

"By the middle of the afternoon it was all over. Many of the soldiers killed themselves. They acted crazy. We found whiskey in their canteens after the fight.

"We did not know who these soldiers were. A Sioux named Bad Soup had hung around the fort where the soldiers stayed. He told me Long-Hair was the soldiers chief. Long Hair's body was shown to me after the battle by Bad Soup. We did not scalp or mutilate the body, but I took the buckskin jacket from it. Long afterward, in the pocket, I found some long yellow hair. Then I knew."

One Bull, another nephew of Sitting Bull, had this to tell about the battle when he was interviewed by one of the authors (David Miller):

"It was a happy time for my people (The Huncpapa). None of us wanted or expected trouble. We held our great Sun dance shortly before the fight. My uncle, Sitting Bull, had led this dance. Fasting for three days, staring at the sun as it crossed the sky, he had a vision.

"He saw many soldiers riding straight into our camp. Like the sun itself they moved across the sky. But instead of looking the way they should, they and all their horses were upside down. (Probably a prairie mirage)

"After much thought and prayer, Sitting Bull decided the vision meant that soldiers would attack our camp, but all of them would die, because the vision was upside down."

Another nephew of Sitting Bull named Deeds (the one the men from the seventh had found taking off with the bread box.) returned to camp and told of the presence of cavalry. Sitting Bull told him: "Ride out my son, and try to make peace with the soldiers, if they will parley. If not, fear nothing. Go ahead."

"We rode out to meet the soldiers (Reno's men). I raised my open hand as a sign of peace, but the soldiers began shooting. Soon my uncle joined us, aftering getting his old mother to a place of safty. He did not stay in his tipi as some white people tell it.

After the skirmish with Reno's men, in which One Bull was wounded, he was sent by Sitting Bull back to the main camp to look to the safety of the women and children. He arrived there just as Custer's attack began.

The remainder of One Bull's version of the affray was much the same as White Bull's version. He, too, said "these new soldiers acted drunk or crazy and many of them killed themselves."

One Bull died last year at an age well past the century mark.

Custer was not scalped, according to White Bull, because his hair was short and, to the warriors who killed him, the scalp would have been an indifferent trophy. None, with the possible exception of Bad Soup, had any idea of the identity of the balding officer. Hence, his body went almost unnoticed as the Indians withdrew; none wrecked vengeance upon it by mutilation.

Had the Cheyennes, who bitterly hated Custer for this