

NORTHERN CHEYENNE RAID

In accordance with an agreement entered into with the Government of the United States, dated September 26, 1876, the Northern Cheyennes were taken from the Sioux country in Dakota to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency in the Indian Territory. Nine hundred and thirty-seven of them arrived there on the 5th of August, 1877, in charge of Lieutenant Lawton, of the Fourth United States Cavalry. After reporting to Col. J.K. Mizner, the commandant at Fort Reno, they were formally transferred to the United States Indian agent, John D. Miles, on the second day after their arrival.

On the 9th of September of the present year, a party of about 300, under Chief Dull Knife, including 87 warriors in all, started out from the agency with the determination to return northward and join their old friends, the Sioux.

Their agent, states that they have never been satisfied since they arrived at the agency; that the Dull-Knife band were displeased with the system of issuing rations to heads of families and individual Indians, and that the soldiers element of the tribe had at first compelled their women to place in one pile the supplies which had been dealt to them, and having taken to themselves the lion's share, left the rest to be divided as they saw fit. He states that they have always been defiant, claimed that they did not enter into the agreement of September 26, 1876, and said that they would remain at the agency as long as they chose, and no longer; that they have been a great drawback to the advancement of the rest of the Indians, and have displeased those of the Northern Cheyennes, who still remain at the agency. He denies in toto the statements which have been made, that for lack of provisions they have been obliged to eat diseased meat, and affirms that there was really no good cause for dissatisfaction on their part. As it has been charged that they were dissatisfied, and left the agency on account of scant rations and to avoid imminent starvation, a few facts concerning the subsistence supplies which have been furnished to them will not be amiss.

The per diem ration due to each man, woman, and child under the treaty is: Beef, $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, net (or 3 pounds, gross), or in lieu thereof, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of bacon; flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound; corn, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound; and for each 100 rations, coffee, 4 pounds; sugar, 8 pounds and beans, 3 pounds; this is more than sufficient for the ample sustenance of any community in the United States. Excluding Indians upon the hunt there has been at the agency between the time of their first arrival, August 5, 1877, and the time when the Dull-Knife party left the agency, September 7, 1878, (a period of 398 days) an average of 860 Indians.

They were entitled to the following quantities of supplies:

Beef.....	1,026,840 pounds
Flour.....	171,140 "
Corn.....	171,140 "
Coffee.....	13,725 "
Sugar.....	27,450 "
Beans.....	10,294 "
Total.....	1,420,589 "

There was dealt out to them during the time mentioned the following:

Beef.....	1,242,208 pounds
Bacon and lard..	20,016 "
Flour.....	157,060 "
Corn.....	18,190 "
Coffee.....	16,425 "
Sugar.....	20,950 "
Salt.....	2,272 "
Soap.....	2,297 "
Hominy.....	14 "
Tobacco.....	994 "
Baking powder...	894 "
Total.....	1,475,320 "

There were due them by treaty 1,420,589 pounds of subsistence supplies, and there have been dealt to them 1,475,320 pounds, or a surplus of 54,731 pounds.