

*Forwarded to
Stanley Vestal*

1317 East Speedway
Tucson, Arizona
March 31, 1957

Mr. Bruce Catton,
Editor, American Heritage,
551 Fifth Ave.,
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Catton:

I thought you might be mildly interested
in the enclosed two letters which appeared in The Arizona
Daily Star.

I found nothing in your foreword or in Mr.
Vestal's article to indicate that you were familiar with
THE CUSTER MYTH, by Col. W. A. Graham, published by The
Stackpole Company in 1953. Col. Graham devoted his leisure
time over a period of forty years to this book in the writing
of which he was given access to long suppressed documents in
the War Department. Had you personally been familiar with
the book - a book to study, not to read - you would have
known that it was General Sheridan, not General Terry, who
persuaded President Grant to permit Custer to remain in
command of the 7th Cavalry. I think other discrepancies in
Mr. Vestal's article, other than the ones I note in my
letters, might have been avoided had he been familiar with
The Custer Myth. For instance, it had been some three months
since Custer had his long curls cut off. There were no crew-
cuts in those days and all men wore their hair long as compared to
today. That Custer's hair was long enough to be lifted is
attested by the fact that 225 men had been scalped.

I question your use of the word massacre on the map
on page 91.

Sincerely

Estelle A. Brown
(Mrs. Estelle Aubrey Brown)