

Indians
Jackson

C-10

November 24, 1948

Lt. Col. Wilfred Jackson
Room 333 delendrecia Building
Fargo, North Dakota

Dear Colonel Jackson:

I was pleased to get your kind letter of November 22 and to know that you enjoyed reading my latest book, WARPATH AND COUNCIL FIRE. Thank you.

The information I obtained from the Sioux and Cheyenne participants in the Battle of the Rosebud is that the Sioux and Cheyennes who attacked General Crook and his thirteen hundred men on the Rosebud numbered less than one thousand. Half of these had guns. See my SITTING BULL, Chapter XXII, page 155-56.

Knowing that troops were in the country looking for them, the warriors were unwilling to ride off and leave their camp wholly unprotected. According to my information the Oglala under Crazy Horse, the Brule Sioux, and the Cheyennes were detailed for the fight. However, many warriors of other tribes joined the war party and there were numerous representatives of the Minniconjou, Hunkpapa, and other Sioux. I give the names of a number of these on page 156. See also my book WARPATH, a biography of Sitting Bull's nephew, Chief White Bull, whom I knew well.

The bibliography in the appendix to my book WARPATH AND COUNCIL FIRE which you have just read lists most of the sources on this subject. I will give just the author's names here as you can get the titles from the book: Captain John G. Bourke, ByE. Byrne, Lewis F. Crawford, George Crook, Joe DeBarthe, Fairfax Downey, John F. Finerty, George Bird Grinnell, George E. Hyde, Julia B. McGillycuddy, General Anson Mills, Mari Sandoz, Sheridan (General P.H.), Frederic F. Van de Water, Stanley Vestal, Paul I. Wellman, Colonel Homer W. Wheeler. Of these Bourke, ON THE BORDER WITH CROOK; Grinnell, THE FIGHTING CHEYENNES; and Sandoz, CRAZY HORSE, THE STRANGE MAN OF THE OGLALAS, are good. Particularly detailed is the account of Colonel Anson Mills.

It is impossible not, I fear, to find any living warrior of sound memory who took part in that fight. There are still a few Indians among the Sioux and perhaps the Cheyennes who as children were present in the camp when Custer attacked on June 25 on the Little Big Horn.

Cordially yours,

W. S. CAMPBELL
("Stanley Vestal")

WSC/m