

Copy

Headqrs. Fort Dodge, Kansas
September 15, 1878

To the

Adjutant General
Department of the Missouri
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

Sir:

While Capt. Hemphill Company was here, Mr. Amos Chapman, the Interpreter at Camp Supply informed me that he was at the Cheyenne Agency not long before the escape of the Northern Cheyennes. He says that at that time the Indians at the Agency were suffering for the want of sufficient food. That he knows this both from his own observation and from what was told him by the Indians, and that they were driven to eat horse flesh, taken from horses that had died from disease or natural causes. His opinion is that the escape of these Indians was for the purpose of reaching some place where they could get sufficient food to subsist themselves and families. In his opinion there will be a larger outbreak by the coming Spring, unless something is done to improve their condition at the Agency.

I thought it right to communicate this to you, although you may have full information in regard to these Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant
W.H.Lewis
Lt. Col. 19th Infy. Comdg.

1st. Endorsement

Headqrs. Dept of the Missouri
Fort Leavenworth, Ks Sept. 17, 1878

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant General of the Army through Headqrs. Military Division of the Missouri.

I have so often invited attention to the condition of affairs at the Cheyenne Agency and the great danger of an outbreak resulting from it, that I consider it unnecessary to make any remarks on this paper.

Jno Pope
Bvt. Maj. Genl. U.S.A. Comdg.