

1875

Sam Bass – Outlaw

1. Born – 7/21/1851 – Woodville, Indiana:

A) Farmboy.

B) Very little schooling.

C) Never learns to write.

D) Hard working.

E) Honest.

F) Works in a sawmill.

G) Works as a cowboy.

H) Denton, Texas – Freight Driver.

I) Traits:

I. 5 feet 8 inches tall.

II. Dark brown hair.

III. Mustache.

IV. Brown eyes.

V. Sloppy in appearance.

VI. Wrinkled clothes.

VII. Always appears in need of a shave.

VIII. Starts drinking and gambling.

2. Teams up with Joel Collins – “Scam”:

A) They get a loan to buy cattle.

- B) Take the cattle to Kansas.**
- C) Sell for a nice profit.**
- D) Keep all the money.**
- E) Never pay the loan back.**

3. 1876 – The two men go to Deadwood, South Dakota:

- A) Lose all their money.**
- B) Decide to rob a Stagecoach.**
- C) Recruit 3 men.**
- D) Kill the Driver...Fail to get any money!**

4. Next few months – Rob 7 Stagecoaches:

- A) #1 – Get nothing!**
- B) #2 – Get nothing!**
- C) #3 – Get very little.**
- D) #4 – Get \$30!!**
- E) #5 – Get a Gold Watch & \$3!!!**
- F) #6 – Get \$6!!!**
- G) #7 – Get very little.**

5. Are now wanted Dead or Alive!!

- A) Leave...Go to Nebraska.**

6. Gang – Sam Bass is leader:

- A) Joel Collins.**
- B) Jim Berry.**
- C) Tom Nixon.**
- D) Jack Davis.**
- E) "Heffridge."**
- F) Many others off and on.**

7. September 18, 1877 – Rob a Union Pacific Railroad Train:

A) Get - \$20,580.00!!!!!!

B) Gang splits up:

I. Nixon disappears.

II. Collins & Heffridge are killed in a gunfight in Buffalo Station, Kansas.

III. Berry is shot and killed by a Lawman.

C) Bass and Davis go to Kansas:

I. Few robberies.

II. Split up.

8. Bass goes back to Denton, Texas:

A) Joined by Henry Underwood and Frank Jackson:

I. Start stealing horses.

9. December 20, 1877 – Fort Worth, Texas:

- A) Rob the Cleburne Stagecoach.**
- B) Get \$27!!!**

10. January 1878 – Rob a Stagecoach:

- A) Get \$400!!**

11. 2 more men join Bass:

- A) Seaborn Barnes & Tom Spotswood.**

12. February 28, 1878 – Allen, Texas:

- A) Rob the H. & T.C. Railroad Train.**
- B) Gunfight with Express Guard.**
- C) Finally surrenders.**
- D) Get \$1,280.00!!**

13. March 1878 – Hutchins, Texas:

- A) Rob the SAME train.**
- B) Get \$400!!**

14. Arkansas Johnson now joins the gang:

- A) Total of 6 men.**

15. April 6, 1878 – Eagle Ford, Texas:

- A) Rob a railroad train.**
- B) Get \$200!!**

16. April 10, 1878 – Mesquite, Texas:

- A) Rob a railroad train.**
- B) Gunfight with Express Guard.**
- C) 2 of the gang members are wounded.**
- D) Guard surrenders.**
- E) Get \$150!!!**

17. Trailed constantly by:

- A) Texas Rangers.**
- B) Pinkerton National Detective Agency:**
 - I. Hired by the Railroad Express Company.**
- C) Gang splits up:**
 - I. Seaborn Barnes & Frank Jackson stay with Bass.**

18. May 12, 1878 – Arkansas Johnson is killed by a Posse.

19. Robber, Jim Murphy, is captured:

- A) Old friend of Sam Bass.**
- B) Makes a deal.**
- C) Robbery charges will be dropped if he furnishes Bass.**
- D) Agreed...Released...Joins the Bass Gang.**
- E) Bass suspects something is not right:**

I. BUT, does nothing.

20. Bass plans to rob the bank at Round Rock, Texas:

A) Murphy gets word to the Texas Rangers.

21. Saturday – July 20, 1878 – Round Rock, Texas:

A) 3:00 – Afternoon - Bass, Barnes, Jackson, and Murphy ride into town.

B) 4 Texas Rangers are hidden around town.

C) Murphy says he will act as the Look-Out:

I. Separates himself from the other 3.

D) Tie up the horses.

E) Bass, Barnes, & Jackson stop by a store to buy tobacco.

F) The 3 are confronted by the Sheriff and his Deputy.

G) Huge gunfight:

I. Deputy is killed.

II. Sheriff staggers into the street wounded.

III. The 3 Outlaws run for the tied-up horses.

IV. Rangers come on the run...Firing!!

V. Bass has one hand shattered and 2 fingers blown off!

VI. Barnes is shot thru the head and killed.

VII. Bass is hit in the back:

(1) Bullet travels up into his kidney.

VIII. Jackson holds the Lawmen off and helps Bass mount his horse.

H) Ride out of town.

I) Stop...Bass is dying...Knows it!

J) Makes 18 year old, Jackson, leave him!

K) Jackson props him against a tree and leaves.

22. Sunday – July 21, 1878 – Texas Rangers find Bass:

A) Take him into town.

B) Attended to by 2 Doctors.

C) Asked if he wants a Preacher:

I. "No, I'm goin' to hell anyway."

D) 3:58 – Afternoon – Dies....On his 27th Birthday!

1875

Lawman

William Matthew "Bill" Tilghman

- 1. Born – 7/4/1854 – Fort Dodge, Iowa:**
 - A) Move to Kansas.**
 - B) Farmboy.**
 - C) By age 17 – Excellent shot.**
 - D) 1872 – Buffalo Hunter.**
 - E) 1875 – Dodge City, Kansas – City Marshal:**
 - I. Will serve there for 3 years.**
- 2. 1878 – Sheriff of Ford County, Kansas.**
- 3. Deputy for Bat Masterson:**
 - A) Helps capture outlaw, Dave Rudabaugh.**
- 4. 1881 – Indian troubles – Scouts for the Army.**
- 5. 1889 – 1st Marshal for the town of Perry, Oklahoma.**
- 6. Becomes a U.S. Deputy Marshal:**
 - A) Is one of "The 3 Guardsmen":**

- I. Chris Madsen & Heck Thomas.**
- B) Kills outlaw, "Little" Bill Raidler, of the Doolin-Dalton Gang.**
- C) Kills outlaw, "Little" Dick West.**

7. Later – Chief of Police – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

8. At age 74 – Sheriff of Cromwell, Oklahoma:

A) Disarms a drunken bully prohibition officer named Wylie Lynn.

B) Lynn swears to kill him.

C) November 1, 1924 – Evening – Tilghman is eating dinner in a restaurant:

I. Gunshots!

II. Lynn is drunk and shooting.

III. Tilghman disarms him.

IV. Turns to walk away.

V. Lynn pulls a hidden small pistol.

VI. Shoots Tilghman in the back killing him at age 74!

June 1875
Lawman
Jim Gillett

- 1. Born – 11/4/1856 – Austin, Texas:**
 - A) Cowboy.**
 - B) 5 feet 9 inches tall – 140 pounds.**

- 2. June 1, 1875 – Enlists – Texas Rangers:**
 - A) Fights Indians.**
 - B) Fights Outlaws.**

- 3. 1878 – Kills outlaw, Dick Dublin.**

- 4. 1878 – Helps capture murderer, Starke Reynolds.**

- 5. 1881 – Crosses Rio Grande:**
 - A) Captures killers...Abran & Enofre Baca.**

- 6. December 1881 – Resigns from Texas Rangers.**

- 7. Deputy Marshal of El Paso, Texas for Marshal Dallas Stoudenmire.**

- 8. 1882 – City Marshal of El Paso, Texas:
A) 1885 – Retires.**
- 9. Manager of the Estacado Land & Cattle
Company for 6 years.**
- 10. Sheriff of Presidio County, Texas AND U.S.
Deputy Marshal for the County.**
- 11. 1941 – Marfa, Texas – Age 85 – Dies.**

August

1875

Isaac Parker and George Malledon

1. August 10, 1875 - President U.S. Grant - Appoints 37 year old, Isaac Parker as Federal Judge of the District and Circuit Courts of the Western District of Arkansas:

A) This area is known as "The Indian Territory":

I. Complete jurisdiction over an area that covers 74,000 square miles!

B) Headquarters - Fort Smith, Arkansas.

C) Strong Methodist - Will serve for 20 years:

I. Tries 13,000 cases.

II. 9,500 are "guilty"!

III. Sentences 168 men to hang.

IV. Lives to see 88 of them executed!

D) Nicknamed "The Hanging Judge":

I. "There's no Sunday west of St. Louis, and no God west of Fort Smith!"

2. George Malledon:

A) Parker's hangman.

B) Born - 1830.

C) 5 feet 5 inches tall.

D) Long white beard - Resembles "The Grim Reaper."

E) Quiet - Hardly ever smiles.

F) Excellent shot.

G) U.S. Deputy Marshal.

H) Gets \$100 per hanging.

I) Parker builds him a special gallows:

I. 20 feet long.

II. Overhead beam of solid oak.

III. Total of 13 steps up.

IV. Can hang 6 men at one time!

- V. Traps are 30 inches wide.**
- VI. 8 foot drop to the ground.**
- J) Will hang 6 men at once twice.**
- K) Will hang 5 men at once three different times.**
- L) Will hang 4 men at once three different times.**
- M) Will hang 80 men in his lifetime.**
- N) Known as "The Prince of Hangmen."**
- O) Makes hanging a science:**
 - I. Special hemp ropes from Kentucky.**
 - II. 27 feet long - 1 and 1/8 inches thick.**
 - III. Stretches with a 200 pound sandbags until all stretch is gone.**
 - IV. Oiled - No friction.**
 - V. Takes care of the ropes.**
 - VI. Slack - Weight - Fall.**
 - VII. Placement of noose with the large knot placed under the left ear:
Head snapped sideways - Breaks neck - Instant death or unconscious when strangling to death.
- P) 1894 - Retires.**

3. November 17, 1896 - Sitting in his office - Parker dies.

4. May 6, 1911 - Malledon dies.

September 1875

The Mason County War

- 1. Texas – September 1875 – Mason County:**
 - A) Cattle Feud.**
 - B) Many men have been killed.**

- 2. Prominent Cattleman, Tim Williamson, is arrested by Deputy Sheriff, John Worley:**
 - A) Is being taken to town – Setup!**
 - B) Stopped by a mob.**
 - C) Williamson is shot to death.**

- 3. Scott Cooley – Former Texas Ranger – Close friend of Williamson:**
 - A) Swears revenge.**
 - B) Rides into Mason.**
 - C) Gets the facts on what has happened.**
 - D) Finds Worley digging a well:**
 - I. Shoots him to death!**
 - II. Cuts his ears off!**
 - E) Rides back into Mason...Into bar:**
 - I. Throws the ears on the bar!**
 - II. Announces he will do the same for all**

those involved in Williamson's murder!

4. Cooley is joined by 9 others:

A) They shoot Dan Hoerster to death.

5. Full scale war:

A) Sheriff takes off.

B) Between 14 and 20 men are killed.

C) 3 of Cooley's men are shot to death.

D) 2 of Cooley's men are caught and lynched.

E) 9 men for sure on the opposite side are killed!

6. Texas Rangers are sent in...Stop the war.

1876

1. Thomas Edison:

A) Invents – Mimeograph Machine.

2. Cigarette Manufacturing Machine is invented.

3. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – Host 1st World's Fair for United States:

A) Centennial of Independence.

The Sioux War of 1876

Events to January 1876

1. The Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868:

A) Has created a large area of land that is strictly for the Indians:

I. From the Canadian border to the North Platte River and from the Missouri River to the Big Horn Mountains.

B) Whites will illegally enter these areas.

C) Pressure is put on the government to throw open the area for settlement.

2. In 1872 and 1873 the Northern Pacific Railroad starts surveying routes for new tracks:

A) These routes run directly through Indian territory.

3. August 14, 1872 – Yellowstone River:

A) Northern Pacific Railroad survey team is escorted by U.S. troops:

I. Attacked by Indians led by Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse.

4. Summer of 1873 – Survey Expedition out of Fort Rice on the Missouri River:

A) Almost 2,000 men.

B) Under the command of Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer and portions of the 7th Cavalry.

C) By August they are along the Yellowstone River.

D) August 4, 1873 – Several hundred Sioux attack the Survey's cavalry:

I. Help arrives.

II. Indians retreat.

E) August 11, 1873 – Sioux attack the camp of the 7th:

I. All day fight.

II. Late afternoon...Cannon and infantry arrive.

III. Open fire.

IV. Indians retreat.

6. 1874 – Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and the 7th lead an exploring expedition into the Black Hills:

A) Sacred hunting ground of the Sioux.

B) 1,200 soldiers and scientists.

C) Discover gold!

D) On the return trip:

I. Custer orders sick men out of the ambulances.

II. Places them in heavy, uncomfortable wagons.

III. Why?...Make room for his dogs!! Their feet are sore from the prickly-pear cactus!

E) Word of the gold leaks out!!!

F) Mad rush by 1,000's into the area!

G) Army tries to keep them out.....Can't!!!

H) Indians start ambushing and killing the miners.

I) Miners and settlers scream for the area to be thrown open!

J) The Indians start preparing for war!

7. Summer – 1875 – Big Sun Dance:

- A) Sioux and Cheyenne.**
- B) Sioux are led by Sitting Bull.**
- C) He and a Cheyenne mystic named “Ice” swear to support each other against the whites.**

8. September 1875 – Commission representing President U.S. Grant meets with the Sioux for 9 days:

- A) Offer \$25 thousand and hunting rights along the Platte River in exchange for the Black Hills:
 - I. Indians refuse!****
- B) Grant now has only one choice:
 - I. Throw open the area and get rid of the Indians!****
- C) Force them onto reservations...BUT:
 - I. Food and supplies to the reservations are not enough, or rotten, or spoiled, or delayed, or stolen, or not delivered at all!!**
 - (1) Why?...Corruption in the Interior Department.**
 - II. Young warriors start slipping off the reservations in large numbers:
 - (1) Government is finding out that placing Indians on reservations is one thing, BUT, keeping them there is another!******

9. October 1875 – Grant throws open the Black Hills:

- A) By fall.....15,000 people are in the area.**
- B) This is a virtual declaration of war on the Indians!**

10. December 1875 – Grant's Indian Commissioners:

A) Issue the Ultimatum of 1875:

I. All Indians are to return to the reservations!

II. Deadline date is February 1, 1876!

III. If not...Hostile...Subject to military action!

B) Government KNOWS it is physically impossible for all Indians to be back by that date!

C) Winter of 1875-1876 is HARSH:

I. Indians know that the Agencies have little or no food!

II. They know that to return before February 1st means starvation!

III. Many of the young warriors flee the reservations to join Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse!

January & February 1876

1. Sitting Bull sends runners to the Agencies:

A) Asks for warriors to fight the White Man in the coming war!

2. February 1, 1876 – Passes!!

A) Crow Chief, Blackfoot:

I. Warns the Whites.

II. The Indians are arming themselves and preparing for a war:

(1) He is correct!

(2) By March 1876...A full-fledged war will be on!

3. Grant now has the solution to his Indian problem:

A) He can drive the “hostiles” onto the reservations!

B) He can “Christianize” them!

C) The war will open the Indian land for settlement!

D) The Indian problem will be terminated!

E) Resistance to railroad advancement will be terminated!

4. The U.S. Army in 1876:

A) 25 Infantry Regiments.

B) 10 Cavalry Regiments.

C) 5 Artillery Regiments.

D) Total men...26,312.

E) Are responsible for protecting over 1 million square miles!!!

F) Conditions:

- I. Undermanned.**
- II. Underpaid.**
- III. Undersupplied.**
- IV. Under-trained.**
- V. Underfed.**

****NOTE.....In all the Indian Wars west of the Mississippi River the Army loses 1,128 men killed!**

5. February 8, 1876 – Lt. General Phil Sheridan, Commander of the Military Division of the Missouri:

A) Issues secret orders for his coming campaign against the Indians:

- I. Sends them to Generals George Crook and Alfred Terry.**

B) The plan:

- I. 3 column campaign.**

C) Column – Brig. General George Crook:

- I. To advance northward from Ft. Fetterman on the North Platte River in Wyoming.**

D) Column – Colonel John Gibbon:

- I. To advance eastward from Ft. Ellis in the western Montana Territory.**

E) Column – Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer:

- I. To advance westward from Ft. Abraham Lincoln in the Dakota Territory.**

6. A look at Brig. General George Crook:

A) West Point classmate of Sheridan:

I. Graduates 38 out of 43.

B) Tall.

C) Stern.

D) Eccentric.

E) Braids his long whiskers.

F) Wears civilian clothes:

I. Moccasins.

II. Overalls.

III. Canvas hunting shirt.

IV. Pith helmet.

V. At times...Private's uniform.

VI. At times...Overcoat.

VII. At times...High crowned black hat.

G) Doesn't smoke.

H) Doesn't drink.

I) Doesn't curse.

J) Doesn't like to share his plans with other officers.

K) Publicity "hound."

L) Likes to hunt.

M) Likes taxidermy.

N) Prefers mules to horses.

O) His men like him.

7. A look at General Alfred Terry:

A) 48 years old.

B) Lawyer from Yale.

C) Civil War...Union Army.

- D) Bachelor.**
- E) Tall.**
- F) Thin.**
- G) Soft-spoken.**
- H) Kind.**
- I) Excellent administrator.**
- J) No Indian fighting experience.**
- K) Head of the Department of Dakota.**

8. A look at Colonel John Gibbon:

A) Civil War hero:

I. Breaks Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg.

II. Badly wounded.

III. Leaves him with a limp for life.

B) Crow Scouts call him:

I. "Limping Soldier."

II. "No Hip Bone."

9. This is "The Gilded Age":

A) Most important material possession...MONEY!

B) Technology, opportunity, and greed have produced:

I. Massive new industries!

II. Men who desire wealth!

III. Corruption at all levels on a huge scale!

C) One involved in this...President U.S. Grant!!!!

I. After his 2nd inauguration.

II. Corruption and scandals, one after the other!

III. Involves relatives, friends, and appointees!

D) Grant has rewarded many of his close friends:

I. 42 relatives are given government jobs!

E) Grant has nobody to blame but himself:

I. Can't recognize a crook or con man!

II. His biggest weakness is his loyalty!

III. He will discourage, fire, or "get even" with reformers who prosecute his friends!

F) Abel Corbin:

I. Brother-In-Law.

II. Scandal involving Jim Fisk and Jay Gould.

G) The Credit Mobilier Scandal:

I. Congressmen sell influences for kickbacks.

II. Grant's two Vice Presidents are involved.

III. Orville Babcock, Grant's private secretary, is involved.

H) The Sanford Contract Scandal:

I. Tax fraud.

II. Grant's Secretary of the Treasury is involved.

I) The Whiskey Ring Scandal:

I. 100's of public officials and distillers are involved.

II. They pocket millions of dollars in unpaid liquor taxes.

III. Grant perjures himself to the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court to keep Babcock out of jail!

J) And.....The Belknap Scandal.....!!!

10. February 10, 1876 – "The New York Herald":

A) Demands a full investigation:

I. Of the War Department.

II. Secretary of War, William Belknap:

(1) "Selling" trader rights for the Indians.

B) Article claims Grant's brother, Orvil, is involved!

C) Article claims Custer has furnished a lot of information!

11. February 27, 1876 – Crook places Colonel Joseph Reynolds in charge of his column:

A) Reynolds:

I. Classmate of Grant's at West Point.

II. Reconstruction...In Texas...Trouble:

(1) Accused of being paid a bribe of a house and a lot from a contractor!

12. Same day – Terry orders Gibbon to get prepared for the campaign!

March 1876

1. March 1, 1876 – The Crook Column:

A) Leaves Ft. Fetterman in a heavy snow:

- I. 692 Soldiers.**
- II. 80 Wagons.**
- III. 84 Teamsters.**
- IV. 5 Ambulances.**
- V. 5 Ambulance Drivers.**
- VI. 400 Pack Mules.**
- VII. 31 Guides & Scouts**

B) Cavalry is commanded by 55 year old, Colonel Joseph Reynolds:

- I. Mexican-American War.**
- II. Civil War.**
- III. Many health problems.**

C) Primary Scouts:

- I. Louis Richard.**
- II. "Big Bat" Pourier.**
- III. Frank Girard.**

D) Total of 874 men.

2. March 2, 1876 – Washington, D.C. – Secretary of War, William Belknap, resigns.

3. March 3, 1876 – Crook's Camp:

A) Wee minutes after midnight.

B) Indians attack:

- I. Stampede the livestock and kill a herder.**

4. Same day – For the campaign - Custer:

A) Hires Charley “Lonesome Charley” Reynolds:

I. Guide & Scout.

II. 34 years old.

III. from Kentucky.

IV. Quiet.

V. Best white scout in the Dakota Territory.

VI. Arikaras call him “Lucky Man” because of his hunting ability.

VII. He KNOWS the Sioux will stand and fight!

B) Hires ½ Arikara and ½ Sioux, “Bloody Knife”:

I. Guide & Scout.

II. 39 years old.

III. Custer’s favorite scout.

5. March 4, 1876 – Washington, D.C.:

A) Even though he has resigned.

B) Congress votes to impeach William Belknap!

6. March 15, 1876 – Custer receives a Congressional subpoena:

A) To appear and testify before the Clymer Committee:

I. Are investigating the Belknap Scandal.

*****Now.....Take a look at Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer.**

Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer

1. Born – December 5, 1839 – New Rumley, Ohio:

A) Nicknamed: “Autie.”

2. At age 12 – Monroe, Michigan – Enters the Stebbins Academy for Boys:

A) Mischief.

B) Practical jokes.

C) Learns to read very well.

D) Is intelligent.

E) Is curious.

3. 1856 – Locust Grove, Ohio – Teaches school:

A) Starts courting Mollie Holland:

I. Her father does not approve.

B) Custer applies to Congressman John Bingham for an appointment to the West Point Military Academy:

I. Holland’s father is a friend of Bingham’s.

II. He wants Custer away from his daughter.

III. Convinces Bingham to make the appointment!

4. 1857 – Custer gets his appointment to West Point:

A) June of 1857 – Heads for New York.

B) July 1857 – Enters the Academy.

5. At West Point:

A) Called “Fanny”:

- I. Because of long, curly, blonde hair.**
- B) Very popular with his classmates.**
- C) Known for a great personality.**
- D) Known for a great sense of humor.**
- E) Lot of pranks.**
- F) Ignores rules.**
- G) Ignores schoolwork:
 - I. Grades are always "C's" or below!****
- H) Many demerits for:
 - I. Tardiness.**
 - II. Disorderly uniform.**
 - III. Visiting after hours.**
 - IV. Lack of attention.**
 - V. Mischief.**
 - VI. Childish misconduct.****
- I) Will almost be dismissed for disciplinary reasons:
 - I. BUT, he always knows right where to stop!****
- J) Always near the bottom of his class.**
- K) 1859 – Returns after a 2 months leave:
 - I. Treated for gonorrhoea!**
 - II. Will nag at him the rest of his life.****
- L) Graduation is held up for a short period of time:
 - I. June 24, 1861 – Graduates – 34 out of a class of 34!!!****

6. Civil War:

- A) 2nd Lt. in the 2nd Cavalry of the Army of the Potomoc:**

I. General Irvin McDowell.

B) Will serve as an Aide to several Generals:

I. McDowell.

II. Phil Kearney.

III. George McClellan:

(1) June 5, 1862 - Promotes Custer to Brevet Captain.

IV. Alfred Pleasonton.

V. George Meade:

(1) June 29, 1863 - Promotes him to Brevet Brig. General at age 23!!!

a. Youngest at that time.

b. Called "The Boy General."

VI. Phil Sheridan:

(1) Likes Custer.

(2) Calls him "Youngster."

(3) Promotes him to Brevet Major General.

C) Learns warfare.

D) Learns leadership skills.

E) Volunteers constantly for combat.

F) Develops a flair for catching the public's eye:

I. Becomes known as daring, reckless, and ruthless.

II. Starts to acquire what will become famous as "Custer's Luck."

G) Spring - 1863 - The Army of the Potomac.

H) Leads up front.

I) His men respect his bravery.

J) Battles:

- I. 1st Bull Run.**
- II. Catlett.**
- III. Wilderness.**
- IV. Shenandoah.**
- V. Antietam.**
- VI. Malvern Hill.**
- VII. Chancellorsville.**
- VIII. Beverly Ford.**
- IX. Woodstock.**
- X. Cedar Creek.**
- XI. Waynesboro.**
- XII. Five Forks.**
- XIII. Culpepper.**
- XIV. Brandy Station.**
- XV. Yellow Tavern.**
- XVI. Haw's Shop.**
- XVII. Trevilian Station.**
- XVIII. Cold Harbor.**
- XIX. Gettysburg:**

**(1) He inflicts 1st defeat on Confederate Cavalry
Commander J.E.B. Stuart.**

**XX. Present at Appomattox Court House when Lee
surrenders to Grant!**

**K) Learns to "toot his own horn" for advancement
purposes!**

**L) Learns to "twist facts" in reports to avoid
responsibility for "screw-ups."**

7. 1862-1863...On winter leave...Monroe, Michigan:

A) Meets Elizabeth Clift "Libbie" Bacon:

- I. Dark hair.**
- II. Beautiful.**
- III. Energetic.**
- IV. Sensuous.**
- V. Sophisticated.**
- VI. Daughter of a Judge.**

B) Courts her.

8. February 9, 1864 – He and Libbie are married:

A) Honeymoon.

B) Back to war.....She will accompany him:

- I. Special permission from Sheridan!**
- II. Only officer's wife allowed to do so!**

9. End of war – reconstruction duty in the south.

10. For a year – Stationed at Hempstead, Texas:

- A) At the encouragement of Sheridan, becomes a very strict disciplinarian!**
- B) Starts becoming indifferent towards his men.**
- C) Starts gaining a reputation as a tyrant!**
- D) Men and most officers start hating him!**

11. January 1866 – Out of the Union Army:

A) Is now a Cavalry Captain:

- I. BUT, his men will always call him "General."**

B) He and Libbie holiday in Washington, D.C.:

I. His reputation has preceded him.

II. Celebrity.

III. He has an ego and is ambitious!!!

IV. He openly flirts with women.

V. They socialize with actors, writers, politicians, businessmen, and military personnel.

C) In their married life they will “weather” a couple of his affairs and his constant flirting!!!

I. This is probably why Libbie will later most likely have an affair with Thomas Weir.

12. Is offered a full Colonel’s position to take command of the all-black 9th Cavalry:

A) Turns it down!

B) Wants to command white troops.

13. He and Libbie go west to Kansas.

14. October 1866 – Ft. Riley, Kansas – Lt. Colonel of the 7th Cavalry:

A) To fight Indians.

B) Starts the organization and training of the 7th.

C) He finds:

I. Inferior rations.

II. Heat.

III. Increase in desertions.

D) He “drops the hammer”:

I. Becomes a very strict disciplinarian!

15. Physically:

A) 6 feet tall.

B) 170 pounds.

C) Broad shoulders.

D) Slim waisted.

E) Long, shoulder-length, blonde hair:

I. Crow Indians will later call him "Son-Of-The-Morning-Star."

II. Other Indian groups will refer to him as "Yellow Hair" or "Long Hair."

F) Drooping mustache.

G) Doesn't smoke.

H) Doesn't drink.

I) Rarely curses.

J) Loves to gamble.

16. 1867 – He has been out on patrol for weeks:

A) Mid-July...He is moody...Wants to be with Libbie.

B) Leaves his command at Fort Wallace.

C) Takes 76 troopers and an Army ambulance and heads east for Ft. Riley!

D) 57 hours and 150 miles later:

I. Reaches Ft, Riley and Libbie's bed!!!

E) Officers of the 7th file charges against him:

I. A.W.O.L. from his command.

II. Conduct unbecoming good order and military discipline.

III. Ordering deserters shot without benefit of a court-martial.

17. August 1867 – Grant orders Custer court-martialed:

A) Starts on September 15, 1867.

B) His defense:

I. Cholera outbreak - He feared for her life:

(1) Total bullshit!!

(2) He wanted her sexually!

(3) AND, he had fears she might be spending too much time with another officer, Thomas Weir:

a. Evidence.....She most likely was having an affair with him!

C) Guilty:

I. Suspended from rank, command, and pay for 1 year.

D) IS LENIENT:

I. Could have been dishonorably discharged!

18. He and Libbie treat the year like a vacation:

A) Spend the winter at Ft. Leavenworth with the Sheridan's.

19. 1868 – Sheridan and Sherman intercede on his behalf:

A) Restored to duty.

B) Sheridan gives him Carte Blanche!!!

C) September 30, 1868 – Back at Ft. Riley in command of the 7th!!

I. Will make “peace” with the officers who filed the charges against him!

II. Institutes a lot of drilling.

III. Starts a lot of target practice.

IV. TOUGH discipline.

V. Tough scouting expeditions.

20. One of Custer’s major faults was his inability to judge other people’s reactions to his vocal opinions!

21. The 7th will be re-stationed – Later – Fort Abraham Lincoln – Dakota territory:

A) West bank of the Missouri River.

B) 5 miles from Bismarck, North Dakota.

C) Open fort.

D) Lot of visitors who stay for months.

E) One of the largest forts on the frontier.

F) 7 houses on Officer’s Row:

I. Eggshell white in color.

II. Lace curtains.

G) Entertainments:

I. Dances.

II. Parties.

III. Plays.

IV. Hunts.

V. Baseball games.

VI. Charades.

H) The Custer's House:

I. 2 stories.

II. 5 servants.

III. Host some sort of social event almost every day:

(1) At least twice per week:

a. Balls for the Officers and their wives.

b. Band entertainment.

c. Plays.

d. Dancing.

e. Men playing billiards.

22. Custer's likes:

A) Taxidermy.

B) Reading military tactics of Napoleon and others.

**C) Writing articles about his exploits for "Galaxy"
Magazine:**

I. Civil War and Indian Fighting career.

D) Writing to his parents.

E) Writing to his ½ sister, Lydia Ann.

**23. Becomes disgusted with the lack of rank
advancement:**

A) Advancement depends on:

I. Deaths.

II. Retirements.

III. Transfers.

IV. Support from key Generals and Politicians.

V. Who's ass you kiss!

B) Can take 10 to 20 years to advance!

24. He is very fond of his 1/2 sister's son:

A) Harry Armstrong "Autie" Reed.

B) He and Libbie have no children:

I. She is very disappointed about this.

II. PROBABLY due to his V.D. infection.

C) He wants to adopt Reed:

I. Libbie...NO!!!

25. His favorite Officers and friends are:

A) Tom Custer...Brother...Officer.

B) Boston Custer...Brother...Civilian "Forage Master."

C) James "Jimmie" Calhoun...Officer...Brother-In-Law:

I. Married to Custer's sister, Margaret ("Maggie").

26. He is unhappy about his financial status:

A) Several investment ventures have all failed miserably!

27. Libbie:

A) "Queen of the Custer Court."

B) His soul mate and confidante.

C) If he is away he writes her every day.

D) She always supports him and his ambitions.

E) Still rumors of her and Weir.

F) On the day Custer dies he has an insurance policy on himself worth \$5 thousand:

I. Names Libbie as the beneficiary.

28. Custer supports the opening of the Black Hills for settlement:

A) He supports doing away with Indian titles to the land.

7. Meanwhile – March 1876 – Crook:

A) Moves along the Old Bozeman Trail.

B) March 11th thru the 17th – Weather turns bitterly cold:

I. 23 to 39 degrees below zero.

II. Bread has to be thawed out.

III. Bacon has to be chopped with an axe.

IV. Eating utensils and bridle bits have to be passed through hot water before use.

8. March 16, 1876 – Crook:

A) Scouts report that the Indians are near.

B) Crook splits his command:

I. Sends Reynold and 387 men to find the Indians.

C) Reynold's guide is Scout, Frank Grouard:

I. ½ Polynesian ½ White.

II. Has lived 8 years with the Sioux.

III. Friend of Crazy Horse.

IV. Adopted brother of Sitting Bull.

9. March 17, 1876 – The Battle of Powder River:

A) Sunrise.

B) Reynolds finds a Cheyenne village:

I. Near Moorehead, Montana.

II. West bank of the Powder River.

III. 50 lodges of Cheyenne.

IV. 15 lodges of Sioux.

V. 735 Indians.....210 of them are warriors.

VI. Under Cheyenne Chief Old Bear (Two Moons).

C) 45 degrees below zero – Foggy.

D) No Indian guards.

E) Reynolds splits his force into 3 columns.

F) Charges.....Indians scatter.

G) Start destroying the village:

I. BUT, neglect to occupy the high ground.

H) 150 warriors counterattack:

I. From the high ground.

II. 5 hour battle.

I) 1:30 – Afternoon – Reynolds panics – Retreats:

I. Leaves 3 dead behind.

II. Leaves 1 wounded trooper, Pvt. Lorenzo Ayers, behind:

(1) Captured and cut to pieces!

J) Soldiers lose 4 killed and 6 wounded.

K) Indians lose 2 killed and 1 wounded.

10. Same day – Major James Brisbin, with 200 Cavalry Troopers and 54 Crow Scouts out of western Montana:

A) Brisbin:

I. Rheumatism so bad he can't ride or walk without crutches.

B) Relieves a siege of traders:

I. At Ft. Pease.

II. North bank of the Yellowstone River below the Bighorn River.

11. Crook's winter campaign is now a total failure:

A) The Indians are alerted!

B) The Indians have defeated Reynolds!

C) He has wounded men.

D) He is absolutely disgusted with Reynolds!

E) Nothing to do but return to Ft. Fetterman and plan for a summer campaign!

12. March 21, 1876 – Custer heads for Washington, D.C.:

A) To testify to the House Clymer Committee:

I. Concerning military expenditures.

13. Crook:

A) Files court-martial charges against Reynolds, Captain Alexander Moore (Neglect of duty), and Lt. Henry Noyes (Conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline):

I. Not making a strong attack with the entire command.

II. Failure to make sure portions of the command supported the attack.

III. Failure to secure captured supplies instead of destroying them.

IV. Leaving 3 dead and 1 wounded soldier behind.

V. Failure to hold the village and send for help.

B) In defense of all 3 Officers:

I. The village has been destroyed!

C) All...Guilty:

I. Noyes...Reprimanded.

**II. Moore...Suspended from command for 6 months
and confined to the post.**

**III. Reynolds...Suspended from rank and command
for 1 year.**

**14. Results...Bad feelings between the military and the
Indian Bureau:**

A) Bureau claims the Indians attacked by Crook:

I. Were hunting with the permission of the Agent.

B) Crook claims to have found:

I. Canvas teepees.

**II. Lead, powder, etc., obtained from traders and
Agents:**

(1) He says selling these to Indians is illegal!

(2) He says it is also treasonable!

**C) Bureau says goods are sold to them to hunt
because:**

**I. The Agent doesn't have enough food to feed the
Indians.**

**D) Bureau also claims Crook has made his statements
to:**

**I. Cover the fact his winter campaign is a total
failure!**

**15. March 20 & 21, 1876 – The Indians who have
defeated Crook believe their “medicine” is good –
Are confident – Join the Sioux camp of Crazy Horse!**

Crazy Horse

1. Ogalala Sioux:

A) Born...1840...Outside Sturgis, South Dakota.

B) Birth name is: "Light Hair":

I. Why?...Light hair and light complexion.

2. Traits growing up and at adulthood:

A) Shy.

B) Rarely looks directly at a person.

C) Doesn't sing or dance.

D) Known for being generous.

E) Known for his kindness.

F) Known for his good judgment.

G) Never speaks in council.

H) Very courageous.

3. By age 16 he is a full warrior:

A) His father gives him his permanent name:

I. Tashunka Witko...Untamed Horse...Crazy Horse.

4. At age 21...Fights with Red Cloud in the Red Cloud War:

A) Excellent warrior.

5. 1865 – Awarded the highest Lakota Sioux honor:

A) "Shirt Wearer":

I. He puts the interest of the tribe before himself.

II. He serves as an example for others in the tribe.

6. Summer of 1870 – Runs off with a married man's wife:

- A) The husband follows.**
- B) Next day - Finds their camp.**
- C) Bursts into the teepee.**
- D) Shoots Crazy Horse in the front of the face:
 - I. Below the left nostril.**
 - II. Breaks his jaw.****
- E) He will survive.**
- F) Wound leaves a scar.**
- G) Loses his "Shirt Wearer's" position.**

7. Indian leader...Hump...Becomes a close friend.

8. Physically:

- A) 5 feet 7 ½ inches tall.**
- B) Slender.**
- C) Narrow face.**
- D) Straight nose.**
- E) Scar on left cheek from the bullet wound.**
- F) Waist length hair, braided on each side.**
- G) Wears 2 upside-down eagle feathers at the back of his head.**
- H) Prefers wearing a cotton shirt, breechcloth, and moccasins.**

9. 1871 – Marries: "Black Shawl":

- A) Daughter: "They-Are-Afraid-Of-Her."**
- B) Daughter dies:**

I. VERY deep grief!

10. 1872 – Meets Sitting Bull.

11. In battle:

A) Excellent planner.

B) He will rarely be injured.

C) In his lifetime...9 horses will be shot from beneath him.

D) Wears a good luck charm under his left arm:

I. White, smooth, stone in a bag.

E) Zig-zag paint pattern down the center of his face.

F) Shoulders are painted red.

12. Will be one of the primary war leaders that wipes out Custer's command!

16. March 28, 1876 – Custer arrives in Washington, D.C.!

17. March 29, 1876 – Custer testifies before the Clymer Committee.

April 1876

1. April 4, 1876 – Custer testifies before the Clymer Committee:

A) Says his information is here-say.

B) He outlines the fraud scheme:

I. Food to Indians is re-sold to post traders.

II. In other words, the Government pays twice for the supplies.

III. Meanwhile...The Indians starve.

IV. The Post Traders pay Belknap off to stay in business.

V. Orvil Grant is involved!

2. Sheridan is furious with Custer over his testimony:

A) Sheridan is more loyal to Grant, the Administration, and his friend Belknap...Than...To Custer!

3. Belknap is indicted.

4. Crazy Horse's camp joins with Hunkpapa Sioux led by Chief Sitting Bull:

A) Minneconjou & Sans Arc Sioux, and Cheyenne join them.

B) Hunkpapas are the largest of the Sioux tribes numerically:

I. Are the wealthiest and the fiercest.

C) Camp moves north following the buffalo for food and grass for the horses.

Sitting Bull

1. Hunkpapa Sioux:

A) Born...1831...South Dakota.

B) Hunkpapa Sioux are 1 of the 7 Sioux tribes that make up the Lakota Sioux Nation:

I. Hunkpapa.

II. Ogalala.

III. Sans Arc.

IV. Blackfeet.

V. Minneconjou.

VI. Brule.

VII. Two Kettles.

2. At age 10...Kills his first buffalo.

3. At age 14...Fights his 1st battle:

A) Is given his permanent name:

**I. "Tatanka Iyotake"...Buffalo-Bull-Sitting-Down:
(1) Sitting Bull.**

4. Is nicknamed "Slow":

A) Because of his slow, deliberate, manner.

5. Physically:

A) 5 feet 8 ½ inches tall.

B) Heavyset and muscular.

C) Deep voice.

D) Dresses humbly.

E) Fringed, smoke-tanned, buckskin shirt:

I. Decorated with green porcupine quills and tassels of human hair.

F) Buckskin leggings.

G) Buckskin moccasins.

H) Red breechcloth.

I) Hair is parted in the middle:

I. Braided down each side.

II. Braids are wrapped in otter skin.

III. Braids rest on his chest.

J) Single eagle feather is worn at the back of the head.

K) During warfare...Paints his face red for luck.

6. At age 25 – Leader of an elite military society called “Strong Hearts.”

7. Late 20’s – Is a War Chief:

A) In his lifetime:

I. 23 battles against whites and hereditary Indian enemies.

II. 12 horse raids against the whites and hereditary Indian enemies.

8. Married – 9 times.

9. Earns a reputation as a holy man – “Wichasha Wakan”:

A) Has a deep, religious, attachment to nature:

I. Everything and all occurrences contain a spirit!

B) His dreams sometimes prove to be prophetic!

C) Becomes a spiritual leader:

I. Prays constantly to “Wakantanka”.....The Great Spirit!

(1) Before the Custer Fight he makes an offering to The Great Spirit of a buffalo robe and a bundle of tobacco wrapped in buckskin!

10. Becomes a Chief, Visionary, Healer, and Medicine Man:

A) Is no longer a War Chief:

I. On the day of the Custer Fight he will take no active part:

(1) “Too old” in Sioux custom...37 is the maximum age for warriors...His son represents him!

(2) Makes “medicine” during the fight.

(3) Previous to the battle he has predicted the defeat of the soldiers!!

11. Traits:

A) Kind to children.

B) Kind to older people.

C) Known for his singing and dancing.

D) Man of strong, moral courage.

E) Very diplomatic.

F) is not cruel.

- G) Trades white female prisoners on a regular basis.**
- H) Indian Statesman.**
- I) Indian Politician.**
- J) Indian Patriot.**
- K) Will always mistrust the whites.**
- L) Firm believer in the Indian way of life.**
- M) Firm believer in the Indians staying away from the whites.**

12. Never breaks a treaty:

- A) Why?.....Never signs a single one!!!**
- B) Never even discusses a single treaty!!!**
- C) Will not attend meetings where treaties are discussed!!!**
- D) Will refuse to sign the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868:
I. Breaks off relations with Red Cloud because Red Cloud signs it!**

13. Will never enter a reservation to collect annuity goods:

- A) When he finally brings his people to a reservation:
I. It is because they are STARVING!!!**

5. April 8, 1876 – Gibbon hires Mitch Bouyer as an interpreter for the Crow Scouts:

A) Mitch Bouyer:

I. ½ Sioux and ½ mixture of French and English.

II. Speaks English, Sioux, and Crow.

III. Teacher has been Jim Bridger:

(1) Maps a lot of the country south of Yellowstone.

IV. Marries into the Crow tribe:

(1) Wife: “Magpie Outside.”

(2) 4 children.

V. Dresses like a white man.

VI. Soft-spoken.

VII. Physically:

(1) Short.

(2) Stocky:

a. Indians call him: “Two Bodies.”

(3) Very dark skin.

(4) Looks more Indian than white.

VIII. Mail carrier between Ft. Kearny and Ft. C.F. Smith.

IX. HATED by the Sioux:

(1) Have sworn revenge against him.

X. Will arrange a meeting between Gibbon and the Crows:

(1) So Gibbon can hire them as Scouts for the expedition.

6. The Crows:

- A) Hereditary mortal enemies of the Sioux.**
- B) Sioux have named them "Crows."**
- C) Call themselves... "Absaroka":**
 - I. Sparrow Hawk People...or...Chosen People.**
- D) Handsome Indians:**
 - I. Tall.**
 - II. Light skinned.**
- E) Most of the time...Friendly to whites.**
- F) Excellent at tanning and dressing buffalo robes.**
- G) Excellent buffalo hunters.**
- H) Great horse thieves.**

7. April 10, 1876:

- A) 23 Crow warriors.**
- B) 2 "Squaw Men"...White men who live with the Indians and have Indian wives:**
 - I. Tom LeForge.**
 - II. Barney Bravo.**
- C) Hire out as Scouts.**

8. Indian Scouts:

- A) Created by Congress on June 22, 1866.**
- B) Are considered the same as enlisted men.**
- C) NOT considered to be regular soldiers.**
- D) Same pay and allowances as the regular army.**
- E) Usually furnish their own weapons.**
- F) Are the eyes and ears of the Army.**
- G) In many cases...Services are unappreciated!!!!**

9. April 20, 1876 – Custer leaves Washington, D.C.:

A) Goes to New York.

B) Meets with his publisher.

C) Attends the theatre with:

I. Prominent Democrats:

**(1) Tells them the 7th Cavalry can whip all the
Indians on the plains!!!**

**10. April 24, 1876 – Custer receives a summons from the
Senate:**

A) Orders him back to Washington, D.C.!

11. April 26, 1876:

**A) 7 Arikaras...Called: "Rees"...Volunteer to help
Terry.**

12. Arikaras:

A) Name means: "Corn People."

B) Grow pumpkins, squash, and corn.

C) Tough.

D) Brave.

E) Very solemn.

F) Average size.

G) Very dark skinned.

H) Not very clean.

I) Hereditary mortal enemies of the Sioux.

13. Sitting Bull's camp continues to grow in numbers:

A) Santee Sioux join him.

B) Blackfoot Sioux join him:

I. Called so because...Wear black moccasins.

14. April 27, 1876 – Custer returns to Washington, D.C.:

A) Finds that certain newspapers are “smearing” his name:

I. Are accusing him of perjury.

B) Grant is furious with him:

I. Because of implicating his brother in the Belknap Scandal.

C) Grant becomes obsessed with humiliating him!!!

I. Issues orders:

(1) Custer is to be relieved of command of the Dakota Column for the expedition:

a. Someone else will command it!!!

May 1876

1. May 1, 1876:

- A) Custer goes to the White House to see Grant.**
- B) To plead his case.**
- C) Grant makes him wait all day:
 - I. Refuses to see him.****
- D) 7:00 – Night – Custer leaves.**

2. 2nd attempt to see the President:

- A) Same!!!**
- B) Waits 5 hours.**
- C) 3:00 – Afternoon:
 - I. Told the President won't see him!****
- D) Leaves.**

3. Leaves Washington, D.C. – By train – Goes to Monroe, Michigan for a short visit:

- A) By train – Heads west to rejoin the 7th Cavalry.**
- B) With him is his nephew, 18 year old, Harry Armstrong “Autie” Reed and Reed’s friend, Dick Roberts.**
- C) The 2 youngsters will later be hired for the expedition as “Beef Herders.”**

4. May 4, 1876 – Chicago, Illinois – Custer’s train is stopped:

- A) Gets orders from Sheridan...Via, Grant:
 - I. Stay in Chicago until further orders!****

B) Why?

I. Grant wants "his head on a platter."

II. Has left Washington, D.C. without paying his respects to the President!?!?!?

5. Custer requests his detention be transferred to Fort Abraham Lincoln:

A) Granted...Condition:

I. Will not command the Dakota Column:

(1) Replaced by Brig. General Alfred Terry.

II. Will not accompany the Dakota Column.

B) Custer heads west.

6. May 6, 1876 – Custer reaches St. Paul, Minnesota:

A) Met by Terry.

B) Terry informs him he is not to lead the column:

I. It will be he...Terry:

(1) Doesn't really want to...But...Has been ordered to!

7. Terry, Sheridan, and Sherman write letters and send telegrams to President Grant:

A) Requesting he be allowed to accompany the Dakota Column strictly as commander of the 7th Cavalry:

I. His commander will be Terry.

II. All 3 men want his Indian fighting experience.

B) Grant gives in!!!

- 8. May 8, 1876 – Custer is informed he will be going:**
A) Makes a statement to another officer:
I. Will “cut loose from Terry at the first chance.”
- 9. May 9, 1876 – Terry hires 23 more Arikara Scouts.**
- 10. May 10, 1876 – Custer arrives back at Ft. Abraham Lincoln:**
A) Has been gone for 7 weeks.
- 11. The Indians...Meanwhile...Are moving northwest:**
A) Hunkpapa – Ogalala – Cheyenne – Blackfoot – Minneconjou – Sans Arc – Assiniboines – and 30 lodges of Santee & Yanktonnais under the old Chiefs, Inkpaduta and White Lodge:
I. Will make camp on Rosebud Creek.
- 12. May 14, 1876 – Ft. Abraham Lincoln:**
A) Terry takes command of the Dakota Column.
- 13. May 15, 1876 – Terry hires Isiah Dorman as a Sioux interpreter:**
A) Dorman:
I. Starting to get old.
II. Former slave.
III. from New Orleans.
IV. Tall.
V. Quiet.

VI. Married to a Sioux woman: "Visible."

VII. Indians call him: "Teat."

B) Terry now has 3 Sioux Interpreters...Dorman, Bouyer, and Fred Gerard.

C) Fred Gerard:

I. Blue eyes – Light colored hair.

II. Former trader.

III. Once married to an Arikara woman.

IV. Knowledgeable.

V. Brave.

VI. Has killed many Sioux.

VII. Arikaras call him: "7 Yanktons."

VIII. Custer likes him.

14. Terry's primary fighting unit will be the 7th Cavalry.

15. The 7th Cavalry:

A) Created – July 28, 1866 – Ft. Riley, Kansas:

I. 12 companies.

B) To fight Indians:

I. Will do so for the 1st time in 1867.

C) Made up primarily of the "dregs" of the Civil War Armies:

I. Immigrants.

II. Criminals.

III. Con men.

D) 1870...Broken up.

E) 1872...Put back together:

I. Headquartered at Ft. Abraham Lincoln.

II. Commanded by Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer.

F) Pay...\$13 per month.

G) Low morale:

I. Men don't like Custer.

II. Respect him for his tough, but fair methods.

III. High desertion rate...30% per year!!!

H) Average age...25.5!

I) Have become the "Pride of the Nation":

I. Only unit to have it's own theme song - "Garry Owen" - Only...Have own band!!

II. Each company rides matching horses in colors:

(1) Bays - Roans - Sorrels - Etc.

J) June of 1876 - Men:

I. 57% - Born in America.

II. 43% - From:

(1) England.

(2) Germany.

(3) Ireland.

(4) Italy.

(5) Canada.

(6) France.

(7) Switzerland.

(8) Etc.

III. 10% of the men have enlisted under aliases!!!!

IV. Have NOT fought anyone in 3 years.

V. Only 30%...172 men...Have any Indian fighting experience.

VI. There are 213 brand new men in the regiment:

- (1) Raw.**
- (2) Green...Many have never been on a horse.**
- (3) NO battle experience.**
- (4) Have limited Cavalry training.**
- (5) Have limited target practice.**
- (6) Have limited skirmish practice...15 rounds per month!!!**
- (7) NO training in individual combat.**
- (8) No training on firing from horseback:**
 - a. Thus, horses are not used to it!**
 - b. Thus, many of the horses will panic and run during the coming battle!!**

VII. All 12 Companies have NEVER worked together!

VIII. Officers:

- (1) Soldiers of fortune.**
- (2) Veterans of the Civil War.**
- (3) 50%...14 of 28...have fought Indians.**
- (4) BIG problems:**
 - a. Drunks!!!**
 - b. Sexual misconduct.**
 - c. Corruption.**
 - d. Gambling.**
 - e. Abusive.**
 - f. Theft.**
 - g. Racists.**
 - h. Jealousies – BAD!!!!!!**

K) Counting the band.....750 men!!

**L) When...Sunday...June 25, 1876...Comes to an end:
I. They will leave 22 widows and 32 children with no fathers!**

16. Terry also has:

A) 143 Infantrymen.

B) 3 Gatling Guns...And the 34 men of the crews.

C) 40 Indian Scouts:

I. Bloody Knife:

(1) Custer's favorite...Why?...Won't kowtow to Custer!

(2) Has been a Scout, Courier, and Mail Courier.

D) 200 Civilian Teamsters.

E) 150 Wagons.

F) 1,700 Horses, Mules, and Cattle.

16. Col. John Gibbon's Montana Column – Heads east out of Ft. Ellis in eastern Montana:

A) 400 Cavalry under Major James Brisbin.

B) 2 Gatling Guns.

C) 54 Crow Scouts.

D) 25 White Scouts.

17. In preparation for the expedition – Custer has 2nd Lt.

Charles Varnum cut his hair:

A) Charles Varnum:

I. Graduates – West Point – 1872.

II. Commands the Scouts.

III. Physically:

- (1) Sharp facial features.**
- (2) High forehead.**
- (3) Long, sharp nose.**
- (4) Mustache.**
- (5) Indians call him: "Peaked Face."**

IV. Will survive.

V. Will retire later as a Colonel.

18. May 16, 1876 – Lt. James Bradley of Gibbon's column:

A) Scouting.

**B) Finds a large Indian camp on Rosebud Creek:
I. 8 miles away.**

C) Reports it to Gibbon:

I. Gibbon takes NO action!!

19. Indians are also watching Gibbon:

**A) Will ambush, kill, and scalp 3 of his men on May
23rd.**

20. May 17, 1876 – Ft. Abraham Lincoln:

A) Cold, raw, misty, foggy morning.

B) Terry's column.

C) 4:00 – Morning – Reville.

D) Breakfast...Coffee, hardtack, and bacon.

E) Column assembles on the parade ground:

I. 12 Companies of the 7th Cavalry.

II. 3 Infantry Companies.

III. 4 Doctors...Etc.

F) Band plays:

I. "Garry Owen."

II. "The Girl I Left Behind Me."

G) 7:00 – Morning – March out:

**I. Outside Ft. – Married men are allowed to say
goodbye to families.**

H) Column stretches out for 2 miles.

I) Camp...13 miles from Fort Abraham Lincoln:

I. Men are paid...\$25 thousand!!!

J) 5 women have accompanied them this far:

I. Libbie Custer.

II. Maggie Calhoun.

III. Emma Reed, Custer's niece.

IV. Mary Adams:

(1) Custer's personal cook.

(2) Black servant for the Custers.

V. Maria Adams:

(1) Black servant of the Custers.

(2) Mary's sister.

K) Next morning – Column continues:

**I. Libbie – Holds husband – Cries – Begs him to be
careful:**

(1) He promises he will.

II. Libbie, Maggie, and Emma return to the Fort.

III. The 2 Adams sisters will go on with the column.

21. May 23, 1876 – Terry's column:

A) Find an abandoned Indian campfire still burning.

B) Evening...Spot Indians...3 miles away.

22. May 27, 1876 – Bradley returns to the spot on Rosebud Creek to observe the Indian camp:

A) Now...Almost 500 lodges:

I. Almost 1,000 warriors.

23. May 29, 1876 – Crook's column leaves Ft. Fetterman:

A) Heads north along the Old Bozeman Trail.

B) 4 mile long column:

I. 1,051 Soldiers.

II. 106 Wagons.

III. 116 Teamsters and Packers.

IV. 250 Mules.

V. 81 Mule Skinners.

VI. 65 Miners.

VII. 5 Newspapermen.

VIII. Guides:

(1) Frank Grouard.

(2) Louis Richards.

(3) Baptiste "Big Bat" Pourier.

C) Total...1,321 men.

June 1, 1876 thru June 24, 1876

1. June 1876 – Sun Dance is held:

A) Sitting Bull:

- I. Naked except for a breechcloth.**
- II. Sits with his back to the Sun Dance lodge pole.**
- III. Adopted brother, Jumping Bull, with a sharp awl:
 - (1) Cuts 50 patches of flesh from each arm.**
 - (2) Between the wrist and shoulder.****
- IV. Dances and chants to the heavens around the pole for 18 hours.**
- V. Stops stares at the heavens.**
- VI. Is helped to the ground.**
- VII. Goes into a “trance.”**
- VIII. Awakens hours later.**
- IX. Talks of a vision.**
- X. Indians defeating the soldiers:
 - (1) BUT, a voice has told him not to “loot” the soldier’s bodies.****

2. June 6, 1876 – Sheridan sends Terry a telegram:

A) Estimated...Crazy Horse has 3,000 warriors...And, will fight!

- I. Terry will not get the telegram until the last day of June!**

3. June 7, 1876 – The Indian village is now 480 lodges in size:

A) Average Indian lodge:

- I. 7 people.**
- II. 1.75 men.**
- III. 2.45 women.**
- IV. 2.80 children.**

B) The village is rapidly approaching 1,000 warriors.

4. June 9, 1876 – Terry on board the steamer “Far West”:

A) Heads upriver to meet with Gibbon.

B) The 2 men talk for hours:

- I. Gibbon never says a word of all the Indian sign they have come across.**

C) Terry returns.

5. Same day – Indians know of Crook and his troop movements:

A) Start planning:

- I. When Crook is $\frac{1}{2}$ day from the village.**
- II. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the warriors will attack him.**

6. June 10, 1876 – 3:00 – Afternoon:

A) Terry sends Major Marcus Reno and six companies of the 7th on a scouting mission.

B) Major Marcus Albert Reno:

- I. Born – 1832 – Illinois.**
- II. 1851 – Enters West Point.**
- III. 1857 – Graduates – 20 out of 38.**
- IV. Serves in Oregon and Washington.**

V. Civil War – Brevet Brig. General.

VI. Marries Mary Hannah Ross.

VII. Son.

VIII. December 1868 – Joins the 7th Cavalry.

IX. Most of the officers of the 7th don't like him.

X. He has no sense of humor.

XI. Very little Indian fighting experience.

XII. 1874 – At age 30 – His wife dies.

XIII. He starts drinking heavily.

XIV. Heavy-set.

XV. Tends to be overweight.

XVI. Will never be close to his son:

(1) Will let members of his family take the boy.

XVII. Will remain on frontier duty until 1877.

7. June 11, 1876 – Custer and his men meet the “Far West”:

A) To get supplies.

B) Sutler, John Smith, sells a “shit-load” of whiskey to them for \$1.00 per pint!!!!

I. Later – After the battle at the Little Bighorn.

II. Warriors relate how they find many of the canteens to hold whiskey, NOT water.

III. AND, how a lot of the soldiers acted drunk.

8. June 14, 1876 – Terry and Gibbon are informed of large numbers of Indians:

A) Heading to join Sitting Bull.

9. June 15, 1876 – Custer's group leaves the "Far West" and the supply depot:

A) Head to meet Reno.

B) Because his horse is lame...Dick Roberts is left behind...It will save his life!

C) Harry Reed goes with his Uncle George!

D) Custer also leaves the band behind:

I. As per Terry's orders.

E) He also leaves some of the sick behind:

I. About 150 men total.

F) All of the sabers are boxed up and left behind.

10. June 16, 1876 – Grouard has informed Crook of the location of the Indian village:

A) 50 miles away on Rosebud Creek.

B) Early morning – Crook takes 1,300 men from the column and heads out.

C) Afternoon:

I. 2 Cheyenne scouts spot Crook's column.

II. Return to the village.

III. Report it.

IV. Council...700 warriors will attack Crook.

V. Will be led by Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, Lame Deer, Fast bull, Hump, Spotted Eagle, and Kill Eagle:

(1) Due to age...Sitting Bull will take no active part in the coming battle.

(2) Will "make medicine."

(3) He will be represented in the battle by Jumping Bull and his adopted son, One Bull.

11. June 17, 1876 – The Battle of the Rosebud:

- A) 40 miles north of Sheridan, Wyoming or 16 miles north of Decker, Montana.**
- B) 6:00 – Morning – Crook's column is on the move.**
- C) After 1 hour – Spot Rosebud Creek.**
- D) Stop to rest.**
- E) Send out the Indian Scouts.**
- F) Less than an hour later...Shots!**
- G) Scouts come back on the run.....Sioux!!!**
- H) At 8:30 – Morning – The 6 hour battle starts:**
 - I. Will be fought on a battlefield 5 miles long and 2 miles wide.**
 - II. Will be a series of disconnected fights and skirmishes.**
 - III. Fought in hills, meadows, and ravines.**
- I) 1,300 Soldiers vs. 700 Indians:**
 - I. Crazy Horse: "Come on Lakotas, it's a good day to die."**
- J) The Indian ponies are quicker and more agile than the Cavalry horses.**
- K) Crook orders the Cavalry to advance and attack the village.**
- L) Try...Forced to retreat.**
- M) 2:30 – Afternoon – Crook retreats!**

I. Saved in the retreat by his Crow and Shoshone Scouts.

N) Crook has lost 10 killed and 30 wounded.

O) Crook's men have fired 25,000 rounds of ammunition!!!

I. The Indians have lost 17 killed and 62 wounded.

12. June 18, 1876 – Crook is low on ammunition:

A) Retreats to his wagon train.

B) Camped on the site of old Ft. Kearny:

I. Here, he sits for the next 6 weeks!

C) Waits for supplies!

D) Waits for reinforcements!

E) Fishes, hunts, and the men play baseball!!!!

F) His Indian Scouts are disgusted with him:

I. Most leave.

II. Call him "Squaw Chief."

G) He will never attempt to report to Terry or Gibbon:

I. The size of the Indian force that has defeated him!

II. YET, later, HE complains that the two men do not communicate with him!

H) He blames the defeat on his officers.

13. Same day – Terry – Gets a message from Reno:

A) "No more than a 1,000 warriors in the vicinity of the Bighorn River."

14. The Indians that have defeated Crook:

- A) Spend 4 days celebrating.**
- B) Village moves out.**

15. June 20, 1876 – Terry's column moves out:

- A) To meet Reno.**
- B) Hears Reno's report.**
- C) Custer is not happy:**
 - I. He doesn't like Reno.**
 - II. Reno doesn't like him.**
 - III. "Chews" Reno out.**
 - IV. Reno snaps back!**
 - V. Terry breaks it up!**

16. June 21, 1876:

- A) Terry and Custer take the steamer "Far West" to the mouth of Rosebud Creek.**
- B) 2:00 – Afternoon – Meet Gibbon and Brisbin.**
- C) Terry lays out his plan:**
 - I. 3 column, well coordinated, entrapment, and attack on any Indians in the valley of the Little Bighorn.**
 - II. He will bring up the main column.**
 - III. Gibbon...Up the Bighorn River to the Little Bighorn and up the valley:**
 - (1) Block any Indians from getting away.**
 - (2) To meet Custer there on the 26th.**
 - IV. Custer:**
 - (1) Go south along the Rosebud.**

- (2) Examine the upper part of Tullock's Creek.**
- (3) To and down the Little Bighorn River.**
- (4) Send Scout, George Herendeen, to Gibbon's column with any information:**
 - a. Herendeen knows the area.**
 - b. Herendeen is good with a gun.**
 - c. Herendeen is dependable in a tight spot.**
- (5) Find the Indian camp.**
- (6) With Gibbon, prevent them from retreating into the Bighorn Mountains.**
- D) Custer states he can make 30 miles per day.**
- E) Everyone agrees.**
- F) Terry asks him if he wants to take Brisbin's four Companies of the 2nd Cavalry:**
 - I. He refuses: "No, the 7th can take care of any problems."**
- G) Terry offers the Gatling Guns:**
 - I. He refuses: "No, they'll slow me down."**
- H) Gibbon tells Custer not to be selfish:**
 - I. Give the Montana Column a chance to get in the fight.**
 - II. Custer...Laughs.**
- I) The group breaks up.**
- J) Custer...Officer's call...Orders:**
 - I. Strip down to essentials.**
 - II. 160 pack mules are to carry 15 days rations of hardtack, coffee, sugar, and salt and 12 days rations of bacon.**

IV. 12 mules are to carry 50 extra rounds of ammunition per man:

(1) 24,000 rounds.

V. Will take extra salt in case they have to live off horse meat.

VI. Each trooper to carry 12 pounds of oats for his horse.

VII. Men to carry 100 rounds of ammunition for:

(1) Model 1873 – Single-shot – .45-70 - Trap-door – Springfield – Carbine:

a. Great range.

b. Great stopping power.

c. BUT, soft copper cartridges sometimes heat up and jam; have to be pried out with a knife.

VIII. Men to carry 24 rounds of ammunition for:

(1) Single-action - .45 – Colt – Revolver.

IX. Ammunition is to be carried in belts and saddlebags.

*****Note: No sabers...Boxed up and left behind.**

X. Take tobacco:

(1) Stops fatigue.

(2) Alleviates hunger.

(3) Relieves boredom.

XI. Troop commanders are responsible directly to him.

XII. Captain Fred Benteen speaks up:

(1) Says he hopes that support will be better than at the Washita!!!

(2) Custer taunts him with an accusation that he killed a small boy in the battle!!

(3) Evident to all present that the 2 men can't stand each other!!!

K) Meeting breaks up:

I. Lt. William Cooke and Lt. Myles Keogh make out wills.

II. Lt. Henry Nowlan is informed he will not go:

(1) He is to stay with Terry on the steamer.

a. Nowlan:

***Irish.**

***Graduates from Sandhurst...England;s elite military academy.**

***Fights at Sebastopol in 1854/1855.**

***Decorated for bravery.**

***1862...To New York.**

***Civil War...7th Cavalry.**

III. Major Reno drinks heavily.

IV. Mitch Bouyer gets drunk.

V. Marcus Kellogg decides to go with Custer:

(1) Newspaperman.

(2) Widower.

(3) Former telegrapher.

(4) Editor of "The Bismarck Tribune."

(5) Correspondent for "The New York Herald."

(6) 42 years old.

VI. Charley Reynolds has a premonition of his death:

(1) Has a bad abscess on his left hand near the thumb.

(2) Dr. Henry Porter tries to talk him out of going.

(3) He refuses.

L) Custer is elated:

I. Gets to command his own column.

II. Now free of Terry.

III. To have the honor of being the 1st to engage the Indians.

M) Civilian brother, Boston, is to go.

N) Nephew, Harry Reed, is to go.

O) The command:

I. 31 Officers.

II. 566 Troopers.

III. 25 Arikara Scouts.

IV. 6 Crow Scouts.

V. 4 Sioux Scouts.

VI. 5 Civilian Scouts.

VII. 2 Interpreters.

VIII. 6 Mule Packers

IX. Kellogg and Reed.

****Total.....647 men.**

17. Facts:

A) Against orders - Custer will ignore Tullock's Creek:

I. Will never send Scouts to look it over.

II. Will never send Herendeen to Gibbon with a report!

- B) This will play a role in the outcome of the battle:**
 - I. Gibbon's column will be held at the mouth of Tullock's Creek for more than a day:**
 - (1) Waiting for the message from Custer!**
- C) Terry does authorize Custer to act as sole judge on what to do:**
 - I. Thus...One can debate Custer's judgement!**
 - II. BUT, not his authority to judge.**

18. June 22, 1876:

- A) Late breakfast of bacon and coffee.**
- B) Custer's unit forms and starts marching out.**
- C) Terry, Gibbon, and Custer are together.**
- D) Custer shakes the two men's hands.**
- E) Starts to lope away.**
- F) Gibbon: "Now Custer, don't be greedy, wait for us."**
- G) Custer laughs: "No, I will not!"**
 - I. Meaning????**
- H) Custer's battle flag – Same as Civil War:**
 - I. Swallow Tailed Guidon:**
 - (1) Red over blue.**
 - (2) With crossed swords.**
- I) Is joined by several civilians – Making a total of 660 men:**
 - I. Some will go all the way with him, some will not.**
 - II. The 175 mules are carrying 25,000 extra rounds of ammunition.**
- J) The march:**

I. Dress is relaxed.

II. Dark blue, flannel shirts:

(1) Most are stained green or purple from rain and sweat.

(2) Some checkered shirts.

III. Several styles and colors of hats:

(1) Straws.

(2) Gray slouch.

(3) Army black, wool hats.

IV. Pants:

(1) Sky blue.

(2) Badly faded and worn.

(3) Reinforced in the legs and seat with canvas.

V. Most of the men have beards and/or shaggy hair.

VI. Custer:

(1) Dark blue, wide-collared, "fireman's" shirt.

(2) Trademark, red scarf, around his neck.

(3) Light gray, broad-brimmed, hat.

(4) Remington sporting rifle.

(5) Hunting knife.

(6) 2 English revolvers.

K) Meanwhile...Back at the steamer:

I. Terry tells Gerard that he has told Custer that if he finds Indians and thinks he can whip them, do so!

L) 4:00 – Afternoon – After 12 miles – Camp:

I. Supper...Hardtack, bacon, and coffee.

M) 8:00 – Night – Custer – Officer's Call:

I. Talks about concerns of pack train lagging behind.

- II. States that the column should be cautious and keep a sharp eye out.**
- III. States that there are to be no trumpet calls.**
- IV. States they will probably face at least a 1,000 of the enemy.**
- V. Tells them why he has turned down bringing the Gatling Guns and the 2nd Cavalry.....The 7th can handle anything!**
- VI. Says they will follow the Indian trail until they find them!**
- VII. Says he trusts the officer's loyalty, discretion, and judgement.**
- VIII. Says it is important to obey orders without complaint because:**
- (1) Some of his actions in the past have been criticized:**
- a. Benteen asks him who he is talking about!**
- b. Custer tells him it is not him!**
- IX. Custer does not tell them of Terry's full plan.**
- X. Custer does not tell them of the proposed meeting of their column with Gibbon on the 26th!**
- XI. He asks for suggestions from ALL the officers:**
- (1) 1st time in his life he's done it!**
- (2) He almost appears to be asking for help!**
- (3) He seems to be depressed!**
- XII. Meeting ends.**
- N) Lieutenants McIntosh, Godfrey, and Wallace get together after the meeting:**

I. Lt. George Wallace:

(1) Engineering Officer.

(2) Tall.

(3) "Homely."

II. 1st Lt. Edward Settle Godfrey:

(1) Civil War – Union Army.

(2) Graduates – West Point – 1867.

(3) Smart.

(4) Lazy.

(5) Messy.

(6) Unmilitary.

(7) Will not take sides in regimental politics.

(8) Friends call him "God."

(9) Fights with Custer at the Washita.

(10) Is 32 years old.

(11) Will survive - 1907...Becomes a Brig. General.

III. Wallace tells Godfrey he believes Custer is going to be killed:

(1) Godfrey asks Wallace why he thinks that.

(2) Wallace says he's never heard Custer talk like that before.

19. Friday – June 23, 1876:

A) March continues at 5:00 – Morning.

B) Warm and sunny.

C) Find the site of a deserted Indian village:

I. Over the next 12 miles...2 more LARGER campsites.

D) Will make 33 miles.

E) 4:45 – Afternoon – Camp on the east side of the Rosebud.

20. The Valley of the Little Bighorn:

A) Montana.

B) Sits in rough, broken country.

C) Steep hills and deep, narrow gullies.

D) Valley is ½ mile wide 5 ½ miles long.

E) Meadow.

F) Rolling grassland.

G) Broad and open.

H) Scattered groves of cottonwood and box elder trees along the Little Bighorn River.

I) The Little Bighorn River:

I. Runs northwest through the valley.

II. 40 miles away it joins the Bighorn River.

III. Rapid stream.

IV. 20 to 40 yards wide.

V. 2 to 5 feet deep.

VI. Rocky bottom.

VII. Steep, soft, clay banks that ooze with moisture.

VIII. 3 places (Fords) to cross the river:

(1) Reno Ford...Farthest to the south...Here Reno will cross.

(2) Minneconjou Ford...2 miles north of Reno Ford, it sits at the base of Medicine Tail Coulee.

(3) Cheyenne Ford...1 mile further north.

21. The Indian Camp:

A) Stretches for almost 2 miles along the river.

B) Is ¼ mile wide.

C) 1,306 lodges and wickiups.

D) 8,030 people in the camp.

E) 1,750 are warriors.

F) 13 different tribes are represented.

G) Farthest north...Northern Cheyenne, Gros Ventres (5 warriors), and Arapaho:

I. Primary Chiefs are Two Moons, Dirty Moccasins, Old Bear, Ice, Brave Wolf, and Lame White Man.

H) Next...Oglala Sioux:

I. Primary Chiefs and War Leaders are Crazy Horse, Big Road, and Knife Chief.

I) Next...Brule(Burnt Thigh)Sioux:

I. Primary Chiefs are Hollow Horn Bear, Little Hawk, and Low Dog.

J) Next...Sans Arc Sioux:

I. Primary Chiefs are Spotted Eagle, Red Bear, and High Bear.

K) Next...Two Kettle Sioux:

I. Primary Chief is Runs-The-Enemy.

L) Next...Minneconjou Sioux:

I. Primary Chiefs are Hump, Fast Bull, and Lame Deer.

M) Next...Blackfeet Sioux:

I. Primary Chief is Scabby Head.

N) Next...Yanktonais Sioux, Santee Sioux, and Assiniboin Sioux:

I. Primary Chief is Inkpaduta.

O) Extreme southern end of the village...The rear...The place of honor...Why? To protect!...Hunkpapa Sioux:

I. Primary Chiefs are:

(1) Sitting Bull.

(2) Black Moon.

(3) Crow King:

a. Tall.

b. Full of energy and hate for white men.

(4) Gall:

a. is actually a Sub-Chief.

b. Born - 1840 - Is 36 years old.

c. Brave and daring.

d. Very smart.

e. Great common sense.

f. Strong character.

(5) Rain-In-The-Face:

a. Hates whites.

b. 1875...Arrested for killing 2 civilians back in 1873.

c. Arrested by Charley Reynolds, George Yates, and Tom Custer.

d. Taken to Ft. Abraham Lincoln...Placed in the guardhouse...Slapped and kicked around by Tom Custer.

e. 3 months...Escapes...Swears to cut Tom Custer's heart out, AND, get revenge on George Custer.

22. Why are the Indians camped here?

A) Following the buffalo herds.

B) Plenty of water and feed for the horses.

23. 25 warrior societies present in the village:

A) Each...A major chief and 9 minor chiefs.

24. The warriors outnumber Custer's command nearly 3 to 1!!!

25. The supreme weapon of the Indian is...Medicine!

26. NORMALLY...Sioux and Cheyenne warfare relies on 2 things...Ambush & quick strike:

A) A man's warrior status depended on honors gained against enemy tribes or soldiers.

B) Battle:

I. Goal is personal glory.

II. NO group strategy!

III. Highest honor...Disarm an enemy without hurting him.

IV. Killing an enemy was low on the Indian scale of risk.

27. BUT, in the coming battle the Indians will stand and fight:

- A) They WILL fight in groups!**
- B) They WILL kill for glory!**

28. Indian weapons:

A) Bows and Arrows.

B) Lances.

C) Knives.

D) Tomahawks.

E) War Clubs.

F) About ½ possess...Firearms:

I. All kinds of pistols(Cap & Ball – Cartridge).

II. Flintlock Muskets(Muzzle Loaders).

III. Cap & Ball Rifles(Muzzle Loaders).

IV. Sharps – Single Shot – Breech Loading - Rifles.

V. Enfield – Single Shot – Breech Loading – Rifles.

VI. Springfield – Single Shot – Breech Loading – Rifles.

VII. Henry – Single Shot – Breech Loading – Rifles.

VIII. Henry Repeating Rifles.

IX. Spencer Repeating Rifles.

X. Winchester Repeating Rifles.

29. Saturday – June 24, 1876:

A) 5:00 – Morning – March continues.

B) Warm and clear.

C) Find more deserted Indian camps:

- I. One is very large.**
- II. In it they find a white man's scalp hanging from the center pole of a Sun Dance Lodge.**
- III. The Arikaras translate the Sioux signs and markings:
 - (1) Soldiers coming.**
 - (2) Indians will defeat them in battle!****
- D) All of these deserted camps indicate:
 - I. The Indians are no more than 30 miles ahead.****
- E) 1:00 – Afternoon – Stop:
 - I. Custer sends Varnum and the Arikara Scouts out to search.**
 - II. He sends the Crow Scouts forward to look for sign.****
- F) 4:00 – Afternoon – Crows return:
 - I. Report a fresh, deserted Indian campsite.**
 - II. 12 miles ahead.****
- G) March continues:
 - I. The Scouts KNOW the Indians have converged into a HUGE singular camp!**
 - II. Custer can't comprehend this!!!****
- H) 7:45 – Night – Camp is made:
 - I. Have been at it for 15 hours.**
 - II. Have covered 28 miles.****
- I) 9:00 – Night – Crow Scouts report to Custer:
 - I. The Indian village is in the Valley of the Little Bighorn!****
- J) Varnum and his Arikara Scouts return:**

I. They have covered 60 miles.

K) 9:25 – Officer's call:

I. Custer tells them: "Beyond a doubt, an Indian village is in the Little Bighorn Valley!"

II. He tells them the Crow Scouts have found the village.

III. He tells them the column will continue to move at 11:00(That night).

IV. He tells them they will hide the next day and scout the valley.

V. He tells them they will hit the village on the 26th.

L) At this point Custer has disobeyed 2 of Terry's orders:

I. He hasn't scouted Tullock's Creek.

II. He hasn't sent Herendeen back to Gibbon to report.

M) After the meeting:

I. Scout, Bloody knife: "We are going to have a big fight. I know what is going to happen to me. I shall not see the sun."

II. Charley Reynolds...Abscess on his left hand is killing him...Depressed...Has had a premonition:

(1) Of his own death!

(2) Gives his belongings to his friends.

N) 11:30 – Night – Column moves out.

Sunday – June 25, 1876

1. 1:00 – Morning - Custer still does not know the EXACT location of the Indian village.

2. Custer:

A) Blue/Gray – Double button – Flannel – Fireman's shirt.

B) Fringed - Buckskin pants.

C) High topped - Jack boots.

D) Gray/White – Wide brimmed – Low crowned – Cavalry hat.

E) Red scarf – Around neck.

F) Hair is moderately short.

G) Drooping mustache.

H) Needs a shave.

I) Remington – Octagon Barrel – Repeating Sporting Rifle.

J) Two – Self-Cocking – White handled – English – Bulldog – Revolvers.

K) Is riding "Vic":

I. Thoroughbred.

II. Sorrell.

III. White – Stocking-legged.

IV. Blaze-faced.

3. 2:00 – Varnum and the Scouts reach the Crow's Nest:

A) In the distance see evidence of a large Indian village.

- 4. 2:15 – Morning – Have gone 8 miles – Stop – Rest:**
 - A) Men go immediately to sleep.**

- 5. 3:00 – Morning – Custer's men – Breakfast:**
 - A) Coffee, cold water, hardtack, and bacon.**

- 6. Just before 5:00 – Morning:**
 - A) Two Arikara Scouts – Red Star & Bull.**
 - B) Take a note from Varnum to Custer telling of the village in the distance:**
 - I. In the Valley of the Little Bighorn.**
 - II. About 15 miles away.**

- 7. 7:30 – Morning – The 2 Scouts reach Custer:**
 - A) Give him the note.**
 - B) He lets the camp know.**
 - C) Tells them to be prepared to march at 8:00.**

- 8. Custer hurries to the Crow's Nest:**
 - A) Day is getting hot and dry.**

- 9. 8:30 – Morning – Custer's column moves out at a fast walk.**

- 10. Column follows Custer to the Crow's Nest:**
 - A) As they approach.**
 - B) Their dust is spotted by scouts from the Indian village.**

C) The Crow Scouts tell Custer they have been spotted:

I. He doesn't believe them!

D) They tell him he must attack at once:

I. He agrees.

11. 10:07 – Morning – Column arrives 3 miles from the Crow's Nest:

A) Hide in a deep ravine – Men are tired!

12. 11:30 – Morning – Custer returns to the column from the Crow's Nest:

A) Packers tell him they've lost a box of hardtack bread.

B) He sends some troopers back after it.

C) When they approach it:

I. There are some young warriors trying to open it.

II. The troopers open fire.

III. The Indians flee...One has been hit.

IV. He is "Deeds"...The 10 year old nephew of Sitting Bull.

V. He dies shortly...The 1st fatality of the day.

13. Tom Custer informs his brother that Indians have been spotted in their rear!

14. Officer's call:

A) Custer tells them:

- I. The Scouts have discovered the large village.**
- II. He fears the Indians will get away.**
- III. They are about 15 miles away.**
- IV. They're in the Valley of the Little Bighorn.**
- V. The column has been spotted by the Indians.**
- VI. He doesn't think the Indians will stand and fight.**
- VII. Will move out immediately and attack the village!**
- VIII. Each Company will assign 5 or 6 men to guard the Pack Train which is moving much slower than the rest of the column.**
- IX. Assigns Captain Thomas McDougall and Company "B" to guard the Pack Train:
(1) 133 men.....20% of the command!**

B) Charley Reynolds speaks up:

- I. It's the largest group of Indians he's ever seen!**

C) Mitch Boyer speaks up:

- I. Warns Custer against the attack.**
- II. Custer ignores the warning...Tells him he doesn't have to go!**
- III. Boyer gets mad...Says he's not afraid!**
- IV. Boyer to Custer: "We'll both wake up in hell tomorrow morning!"
(1) Walks away!**

D) Bloody Knife speaks up:

- I. Warns Custer against proceeding.**
- II. Custer tells him to be quiet.**

E) Custer tells his orderly...John Burkman to saddle "Vic"(Short for Victory):

I. Tells Burkman he is to accompany the Pack Train.

II. Result...Burkman will live.

15. The Scouts inform Custer they've spotted Indians at the rear of the column.

16. 11:45 – Morning - The column moves out:

A) Tired – Dirty – Hungry.

B) Varnum and the Arikara Scouts take the left front.

C) Lt. Luther Hare and the Crow Scouts take the right front:

I. Luther Hare:

(1) From Texas.

(2) Big.

(3) Excellent horseman.

(4) Survives.

(5) 1900 – Philippine Revolt – Brig. General.

17. 12:05 – Afternoon – Divides the command to attack:

A) To the left...116 men...Under 41 year old, Captain Fred Benteen, commander of Company "H"...Are to scout the hills and valleys 3 miles away to the left:

I. Benteen:

(1) From Virginia.

(2) 5 years older than Custer.

(3) Union Army in the Civil War.

- (4) Turns down a Major's position with the All-Black 9th Cavalry.**
- (5) 1866...Joins the 7th Cavalry.**
- (6) January 1867...First meets Custer.**
- (7) Doesn't like Custer from their 1st meeting.**
- (8) Will blame Custer for his friend, Joel Elliott's, death at the Washita.**
- (9) His men like him.**
- (10) He leads up front.**
- (11) Wife...Kate.**
- (12) Traits:**
 - a. Prematurely gray haired.**
 - b. Cantankerous.**
 - c. Brave.**
 - d. Confident.**
 - e. Likes women.**
 - f. Intelligent.**
 - g. Not a heavy drinker.**
- (13) Myth: "He was a close friend of Reno's":**
 - a. Does NOT care for Reno!**
 - b. Few years before...At Fort...Trader's store...He and Reno and other officers are drinking...Reno makes a slur at him:**
 - **Benteen slaps him in front of the other officers!**
 - **Benteen calls him a son-of-a-bitch!**
 - **Benteen dares him to challenge him to a duel!**

****Reno declines.**

II. Besides Company "H" – Benteen also takes Company "D" and Company "K."

III. Company "D" is under 38 year old, Captain Thomas Weir:

(1) Graduate – University of Michigan.

(2) Good friend of Custer's.

(3) Most likely...Affair with Libbie Custer!

IV. Company "K" is under 1st Lt. Edward Settle Godfrey.

V. They move out at 12:12 – Afternoon.

B) Down the left bank of the Little Bighorn River - 175 men – Under Major Marcus Reno:

I. Company "A" – Under Captain Myles Moylan:

(1) Moylan:

a. Civil War – Fights with Custer.

b. 1866 – Enlists in the 7th.

c. Not well liked.

d. Kind of a snob.

II. Company "G" – Under 38 year old, 1st Lt. Donald McIntosh.

III. Company "M" – Under 33 year old, Captain Thomas French.

IV. Also with him is 28 year old, 2nd Lt. Benjamin "Benny" Hodgson – recent graduate of West Point.

V. Also with him is 43 year old, 1st Lt. Charles DeRudio.

VI. Also with him is 31 year old, civilian, Assistant Surgeon, Henry Porter.

VII. Also with him is 33 year old, civilian, Assistant Surgeon, James DeWolf.

VII. Also with him is Charley Reynolds, Fred Gerard, George Herendeen, and Isiah Dorman.

VIII. Also with him is Bloody Knife.

IX. Also with him is 26 year old, Arikara Scout, Little Brave.

X. Also with him is 45 year old, Arikara Scout, Bob-Tail-Bull.

XI. Reno has 140 Troopers and 35 Scouts...175 men.

C) Custer takes 221 men of Companies C,E,F,I, and L – To go down the right bank of the Little Bighorn:

I. Company "C" is under 31 year old, Captain Tom Custer:

(1) Brother – They are just alike!

(2) Civil War – 2 Medals of Honor.

(3) BAD drinking problem.

II. Company "E" is under 33 year old, 1st Lt. Algernon Smith:

(1) Civil War...Wounded badly...Limited use of one arm.

(2) Nickname is "Fresh."

(3) Wife...Nettie.

(4) Part of the extended Custer family.

III. Company "F" is under 33 year old, Captain George Yates:

- (1) Reliable.**
- (2) Efficient.**
- (3) Friend of the Custer's from Monroe, Michigan.**
- (4) Serves with Custer in the Civil War.**
- (5) Custer has helped him with his career.**

IV. Company "I" is under 34 year old, Captain Myles Keogh:

- (1) Irish.**
- (2) Former member of the Papal Guards.**
- (3) Civil War – With Custer – Serves on McClellan's staff.**
- (4) Handsome.**
- (5) Brave.**
- (6) Drinks too much.**
- (7) Prone to periods of depression and sadness.**
- (8) Responsible for the 7th adopting "Garry Owen" as their unit theme song.**
- (9) Owns and is riding the horse: "Comanche."**

V. Commanding Company "L" is 30 year old, 1st Lt. James "Jimmie" Calhoun:

- (1) Brother-In-Law to the Custer's.**
- (2) Married to their sister, Margaret – "Maggie."**

VI. Also... 1st Lt. William Winer Cooke:

- (1) From Canada.**
- (2) Soldier of Fortune.**
- (3) Civil War – Union Cavalry.**
- (4) Wealthy.**
- (5) Friend of the Custer's.**

(6) Best shot in the 7th.

(7) Fastest runner in the 7th.

(8) Beautiful, full beard.

(9) Custer's Adjutant.

(10) Writes the famous "Last Message."

VII. Also...2nd Lt. John Crittenden:

(1) Has flunked out of West Point.

(2) Father helps him get a commission.

(3) Thin.

(4) One glass eye...Hunting accident years before.

VIII. Also...2nd Lt. James Porter...Friend of Custer's.

IX. Also...2nd Lt. Henry Harrington:

(1) Wife and 2 children.

(2) Friend of Custer's.

(3) No combat experience.

X. Also...2nd Lt. William Van Wyck Reily:

(1) Friend of Custer's.

(2) In the Army less than 8 months.

XI. Also...Lt. James "Jack" Sturgis – Recent West Point Graduate.

XII. Also...Harry Reed, nephew & Marcus Kellogg, reporter.

XIII. Also...30 year old, civilian, Assistant Surgeon, George Lord.

XIV. Also...36 year old, Sgt. Robert Hughes...Will carry Custer's battle guidon.

XV. Also...Mitch Boyer.

XVI. Also...The 6 Crow Scouts:

- (1) Half Yellow Face.**
- (2) White Swan.**
- (3) Goes Ahead.**
- (4) Hairy Moccasin.**
- (5) White-Man-Runs-Him.**
- (6) 18 year old, Curly.**

18. Half Yellow Face talks to Custer through Boyer:

- A) Begs Custer not to split the command.**
- B) Says they must stay together.**
- C) Custer: "You do the scouting, and I'll attend to the fighting."**
- D) Half Yellow Face starts taking off his clothes.**
- E) Custer asks why?**
- F) Half Yellow Face: "Because you and I are going home today, and by a trail that is strange to us both!"**

19. Counting the Pack Train:

- A) The 4 Columns contain 647 people:**
 - I. 566 of them are Troopers.**

19. Just before 2:00 – Afternoon – Herendeen, Varnum, Hare, an Orderly, and some of the Scouts:

- A) Find the remains of a large deserted campsite:**
 - I. It runs for ½ mile.**
- B) About 2 ½ miles away – 45 Indian warriors watch them:**

- I. Then, ride away.**
- C) They will inform Custer.**

20. 2:07 – Afternoon – Custer’s column passes an abandoned lodge.

21. 2:15 – Afternoon – Fred Gerard spots the 45 Indian warriors running on horses between the them and the river:

A) Yells to Custer: Here are your Indians, running like Devils.”

B) Custer tells Cooke to order Reno to pursue the Indians:

I. Engage them!

II. He(Custer)will support him!

C) Custer will NOT send word of this to Benteen or the Pack Train!

22. 2:37 – Afternoon – Cooke and Keogh catch up to Reno:

A) Give him the order to attack AND that Custer will support him!

B) Fred Gerard stays with Reno.

C) Cooke and Keogh will head back to Custer.

D) Reno is only 3 & ¾’s of a mile from the southern end of the village!

E) Reno has been “nipping” at booze all day!

23. Custer's Column is on a parallel course with Reno:

A) Boston Custer leaves his brother and heads back to the Pack Train:

I. To get a fresh horse.

B) Boyer tries one last time to talk Custer out of the venture:

I. Custer scolds him!

C) Custer orders the Scouts ahead:

I. They refuse!

II. Custer scolds them!

D) Boyer tells them to leave and save their lives:

I. 2 of the Crows leave.

24. 2:55 – Afternoon – In columns of 4 – Reno crosses the Little Bighorn:

A) Reforms on the left bank – Heads down the valley.

B) Sees Indians far down the valley.

C) Gerard informs Reno that Indians are coming up the valley to meet him.

D) Reno's men are in columns of 4:

I. Some of the men spot Custer on the bluffs across the river at a trot.

25. 3:00 – Afternoon – Reno:

A) Sees Indians streaming from the village to meet him.

B) Sends Gerard back to catch Cooke and Keogh and give them the news!

- C) Gerard catches up to Cooke and Keogh:**
 - I. Tells them.**
 - II. They tell him they will tell Custer.**
- D) Gerard heads back to Reno.**
- E) While this is going on...Reno sends 2 Privates with a message DIRECTLY to Custer:**
 - I. "Have enemy in force at my front."**
- F) Cooke and Keogh reach Custer 20 minutes after Gerard's message:**
 - I. Tell him:**
 - (1) Reno is in pursuit!**
 - (2) The Indians are retreating!!??**
 - a. They're actually coming out of the village to meet him!**
- G) The 2 Privates arrive and deliver their message from Reno.**

26. The Indian camp has been warned of the approaching Cavalry:

- A) By...The returning 45 warriors.**
- B) By...Inkpaduta and 2 grandsons who have spotted them.**

27. Reno is still drinking:

- A) He orders an advance down the valley.**

28. Custer climbs the bluffs to the high ground on the right side of the Little Bighorn River:

A) Starts moving north parallel with the river.

29. Reno orders a charge:

A) At a gallop.

B) Can't see the entire village for the dust created by about 45 to 50 warriors on their ponies.

C) Reno comes around a wooded bend of the Little Bighorn.

D) Sees the size of the village and the number of Indians:

I. Shock!!!

E) It is 3:10 – Afternoon – Indians dressed in war paint and war clothing are firing on him:

I. The paint and clothing is NOT for war...It is a preparation for death and burial.

II. 2 of Reno's trooper's horses bolt...George Smith and James Turley:

(1) Carry them into the village and the mass of Indians to horrible deaths!

F) Reno orders a halt...Dismount...Fight on foot in a skirmish line!

I. Every 4th man holds the horses.

II. There are less than 100 men stretched out over 250 yards of open ground.

III. Advance firing on foot for 100 yards.

IV. Reno orders them to stop.

V. Continue to fire from kneeling or prone positions.

VI. The carbines start "jamming":

- (1) Have to use knives to pry out empty cartridges!**
- G) It is 3:15 – Afternoon – The Indians are now charging Reno!**
- H) Reno is ½ mile from the village.**
- I) It is now almost 3:20 – Afternoon.**

30. Custer looks into the valley...Sees what is going on:

- A) Tells Cooke he needs all men and the Pack Train now!**
- B) Tom Custer orders Sgt. Daniel Kanipe to go to McDougall and the Pack Train and tell them to hurry up!**
- I. IF he sees Benteen...The same!**
- C) Column heads out at a trot.**
- D) After ½ mile...Halt...Custer and Cooke wave their hats at Reno and his men in the valley...Over 1 mile away!**
- I. Will watch Reno's retreat into the timber.**
- II. Custer tells Boyer to tell the Crow Scouts that they are dismissed if they want to leave.**
- E) Column heads down a narrow ravine.**

31. Meanwhile...Reno:

- A) The Arikaras are nearest the Indian camp:**
- I. Fire into the village killing several women and children.**
- B) The Arikaras are driven back into the timber.**

C) Gall...In the village...Finds his 2 wives and 3 of his children...Dead!

D) Indians start turning both flanks of Reno's line!

I. Black Moon and warriors turn Reno's left flank!

II. Moylan informs Reno!!

III. Some of the Arikara Scouts take off at this point.

32. It is 3:30 – Afternoon – Reno orders a retreat to the timber on their right:

A) Scout, Bob-Tail-Bull falls dead riddled with bullets!

B) Reno wants to get the river to his back.

C) The retreat is slow and steady.

D) At this point...Pvt. Miles O'Hara of "M" Company is shot thru the gut:

I. Dies in minutes.

II. Later...His head is found in the deserted village.

33. While all of this has gone on:

A) Benteen's column has turned right:

I. They are following Reno's trail.

II. They are well ahead of the Pack Train.

34. The Timber Fight:

A) Reno...Back to water.

B) Dust...Firing...Screams of wounded and dying men...Screams of scared and wounded horses...War cries...Black powder smoke...Indians on foot...Indians on horseback...Constant firing of

100's of weapons:

I. Chaos...Confusion...Fear...And death!

C) Cavalry line is only 150 yards long!!!

I. Varnum, Herendeen, Reynolds, and the Scouts are at the right end it.

D) Some of Reno's men see Custer's column over a mile away on the bluffs moving north.

E) When Reno approached the village down the valley:

I. Crazy Horse...Bathing.

II. Takes time to paint and prepare.

III. Pinto pony.

IV. Leads the surrounding of Reno in the timber.

F) Fighting is viscous and brutal:

I. Reno is outnumbered 10 to 1.

II. Hand-to-hand!

III. In danger of being totally surrounded.

IV. Men alone.

V. Small groups.

VI. Large groups.

VII. Reno has lost his hat...Wearing a red handkerchief around his head to keep the sweat out of his eyes.

VIII. Warriors under Gall are surrounding him.

IX. He tries to gather the men into the middle of the timber in a 10 acre clearing.

35. Meanwhile...Custer:

A) Reaches the top of Medicine Tail Coulee.

B) Custer tells Cooke to get word to Benteen to hurry up the Pack Train:

I. Cooke scribbles the famous Last Message:

“Benteen, come on. Big village. Be quick. Bring packs. W.W. Cooke – P.S. Bring Packs.”

II. Cooke gives the message to Trumpeter, John Martin to deliver to Benteen.

C) Martin heads out:

I. Last man to see Custer and his men alive!

D) Boyer again warns Custer:

I. He ignores it.

D) Custer sends Lt. Algernon Smith and Sturgis and Company “E” down the coulee:

I. To look for a crossing(Ford).

II. Followed by Yates and Reily with Company “F.”

III. Total of 76 men.

IV. Custer and the rest of the command start following.

36. Martin is chased by Indians – Horse is wounded – Gets away:

A) Meets 27 year old, Boston Custer:

I. Civilian forager...Hired by brother for \$100 per month.

II. Has been on the frontier for 8 months.

III. Is coming back from the Pack Train with a fresh horse.

IV. Asks Martin where his brothers are.

V. Martin tells him.

VI. Both men go their separate ways.

37. 3:42 – Afternoon:

A) Kanipe reaches Benteen and the Pack Train.

B) Benteen has caught up to the Pack Train.

C) Gives Benteen Custer's message.

D) Benteen waters the horses...Continues on ahead of the Pack Train.

38. 3:53 – Afternoon:

A) Martin reaches Benteen and with Cooke's written Message:

I. Benteen sends Martin back to the Pack Train to hurry up.

B) Benteen increases the gait to a trot.

39. 3:55 – Afternoon – Back to the Timber Fight:

A) Reno attempts to reform his men.

B) Orders McIntosh and Moylan to mount in columns of 4:

I. He sends Hodgson to tell French...Why?...NO trumpeter!

II. Reno mounts.

C) Many of the troopers never get or hear the command!

D) Reno points to a high point across the river, the last place he has seen Custer:

I. He yells "Mount!"

E) Warriors fire a point blank volley into the clearing:

I. Trooper Lorenz is hit – He yells: "Oh my God, I've got it!" – Dies!!

F) At that instant...Scout, Bloody Knife, mounted 10 feet to Reno's right...Is shot in the back of the head from 30 feet away Cheyenne warrior, Crooked Nose:

I. Blows brains, blood, skull, and tissue right into Reno's face!

II. Reno is momentarily in a state of shock and confusion!

III. He yells: "Dismount!"

IV. Then: "Mount!"

G) Men are confused – Don't know what to do.

H) 4:00 – Afternoon - He starts leading the route out of the timber, across the Little Bighorn, and up the bluffs!!!

I. He makes no arrangements for a rear-guard action.

I) It is massive panic!!!

J) It is every man for himself!!!

K) Following Reno!!!

39. The Reno Retreat to the Bluffs:

A) Have to cross the river:

I. 40 feet wide and 4 feet deep.

B) To the bottom land.

C) Up a 200 foot high ravine.

- D) From the river to the bluff top is 600 yards(1/4 mile).**
- E) Some of the men never a retreat order.**
- F) Other men fail to act on the order to retreat.**
- G) Fighting is hand-to-hand.**
- H) Indian warriors on foot.**
- I) Indian warriors on horseback.**
- J) Among the soldiers in the timber.**
- K) Among the soldiers crossing the river.**
- L) Firing down into the clogged ravine.**
- M) Warriors gallop in and out of the soldiers:**
- I. Most stay an average of 50 yards away.**
- N) Arikara Scout, Little Brave, edge of river:**
- I. Shot and wounded badly in the right shoulder.**
 - II. Surrounded, beaten and stabbed to death!**
- O) One soldier...Arrow in the back of his head:**
- I. Dead...Body still upright in the saddle.**
- P) Indian women and young boys are going through the timber:**
- I. Killing, mutilating, and plundering the wounded!**
 - II. Corporal Henry Scollen of "M" Company will be found later badly mutilated and his right leg totally severed.**
- Q) Isiah Dorman is leaving the timber:**
- I. Surrounded.**
 - II. He and his horse are shot.**
 - III. Horse falls on him.**
 - IV. He is dying...Badly broken up.**

V. Sitting Bull orders he not be killed:

(1) Because of an old friendship.

(2) Then rides off.

VI. Woman, Eagle Robe, has lost her 10 year old brother killed...Rides up:

(1) Shoots him through the head with a pistol!

VII. Women use a picket pin...Drive it thru his nuts to the ground!

VIII. They cut off his genitals and stuff them in his mouth!

IX. Shoot his head and body full of arrows.

R) Charley Reynolds – Mounts – His horse is shot dead 30 feet from Dorman at the edge of the river:

I. He is shot and killed.

II. Later...Headless, mutilated body will be found.

III. Remains will be buried at a later date in Norris, Michigan.

S) 1st Lt. Donald McIntosh leaves the timber:

I. 20 yards from the river.

II. 25 warriors pull him from his horse and shoot him to death.

T) 2nd Lt. Benjamin Hodgson is in mid-stream:

I. Horse is shot.

II. He is shot through both legs.

III. Trumpeter, Henry Fisher stops so he can grab his stirrup.

IV. They reach the east bank and start up.

- V. Hodgson is shot thru the head and killed.**
- U) Warrior, Black Elk, stops to scalp a soldier:**
- I. Starts cutting.**
 - II. Soldier starts screaming.**
 - III. Takes soldier's pistol and shoots him in the forehead killing him.**
 - IV. Takes scalp.**
- V) Herendeen, DeRudio, and 12 others hide in the timber!!**
- W) 2nd Lt. Charles Varnum is wounded in the leg:**
- I. Will make it to Reno Hill.**
- Y) Assistant Surgeon, James DeWolf, almost reaches the summit:**
- I. Shot once in the stomach, 6 times in the head and face, killing him!**
 - II. Diary – With a bullet hole – Battlefield Museum.**
 - III. Buried – Later – Norwalk, Ohio.**
- Z) 4:05 – Afternoon – Reno's survivors start establishing a perimeter on the hill:**
- I. Are wet, tired, and exhausted!**
 - II. Moylan establishes the perimeter and skirmish line.**
 - III. Reno walks around with the red bandana wrapped around his head half dazed and half drunk!**
 - IV. 4:10 – The last of Reno's 91 survivors are in the position.**
 - V. Benteen – In the distance – 2 miles away.**

VI. Sees what is going on – Heads for Reno's position.

40. On the hill:

A) Half of Reno's force have made it unharmed.

B) He has lost 1/3 of his column.

C) He has lost 36 men killed in the valley.

D) He has 19 missing:

I. Most will rejoin him on the night of the 26th.

E) He has 13 wounded:

I. tended to by Dr. Porter.

F) For some reason the Indians appear to withdraw

Off and head north:

I. Gunfire can be faintly heard far to the north.

41. 4:20 – Afternoon – Benteen's column arrives at Reno Hill:

A) Reno: "For God's sake Benteen, halt your command and help me. I've lost half my men. We are whipped."

B) Benteen...Sarcastically: "I guess not!"

C) Neither man has a clue as to where Custer is!

D) Benteen suggests finding Custer:

I. Reno is the superior officer.

II. He says they will wait for the Pack Train.

III. He says Custer has told him to hold this point.

E) Benteen sends 2nd Lt. Luther Hare back to hurry the Pack Train.

F) Reno, Dr. Porter, and 12 men make an effort to get to the river:

I. To get Hodgson's body.

II. Can't...Have to retreat.

G) In the valley the men can see:

I. Indian women, young boys, and old men strip and mutilate the bodies of the dead and kill the wounded.

II. Use stone hammers to crush skulls of the dead and wounded.

III. Use knives to gash, cut off portions of bodies, heads, or genitals.

IV. Scalp.

H) Sgt. Thomas McLaughlin tells Reno:

I. They should take a rescue squad to get the wounded.

II. Reno tells him if he wants to get them to lead the party himself!

(1) Word of this spreads.

(2) The men don't like it!

42. 5:10 – Afternoon – The ammunition mules arrive.

43. 5:15 – Afternoon – The rest of the Pack Train arrives.

44. What of Custer???

A) 3:45 – Afternoon – Medicine Tail Coulee:

I. He believes he is at the north end of the village.

II. He is in the middle!!!

III. He has come to this point to cut off the fleeing women and children.

B) Suddenly from across the river:

I. 6 Sioux and 4 Cheyenne fire into the soldiers.

II. Horse carrying Sgt. James Bustard bolts and carries him across the river into the village to a horrible death!

C) Command dismounts...Exchanges shots...Remounts and starts retreating back up the coulee:

I. Custer suddenly realizes he is NOT at the north end of the village, BUT, the middle.

D) Indians cross the river and fire into the soldiers:

I. Sturgis is hit and killed.

E) Indians send word to the warriors fighting Reno!

F) Custer watches the retreat back up the coulee through field glasses for 15 minutes.

G) More Indians start arriving from the south and east.

H) Yates reports several dead including Sturgis.

I) Custer calls an Officer's Meeting:

I. Keogh is to hold the high point.

II. Custer and Yates will go north to the end of the ridge and cut off the village.

J) Custer heads north with:

I. Yates and two Companies.

II. The Regimental Staff.

III. Brothers Tom & Boston, nephew Autie Reed, Kellogg, Dr. Lord, and Boyer...80 men.

45. Indians under Gall start arriving from the southwest:

A) They have left Reno's position.

B) Open fire on Custer's command 1/3 of the way back up the coulee.

C) Some of Custer's men dismount:

I. Start leading their horses toward the ridge.

D) Indians are now attacking from everywhere.

46. Keogh places Lt. James Calhoun and Company "L" –

44 men – At the south end of the ridge – On top:

A) Indians are using gullies, bushes, grass, and any cover!

B) Indians are arching arrows into the men.

C) The orderly withdrawal starts to fall apart.

D) Some men huddle together and die that way!

E) Gall, Crow King, and Brave Wolf hit Calhoun from the south!

F) Many of the soldiers kill their horses for protection.

G) The Custer column is outnumbered 8 to 1!!!

H) A lot of the retreating soldiers are fighting on foot.

I) A lot of the Indians are now fighting on foot.

J) A lot of the cavalry horses are stampeded by the Indians.

K) Gall overruns Calhoun's position:

I. All the soldiers are killed.

II. Most are shot in the back and side:

(1) This indicates death by one of two means:

a. Shot from afar.

b. Hand-to-hand fighting...Shot by a 3rd party.

**47. North of Calhoun's position – Center of the ridge –
Captain George Yates' Company "E":**

A) It is now 4:15 – Afternoon.

B) Wiped out by Gall and Crazy Horse.

C) Yates, personally, continues to retreat with Custer.

**48. 25 yards north of Yates' Company "E" – Eastern
slope of the ridge – Captain Myles Keogh and
Company "I":**

A) Overrun by Crazy Horse.

B) Almost all are killed.

C) One soldier sits up dazed and wounded:

**I. 2 warriors hold him down while a 3rd cuts his head
off!**

**D) Keogh tries to lead the survivors to Custer at the
north end of the ridge:**

I. A bullet hits Keogh in the left knee:

**(1) Goes all the way through and wounds his horse
"Comanche."**

(2) Keogh goes down.

E) Indians sweep over him and his men killing them!

**49. 1 mile north of Calhoun's position – Northernmost
point of the ridge:**

**A) Custer sends Lt. Algernon Smith down a coulee to
establish a skirmish line:**

I. Does so...1/2 way towards the river.

II. 200 yards to the south of where Custer will be stopped.

B) Custer and his brother, Captain Tom Custer, lead Company "C" and portions of Company "E" to the end of the ridge and down the western slope.

50. Are under attack from warriors led by Cheyenne Chiefs, Two Moons and Lame White Man.

51. Many of the soldiers are committing suicide:

A) Many are killing wounded comrades and then committing suicide:

I. Don't want to be taken prisoner and tortured!

52. Myth...Crazy Horse cuts Custer off from the north!!

A) Crazy Horse crosses the river at Medicine Tail Coulee:

I. Halfway down the village.

II. Leader at Calhoun Hill.

III. Most likely...NOT involved at Last Stand Hill!

53. Custer has reached the end of the ridge:

A) Turns left...Down the western slope.

B) Towards the river.

C) Meets STRONG resistance!

D) Turns and heads back up the ridge.

E) Short of the top...Halts...Plans to fight here:

I. Will await Keogh and Benteen!

II. Keogh is a mile away to the southeast, out of sight, being wiped out.

III. Benteen is trying to save the Reno position!

54. Deep Ravine:

A) No bodies will ever be found here!

B) No bones will ever be found here!

C) Lt. Charles Roe reburies bodies after the battle:

I. NO bodies here!

D) At the head of the ravine are 3 bodies.

55. Last Stand Hill:

A) Custer orders the horses shot to form a breastworks!

B) Indians hit them from the west and southwest.

C) Sgt. Robert Hughes plants the guidon.

D) Around Custer are:

I. Tom Custer.

II. Boston Custer.

III. Autie Reed.

E) Men are firing from behind the dead horses.

F) Smith's group...200 yards away...Wiped out!

I. Only a few, including Smith make it back to Custer.

G) A few Keogh survivors make it to the position.

H) Now...About 50 men left around Custer.

I) Sheer noise, bedlam, and chaos!!

- J) Screams of the wounded and dying.**
- K) Firing.**
- L) Yelling.**
- M) War cries.**
- N) Indians get closer.**
- O) Casualties mount.**
- P) Some men kill themselves knowing it's over!**
- Q) Indians will claim Lt. Harrington commits suicide with his own pistol.**
- R) Boyer and 10 men head downhill toward the river:**
- I. Make it 100 yards.**
 - II. All are killed.**
 - III. Autie Reed and Boston Custer are among these!**
- S) Down the hill from the knoll:**
- I. Sgt. Butler dies fighting bravely.**
- T) ½ mile from the knoll and 100 yards from the river:**
- I. Kellogg is killed.**
- U) Custer:**
- I. Hit in the *Left* upper chest.**
 - II. Drop his rifle.**
 - III. Pulls his pistol.**
 - IV. Hit in the *Left* Temple killing him instantly!**
- V) Short period of time...All over!!!**
- W) 4:45 – Afternoon – Over – 1 hour from contact!**
- I. All 210 men in Custer's command are dead or....**
 - (1) In the case of the wounded:**
 - a. Indian women dispose of them by crushing their heads with stone mallets!**

56. The Indians “count coup” on the Custer dead.

57. Indian women, kids, and the old swarm over the battlefield:

- A) Kill the wounded.**
- B) Strip the dead.**
- C) Scalp many.**
- D) Slash some.**
- E) Gouge out eyes, etc.**
- F) Sever limbs, etc.**
- G) Cut out organs, etc.**
- H) Crush skulls, etc.**
- I) Slash muscles, tendons, etc.**
- J) Sever heads etc.**

58. Going back – To the Reno defenders have heard the firing from 4 miles and 160 yards away:

- A) Weir, who HATES Reno, and vice-versa, asks Reno for permission to ride to look for Custer:**
 - I. Hate goes back to Ft. Abraham Lincoln before the campaign:**
 - (1) Reno had brought charges of insubordination against Weir!**
 - B) The 2 men exchange angry words!**
 - C) 4:50 – Afternoon - Weir and his orderly simply mount and head in the direction of the firing:**
 - I. Followed by Lt. Edgerly and “D” Company!**
 - II. Against Reno’s orders!**

- D) Ride about a mile – Dismount – Can see a
“commotion” on a ridge about 3 miles to the north!**
- E) Benteen has watched Weir ride off.**
- F) Benteen sends Lt. Hare and 3 Companies after
Weir:**
- I. They will reach Weir at 5:20 – Afternoon.**
- G) At Reno Hill – The men are no longer paying
attention to Reno:**
- I. They are doing what Benteen tells them!**
- H) 5:12 – Afternoon – Benteen starts after Weir and
Hare.**
- I) At Weir Point – Hare can see about 1,500 Indians
coming toward them!!**
- J) Reno and the wounded have started to move out
and follow!**
- K) Benteen reaches Weir:**
- I. Orders a dismount.**
- II. Orders a skirmish line.**
- III. Orders an orderly retreat back to Reno Hill!**
- IV. The Indians are within 700 yards of them!**
- L) Benteen and Reno meet – All start retreating:**
- I. McDougall asks Benteen to take command!**
- II. Benteen only smiles.**
- M) In the retreat...Farrier, Vincent Charley:**
- I. Wounded thru the hips.**
- II. Indians finish him off.**
- N) Godfrey organizes the rear-guard action to protect
the retreat!**

I. Has 30 men.

II. Slow orderly retreat under fire!

III. Hare comes out to help them.

IV. Make it back.

V. Followed by over 1,000 screaming warriors.

O) 6:00 – Evening – All are back on Reno Hill:

I. Only casualty...Vincent Charley.

II. By 7:00 – Evening – Last few stragglers are back.

P) Benteen starts organizing defense of the position:

I. He on one side...Reno on the other.

Q) Are completely surrounded:

I. Indians are sniping at them.

59. The Reno-Benteen Position:

A) Large saucer-like swale:

I. 2 low ridges...North and South.

II. Middle of the swale:

(1) Wounded...Protected by mules and packs.

(2) Tended to by Dr. Porter.

(3) Carcasses of dead horses and mules are used to build a barricade around Dr. Porter's makeshift hospital.

B) Men lie prone at 25 foot intervals on the south and east:

I. Why?...Very little cover!...No trees, no rocks!

II. Build a breastwork ofhardtack boxes, sacks of bacon, and bags of oats!

C) Sgt. DeWitt Winney...Shot in the stomach...Killed.

- D) Trumpeter, Julius Helmer...Same!**
- E) Sgt. Benjamin Criswell:**
- I. Volunteers...Goes down the hill...Gets ammunition from some saddlebags...Back up!**
- F) Corporal Charles Cunningham:**
- I. Shot thru the neck.**
 - II. Refuses to leave his position.**
 - III. Continues to fire.**
- G) Private Henry Holden:**
- I. Delivers ammunition to the firing line all afternoon...Under heavy fire!**
- H) Varnum, French, Weir, and Hare distinguish themselves.**
- I) Captain Moylan is a disgrace!!**
- I. Stays behind a mule pack all afternoon!**
- J) Lt. Frank Gibson...The same!!!**
- I. He's one of the youngest officers present.**
- K) Reno:**
- I. Makes a couple of rounds.**
 - II. Spends most of his time in the swale...Drinking!**
- L) Benteen...Excellent...Takes control...Constantly makes rounds of the line.**
- M) Warrior...Long Robe...Runs up to "count coup":**
- I. Shot and killed.**
- N) Indians creep in close...Charge...Repulsed...Over and over...Until sunset!**
- O) On the hill...In a 3 hour period...12 killed and 21 wounded!**

P) Reno orders pits dug.

Q) 9:00 – Night – Indians withdraw for the evening!

I. Leave a small force to hold the soldiers in place.

R) Benteen and Reno have 367 men to defend the position:

I. They still have no idea where Custer is!!!

S) Night – Herendeen leads 11 who have been hiding in the timber inside the position.

T) In the valley...The Indians celebrate all night.

U) Reno makes a proposal to Benteen:

I. They get out!

II. ABANDON the wounded who cannot ride!!

III. Benteen...NO!!!

60. Gibbon and Terry will spend the night camped below the mouth of the Little Bighorn River.

Monday – June 26, 1876

- 1. 2:30 – Morning – Indians resume attack on the Reno-Benteen position.**

- 2. 3:00 – Morning – Lt. DeRudio and Private Thomas O'Neill make it to the position:**
 - A) Have been hiding in the timber since the previous day.**

- 3. Start digging a mass grave for the dead in the Reno-Benteen position.**

- 4. Indian rifle fire from everywhere:**
 - A) Will go on all day.**
 - B) Day starts to get very hot.**

- 5. 9:30 – Morning – Indians start to close in:**
 - A) Benteen leads a counter-charge out against them:**
 - I. Goes out 100 yards.**
 - II. Corporal George Lell is shot in the stomach and killed.**
 - III. Packer, Frank Mann, is shot through the head and killed.**
 - IV. Indians retreat.**

- 6. 9:45 – Morning – Reno leads a charge out for 50 yards:**
 - A) Pushes the Indians back.**
 - B) 10:00 – Morning – He and men are back.**

7. During the day:

A) Lose some men killed and some wounded to the Indians.

8. Wounded need water badly:

A) 11:00 – Morning – 20 volunteers offer to go down to the river and get it!

B) 4 sharpshooters volunteer to go down and protect them!

C) Succeeded!

I. Only Sgt. Mike Madden is wounded in the leg:

(1) Has to be amputated the next day.

D) The 4 sharpshooters will later be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor:

I. 33 year old, Sgt. George Geiger.

II. Private Otto “Henry” Voit.

III. 25 year old, Private Charles Windolph.

IV. 24 year old, Blacksmith, Henry Mecklin.

9. 3:00 – Afternoon – Firing stops:

A) Indians start retreating toward their camp:

I. They know the Terry-Gibbon force is approaching from the north.

B) Set fire to the grass in the valley to cover their retreat.

10. 7:00 – Evening – All the Indians start leaving the valley.

- 11. 9:50 – Night – The Indians are all gone from the valley.**

- 12. Reno and Benteen have suffered another 7 killed and 41 wounded:**
 - A) So far...53 killed and 59 wounded.**
 - B) Reno...70% casualties in 24 hours!**

- 13. Night – Reno moves off the hill:**
 - A) Down toward the river.**
 - B) Buries dead.**

- 14. Before midnight – Frank Gerard and Billy Jackson come of hiding in the timber.**

- 15. Back...During the day...Terry has sent the Crow Scouts under Lt. James Bradley out to get Information:**
 - A) Meet 3 of the Crow Scouts who left Custer:**
 - I. Goes Ahead.**
 - II. White-Man-Runs-Him.**
 - III. Hairy Moccasin.**
 - B) Tell of Custer's fate!**
 - C) Bradley believes them to be exaggerating!**
 - D) Bradley will relate the information to Terry:**
 - I. Terry and most of the others refuse to believe it!**
 - E) Terry camps for the night.**

16. Back...11:00...Morning...Crow Scout, Curly...Reaches the steamer "Far West":

A) Thru sign language - Tells Tom LaForge of Custer's fate:

I. Says he watched the fight from 1 ½ miles away through field glasses.

Tuesday – June 27, 1876

- 1. Dawn – Terry and Gibbon are on the march.**

- 2. Gibbon's advance troop reaches the Little Bighorn River:**
 - A) See that a large Indian village has been here.**
 - B) Find 2 lodges surrounded by a ring of dead horses:**
 - I. Inside one...5 dead Sioux.**
 - II. In the other...3 dead Sioux.**
 - C) Start finding pieces of Cavalry equipment:**
 - I. Saddles.**
 - II. Clothing.**
 - III. Boots.**
 - D) Find the heads of 3 white men:**
 - I. Scalped.**
 - II. Burnt.**
 - III. Spitted on poles.**
 - E) Rest of the column arrives.**
 - F) Find Lt. Porter's buckskin jacket:**
 - I. Bloody hole under the right shoulder.**
 - G) Find Yates' gloves.**
 - H) Find the blood soaked underwear of Lt. Sturgis.**

- 3. Start finding the bodies of Reno's men killed in the valley:**
 - A) Mutilated...Covered with swarms of flies.**

- 4. On the other side of the river:**

A) On the bluffs...Over a mile away...Spot Reno's men.

5. Bradley returns from scouting the east side of the Little Bighorn...Rides to Terry:

A) "I have counted 197 bodies lying in the hills."

B) Shock and disbelief!

6. 11:00 – Morning – Terry reaches the Reno-Benteen position:

A) Informs them of Custer's fate!

7. The body of Arikara Scout, Bloody Knife is found in the timber.

8. Bradley takes Benteen, Weir, DeRudio, and Nowlan to the Custer site.

9. The bodies:

A) Scattered over 10 acres of ground.

B) Have been out in the heat for 3 days:

I. HARD to identify:

(1) Bloated.

(2) Black.

(3) Stink.

C) Stripped:

I. Occasionally a sock, or socks, or underwear is still on.

D) Most: "Coup de Grace":

- I. Stone clubs.**
- II. Knives.**
- III. Tomahawks.**
- IV. Shot in the head(With their own weapons).**
- E) Most...Thigh or thighs slashed open:**
 - I. Plains Indian custom of “marking” your enemy.**
 - II. Plains Indian way of counting coup.**
- F) Most...Mutilated by the Indian women, young, and old:**
 - I. Scalped:**
 - (1) Some with short hair...No(Haircuts before the start of the expedition).**
 - II. Heads cut off.**
 - III. Fingers cut off.**
 - IV. Hands cut off.**
 - V. Feet cut off.**
 - VI. Arms cut off.**
 - VII. Legs cut off.**
 - VIII. Noses cut off.**
 - IX. Ears cut off.**
 - X. Eyes gouged out.**
 - XI. Genitals cut off.**
 - XII. Heads crushed.**
 - XIII. Full of arrows.**
 - XIV. Arms and legs slashed.**
 - XV. Disemboweled.**
 - XVI. Organs removed.**

10. 1st body they come to:

- A) Not far from the river.**
- B) Calhoun's 1st Sgt. – James Butler.**

11. South end of the ridge...Find Company "L":

- A) Calhoun and Crittenden are only 25 feet from each other.**
- B) Calhoun:**
 - I. Scalped.**
 - II. Not badly mutilated.**
- C) Crittenden:**
 - I. Shot full of arrows...One into his glass eye.**

12. North of "L" Company – East side of the ridge – Myles Keogh and Company "I":

- A) Keogh's body is surrounded by 17 of his troopers.**
- B) Trumpeter, John Patton is laying across Keogh's chest.**
- C) Keogh:**
 - I. Naked except for his socks.**
 - II. Not mutilated.**
 - III. Was wounded...Broken leg is evident.**
- D) Indians will later tell of Keogh being very brave.**

13. Find corpses leading to the north end of the ridge.

14. Reach Last Stand Hill at the north end of the ridge:

- A) Custer will be identified by Benteen.**

B) Custer:

I. Naked.

II. Half sitting, half leaning position.

III. 2 soldiers underneath him.

IV. Bullet hole in left upper chest is bloody.

V. Bullet hole in left temple...Exited on right side...Is NOT bloody:

(1) Fatal shot?...OR...Coup de Grace??

VI. Right thigh slashed.

VII. NOT scalped.

VIII. Arrow stuck in his penis.

IX. Eardrums punctured:

(1) "To hear the Indians better in the next life."

C) Around Custer...42 men(Most from "F" Company) and 39 horses...Among the men are:

I. Tom Custer.

II. Algernon Smith.

III. George Yates.

IV. William Cooke.

V. Sgt. Robert Hughes.

VI. Trumpeter, Henry Voss.

VII. Sgt. Major William Sharrow.

VIII. Hospital Orderly John Callahan.

V. William Riley(At the base of the hill):

(1) Shot full of arrows.

D) 20 feet southeast of Custer...Dr. George Lord.

E) William Cooke:

- I. Beard, one sideburn, most of face torn off to try and scalp his beard.**
- F) 125 yards down the hill toward the river...Boston Custer and Harry "Autie" Reed.**
- G) 20 feet southeast of Custer is Tom Custer...One of the worst mutilated bodies on the field!!**
 - I. Face down.**
 - II. Throat cut so badly his head is nearly severed.**
 - III. Head smashed flat.**
 - IV. All hair except on the back of his neck scalped.**
 - V. Eyes gouged out.**
 - VI. Tongue ripped out.**
 - VI. Belly slashed open...Guts falling out.**
 - VII. Genitals hacked off.**
 - VII. Head and body full of arrows.**
 - (1) Identified by "T.W.C." tattoo on his arm.**
- H) Indians claim Rain-In-The-Face has cut out his heart and eats part of it!**
- I) $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from Custer...Near the river...Kellogg:**
 - I. Scalped.**
 - II. One ear missing.**
- J) Body of Sturgis...Never identified:**
 - I. His head has been found in the village.**
- K) Body of Porter is never identified.**
- L) Body of Harrington is never identified.**

15. Afternoon – Spent burying bodies of Reno's men killed in the valley.

- 16. One of those found, badly mutilated, and buried is Isiah Dorman.**
- 17. Only 26% of the bodies on the entire battlefield will be positively identified.**
- 18. 14 bodies, and some remains, are never found.**
- 19. There is not a single Indian body left on the battlefield:**
 - A) 11 Indian bodies are found in the abandoned village in burial lodges.**
 - B) The Indians will claim they lose only 55 killed.**
- 20. On the Custer Battlefield are found 70 dead horses and many more BADLY wounded:**
 - A) The badly wounded are shot!**
- 21. 2 wounded horses have been found on the Custer Battlefield:**
 - A) A Gray: "Nap."**
 - B) Keogh's horse - "Comanche":**
 - I. 8 wounds: Neck - Groin - Shoulder - Hindquarter.**
 - II. A "vet" will remove bullets and arrowheads.**
 - III. Will be taken to the steamer, "Far West."**
 - IV. Placed in the care of trooper, Private Gustave Korn.**
 - V. Spends a year in a sling.**

VI. 1878 – Declared “fit for duty.”

VII. Made Honorary 2nd Commanding Officer of the 7th Cavalry.

VIII. November 3, 1893 – Fort Riley, Kansas – At age 27 – Dies.

IX. Today – Stuffed – University of Kansas.

22. The evening of the 27th – Reno and Benteen’s wounded are brought down off the bluffs.

23. Meanwhile...The Indians that have left the valley:

A) Will split up.

B) Hunkpapas of Sitting Bull, Gall, and Crow King – and some Minneconjou and Sans Arc:

I. Go east and north.

C) Crazy Horse, the Ogalalas, and some others:

I. Go northeast, then south, towards the Black Hills.

Wednesday and Thursday – June 28 & 29, 1876

1. Burial of the Custer bodies:

A) Difficult due to a lack of tools and the loose soil!

2. Mostly...Dirt is just tossed over the bodies.

3. 204 will be buried!

A) Is NOT all of them:

I. Ever since, and still today...Bodies or remains are found!

4. An 18 inch deep grave is dug for George and Tom Custer:

A) Wrapped in canvas and blankets.

B) Buried side by side...Same grave...Stones on top.

5. Where officers are found, identified, and “buried”:

A) Empty cartridge shell:

I. Name written on paper.

II. Paper placed in empty cartridge.

III. Cartridge hammered into a piece of wood.

IV. Wood driven into ground at grave.

B) To identify remains later.

6. Halfway to the river – Western slope of the ridge – Bodies of 28 dead troopers are found:

A) Smith’s Company “E”.

B) Most have been shot in the side or back of the head.

C) Buried where found.

7. Between Last Stand Hill and the river:

A) Kellogg's body is found on the 29th and buried:

I. Last body buried.

8. Evening of the June 28th – 2 of Terry's Scouts reach the steamer "Far West":

A) Verify Custer's fate!

9. Gibbon's officers start inquiring about Reno's conduct:

A) A lot of information is given to them:

I. ALL very severe and critical!

II. Many call him a coward!

10. June 29th – Sunset – The march toward the mouth of the Little Bighorn River starts:

A) To get the wounded to the "Far West."

B) For Terry to await reinforcements.

C) 21 men have to be taken in litters:

I. The rest of the wounded are on horseback.

Friday – June 30, 1876

1. Early morning – “Far West” is spotted:

- A) 43 wounded are loaded on board.**
- B) To be taken to Fort Abraham Lincoln.**
- C) 2 of the wounded die on the way.**

2. Terry to Captain Marsh of the “Far West”:

- A) “Every soldier here who is suffering with wounds is the victim of a terrible blunder. A sad and terrible blunder!”**

3. A look at the battle:

- A) Custer...647 men.**
- B) Faces 20 major War Chiefs and Leaders, AND 180 Minor War Chiefs and Leaders.**
- C) 53 men die with Reno.**
- D) 210 men die with Custer.**
- E) Total dead.....263.**
- F) Total wounded.....59.**
- G) 25 of the 263 men, bodies not found, listed as “missing in action.”**
- H) Custer’s column has fired 1,500 rounds.**
- I) 319 horses and mules have been killed.**
- J) One is given the idea 261 men are buried on Battlefield:**
 - I. NOT SO!**
- K) Factors that have played a role in the outcome:**
 - I. Division of the force.**

II. Underestimating the Indian force.

III. Underestimating the Indian leadership.

IV. Underestimating the Indian fighting capacity.

V. MANY soldiers had whiskey in canteens:

(1) Many drunk.

(2) Many had been drinking.

L) The old “defective cartridge extraction” excuse is just not true:

I. Was NOT widespread!

II. Very FEW!

M) Questions:

I. Why does Custer divide the force into 4 factions?

II. Why did Custer disobey Terry(Not scouting Tullock’s Creek, Etc.)?

III. Did Custer use sound judgment?

IV. Could Reno have supported Custer?

July 2, 1876

1. Terry telegraphs Sheridan:

A) Points out Custer's negligence and insubordination:

- I. Tries to point out that a different plan had been agreed upon!**
- II. Points out that it was supposed to be a coordinated attack with Gibbon.**
- III. Points out that Custer deviated from the agreed upon route.**
- IV. Points out that Custer did not scout Tullock's Creek...as ordered!**

2. The process of assigning and evading blame for the disaster has started!

July 4, 1876

1. Reno sends a letter to Sheridan:

- A) Critical of Custer's hard march.**
- B) Critical of Custer's not respecting the Indian numbers.**
- C) Critical of Custer's lack of a firm plan.**
- D) Critical of Custer's haste in attacking.**
- E) Accuses Gibbon of "being scared."**

July 5, 1876

1. 11:00 – Morning – "Far West" docks at Bismarck:

- A) Have covered 710 miles in 54 hours!**

July 6, 1876

1. Fort Abraham Lincoln:

- A) 6:50 – Morning.**
- B) Custer household is informed of disaster!!!**
 - I. By Captain McCaskey.**
 - II. Libby, Maggie Calhoun, and Emma Reed:**
 - (1) Maggie has lost 3 brothers, a nephew, and a husband!**
- C) Libby helps tell the other widows.**
- D) Libby will help take care of the wounded when they arrive at the Fort:**
 - I. She becomes very depressed.**
 - II. There is no provision for the widow of a U.S. Officer:**
 - (1) She has to vacate her quarters at the Fort.**

Right After the Battle & A Look at Facts

1. President U.S. Grant...Blames Custer:

A) Custer becomes the scapegoat:

- I. Is considered to have been brave...BUT...Foolish!**
- II. Is said he attacks a day early!**
- III. Said...Supposed to have waited for Gibbon!**

2. Some facts:

A) The EXACT location of the Indian village was unknown!

- I. THIS fact makes a coordinated attack by 2 different columns most unlikely!**

B) The plan WAS for Custer to find and attack the Indians!

C) Custer's march was NOT severe...UNTIL, the last night and morning!

D) The column had been discovered!

- I. Result...No choice but to attack.**

E) Gibbon failed to keep tabs on the village after it was discovered by Bradley and the Scouts...TWICE!

3. Custer's mistakes:

A) The early division of his force.

B) The division into 4 columns.

C) The division before knowing the Indian numbers.

D) The division before knowing the Indian location.

****NOTE: He will NEVER be accused of any of these!!!**

July 7, 1876

1. Cavalry unit fights a Cheyenne war party:

A) Cheyenne leader...White Antelope...Killed.

July 17, 1876

1. Battle of War Bonnet Creek:

A) General Wesley Merritt vs. Band of Cheyenne.

B) One warrior is killed.

**C) Chief Yellow Hand is killed in hand-to-hand combat
by:**

I. Scout, William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody!

D) Band is forced back to the reservation.

2. The Indians are being slowly driven eastward.

July 30, 1876

1. Libby Custer:

A) Bismarck:

I. She, Maggie, and Emma board a train.

II. Head east.

August 1, 1876

1. Near Fort Laramie, Wyoming – 30 Indians attack a freight wagon train:

A) Fight...All day and night!

I. 1 freighter is killed.

August 1, 1876 thru August 22, 1876 – Reno

1. Reno drinks HEAVILY:

A) Goes through 11 gallons of whiskey!

B) Starts becoming a very sarcastic drunk!

C) Is disliked by almost all of the 7th Cavalry Officers!

2. His official report:

A) ONLY officer, besides himself, he commends is Benteen!

3. Is assigned to Fort Abercrombie...220 miles northeast of the Dakota-Minnesota border...It is small and drab:

A) He tries to force his attentions on a married woman:

I. Her husband presses charges against him!

(1) Conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman.

August 4, 1876

1. The Libby Custer entourage:

A) Reach Monroe, Michigan.

B) She will start “clearing her husband’s name”:

I. Will be her life’s work!

C) She decides to place the blame where she thinks it belongs.....Reno & Benteen!

August 1876

1. Benteen starts drinking heavily.

2. One day...He and other officers are drinking:

A) Thomas Weir makes a comment about Reno, Custer, and the Battle:

I. Benteen calls him a “damned liar!”

II. Challenges Weir to a duel.

III. Weir declines.

3. Weir has become an alcoholic:

A) His health starts to deteriorate.

B) Sent back to Fort Abraham Lincoln:

I. Will arrive there on September 26, 1876 at noon.

C) Later...Sent to New York to recruit.

August 8, 1876

1. Terry’s column moves up the Rosebud River.

August 10, 1876

1. Terry meets up with Crook's Wyoming Column:

- A) Now number 3,800 men.**
- B) Head after Indians.**

End of August 1876

1. Without telling Terry...Crook takes his men and goes after Indians on their own:

A) March is a NIGHTMARE:

I. Becomes famous as "The Starvation March"!!

- (1) Men are forced to shoot and eat many of the horses.**

September 5, 1876

1. Terry orders columns back to respective posts.

2. Benteen...To New York to recruit.

3. Reno...Back to Fort Abraham Lincoln.

4. Weir...To Fort Buford.

September 9, 1876 – The Battle of Slim Buttes

**1. September 8, 1876 – 155 men of the 3rd Cavalry –
Under Captain Anson Mills:**

A) Northwest corner of South Dakota.

B) Discover an Indian camp of 40 lodges:

I. Ogalala Sioux.

II. Brule Sioux.

III. Minneconjou Sioux.

**C) Under Chief American Horse (“Iron Shield”) of the
Minneconjou.**

2. September 9, 1876 – Dawn – Cavalry attacks:

A) Take the village quickly.

B) Crazy Horse and 100’s of warriors arrive.

C) Crook arrives at midmorning.

D) Warriors retreat.

**E) American Horse, 4 warriors, along with 15 women
and children take refuge in a cave:**

I. Refuse to surrender.

II. Soldiers attack.

**III. 2 soldiers are killed and one wounded so badly
his leg has to be amputated.**

IV. Soldiers fire into the cave all day.

**V. Some of the women and children come out and
surrender.**

VI. Firing continues.

**VII. Finally...Warriors come out carrying American
Horse:**

(1) Wounded badly in the stomach...Intestines are hanging out!

(2) He dies in a short time.

(3) Dead in the cave are 2 warriors, 1 woman, and 1 child.

F) In the village are found:

I. 3 – 7th Cavalry horses – From Custer's men!

II. Several – 7th Cavalry saddles – From Custer's men!

III. Money – Custer's men!

IV. Guidon – Company "I" – Custer's!

V. One of Keogh's gloves.

3. September 10, 1876 – Crook heads south...AWAY from the Indians!

A) Will reach Custer City in the Black Hills.

September 26, 1876

1. Fort Abraham Lincoln – Evening:

A) Officer's Club:

I. Lot of drinking.

II. Reno gets drunk:

(1) Takes offense to comments.

(2) Challenges Varnum to a duel.

III. The disagreement is "smoothed out."

October 1876

1. 37 year old, Colonel Nelson Miles:

A) Is given the job of ending the war.

2. October 17, 1876 – Sitting Bull's warriors attack Miles' camp.

3. October 18, 1876 – Sitting Bull's warriors attack Miles' supply train.

4. October 21, 1876 – Chief Long Feather and his followers surrender to Miles.

5. October 22, 1876 – Talks between Miles, Sitting Bull, and White Bull:

A) Results...NOTHING!

6. October 23, 1876 – 2nd meeting:

A) Sitting Bull: "Almighty God made me an Indian, but not an Agency Indian!"

I. 15 minutes later...Meeting ends!

B) Firing breaks out!

C) Soldiers charge!

D) Indians flee!

November 1876

1. Winter is coming on:

A) Many Indians start coming into the Reservations and Agencies:

I. Several hundred lodges of Minneconjou and Sans Arc surrender.

2. Fort Buford – Gall, Crow King, and their followers surrender:

A) Between 1876 and 1881...8,000 Indians surrender!

3. November 25, 1876 – The Battle of Crazy Woman Fork – Powder River Valley:

A) Colonel Ranald MacKenzie and 1,125 men.

B) Surprise the Cheyenne camp of:

I. Yellow Nose.

II. Dull Knife.

III. Little Wolf.

C) Pre-dawn – Charge by Frank North, Luther North, and the Pawnee Scouts.

D) Most of the Indians escape in the snow.

E) 9 warriors killed...Protecting escape of women and children.

**F) Little Wolf and Dull Knife occupy some high ground:
I. Fire down into the soldiers.**

G) Yellow Nose is shot thru the chest and killed.

H) Indians get away.

I) MacKenzie destroys the village:

I. Burns 175 lodges.

II. Shoots 150 horses.

J) Soldiers have lost 6 killed and 26 wounded.

K) Indians have lost 40 killed.

L) That night...Indians:

I. 12 Indian babies, several old and sick...Freeze to death!

Enter.....Frederick Whittaker.....Writer

- 1. Works for Sheldon and Company.**
- 2. Announces he is going to write a biography of Custer!**
- 3. Meets with Libby Custer:**
 - A) She agrees to assist him.**
- 4. Reno writes to him defending HIS actions.**
- 5. Weir talks to him:**
 - A) Relates his altercation with Reno on the bluffs!**
 - B) Gives him the names of Edgerly and Varnum to verify the story!**
- 6. December 9, 1876 – New York – At age 38 – Captain Thomas Weir dies:**
 - A) Alcoholism and Depression!**
 - B) Buried in New York.**
- 7. December 9, 1876 – Whittaker's book is published:**
 - A) "A Complete Life of General George A. Custer":**
 - I. Massive...648 pages.**
 - II. Has illustrations.**
 - III. Price is \$4.25!!!!**
 - B) Based on a LOT of "information" furnished by Libby, Weir, and others:**
 - I. Rips...Grant!**

II. Rips...Reno!

III. Rips...Benteen!

C) Accuses Benteen of disobedience!

D) Accuses Reno of cowardice!

E) Accuses Grant of mean spirited pettiness!

F) Claims that as a result of all these...Custer and men are killed!

8. Whittaker calls for a court of inquiry:

A) Lobbies Congress for an investigation!

January 1877

- 1. January 1, 1877 – Miles and 350 men fight Crazy Horse's warriors.**
- 2. January 3, 1877 – Along the Tongue River – Miles fights Crazy Horse for a second time.**
- 3. January 5, 1877 – The two forces fight a 3rd time.**
- 4. January 7, 1877 – The two forces fight a 4th time:
A) Chief Big Crow is killed.**
- 5. January 8, 1877 – Battle of Wolf Mountain – 5th battle between the two forces:
A) Crazy Horse attacks Miles' camp.
B) 5 hours of fighting.
C) Noon – Soldiers charge:
I. Indians retreat.
D) Soldiers have lost 3 killed and 6 wounded.**
- 6. Mid-January 1877 – Sitting Bull finds Crazy Horse:
A) Stay together for 2 weeks on the Tongue River.
B) Split up:
I. Sitting Bull heads north.
II. Crazy Horse goes west towards the Little Bighorn Valley.**

February, March, and April 1877

- 1. Cheyenne Chief, White Bull and his followers surrender.**
- 2. Cheyenne Chief, Brave Wolf and his followers surrender.**
- 3. Sioux Chief, Hump and his followers surrender.**
- 4. February 25, 1877 – Cheyenne Agency in the Dakota Territory:**
 - A) 229 lodges of Cheyenne and Sioux that have surrendered.**
- 5. March 8, 1877 – Reno court-martial:**
 - A) For actions at Fort Abercrombie.**
 - B) Guilty!**
 - C) Is to be dismissed from the Army.**
 - D) President Rutherford Hayes intercedes:**
 - I. Commutes the sentence to a suspension from rank and pay for 2 years.**
- 6. April 22, 1877 – Cheyenne Chiefs, Two Moons and Little Wolf, along with their 300 followers surrender.**

May 1877

1. May 6, 1877 – Fort Robinson, Nebraska:

A) Crazy Horse and 942 Ogalala followers surrender.

B) Turn over 12,000 ponies and 117 firearms.

C) Jealous Indian leaders, including Red Cloud's nephew, start rumors:

I. Crazy Horse is planning to leave the Agency.

II. Crazy Horse is planning to kill Crook.

D) Whites become suspicious:

I. Lt. Luther Bradley wants to arrest him.

II. They discuss sending him to the prison at Fort Jefferson in the dry Tortugas off Key West, Florida.

2. May 7, 1877 – Sitting Bull and 700 hungry followers flee into Canada:

A) Will stay until 1881:

I. Starvation will force them back.

B) Food is scarce.

C) American patrols along the border of Montana prevent them from coming into the U.S. to hunt buffalo!

3. May 7, 1877 – The Battle of Lame Deer(Muddy Creek):

A) Minneconjou camp of 40 lodges, 300 people, under Chief Lame Deer.

B) Miles discovers the village.

C) Charge starts 1 mile from village.

D) Massive gunfire and confusion.

E) Lame Deer starts waving a white cloth.

F) Shooting stops.

G) Miles and 8 soldiers ride up to Lame Deer and 4 warriors to talk:

I. Talk.

II. Soldiers attempt to take a rifle from one of the warriors.

III. Lame Deer grabs the rifle...Fires at Miles.

IV. Misses...Kills Miles' aide!

V. Everyone fires!

VI. A Sgt. Is killed.

VII. 2 warriors are killed.

VIII. Lame Deer is riddled with 17 bullets and killed!

IX. Last warrior...Young boy...Falls wounded...A

Soldier rides up...Shoots him thru the head killing him!

H) 9:00 – Morning – Over:

I. 14 Indians are dead.

II. 4 Soldiers killed and 7 wounded.

4. Spring 1877:

A) Indians start coming in to the Reservations to get food to survive!

B) The brutal Canadian winter has taken a toll on Sitting Bull's followers.

C) Hump comes back to the U.S. and surrenders.

5. Spring – 1877 – Libby Custer:

A) Moves to New Jersey, then to New York.

B) Has little money...Why?...Her dead husband's debts!

C) Gets a \$30 per month pension.

D) Part time job as a secretary for a women's organization.

June, July, and August 1877

- 1. 7th Cavalry unit under Captain Mike Sheridan...Guided by George Herendeen:**
 - A) Return to the Little Bighorn Battlefield on June 25th:**
 - I. To re-bury the remains.**
 - II. Recover remains of Officers.**
 - B) Bones are scattered everywhere.**
 - C) Process of gathering, identifying, and burying is very difficult.**

- 2. July 3, 1877 – Remains/Bodies are buried:**
 - A) Crittenden...Buried.**
 - B) Sturgis...Buried.**
 - C) Porter...Buried.**
 - D) Harrington...Buried.**
 - E) Lord...Buried.**
 - F) Reynolds...Buried.**
 - G) Boyer...Buried.**
 - H) Dorman...Buried.**
 - I) 13 are removed at the request of relatives for burial at other places:**
 - I. George Custer...As per Libby...West Point...Oct. 10, 1877.**
 - II. Tom Custer...Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery...Kansas.**
 - III. Boston Custer...Monroe, Michigan.**
 - IV. Harry Reed...Monroe, Michigan.**

V. James Calhoun...Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery...Kansas.

VI. Algernon Smith...Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery...Kansas.

VII. George Yates...Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery...Kansas.

VIII. William Cooke...Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

IX. Myles Keogh...Auburn, New York.

X. Riley – DeWolf – McIntosh – Hodgson.

3. August 1877 – The Cheyenne who have surrendered arrive in the Indian Territory:

A) Reservations have been laid out for them.

B) Not used to the climate.

C) Homesick.

D) Not fed properly by the Government...As promised!

E) Winter...Die by the dozens!

F) Winter...Starve!

September 1877

1. September 4, 1877 – Crazy Horse's wife is VERY sick:

A) He, his wife, and some warriors leave Ft. Robinson without permission:

I. Head for the Spotted Tail Agency.

II. To get medical aid for his very sick wife.

B) Followed by Indian Police:

I. Arrested – Told he can present his case.

II. Brought back.

C) Officers confer all night...ARE going to send him to Florida to prison!

2. September 5, 1877 – Crazy Horse:

A) Escorted into Ft. Robinson by some followers and several hundred unfriendly Indians led by Spotted Tail.

B) Lt. Luther Bradley refuses to let him present his case...As promised!

C) Told he is to be confined.

D) Voluntarily goes.

E) Out on the parade ground surrounded by a squad of soldiers.

F) Head for guardhouse next door.

G) At door he realizes he is to be placed in irons.

H) Draws a hidden knife.

I) Breaks free...Steps outside...Slashes one of his Indian guards, Little Big Man.

J) Rushed from all sides.

K) Arms grabbed.

L) Officer yells: "Kill him, kill him!"

M) Private William Gentles bayonets him in the back near his left kidney.

N) Taken into the Adjutant's Office/Store.

O) Placed on a counter top.

P) Is dying.

Q) Doctor gives him morphine.

R) Hours...In and out of consciousness.

S) Comforted by his father Touch-The-Clouds.

T) Near midnight...Dies!

3. September 6, 1877 – Near Wounded Knee Creek:

A) Crazy Horse is secretly buried by his parents.

4. September 7, 1877 – Oklahoma – Cheyenne Reservation:

A) Dull Knife, Little Wolf, and 300 followers flee!!!

B) Want to return to their homeland.

C) Only 70 of the 300 are warriors.

D) Pursued by the Cavalry from all directions.

E) 4 battles will be fought.

F) In all 4 the soldiers are defeated!

G) In these the Indians lose 6 killed.

H) Make it to Nebraska.

I) Dispute between Dull Knife and Little Wolf:

I. Tribe splits.

II. Go different ways.

First Half of 1878

1. February 1878...To date...The War has cost the U.S. \$992,807.78!!!!

2. Reno goes to Washington, D.C.:

A) To clear his name in regards to the Battle of the Little Bighorn:

I. He officially requests a Military Court of Inquiry:

(1) Is NOT a court-martial!

(2) Like a Grand Jury.

(3) Is an investigative body.

(4) Decide if evidence presented warrants further action.

B) In Reno's case...Will be no "further action"...Why?

I. 2 year statute of limitations is up!

C) June 25, 1878 – Sherman approves Reno's request for the Court of Inquiry:

I. Secretary of War agrees.

II. Will be held in Chicago, Illinois.

September and October 1878

- 1. September 28, 1878 – Colonel William Lewis and 250 men attack the Cheyenne:**
 - A) Forced to retreat by the Indians!**
 - B) Colonel Lewis is killed.**

- 2. September 30, 1878 – Sappa Creek, Kansas:**
 - A) Cheyenne attack.**
 - B) Kill 18!**
 - C) So far:**
 - I. Cheyenne have killed 40.**
 - II. Cheyenne have suffered 10 warriors killed.**

- 3. October 23, 1878 – Near Fort Robinson, Nebraska:**
 - A) Dull Knife and followers surrender:**
 - I. For 2 months...Are kept in the barracks.**
 - II. refuse to go back to the Indian Territory!**

January 1879 – Indians

1. January 3, 1879 – Fort Robinson – Commander, Captain Henry Wessels Jr. – Given orders:

- A) MAKE the Cheyenne return to the Indian Territory!**
- B) He tries to get the women and children to leave the barracks!**
- C) They refuse.**
- D) For 1 week he cuts off all food, water, and fuel for fires!**
- E) Still...The 149 Indians will not give in!**

2. January 9, 1879 – Night – BITTERLY cold:

- A) Cheyenne decide to make a break!**
- B) Better to be killed in a bid for freedom!**
- C) 9:50 – Night – Kill 3 guards – Break out through the windows and door!**
- D) Cavalry chases...Shooting at ANY of them!**
- E) Half of the women and children are killed:**
 - I. 5 women and babies in one spot!**
 - II. Total of 30 are killed and 35 wounded.**
- F) 38 get away...Are chased.**

3. January 21, 1879 – Hat Creek – 45 miles west of Fort Robinson:

- A) 32 of the Cheyenne are left alive.**
- B) Soldiers charge.**
- C) Indian ammunition runs out.**
- D) 3 warriors:**

I. Charge 300 soldiers with a knife and an empty pistol.

II. All 3 are killed.

E) 18 Indian men are killed.

F) 8 women and children are killed.

G) 5 out of the remaining women and children are wounded.

January 1879 – The Reno Military Court of Inquiry

1. Two packers on the Custer Expedition, Frett and Churchill, have brought charges against Reno:

- A) NOT going to Custer's aid!**
- B) Drunkenness!**

2. January 13, 1879 – Chicago, Illinois:

A) Starts.

B) 23 total witnesses will testify for Reno.

C) George Wallace:

I. Supports Reno!!??

II. Why?...Is it the "honor" of the regiment?

D) Charles Varnum:

I. Will not be critical of ANYONE!

II. Admits he saw Custer on the bluffs when Reno's charge on the village started!!

E) Dr. Henry Porter:

I. Only "hints" that Reno "lost it."

F) Captain Myles Moylan:

I. Supports Reno.

G) George Herendeen:

I. Says Reno COULD have held the timber!

H) Luther Hare:

I. Will not be directly critical of Reno.

II. States the retreat from the timber was not the least organized!

I) Benteen – 1 ½ days of testimony:

I. Is indirectly critical of Custer.

II. Is NOT critical of Reno.

III. Makes it clear HE was the most level headed commander in the entire battle!!!

IV. He will contradict his own official report.

V. He will contradict letters he wrote to his wife days after the battle.

VI. He will lie!

VII. He is sarcastic!

VIII. He tries to be "witty."

IX. The audience LOVES him!

X. He is forced to admit he disobeyed written orders from Custer to aid him by stopping at Reno's position!

J) Edgerly:

I. Mildly damaging to Reno.

K) Godfrey:

I. Mildly damaging to Reno.

L) 2nd Lt. Edward Mathey(French – Civil War –

Nickname: "Bible Thumper"...Why?...He loves to use profanity – Will later retire as a Colonel):

I. Mildly damaging to Reno.

M) Packers...Frett & Churchill:

I. Reno was drunk!

N) Friday – February 7th – Reno:

I. Claims he never hears Custer gunfire!!! LIE!!!

II. Claims nobody brought the gunfire to his attention!!! LIE!!!

III. Claims he never took a drink until after the firing had ceased at midnight!!! LIE!!!

O) Saturday – February 8th – Afternoon – Ends!

P) ONLY conclusive fact...Reno drank too much!

Q) During the entire inquiry – Nightly:

I. Reno has entertained in his hotel suite!

II. Champagne, whiskey, cigars, and women!

III. For who?...The 7th Officers testifying!!!!

(1) Later – DeRudio admits that the Officers agreed to commit collusion to support Reno!

a. Why?...The entertainment AND not to dishonor the regiment!

b. Why?...Some are not proud of their own actions during the battle.

c. Why?...Some are guilty of cowardice, disobedience, incompetence, or insubordination during the battle!

d. Why?...Like Benteen, taking his time with the Pack Train!

e. Why?...Like Edgerly, abandoning a wounded trooper during the retreat from Weir Point!

f. Why?...Like Gibson, hiding from duty on the hill!

g. Why?...Like DeRudio, hiding in the timber!

h. Why?...Like Weir and others, heading north without permission!

i. Why?...Reno, not organizing a retreat from the timber and leaving his wounded in the valley.

R) All of these men, and others...Want to avoid any blame!!

I. They refuse to brand Reno as a coward!

S) March 6, 1879.....NOT GUILTY!!!

Rest of 1879, 1880, and 1881

- 1. March 27, 1879 – Southeastern tip of Montana – Little Missouri River:
A) Cheyenne Chief, Little Wolf:
I. Surrenders his 112 followers.
II. Settle on the Pine Ridge Reservation.**
- 2. April 1879 – More of the Custer remains and bones are reburied:
A) Animal bones are removed from the field.**
- 3. Minnesota...1879...Inkpaduta...Dies:
A) ONLY major Sioux Chief NEVER to make peace, surrender, or be captured!**
- 4. 1879 – Battlefield – Designated a National Cemetery.**
- 5. 1880 – Bands of Black Moon, Little Knife, Spotted Eagle, Rain-In-The-Face, and Big Road – Come back to the U.S. and surrender!**
- 6. Early 1881 – Bands of Crow King, Gall, and Low Dog – Come back to the U.S. and surrender.**
- 7. July 1881 – Custer Battlefield remains are buried in a mass grave under a 10 foot wide granite memorial.**
- 8. July 19, 1881 – Sitting Bull:**

A) Leads 43 starving families into Fort Buford, Dakota Territory:

I. 45 men – 67 women – 73 children.....185 total.

B) Next day...July 20th ...Officially surrenders:

I. Says: "This soil I am walking on is always mine. I never sold it or gave it to anybody."

To Finish

- 1. April 1, 1880 – Reno is dismissed from the service with a dishonorable discharge:**
 - A) Uncontrollable drinking!**
 - B) Charges of drunkenness and dishonorable behavior!**
 - C) Caught peeping in the window of Colonel Sturgis' quarters one night!**
 - D) Court-martialed.....Guilty!**
 - E) Gets a job with the War Department's Record and Pensions Office in Washington, D.C.!**
 - F) Marries a Navy widow:**
 - I. 1887 – Divorce.**
 - G) Attempts suicide.**
 - H) Gets cancer of the tongue from his constant smoking:**
 - I. March 1889 – Providence Hospital - Growth is removed from his tongue.**
 - II. 9 days later...Pneumonia.**
 - III. Morning – March 30, 1889 – At age 57 - Dies.**
 - IV. Buried – Unmarked grave – Washington, D.C.!**
 - V. Years later – Reburied – Custer National Cemetery.**

- 2. March 27, 1882:**
 - A) Thomas French – At age 39 dies:**
 - I. Alcoholism.**
 - II. Buried – Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery – Kansas.**

3. May 10, 1883:

A) Sitting Bull – Living in the southern area of the Standing Rock Agency on Grand River:

I. Refuses to convert to Christianity!

(1) “I would rather die an Indian, than live a white man!”

II. Agent, James McLaughlin, doesn’t like him!

(1) He will constantly spread rumors of Sitting Bull being dangerous.

B) 1885 – Tours with Buffalo Bill Cody’s Wild West Show for 4 months:

I. He likes Cody because he pays him well and treats him with respect.

4. Muggins Taylor – Scout:

A) Marries Mitch Boyer’s widow:

I. raises the children as his own.

5. 1883 – Dull Knife dies:

A) Buried in southern Montana overlooking the Rosebud River.

6. 1884 – Granite monument is placed over the mass Custer grave:

A) 4 miles north of the battle site...East side of the Little Bighorn River:

I. Harrington’s skeleton is found.

7. 1885 – More bones are found and buried in the mass Custer grave.

8. 1886 – 249 markers are placed on the battlefield to note where men fell:

A) More markers than men killed.

9. July 1888 – Benteen retires from the Army on a medical discharge:

A) 1883 – Has become a Major in the 9th Cavalry!

B) Becomes a HEAVY drinker.

C) Health fails.

D) January 1887 – Court-Martialed:

I. 6 counts of drunkenness.

II. 1 count of conduct unbecoming an officer.

E) Guilty...1 year suspension at half pay!

F) 1892 – Brevet Brig. General.

G) Lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

H) June 22, 1898 – Stroke – Dies at age 63:

I. Buried on June 25th22 years after the battle!

II. Buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

10. 1890 – 246 marble markers are placed on the battlefield:

A) To mark where the men fell and were originally buried.

B) 6 more will be added.....252!!??

I. That's 42 more men than Custer had with him!

- 11. March 3, 1903 – India – Dr. Henry Porter dies at age 58 – Buried there.**
- 12. July 3, 1904 – At age 64 – Thomas McDougall dies:
A) Buried in Arlington National Cemetery.**
- 13. 1905 – Winfield Edgerly – Becomes a Brig. General.**
- 14. November 1, 1910 – At age 78 – Charles DeRudio dies:
A) Buried in Los Angeles, California.**
- 15. January 13, 1913 – At age 84 – Fred Gerard dies:
A) Buried in St. Joseph, Missouri.**
- 16. June 17, 1918 – At age 71 – George Herendeen dies:
A) Buried in Harlem, Montana.**
- 17. December 24, 1922 – At age 69 – Trumpeter, John Martin – Dies:
A) Buried in New York City.**
- 18. May 21, 1923 – At age 67 – Crow Scout, Curly – Dies:
A) Buried in the Custer National Cemetery.**
- 19. John Burkman:
A) 1879 – Disability discharge.
B) Works as a teamster.**

- C) Lives in Billings, Montana.**
- D) Pension is \$6.00 per month.**
- E) Lives alone in a small shack.**
- F) 1925 – Shoots himself to death!**
- G) Buried in the Custer National Cemetery.**

20. 1931 – Crittenden – Reburied in Arlington National Cemetery.

21. April 1, 1932 – At age 88 – Edward Godfrey – Dies:
A) Buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

22. Libby Custer:

- A) Writes 3 books about her husband's adventures on the frontier.**
- B) NEVER visits the battlefield!**
- C) 1933...4 days before her 91st birthday...In New York City...She dies:**
 - I. Buried at West Point beside George!**

23. 1946 – Battlefield becomes: “The Custer Battlefield National Monument.”

24. 1955 – At age 95 – Iron Hail – Dies:

- A) Minneconjou Sioux warrior.**
- B) Has fought Custer.**
- C) LAST survivor of the battle.**

25. July 5, 1977 – Charley Reynolds – Reburied in Yellowstone National Park.

26. 1983 – Motorist – Throws out a cigarette – Range fire over the battlefield:

A) Result...1984 & 1985...HUGE archeological covering of the battlefield:

I. Find bones, remains, bullets, empty cartridges, etc., etc., etc.!

27. 1991 – Re-named: “The Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument.”