dakota and Wyoming, until they are almost all lost. Very few who started the journey survive this tragic event of 1878-79.

October 8 1878 — The Government in Washington orders Victorio and his Apaches moved back to San Carlos Reservation. Victorio refuses and departs with over 100 warriors. Chiracahua and Mescalero Apaches join him in 1879.

January 5 1879 — Orders come from Washington to march the Cheyennes back to the Indian Territory.

January 9 1879 — Chief Dull Knife and his Cheyennes break out of prison in an attempt to reach the Canadian border where they might join Chief Sitting Bull.

April 10 1879 — The U.S. Army clashes with hostile Indians at Mizpah Creek, Montana. Sgt. Glover 2nd U.S. Cavalry, while in command of a scouting party, surrounds and captures a Sioux war party.

May 29 1879 — The U.S. Cavalry engages Indians in the Mimbres Mountains, New Mexico. Sgt. Thomas Boyne 9th U.S. Cavalry, receives the Medal of Honor for bravery during this action. Boyne becomes the recipient of a second Medal of Honor for heroism against the Indians on September 27, 1879, at Ojo Caliente, New Mexico. Hostile Indians under Victorio slay Mexican ranchers during one of their incursions into Mexico.

September 4 1879 — Victorio and about 60 Apaches attack and kill 8 guards from the 9th Cavalry and steal their horses. This attack provokes the Victorio War. The Apaches wreak havoc and are chased by the 9th and 10th Cavalry plus Mexican troops. Victorio is finally killed in Mexico during the Tres Castillos, Battle of by Mexican troops.

September 18 1879 — The U.S. Cavalry would battle hostile Indians at Las Animas Canyon, New Mexico. Lt. Matthias Day, 9th U.S. Cavalry, ventures alone into Indian-held lines to successfully rescue a wounded trooper. Lt. Day becomes the recipient of the Medal of Honor for bravery. Sgt. John Denny also receives the Medal of Honor for his courage during this engagement. The Indians have the Army command surrounded until reinforcements finally arrive on the 19th, to save them.

September 19 1879 — A detachment of the 9th U.S. Cavalry led by Robert T. Emmett is dispatched to reinforce a trapped command at Animas Canyon, New Mexico. Emmett and five of his men are surrounded by hostiles and successfully hold off the force of nearly 200 while other troops make it safely to a canyon. The besieged five remount and join the command.

September 27 1879 — The U.S. Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians at the Cuchillo River in the vicinity of Ojo Caliente, New Mexico.

September 29-October 5 1879 — Major Thomas Thornburgh and his force of approximately 22 men would come under siege by a Ute war party led by Chief Jack in the vicinity of White River Agency, Milk River, Colorado. The men hold out against heavy odds until reinforcements (9th Cavalry, Colored) would reach them on October 2nd and lift the siege. Capt. Francis Dodge and 40 troopers gallop through the entire night to save the embattled troops. Sgt. Edward Grimes of the 5th

U.S. Cavalry takes a contingent of men to come to the aid of a detachment surrounded on three sides by hostiles. Grimes' detachment brings needed ammunition, as their supply was nearly exhausted. Sgt. Henry Johnson of the 9th Cavalry voluntarily leaves the fortifications under intense fire, to instruct guards in the pits. He also fights his way to the creek to get water for the besieged troopers. Sgt. Lawton of the 5th participates in saving the trapped contingent. The extraordinary courage and heroism of these men permit them to hold out and finally on October 5th, the Indians withdraw.

October 20 1879 — A war party, consisting of 35 braves, would attack a reconnoitering party of three men from the 5th U.S. Cavalry at White River, Colorado. 1st Lt. William P. Hall places himself in conspicuous danger, drawing fire upon himself, and allowing the rest of the command to fire effectively to successfully repulse the attack.

February 10 1880 — A U.S. Army scouting party attacks a Sioux war party at Pumpkin Creek, Montana. A contingent of the 2nd U.S. Cavalry successfully surrounds and captures the hostile Indians.

April 1 1880 —The U.S. 2nd Cavalry engages hostile Indians at O'Fallon's Creek, Montana. The Cavalry drives off the Indian horses and the skirmish lasts until darkness when the Indians get away.

May 14 1880 —A detachment of the 9th U.S. Cavalry led by Sgt. George Jordan, successfully repels an attack by approximately 100 Indians near Fort Tularosa, New Mexico.

October 15 1880 — American troops have chased Victorio throughout his raids of 1879-80 at a furious pace, but it was an Indian scout named Mauricio Correvor who catches and kills him on this day.

July 19 1881 — Chief Sitting Bull returns from Canada to surrender to the army at Fort Buford, South Dakota.

August 12 1881 —The 9th U.S. Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians at Carrizos Canyon, New Mexico. Sgt. Thomas Shaw holds his ground, forcing the superior Indian force to retreat. Shaw's actions would prevent the enemy from surrounding and devastating the troops.

August 16 1881 —The U.S. 9th Cavalry would clash with hostile Indians at the Cuchillo Negro Mountains, New Mexico. The vicious battle lasts nearly four hours in the foothills but the cavalry holds off the attackers. One trooper about to be cut off and killed or captured by the Indians is rescued by the heroism of Lt. George R. Burnett, 9th Cavalry, who rushes under heavy fire, picks up the straggler and in spite of his own horse being shot twice, returns safely. Burnett receives the Medal of Honor for this action.

August 30th 1881 — Colonel Carr and a detachment of 79 men arrest Nakaidoklini, a medicine man at Cibicu Creek, Arizona. An attack by angry White Mountain Apaches occurs that night and the medicine man is killed by his guard. This action prompts additional uprisings by the Apaches. The U.S. Army continues to hunt the elusive Geronimo and other Apaches for several years. Geronimo finally surrenders in 1886. Sgt. Alonzo Bowman, 6th U.S. Cavalry, leads an attack against mutinous scouts during the fight. Bowman and Pvt. Richard Heartery are among those Soldiers who receive the Medal of Honor for bravery.

August 31 1881 —Colonel Carr's detachment is back at Fort Apache after their recent encounter at Cibicu Creek. Carr's command is again attacked by hostiles the following day by the same White Mountain Apaches.

September 11 1881 — White Mountain Apaches again attack a contingent of the U.S. Army at Fort Apache, Arizona. Pvt. 1st Class William C. Barnes, attached to the Signal Corps, receives the Medal of Honor for heroism during this attack.

April 23 1882 — The U.S. 6th Cavalry clashes with hostile Indians at Horseshoe Canyon, New Mexico.

July 17 1882 — **BATTLE OF BIG DRY FORK** — The U.S. 6th Cavalry would defeat Apaches at Chevalon Creek, Arizona. Seventy two Apaches are killed and the rest surrendered. This is the last major battle between the army and Indians on Arizona soil. Lt. Thomas Cruse receives the Medal of Honor for his gallantry in saving the life of a wounded trooper by charging the hostiles and holding them off, while the wounded soldier is recovered.

March 1883 — Apaches leave Sonora, Mexico and raid southern Arizona and New Mexico, killing H.C. McComas, a prominent judge and his wife. The Apaches take their son captive. The boy is found dead. These marauding Apaches are led by Chatto.

May 15 1883 — General Crook surprises Apaches at their Mexican hideout in the Sierras and within a week, his soldiers return to Arizona with approximately 300 Apache prisoners. Crook's command consists of 45 Cavalry troops and 193 Apache scouts.

January 1884 — Lt. Britton Davis is ordered to transport 550 Apaches (men, women and children) to Turkey Creek located about 17 miles outside of Fort Apache, Arizona.

May 18 1885 — Indian scouts Chatto and Mickey Free (the stepson of John Moore kidnapped by Apaches in the Bascom Affair of 1860) inform Lt. Davis that Geronimo and many braves have fled the San Carlos Reservation.

May 1885 — Geronimo, having left the reservation near Fort Apache, starts raiding the settlers. He continues this course until September, 1886 when he surrenders for the last time. He is taken after his surrender in Mexico to Fort Bowie, Arizona.

May 1885 — Philip Sheridan, Commanding General of the Army, orders General Crook to move his headquarters closer to the Southern Pacific Railway to better control all troop movements. Crook has 200 additional scouts with him and quickly sets up headquarters at Fort Bowie, Arizona.

June 1885 — Lt. Gatewood completes his military mission in New Mexico but it proves uneventful. Gatewood's detachment have searched unsuccessfully for hostile Indians. Upon his return to the Fort, a reporter asks: What about the Indians? Gatewood responded: "WELL, THEY'VE ALL GONE SOUTH AND PROBABLY ACROSS THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC IF THEY HAVEN'T BEEN CAPTURED."

June 2 1885 — By this date, Crook has his men convincingly deployed at Fort Bowie. Captain Emmet Crawford with his scouts and Troop A, 6th Cavalry, as well as Lt. Parker 6th Cavalry, search the Black and Mogollon Mountains for Apaches. Another troop under Captain Wirt Davis and the 4th Cavalry leave for Mexico, carrying 60 days rations, with hopes of driving the renegade Indians out of the Sierra Madres in Sonora. The 10th Cavalry are stationed at every waterhole from the Rio Grande, west to the Patagonia Mountains. General Crook places well over 2,000 troops in the field in an attempt to finish the Apaches.

June 8 1885 — Apaches under Chihuahua raid a contingent of the 4th Cavalry at Guadalupe Canyon, Arizona, while the Officers are on a scouting patrol. The Apaches kill 5 of the 8 men left behind to guard the camp.

August 7 1885 — The command of Wirt Davis strikes at a band of Apaches, thought to be led by Geronimo, killing a few braves, a squaw and child. Fifteen others are captured but Geronimo crisscrosses the Sierras and then back north into New Mexico, successfully evading the soldiers posted to capture him.

November 23-24 1885 — Josanie, the younger brother of Chihuahua, strikes with surprise near Fort

Apache, killing 2 civilians and then attacks the Indian Reservation itself. 20 White Mountain Apaches are murdered.

December 9 1885 —Troops of the 8th Cavalry commanded by Lt. Samuel W. Fountain attack Apaches near Papanosas, New Mexico. The Apaches escape.

December 10 1885 — Josanie's Apaches attack a ranch, killing 2 settlers and stealing fresh horses. That same afternoon, they ambush a detachment of soldiers, killing 5 and wounding 2.

December 27 1885 — Josanie and his renegades reach the Chiricahua Mountains of Arizona. Fresh snow in the form of a treacherous blizzard guarantees the Apaches safe arrival in Mexico, out of reach of the pursuing cavalry. In their ride of terror, they have travelled approximately 1,200 miles, killing 40 people, and stealing countless horses and other livestock. The Apaches evade capture and lose only one brave.

January 8 1886 —Captain Crawford starts a forced march, 48 hours with no sleep, in hopes of overtaking Geronimo.

January 10-11 1886 — Captain Crawford's forces commence an attack on Geronimo's village in the Sierra Madre Mountains, Mexico, from all sides. The horses run off and Geronimo sensing his lost position, shouts: "SCATTER AND GO AS YOU CAN:" The soldiers capture all supplies, but the Apaches make it to the other side of the Arros River safely. On the 11th a meeting is scheduled between Geronimo and Captain Crawford to discuss surrender: however, the meeting never takes place. Lt. Marion P. Maus of the 1st U.S. Infantry receives the Medal of Honor for his gallantry during this engagement.

January 11 1886 —A Mexican force of approximately 150 men open fire on Captain Crawford's scouts. Emmet Crawford, in full visible American uniform, climbs atop a huge rock with a white handkerchief in full view, exclaiming: "SOLDADOS AMERICANOS!" Crawford simultaneously orders his troops not to fire. Within minutes, Another volley of shots from the Mexicans hits Captain Crawford in the head. He never regains consciousness and finally succumbs January 18th, 1886. Crawford's body eventually is retrieved and buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

March 22 1886 — A pack train leaves Fort Bowie (with Tom Moore) en route to the Canyon Of The Tricksters in Mexico, to meet with General Crook to assist in a parley with Geronimo and other chiefs. General Crook, after seeing the faces of the Indians, describes what he felt: "FIERCE AS SO MANY TIGERS — KNOWING WHAT PITILESS BRUTES THEY ARE THEMSELVES, THEY MISTRUST EVERYONE ELSE:"

March 27 1886 — General Crook receives word the Chiricahuas will surrender. Nachez will also surrender. Geronimo, convinced of Crook's sincerity, is the last of the three to capitulate, stating: "ONCE I MOVED ABOUT LIKE THE WIND, NOW I SURRENDER TO YOU AND THAT IS ALL:" Then he shakes the hand of General Crook. The surrender takes place at Canon de los Embudos, Mexico.

March 28 1886 — General Crook returns to Fort Bowie, leaving Lt. Maos, the scouts and Alchise, to return the renegade Apaches to the Fort.

March 29 1886 — Geronimo, Nachez and some of the braves decide to leave the return march back to Fort Bowie for they fear treachery and break for their hideaway in the Sonoran Mountains.

March 30 1886 — General Crook dispatches Lt. Maos and troopers to recapture Geronimo.

April 2 1886 — General Nelson Appleton Miles replaces General Crook as Commander of the Department of Arizona. Miles attempts a much tougher stand against the Indians and shows no desire to negotiate as Crook had been doing.

April 11 1886 —General Miles arrives at Fort Bowie to confer with General Crook.

April 12 1886 — General Crook departs Bowie Station, Arizona.

April 27 1886 — Apaches under Geronimo and Nachez strike at the Peck Ranch in the Santa Cruz Valley, killing a few civilians, including Mrs. Peck. Her husband and 13 year old daughter are taken captive by the Apaches. Captured, Mr. Peck suffers temporary insanity from the ordeal. Cavalry under Captain T. C. Levo pursues the Apaches until relieved by Captain Wirt Davis on May 5th, just as their rations are running out.

May 3 1886 —The U.S. Cavalry on a search and destroy mission encounters Indians at Pinito Mountains, Sonora, Mexico. The cavalry are not successful in their attempt to capture Geronimo during this engagement. Lt. P. H. Clarke, 10th U.S. Cavalry, risks his life under heavy fire to save the life of a seriously wounded trooper, bringing the man to safety. The Apaches however, continue to evade capture.

May 15 1886 —The U.S. Cavalry attacks a hostile Apache camp in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Mexico. Once again, Geronimo is not captured. Sgt. Sam Craig of the 4th Cavalry shows extraordinary courage during the engagement. His actions earn his Medal of Honor.

July 9 1886 —General Miles, fearful the Apaches might surrender to the Mexicans, reverts to Crook's policy and seeks a negotiated settlement. Miles realizes that his own policy has failed.

November 5 1887 — General T. H. Ruger issues an ultimatum to the Crow Indians, demanding surrender of the braves who fired on the Indian Agency. The Indians refuse and troops are dispatched to within about a mile of the Little Big Horn. The Indians fire on the cavalry, killing one soldier. The Indians were under Chief Wraps Up-His-Tail. The chief is shot by a Crow Indian in retaliation for the harm he caused the tribe.

April 1 1888 — Cavalry engages hostile Indians at O'Fallon's Creek, Montana. Lt. Lloyd M. Brett, 2nd Cavalry, manages to prevent the Indians from escaping by cutting off the Indian pony herd.

May 11 1889 — Robbers unsuccessfully attempt to rob a paymaster's wagon in Arizona. The escort repels the attack. Sgt. Benjamin Brown 24th U.S. Infantry is severely wounded in both the stomach and arms, but his courage and valor during this attack make him a recipient of the Medal of Honor. Corporal Isaiah Mays walks and crawls two miles to a ranch for help.

November 1899-1890 —The Indians, anticipating their god's arrival with ghosts of their ancestors, enact a ghost dance to recall the buffalo and spirits of the Indians departed.

March 7 1890 — Sgt. James T. Daniels, Company L. 4th U.S. Cavalry, exemplifies extreme courage and heroism while under attack by hostile Apaches in Arizona. Daniel's actions during this fight earns him the Medal of Honor.

December 15 1890 — Chief Sitting Bull is killed by Indian policemen (Lt. Bull Head and Sgt. Red Tomahawk). The remaining Sioux after the death of Sitting Bull flee and follow Chief Big Foot. The U.S. Cavalry begins immediate pursuit.

December 28 1890 — The Cavalry captures Big Foot and his braves, moving them to Wounded Knee Creek.

December 29 1890 — **BATTLE OF WOUNDED KNEE** — The U.S. 7th Cavalry while attempting to disarm the Sioux under Big Foot, hear a shot from the Sioux camp. This initiates fire from both the soldiers and the Sioux. By mid-day, the battle is over. A young Cheyenne Brave, Black Fox, had fired his rifle and the soldiers, almost all from Custer's famous 7th Cavalry, respond with ferocious fire, killing approximately one half of the warriors on the first volley, and many additional Indians including women and children are subsequently killed or wounded as the cavalry

fire continues nonstop. The cavalry loses 25 killed and thirty seven wounded. This battle is the last major battle between the U.S. Army and the Indians. During the battle of Wounded Knee, John E. Clancy, a musician, twice risks his life, successfully rescuing wounded soldiers while under intense enemy fire. Another soldier, Sgt. William Austin, in an attempt to dislodge the concealed Indians, assists the other soldiers, directing their fire and at great risk to his life, successfully dislodges the enemy.

December 30th 1890 —Hostile Indians clash with the 7th Cavalry at White Clay Creek, South Dakota. The cavalry withdraws under fire. Captain Charles A. Barnum refuses to retire, resorting to leading a charge which gains ground, allowing the regiment to withdraw safely.

January 1 1891 — The U.S. 6th Cavalry has serious problems in attempting to cross the partly-frozen White River in South Dakota. Lt. Benjamin Cheever heads this dangerous movement, successfully accomplishing the task. Cheever receives the Medal of Honor for his actions during this action. This contingent of the U.S. 6th Cavalry, commanded by Capt. John B. Kerr, engages and defeats a force of approximately 300 Brute Sioux warriors, in the vicinity of Little Grass Creek, South Dakota. The Indians, attempting to reach the badlands, are forced back to the Pine Ridge Agency.

October 5 1898 — The Chippewaw Indians stage an uprising at Lake Leech in northern Minnesota. The Army puts down the rebellion. Pvt. Oscar Burkard receives the Medal of Honor for his gallant actions during this uprising. (This is the last Medal of Honor received during the Indian Campaigns.)

1865 through 1898 — During the years 1865 through 1898, many major battles between the army and the Indians occur. It is not possible to list in a book such as this all of the names of the individual heroes who fought and gave their lives for the Colors. When possible, names of recipients of the Medal of Honor have been used. In total, 417 men received the Medal of Honor while in the service of the United States Army during the Indian wars.