

Report of Brevet Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry.

Headquarters Dep't of Dak.

St. Paul, Minnesota, Oct. 5, 1868.

General:-

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*Handwritten notes:*  
 Capt - 21  
 Sold - 0  
 Inf loss stock - 6  
 Nataly here cit 8 - 16; sold 8  
 waded 6  
 Stock taken - 255 head + stock b. 4  
 SS fired on - 1

The behavior of the various tribes and bands of Indians in this department during the year has been so diverse as to preclude any general characterization. The tribes in Montana and northern Dakota, with the exception of the Rees, Mandans, Sissetons and Wahpeton Sioux, have been found in a constantly hostile attitude, and appear to have omitted no opportunity of committing depredations upon settlers and public property; while from the bands occupying southern Dakota and Minnesota little or no trouble has been experienced. Most of the movements of troops have been occasioned by hostile demonstrations of

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Uncompa and other bands of Sioux, River Crow, Pegans, Blood, and Blackfeet. The depredations of these Indians, though not on a large scale, have been of a frequent occurrence, requiring incessant vigilance on the part of the garrisons of the posts and causing in the aggregate the sacrifice of a number of lives and a considerable loss of property, both to private citizens and to the public. The subject can be probably best presented by enumerating in detail the most important of these hostile acts.

✓ On the 19th of October, #867, the Uncompas attacked a logging party sent out from Fort Stevenson, wounding one man severely, and the next day captured five mules and killed an ox.

✓ On the 6th of November the wood party from Fort Buford was attacked by Uncompas two miles from the post; one man was killed, one wounded, and four mules were lost.

In February, 1868, Indians stole a number of animals from citizens near Fort Shaw; the detachment of troops sent in pursuit failed to overtake them.

On the 19th of April, 1868, Indians stole horses from the mail station at Dearborn Creek, Montana, and from citizens in that vicinity. Troops were again sent in pursuit without success.

On the 29th of April Indians attacked the herd of Government contractor at Fort Ellis, M.T.M.; they were pursued by a detachment under Cap't. M. Horr, 13th Infantry, who recaptured the larger portion of the herd, and took 6 horses and 1 mule.

On the 21st of April, Indians, depredating on the cattle herd near the Upper Yellowstone River, killed one cattle herder; Captain Horr pursued them to the mountains. Two days after the Indians killed another man two miles from Fort Ellis.

✓ On the 24th April Sioux attacked the herd at Camp Cooke and ran off 34 horses and mules.

✓ During April and May the Uncompas made three attempts to capture the stock herd of Fort Stevenson, but were repulsed.

✓ In May the Uncompas attacked Fort Totten and ran off the herd, but it was all recaptured excepting three mules.