

and reduce them to subjection. His report, with the views of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, together with the recommendation of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior that these Indians be informed they must remove to reservations before January 31st, 1876, or in event of their failure to do so, by that date, that they would be turned over to the War Department, were all referred by the General of the Army to Lieutenant General Sheridan, December 13th, 1875.

Another chief or head-man, against whom military operations were contemplated, was "Crazy-Horse", an Ogallala Sioux, properly belonging to Red Cloud Agency, whose band comprised perhaps a hundred and twenty lodges, numbering about two hundred warriors.

As Generals Terry and Crook commanded the Departments in which these Indians were located, the subject was submitted to them.

General Terry's opinion was that Sitting Bull's band was encamped near the mouth of the Little Missouri, that it could be reached by a quick movement which might be decisive at that season of the year, and that he had sufficient troops to make such a movement. General Crook was of opinion that operations against the hostiles could be undertaken in his department whenever, in the opinion of the Indian Bureau, such action became necessary.

On February 7th, by endorsement of the General of the Army upon a letter of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior, authority was received to commence operations against the hostiles.

Meanwhile General Terry had learned that Sitting Bull's band was on the Dry Fork of the Missouri, some two hundred miles further west, instead of upon the Little Missouri, and on the 8th of February General Terry was directed to take such steps, with the forces under his command, as would carry out the wishes of the Interior Department and the orders of the General of the Army. General Terry was also informed that General Crook would operate from the south, in the direction of the headwaters of Powder River, Pumpkin Buttes, Tongue River, Rosebud and Big Horn Rivers, frequented