

Background Guide

Soldiers Falling...Like Grasshoppers From the Sky: The Battle of the Little Bighorn



JACKRABBIT MUN VIII

L.B. POLY - MAY 23rd, 2026

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CO-HEAD CHAIR LETTERS

Hello Delegates!

My name is Elliot Rice Epstein, and I'm a junior in the PACE program here at Long Beach Poly. I've been doing Model United Nations since I was a delegate for BunnyMUN in my seventh grade year, but this is my first time chairing! While I like all rooms, crisis rooms are my favorite, and, in my completely unbiased and one hundred percent fully informed opinion, always have the best topics, this one being no exception. I've always appreciated Native American history, and ever since I learned about the Battle of Little Bighorn in APUSH (AP U.S. History), I thought it would make an awesome crisis committee. Well, here we are!

I'm involved in many other activities at Poly as well, such as orchestra, the improv team (the Polyesters!), and poetry club. My hobbies include reading and writing, playing the violin, watching copious amounts of television (Grey's Anatomy, anyone? How about The Good Place?), and playing games of all kinds. I have a minor addiction to losing chess match after chess match on Duolingo and Chess.com, but I don't plan on quitting anytime soon! I'm also a HUGE Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy nerd.

If you're reading this, I hope you enjoy Jackrabbit MUN, and feel free to reach out with any questions! This room is going to be epic.

Sincerely,

Elliot Rice Epstein

Soldiers Falling...Like Grasshoppers From The Sky: The Battle of Little Bighorn | Co-Head Chair
elliotriceepstein@gmail.com



CO-HEAD CHAIR LETTERS

Hello delegates!

I'm Eliza Floto, I'm a sophomore in the PACE Program at Long Beach Poly. This is my second time chairing, and my first time chairing a crisis. However, I have been in MUN for four years, starting in seventh grade (at BunnyMUN!). Outside of MUN, I am in several other clubs and programs at Poly, such as Green Team, UNICEF, our girl's golf Team, Theatre, Jackrabbits for Equity, Inclusion, and Change, and I am in charge of the student end of running our branch of LA Food Bank here at Long Beach Poly. Outside of school I can be caught overspending on boba and books and watching "Doctor Who" (My Doctor is the 11th) and "Star Trek". If you like Doctor Who, come talk to me because it is the best Television Show ever made and you can't change my mind. I also watch a lot of movies because my dream is to see every movie ever made even though that's not possible. I also love comic books, musicals, classic films, and of course Alfred Hitchcock, but why did the guy in *The Rear Window* never lock his door? I also do Mixed Martial Arts and like having hobbies as useless as possible, for example I'm a pretty decent basket weaver. I also like reading (as suggested by the aforementioned overspending on books) *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (if I had to pick a favourite book it's this one), *Neverwhere*, *The Hunger Games*, *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, and many more are favourites. I'm so glad to be seeing so many people who love MUN as much as I do, and I live for the chaos of crisis committees (they're my favourite). That being said, don't hesitate to reach out to any of our dais if you have any concerns, there are no dumb questions. I hope that all of you have a great time at Jackrabbitmun this year!

Sincerely,

Eliza Floto

Soldiers Falling...Like Grasshoppers From The Sky: The Battle of Little Bighorn | Co-Head Chair
efloto42@gmail.com



CRISIS LEAD LETTER

Hello delegates!

I'm Soli Nickerson, I'm a senior in the PACE Program at Long Beach Poly, and I will be your crisis lead! This is my very first time leading a crisis committee, and although I am very nervous, I am also very excited for you to learn more about such an interesting and undertalked period in history. Besides MUN, I love reading, video games (Ask me about *Legend of Zelda*), and listening to music! I also participate in our highest vocal ensemble here at Poly and will be participating in this year's musical, *Mean Girls* as Karen Smith! You'll be able to tell in my execution of this room that I really appreciate people's individual contributions and feelings about history. When we look at specific historical events, it can be really hard to differentiate what ended up happening from each person's concerns and perspectives that contributed to the conclusion of the issue. I have tried my best in this room to highlight all of the different perspectives and nuances that went into the Battle of Little Bighorn, and I hope you carry the same sentiment about viewing history on a more personal level. Whether it is your first time in a Crisis, or you're super experienced, I hope you know I am available for help, support, and questions, even if you think they are stupid! Remember to research, take deep breaths, and stride into the committee with confidence! Go Jackrabbits!

Sincerely,

Soli Nickerson

Soldiers Falling...Like Grasshoppers From the Sky: The Battle of Little Bighorn | Crisis Lead
solinick28@gmail.com



POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES

- Position Papers are due at 11:59 PM on **Sunday, May 18th**.
- Delegates **must** submit position papers to be eligible for **research AND committee awards**.
- Position Papers can be submitted through a Google form:
 - <https://forms.gle/H3ruhahP2SQUEPs38>
- At the top of each paper, include your character/country name, first and last name, school name, and appropriate committee.
 - Sitting Bull
 - First Last
 - School Name
 - Little Bighorn
- Papers should be emailed as a PDF file if necessary
 - Paper content should also be copied and pasted into the body of the email so it can still be graded in the event of any technical difficulties
 - Please name the file and subject line of the email [Committee_Character]
 - Ex. **LittleBighorn_United States**
- Papers should be 1-2 pages in length with an additional Works Cited page in MLA format
- Papers should be single-spaced in Times New Roman 12 pt. font and include no pictures or graphics
- Please include the following sections for each committee topic:
 - Background
 - Position of your Character
 - Possible Solutions

If you have any questions or concerns, please email one of your chairs.



COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

This is a traditional crisis committee with no deviations from traditional crisis procedure. The committee will start on **the day after the Battle of Rosebud (for our purposes, June 6th) of 1876**. The delegates will represent historical figures who played roles leading up to the Battle of the Little Bighorn on the side of the Native Americans.

While this is a historical crisis committee and the staff at Jackrabbit MUN pride themselves on producing committees that are as historically accurate as they are interesting, we do not condone **any form of racism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia, or any other bigotry. This includes but is not limited to genocide, ethnic cleansing, the creation of concentration camps, hate speech, and use of nuclear weapons. Even if these actions are accurate to the real event, any promotion of these ideas will be approached with extreme gravity.** Failure to comply will result in penalties ranging from verbal warnings to being banned from any future Jackrabbit MUN event.



TOPIC SYNOPSIS

The Black Hills were promised to Native Americans “for as long as the grass shall grow.” Maybe those same promises wouldn’t have been made if American settlers knew about the gold that lies beneath those hills. That land had been reserved for the Crow Nation in the Treaty of Fort Laramie (1851), but was reassigned as a Lakota (Sioux) reservation in the Second Treaty of Fort Laramie fifteen years later. Now, gold has been discovered beneath the Black Hills by General Custer. The United States has given the Lakota an ultimatum: leave the land peacefully or be deemed “hostiles” and forcibly expelled from the region. The Lakota decided to do the opposite. Chief Sitting Bull, who holds command over Lakota forces in the Black Hills, was soon joined by Cheyenne and Sioux forces from across the Plains to assemble in an area known to them as the Greasy Grass.

Here you, as Native American leaders, have met to consider how to ward off the approaching forces of General Custer. Will you meet them with force and risk casualties? Will you attempt to negotiate at the expense of your land? This will be no easy task; the Americans want nothing but the gold. Good luck, delegates.



BACKGROUND

HISTORY OF THE SIOUX

For over three thousand years, the Oceti Sakowin Oyate (People of Seven Council Fires), also known as the Sioux Nation, have existed as one of the oldest groups of people in the North American Continent. The Sioux are a collection of tribes who are divided by three major cultural and linguistic dialects and exist as three major subgroups: the Eastern Dakota (or the Santee, made up of the Wahpeton, Wahpekute, Mdewakanton, and the Sisseton), Nakota or Western Dakota (the Yankton and the



Yanktoni), and Lakota (the Teton). The Lakota are the most western of the three groups, and are composed of seven tribal bands. The Sioux peoples were nomadic hunter-gatherers who moved their villages and changed their work according to the seasons. They gathered maize, squash, beans, and wild rice, used canoes to fish, and hunted woodland animals—most importantly, the American Bison, which were foundational to both their survival and

culture. The Sioux have their roots in what would become northern Minnesota and Wisconsin, but wars with the Ojibwe tribe landed them in southern Minnesota. From there, they were evicted by the United States government through cession treaties and forced to flee westward due to a lack of food and the loss of the Dakota War in 1862. While the Sioux had been a self-sufficient, striving group, competition with American settlers had left them reliant on payments and rations from the United States, payments and rations that would never come. Some Dakota returned to Minnesota in



the 1870s to take back their land without a drop of bloodshed. This peaceful reclamation was unheard of at the time, but their treaty with the United States stipulated that members of the Dakota tribe could continue their role as keepers of the Pipestone Quarry due to cultural significance, meaning that the Dakota could move back to their homeland without violating a treaty or having to take up arms to fight for it. They were one of the few tribes to be allowed to return to their own land, however, due to the American idea of manifest destiny.

WESTWARD EXPANSION

What started as thirteen colonies on the East Coast of the United States quickly spread across the length of North America. After acquiring the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803, the United States doubled its size, and it hardly planned on stopping. During the Mexican–American War, Texas was annexed (1845) and Oregon taken over (1846), meaning the United States had finally reached the Pacific Ocean. The Mexican–American War ended with Mexico ceding what would become California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona. Several other smaller territories and pieces of land were acquired along the way, like Florida. By 1876, the contiguous United States (every state except Alaska) was about *eight times* that of the thirteen original colonies.



The United States sought this expansion due to Manifest Destiny, the belief that the United States was destined by God to stretch from coast to coast, spanning the continent of North America. Manifest Destiny was first used by a journalist in order to justify the annexation of Texas and Oregon, but eventually became a widely spread slogan within the Democratic party for their expansionist ideals. Most importantly, Manifest Destiny was used to justify the



subjugation and ethnic cleansing of all indigenous peoples through forced removals, cultural destruction, loss of land, and the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people.

UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT WITH THE SIOUX

During the Great Sioux War, the United States area of interest was The Black Hills, which lie between the Cheyenne and Belle Fourche rivers, in the Black Hills National Forest in western South Dakota and northeastern Wyoming. The Black Hills carry a lot of spiritual significance for peoples of the Great Plains since many spiritual leaders follow a journey from the Vernal Equinox to the Summer Solstice. This journey is mapped out through a celestial map of the Black Hills, where



constellations correspond with significant Earthly locations. The spiritual journey is mirrored by the passage of the sun through these constellations.

Although originally occupied by the Cheyenne, Arikara, Crow, Kiowa and Arapaho as early as 1500 AD, later, the Sioux came into the territory, creating intertribal warfare with all the other groups claiming to occupy it. In 1851 however, following concerns about Natives endangering White settlers travelling across the Oregon Trail during the Gold Rush, the tribes came together and signed the First Treaty of Fort Laramie, which granted the land to the Lakota Sioux. This was not taken well by the other tribes, but especially the Crow, who claimed both should have partial ownership, as they were pushed out along with the Cheyenne by Lakota, although originally occupying the land. This was affirmed in the Second Treaty of Fort Laramie, while adding the Cheyenne as occupants, as they had become allied. It emphasized the



lack of White settler presence in the area, with exclusive rights to Sioux and Cheyenne groups.

However, White settlers quickly evaded the army's attempts to keep the area exclusive to the native population. There were also claims of Natives attacking nearby White settlements, and thus violating the treaty. Regardless, in 1874 Custer began his formal expedition to seek out gold in the Black Hills region. Sitting Bull and other Sioux Leaders, living in any of the designated land, were seen as hostile to the mission after peaceful negotiations failed. In response, General Crook, the commander of the Department of the Platte was launched to deal with the “hostiles” over the winter, starting the United States involvement.

CROW PEOPLE’S INVOLVEMENT

In the 18th century, Crow Native Americans, another sub group of Plains Natives, occupied most of the Powder River Basin region, stretching from the areas near the Bighorn Mountains to the Black Hills in present day Wyoming. Then in the 19th century, Lakota were driven over by the lack of Bison east of the Mississippi River. They fought for several years over the area, but the First Treaty of Fort Laramie set forth formal territorial boundaries of Native lands, allowing for settlers to pass between them peacefully. The Little Bighorn River and the Powder River areas were delegated to the Crow while the Black Hills were given to the Sioux.

However, the Lakota, Arapahoe, and Cheyenne. started encroaching on Crow Land to the Southeast of their awarded territory even after the 1851 delegation of the territory. In tandem, the United States violated the same treaty, creating the Bozeman trail, which although it mostly ran through Crow territory, also ran through pieces of treaty territory of the aforementioned Native groups, as well as this encroached land that it felt entitled to. The Arapahoe, Cheyenne, and Lakota were, compared to the



Crow, more hostile towards settlers, so the United States waged war against these groups in particular.

This all culminated in Red Cloud's war, named after Ogala Lakota Red Cloud, where Arapaho, Lakota, and Northern Cheyenne fought against the Crow and United States Army. This conflict was motivated on the Crow side to take back land that had been annexed in the South East, and because of this, they allied with the United States, who were aiming to fortify the Bozeman trail which included this annexed, as they thought this allyship could be to their advantage to gain their treaty-designated land



back. However, the treaty that ended the War was between the U.S. and the Lakota, meaning the United States ceded much of the previously owned land by the Crow to the Lakota to appease them. This included the “all the high plains from the Black Hills of the Dakotas westward across the Powder

River Basin to the crest of the Big Horn Mountains” that they had fought this war to protect, and they were pushed to settle at “The Valley of Chieftains” reservation in the Little Bighorn Valley. The Crow People did sell the over 30 million acres of land ceded by the United States to the Lakota tribe, as it was guaranteed to them through the treaty, but it was far below market price.

However, Sioux intrusions did not stop, with Crow reporting Sioux in their 3 million acres of area they had left in 1871. More of the intrusions occurred over the years, and when United States involvement began, they found allies in Crow who often served as scouts, as they worked in hopes the loss of the Sioux in the war would get them their land back.



THE GREAT SIOUX WAR SO FAR

Although skirmishes, such as the Fort Reno skirmish, had happened as Crook was scouting for Sioux Leader, this was due to Natives ambushing them on their journey rather than planned attacks. The first battle initiated by the U.S. Army was the Battle of Powder River on March 16th as the only battle in the winter Big Horn Expedition. This attack was under the assumption that Crazy Horse was living there, as just a few days prior, they had seen Ogala Lakota, notably members of Crazy Horse's tribal group, and assumed they were from Crazy Horse's Camp. Upon following them, they found a Cheyenne-Ogala Lakota camp. Although this was not Crazy Horse's village, they succeeded in destroying it, and stealing over 700 horses. 2 Natives were killed during this battle, and 4 soldiers. The death count is primarily low due to Crook's fast withdrawal after the destruction of the village. After this, Crook returned to Fort Fetterman for the time being.

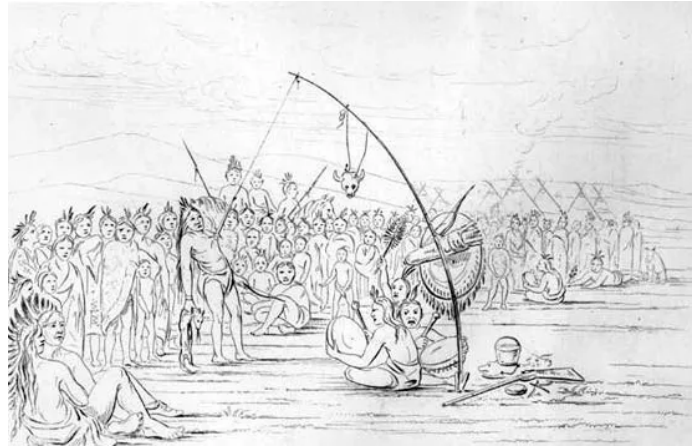
In early June, after a meeting among the groups regarding the United State's possible return, the Sioux started tracking General Crook, who seemed to be heading towards crossing the Tongue River. In response, as he crossed, Natives began firing towards him, wounding two soldiers. Although he retreated for a brief time, as he began approaching Rosebud Valley, the Native forces rode out to meet him in the middle of the night, led by Crazy Horse. Crazy Horse's soldiers led them into Rosebud Valley, beginning the battle. However, although 28 of Custer's men ended up dead and 56 ended up injured, with only

MORE THAN A FILM FESTIVAL: SUN DANCE

Sun Dance is considered to be one of the most important religious ceremonies of Plains Native Americans. Traditionally, the Sun Dance is held once a year by each tribe in late spring or early summer. It is widely considered to be an occasion in which



otherwise-independent bands come together to reaffirm their shared values and shared basic cultural beliefs about life, the universe, and everything. This is typically done through rituals of personal and community sacrifice. During Sun Dance, it is common to request guidance or insight from the supernatural world. Those who pledged to participate in this ritual often took up to a year's preparation, and the most elaborate versions of the Sun Dance took place within or near- a large encampment or village. During the ceremony, a dance structure with a pole in the center is typically erected, and the pledges dance intermittently around it for several days. During this time they do not eat or drink anything and endure self-mutilation rituals, such as piercing or skin removal. It is believed that at the annual Sun Dance in 1867, Sitting Bull experienced a prophetic vision of soldiers toppling upside down in his camp. He had described it as "soldiers falling...like grasshoppers from the sky." He interpreted this as a sign of an upcoming great victory for his people.



COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

This committee will begin on the day after the Battle of Rosebud (June 18th of 1876). As delegates, you will receive various crisis updates throughout committee, where our dais or crisis staff will deliver new information pertinent to the events of committee. Time jumps may occur. **Since this committee begins on the day after Battle of Rosebud, we understand that critical events within several character's lives may not yet have occurred, and some information has not yet been revealed to the public. Nonetheless, please abide by your character's original historical timeline. Also, note that this committee is set in an alternate timeline, and any character actions may diverge from the historical timeline.** We recommend making a basic timeline for your character that you can refer to during debate.

When it comes to directives, we allow group (also known as joint private), personal, and committee directives, as well as communiques and press releases.

At JackrabbitMUN we use a digital directive system, so you will submit your directives via a Google Form and get responses from Crisis Staff in a digital crisis notebook (a Google Doc). This decreases response time, allowing delegates to submit far more directives—at previous JackrabbitMUN editions we've averaged a response time of less than ten minutes. Committee directives should be written on a Google Doc and shared with the Chairs, who will send them to the Crisis Staff.

In addition, on the day of the conference, you will be given a folder with a portfolio power. These portfolio powers are secret—only you will know what your portfolio power is—and include two major things: plots and powers. Plots are secret objectives a delegate is trying to accomplish or secret information that only one



delegate or a group of delegates would be privy to. For instance, an example of a plot is how in our past “Red Scare” room, multiple delegates were Communists *audible gasp* and plotted with each other to overthrow the United States. Powers are special actions that delegates can take. These can range from the ability to “OBJECT!” to another delegate’s speech to a secret task force of spies and analysts that a delegate can command to gather intelligence on their adversaries to the ability to call a general strike and cripple key infrastructure.

Please be advised that at JackrabbitMUN we have a policy of not killing your fellow delegates. Therefore, please do not submit directives attempting to assassinate one another. We also will not entertain directives that involve genocide, nuclear weapons, or forced migration. Yes, that last one is specific to this committee. Thank you so much for signing up and we look forward to meeting you on the 23rd!



CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Lame White Man/Mad Hearted Wolf

A man with many names, the Bearded Man or the Mad Hearted Wolf was originally born in the Southern Cheyenne region, but after the Sand Creek Massacre, he moved north. He eventually became the chief of the Elk Horn Society and tribal historian of the Northern Cheyenne. Lame White Man is truly a mystery to all except for one quality: his bravery. He was often known to lead the front line of battles, and moved to position the Cheyenne in the best position possible, whether that was going up to negotiate in Washington D.C. in 1873, or seemingly preparing for the battle ahead, his courage has always been unmatched and he refuses to back down.

Wooden Leg

Son of Many Bullet Wounds and Eagle Feather on the Forehead, Wooden Leg is a Northern Cheyenne warrior known to endure endless walks, and has never been one to live on reservations. In his childhood, he would wander around the Black Hills and Little Bighorn River fighting against enemy tribes, and later was invited to be part of the Elkhorn Scrapers —a warrior society. After being surrounded by war his whole life, he was renowned for his courage and endurance and is ready for the fight ahead, like his name, Wooden Leg, suggests.

Two Moons

Two Moons has had trouble catching a break in recent times... Just ambushed at the Battle of Powder River, Two Moons returned to Crazy Horse only to be thrown into another battle at Rosebud. He has hoped to find solace in this new land, surrounded by



chiefs alike, and no White men to be found. Who knows how long this peace will last, especially after Sitting Horn's visions. However, Two Moons believes there can be peaceful relations as long as the White men do not encroach on their land anymore.

Buffalo Calf Road Woman

Buffalo Calf Road Woman is no stranger to war and all of the glory and loss that seems to accompany it. Buffalo Calf Road Woman became quite famous through her escapades, saving her brother in the Battle of the Rosebud. She almost singlehandedly rose the Cheyenne to defeat Crook, and for that, the battle was named in her honor. There's some amount of bravery that is automatically showcased when a mother of two risks her own life for her brother, and Buffalo Calf Road Woman seems willing to do it again. That is, if the White Man cannot be prevented from attacking.

Dull Knife/Morning Star

Dull Knife remembers the original treaty signed in 1868 that was supposed to resolve all this fighting; he was there to sign it. Naturally, he is hesitant to go into war again. As a young boy, he was always resourceful and used a variety of tactics such as outmaneuvering federal troops while caring for his whole tribe traveling across the plains to provide for the Northern Cheyenne, viewing it as a contribution to something larger than him. But fighting another War almost feels too much. If push comes to shove, Dull Knife is prepared to protect his land, albeit with his hope teetering on the edge.

Sitting Bull

“Chief of Chiefs,” as many say, Sitting Bull would do anything for the Sioux Nation, best shown in the most recent Sun Dance ritual, where he sacrificed over 100 pieces of flesh



from his arms, stemming his immutable belief in the Sioux Nation and its traditions. At the age of 14, he gained much respect after being at the forefront of a raiding party against the Crow tribe and gained the name “Sitting Bull.” Sitting Bull has always had a unique perspective, not believing reservations should exist at all, even under the original 1868 treaty, and has been living illegally ever since. However, as Custer has encroached onto the reservation itself, more people may switch over to his side.

Chief Gall

Referred to as “Phizi” in his Native language, Chief Gall is crowned as one of the most renowned leaders of the Lakota Sioux during the historic battle. Born along the Moreau River in modern-day South Dakota, he was seen as a warrior from the start. At a young age, Gall lost both of his parents. Ultimately, this led to his adoption by the Chief of Chiefs, more formally known as Sitting Bull. Under Sitting Bull’s command, Gall and thousands of Lakota and Northern Cheyenne people came together in Montana to fight against the United States. Gall is among the most tactically intelligent minds, and as the United States Army attempts to take control over his native lands, Gall will put up a fight.

Crazy Horse

Crazy Horse, war leader of the Lakota, was always someone many of his tribesmen looked up to. Crazy Horse is a battle machine that has been fighting for more than a decade. He is also a very spiritual man, occasionally having visions of his future self in battle with a horse when he was young. While known for all of his heroic deeds, his humility is one of his best attributes. Although a warrior in battle, he is quite a timid person who only wears one feather compared to his peers. Crazy Horse, while not a



vocal proponent of the political side of relations between them and the Whites, holds a powerful vote due to his wartime contributions.

Kicking Bear

Although Kicking Bear has recently gained fame due to newfound chiefdom, due to his marriage to the niece of a chief, he has made many valuable contributions before his time as chief. Specifically in his earlier years, he was a prolific raider of both native and European. His gift to the chief when he married the chief's niece was stolen from the Crow. Along with his brother Flying Hawk and Cousin Crazy Horse, they need to prepare for all that was to come.

Moving Robe Woman

The Moving Robe Woman, known as Mary Crawler, is a Lakota Sioux member whose unwavering courage stemmed from her deep generational ties. In her early life, the Crawler family ventured to Montana, where they eventually moved to Peji Sla Wakapa — Little Bighorn. To battle against the Crows, the Crawlers' journey together is to handle tribal affairs and potential conflict. By traveling as one, the Moving Robe Woman feels an obligation to uphold her strong will, cultural bonds, and familial duty earnestly.

Flying Hawk

Flying Hawk has always had a vengeance within him. At just ten years old, he participated in his first battle, ganging up on some soldiers after the soldiers shot at them unprovoked. He does not even recount how many people he killed as a young child. At 20, he earned his first scalp. Warhungry, he does not miss a battle, no matter the opponent. There is no doubt that this pattern will carry over as the Black Hills War



continues, but it is up for debate whether this bloodlust will kill him or feed him. Either way, as a chief, he is likely to have the Sioux on his side, no matter the challenges put forward to him.

Black Elk

Oglala Lakota Black Elk is a spiritual man, a cousin of Crazy Horse, and is only thirteen years old. Black Elk has always been deeply connected with nature, participating in and watching sun and ghost dance movements ever since he was a baby, and having great spiritual visions from the age of nine. Black Elk was always fascinated with White people and curious why his brethren were so against these people of lighter skin. Still, he does not hold particularly favorable opinions towards them by any means. Black Elk feels as if there is a sacred duty he has to carry out to make sure his people can survive any challenge the world decides to throw at them.

Hollow Horn Bear

Hollow Horn Bear, despite his age, has proven his status as a warrior more than many others around him. At just sixteen, he fought against the Pawnee Natives with his father, and now, a decade later, served as a scout for both the United States and the Lakota for several years. Hollow Horn Bear is sure to do whatever serves him at the moment. However, industrialization and the White Man's intrusion have become his sworn enemy, but how he will deal with these upcoming threats, especially as the war efforts have grown stronger, is still unknown.

White Bull

White Bull, son of a respected Miniconjou chief, has a reputation that stems from a prominent Sioux family and a praised family line. After unseating three scouts from



their horses and taking in ten horses for his tribe, White Bull became admired for his bravery. As a skilled warrior, White Bull's commitment drives him to uphold his honor and fight for his familial legacy.

Low Dog

Low Dog is a brave Oglala Lakota chief who fought in various battles with other renowned chiefs, like Sitting Bull. From the young age of fourteen, Low Dog had to take on a leadership role as war chief to guide his tribe. From his experience and authoritative role, Low Dog is prepared to lead his people into battle, no matter the obstacle.

American Horse

American Horse, an Oglala Lakota Chief, statesman, educator, and historian, is the son of Sitting Bull and a truly progressive leader of the Oglala Lakota people. He promotes friendly association with the Whites and joined the Red Cloud Agency just recently as a U.S. Army Indian Scout. While people like Crazy Horse may not have shared his ideas, American Horse truly believes that association with the Whites will allow for native americans as a whole to progress forward and adjust to the new world around them.

Red Cloud

Red Cloud, the namesake of Red Cloud's War, is legendary among the Lakota people for his continued resistance against colonialism. The treaty signed after that war still exists, but since Custer found gold, he has reemerged as a change maker in this pressing issue. However, he has staunchly opposed fighting; he believes there can be negotiations done through his treaty to resolve this peacefully. He has recently come



back from his trip to Washington D.C. to reconvene with the United States Government, and others are excited to hear about what they are to do next.

Red Shirt

Red Shirt is an Oglala Lakota chief, warrior, and statesman. His leadership and warrior skills guide Red Shirt into fighting for what he believes in with the purpose of maintaining peace for his people. His emergence as a leader is undeterred by potential hardships as he aims to advance a future for his tribe and Native Americans for generations to come. Currently, under the leadership of Three Bears, it is assumed he is staunchly against Crazy Horse's plans to fight, but he is still an unknown of who he will eventually draw allegiance to.

Iron Nation

Iron Nation was one of the few chiefs who kept his people after the Treaty of 1868 on the reservations, rather than rebelling. He is dead-set on settling on the reservation and trying to live as normal of a life as possible. Iron Nation finds himself irritated at some of his more hostile peers, who make this more difficult than necessary. No matter the actions of the United States, he is most concerned with keeping his people's safety as an utmost priority, which means stability without war.

Spotted Tail

Currently, Spotted Tail believes in the futility of war, but this was not always the case. When he was young, he fought at the forefront of a war to avenge the massacre of his people, but spending almost two years in prison has led him to become doubtful about war's effectiveness. Able to speak English fluently, he has made many trips to Washington, D.C., to negotiate about the land, and has gained a reputation as a



peaceful, eloquent statesman. So far his peaceful missions have been without much success, but Spotted Tail will attempt whatever he can to keep war from breaking out.

Touch The Clouds

Touch the Clouds, son of leader Lone Horn, was respected for his grand physique, lengthy body, and brute strength. After gaining the attention of his peers, Touch The Clouds was selected as the head of their tribal warrior society. Once his father, Lone Horn, died, Touch The Clouds took his place as chief of the Minneconjou Teton Lakota just a year ago. Unfortunately, with that change happening right in the midst of the Great Sioux War, the timing for his ascent to rule was not ideal. He has grown very frustrated with his peers' hostile nature towards White people, with worries surrounding how these actions will harm his people, even when they have been rather peaceful.

Rain in the Face

Rain in the Face first got his name after getting into a fight with a friendly Cheyenne, which caused blood to be smeared in his face like raindrops, and some would argue he hasn't changed much. Regardless, it is unarguable that he has a score to settle with Custer. In fact, Custer reportedly detained him after he was seen killing a civilian months earlier. Though it might be more effective to keep his cards to himself and keep his temper in check, Rain in the Face is a wild card to be had.



Kill Eagle

Kill Eagle has always been a resourceful person, moving his Sisasapa people to go on a large buffalo hunt after facing a food crisis and finding ways to make sure his people would never starve again. As more and more White people are slaughtering the buffalo, there is less and less food for the people, and Kill Eagle's skills might prove to be very useful in combating this upcoming famine, but Kill Eagle will avoid any action that will lead to more hardship.

His Horse is Feared

His Horse is Feared fought under Red Cloud in Red Cloud's War and is a negotiator for the Sioux and has tirelessly worked to protect his people's land and culture as they transition to reservation life. His Horse is Feared is a very traditional Lakota, only speaking his native tongue, having two wives, but he worries about what might happen to his people if they continue to fight. For now, he is content with making sure culture thrives while cooperating with the white men.

One Bull

One Bull, beyond his status as a warrior, has the special delegation of being Sitting Bull's adopted son and bodyguard. Taken to replace Sitting Bull's son, who had died, One Bull has a unique connection to Sitting Bull that many others can only dream of. Unlike many of his fellow warriors, One Bull has a peacefulness about him, and has a special connection with horses that has carried on into his career as a magnificent hunter. One Bull truly believes that Sitting Bull's insight will guide them well through this unknown time.



Eagle Woman

Eagle Woman, a Lakota activist, trader, and translator, is a woman of many talents. Ever since she was young, she was always a mediator, constantly keeping the peace between her and her seven siblings, which translated to her ability to bargain and play a large role in trade wars with the large monopolies and White settlers encroaching on the black hills. Tensions are rising, and Eagle Woman's skills will play a valuable part.



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Who actually has the right to the Black Hills? Is it the Crow? Lakota? United States?
2. What is your character's history with/views on the United States Government?
3. How does your character's background relate to the issue of gold mining? E.g. is this your first time being forced off of your land or has this happened before?
4. What means of defense are justifiable?



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