

April 11, 1934.

Dear General Brown:

I was made very happy by your letter regarding the Reynolds battle, and glad to know you approve my account of it, in the main. Of course, I relied chiefly upon Indian testimony: White Bull's and young Two Moon's, chiefly. Two Moon was present, and is positive that Crazy Horse was not present. His village was in the neighborhood, and it was to him the refugees went first of all. But he could not take care of them, so they went on down to Sitting Bull's camp.

As to Reynolds belief that Grouard was untrustworthy: I think you will find a hint of this in DeBarthe's story of Grouard's life. Also Mr. T.J. Gatchell, of Buffalo, Wyoming (whom you should know, as he is a great student of the Indian campaigns, and a friend of Grouard and many other old-timers) told me, or agreed with me, that Reynolds distrusted Grouard. I believe Gatchell went over the Reynolds battlefield with Grouard years ago. If you care to write him, use my name.

The troops may not all have been equipped as I described them. But some were. I think it is Bourke in his book On the Border with Crook, who describes the clothing worn. My notes are packed away now, and I have no copy of the book. This chapter was written in the first place for the Sitting Bull biography, but had to wait for publication. Hence my memory is a trifle uncertain. But you may be sure I had good authority for that statement, and I think it was Bourke.

I may be wrong about the beef hwd, but I understood the Indians got it--or some of it.

Crook was called Wichanpi yamini (Stars three) by the Sioux, apparently from his insignia of rank. This name is given by General Charles King in one of his books, but incorrectly translated Gray Fox. Probably Gray Fox was the name given to Crook by some of his Indian allies (scouts), and King got the notion it was his Sioux name. I remember I had a difficulty over this in my research, as the Sioux always speak of the Battle of the Rosebud as the Three Stars battle, and had never heard of a white officer named Gray Fox.

It is a fact that Crazy Horse was not at the Reynolds fight. I remember meeting the young lady who is at work on a life of Crazy Horse, gathering her data from He Dog, the close pal of Crazy Horse. In comparing notes, I told her what Two Moon had said. She replied, "So you too have discovered that Crazy Horse wasn't there?" she said. I believe that Grouard (who knew that some of the Indians were bound to be in that neighborhood from his experience with them) jumped to the conclusion that it was Crazy Horse's camp before he had a chance to talk to the captured squaw. In fact, I believe DeBarthe's account tells how Grouard yelled to the sleeping camp, challenging Crazy Horse by name to come and fight. If he found out that the chief was not there, he had wit enough to keep it dark, after seeing how Reynolds behaved.