



Weight of numbers crushed the Custer men. As soldiers fell, the Sioux helped themselves to guns and ammunition.

Washita, at dawn of a cold winter morning, which resulted in the killing of many Indians, the burning of the village and the taking of scores of prisoners, had brought him fame as an Indian fighter. But now he was riding against Sitting Bull's Sioux, the Plains' toughest warriors, and outnumbered ten to one. "Custer's luck" finally failed.

That the battle was not a massacre is generally admitted today, for a massacre is the killing of helpless and defenseless people. Custer's men were hardly that. They were armed with the latest weapons provided by the United States Army, they were supplied with plenty of ammunition, and they made a stubborn and courageous fight.