

headquarters, additional troops were at once put in motion for General Terry's command, as had already been done for that of General Crook, but these reinforcements had to be collected from various stations on the frontier, some of them very remote from railroads, and much time was consumed before reaching their destinations.

During this period the bands which had broken off from the main body of hostiles, and the young warriors from the agencies, continued their old well-known methods of warfare, stealing horses on the frontier and killing small parties of citizens, while the constant communications of the hostiles with Indians at the agencies, made it evident that supplies of food and ammunition were still being drawn from those places.

To prevent this it had been deemed necessary that the military should control the agencies, and on May 29, the Interior Department had been requested to so co-operate with the military as to enable the latter to carry out the policy of arresting, disarming, and dismounting such of the hostiles as made their appearance at these agencies. On July 18, this request was again earnestly renewed by Lieutenant General Sheridan, and on the 22d, the honorable Secretary of the Interior authorized the military to assume control of all the agencies in the Sioux country, but it was too late; extensive trading with the enemy had been going on, and large supplies of ammunition had thus been obtained by the hostiles to carry on the war. However, the commanding officers at Camps Robinson /and Sheridan were at once ordered to take possession at Red Cloud's and Spotted Tail's Agencies, and Colonel Mackenzie, Fourth Cavalry, was sent to Red Cloud Agency with a force to arrest any hostiles who came in and to count and enroll the Indians. A careful count was made by September 1, and it was found that those at Red Cloud numbered only four thousand seven hundred and sixty, nearly