

Prompt 6.17 - The American Indian Wars

1/4

Warm-up: Analyze the picture and write down 3 observations.



“The cruellest work I ever knew.” - US Soldier

Observations:

George Washington and his administration pushed for an indoctrination policy, thinking that they could solve the “Indian problem” by civilizing Native Americans. But as the **cotton kingdom** spread westward, wealthy planters and poor settlers alike looked greedily at Native American homelands.

By the 1820s, racism increased and it was clear that Anglo Americans would never accept Native Americans as equals. Despite the many **treaties** (agreements) that were made, Andrew Jackson was determined to remove them for good. In 1830, Congress passed the **Indian Removal Act**. This allowed Jackson to remove Native Americans from their homeland. Even though The Supreme Court ruled this act unconstitutional, Jackson broke the law and went through with it anyway.

Groups that refused to move were met with military violence. Some Anglo Americans were ashamed of their treatment. The capitol was flooded with protestors over the treatment of eastern Native Americans. Still the work of removal continued, resulting in **“The Trail of Tears”**.

*I saw the helpless Cherokees arrested and dragged from their homes, and driven at the bayonet point into the **stockades** (prisons). And in the chill of a drizzling rain on an October morning I saw them loaded like cattle or sheep into six hundred and forty-five wagons and started toward the west.*

*One can never forget the sadness and **solemnity** (seriousness) of that morning. Chief John Ross led in prayer and when the bugle sounded and the wagons started rolling. Many of the children rose to their feet and waved their little hands [goodbye] to their homes, knowing they were leaving them forever. Many of these helpless people did not have blankets and many of them had been driven from home barefooted.*

*We found the road filled for nearly three miles in length. The sick and feeble were carried in wagons -- **multitudes** (many) go on foot -- females apparently nearly ready to drop in the grave, were traveling with heavy burdens on the frozen ground with no covering for feet. They buried 14 or 15 at every stopping place. Some carry a downcast dejected look of despair, [while] others [had a] wild, frantic appearance.*

The Trail of Tears - How did the Cherokee suffer during President Jackson’s “Trail of Tears”?

A massacre is ...

Gallery Walk - Write down 2 observations around the classroom for each picture. After, summarize the text below and highlight the evidence.

I - 1862 - Mankato Executions - Dakota Sioux

As Native Americans were moved onto reservation, they often sat waiting for food and supplies that were promised to them. Since the land they were given was often unsuitable for farming, tribes depended on the government for food rations to survive. However, the delivery of food rations to reservations was often slow, spoiled, and or simply never arrived due to the corrupt American businesses tasked with providing them food. As a result, tribes like the Dakota Sioux became desperate.

The Dakota decided to raid nearby American farms for food, which caused the death of several Americans at those farms. Knowing that they would already face consequences, the Dakota continued raiding farms, leading to the death of 500 settlers. President Lincoln sent soldiers to stop the Dakota and were eventually able to capture them. Trials were held in which 300 Dakota were sentenced to death. Even though Lincoln had pardoned most of the prisoners, 38 Dakots were sentenced to death by hanging at once. The hangings were done in public and more than 4000 Americans gathered in the streets to watch their deaths, many bringing picnic baskets. Their bodies were later dug from their graves for research, without the families' consent. This remains the largest mass execution in United States history.

II - 1864 - Sand Creek Massacre - Cheyenne

After the Civil War, Colonel Chivington decided to take his frustrations out on Native American peoples. After learning that several Cheyenne tribes were rumored to have stolen livestock from American settlers, Chivington decided to respond harshly. He ordered the complete destruction and killing of every Cheyenne camp that his soldiers encountered. In acts of self defense, and revenge, Cheyenne tribes united and began to attack Chivington's army.

One Cheyenne Chief, Chief Black Kettle, eventually sought an end to the bloodshed and declared peace. Black Kettle agreed to move his tribe to Big Sandy Creek and was promised safety by Chivington. Black Kettle flew a white flag and an American flag over his camp as a symbol of peace. Meanwhile, he went out hunting buffalo with his warriors. While he was gone, Chivington ordered his soldiers to destroy the village before the warriors returned. Cheyenne men, women, and children were helplessly massacred. Chivington was brought to trial, however, he was never sent to prison for the murders that he ordered.

III - 1876 - Battle of Little Bighorn - Lakota Sioux & Cheyenne

Gold was discovered in the Black Hills of Sioux lands and soon swarms of American miners moved in to dig. Instead of removing the miners, the government demanded that the Sioux sell the Black Hills to the miners. Sitting Bull, a Lakota Sioux Chief, refused so the United States military was sent to force them onto reservation. Colonel Custer, a famous Civil War commander, was sent to scout the encampment and wait for reinforcements. Instead, he racistly thought that the Sioux were no match for him so he decided to launch an attack. Custer's forces were completely surrounded and defeated by Sitting Bull's warriors. Custer and his soldiers died on the battlefield, which later became known famously as "Custer's Last Stand." In response, the US military sent a massive force to put all the Sioux that did not escape into Canada onto reservations, which it successfully did.

IV - 1877 - Flight of the Nez Perce - Nez Perce

The Nez Perce were among the friendliest tribes in Oregon. They saved Lewis and Clark from starvation and traded peacefully with Anglo Americans. After the Civil War, however, Anglo American settlers began to **covet** (want) Nez Perce land.

The US government threatened the Nez Perce chief, Chief Joseph, into moving onto reservation. Wanting peace for his people, he agreed. Several young Nez Perce warriors, however, were angry with his decision and decided to kill two American settlers. Chief Joseph, in fear, held up a white flag hoping to explain the situation to the US military. However, American soldiers ignored the flag and opened fire anyway. In self defense, Chief Joseph ordered his warriors to kill the soldiers.

With American reinforcements on the way, Chief Joseph desperately decided that he needed to lead his tribe to Canada for freedom. The US Army chased his tribe more than 1000 miles, which became known as the "Flight of the Nez Perce." The chase ended 40 miles from the Canadian border where his tribe was captured and forced onto reservation. Soon after, Chief Joseph died -- some say from a broken heart.

V - 1851-1885 - Geronimo's Escape - Apache

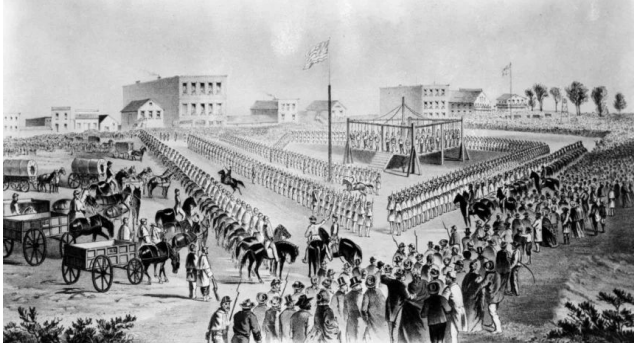


Geronimo, originally called Goyahkla, got his name through a story of revenge. One day, after coming back from town, he discovered his tribe destroyed by Mexican soldiers. Laying dead in the rubble were his wife, children, and mother. Goyahkla sought revenge and joined an Apache chief, Chief Cochise, to attack the soldiers using only a knife. He got his name from the soldiers pleading to Saint Jeronimo to spare their lives as he stabbed them all to death.



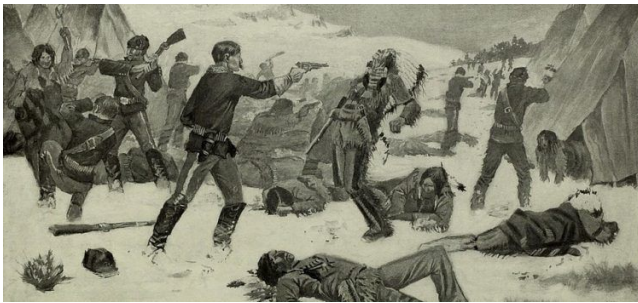
Geronimo joined Cochise in the Apache Wars against The United States until finally being forced onto reservation. Famously, Geronimo escaped reservation in 1885 and it took the military an entire year to find him and force his surrender. During this time he was ruthless to settlers, would raid many towns, and was the last major Native American force to stand up to the United States before being sent to a Florida prison.

VI - 1890 - Wounded Knee - Lakota Sioux & Cheyenne

Rumors of Jesus Christ returning to earth as a Native American spread throughout Lakota Sioux reservations. Many desperate tribes believed that this could bring back the buffalo, their ancestors, and freedom from the US. Many tribes began dancing frequently to celebrate the new coming of Christ, which frightened nearby American settlers. In response, Native American sheriffs were sent to arrest Chief Sitting Bull for his beliefs. However, Sitting Bull resisted, leading to his death and the death of 8 supporters and 7 officers.

Sitting Bull's followers fled in fear to a nearby Cheyenne reservation. American soldiers tracked them to the new camp, where they surrounded the tribes at night with artillery. The next morning, American soldiers came to confiscate their weapons but a rifle accidentally went off. Startled American soldiers began shooting everyone. Sioux and Cheyenne men, women, and children were shot dead as they attempted to escape the massacre. 300 of the 350 native peoples were killed.

Event	Description	Observation
The Mankato Executions	Observation: _____ Summary: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	
The Sand Creek Massacre	Observation: _____ Summary: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	
The Battle of Little Bighorn	Observation: _____ Summary: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	

The Flight of the Nez Perce	<p>Observation:</p> <hr/> <p>Summary:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
Geronimo's Escape	<p>Observation:</p> <hr/> <p>Summary:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
The Wounded Knee Massacre	<p>Observation:</p> <hr/> <p>Summary:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	

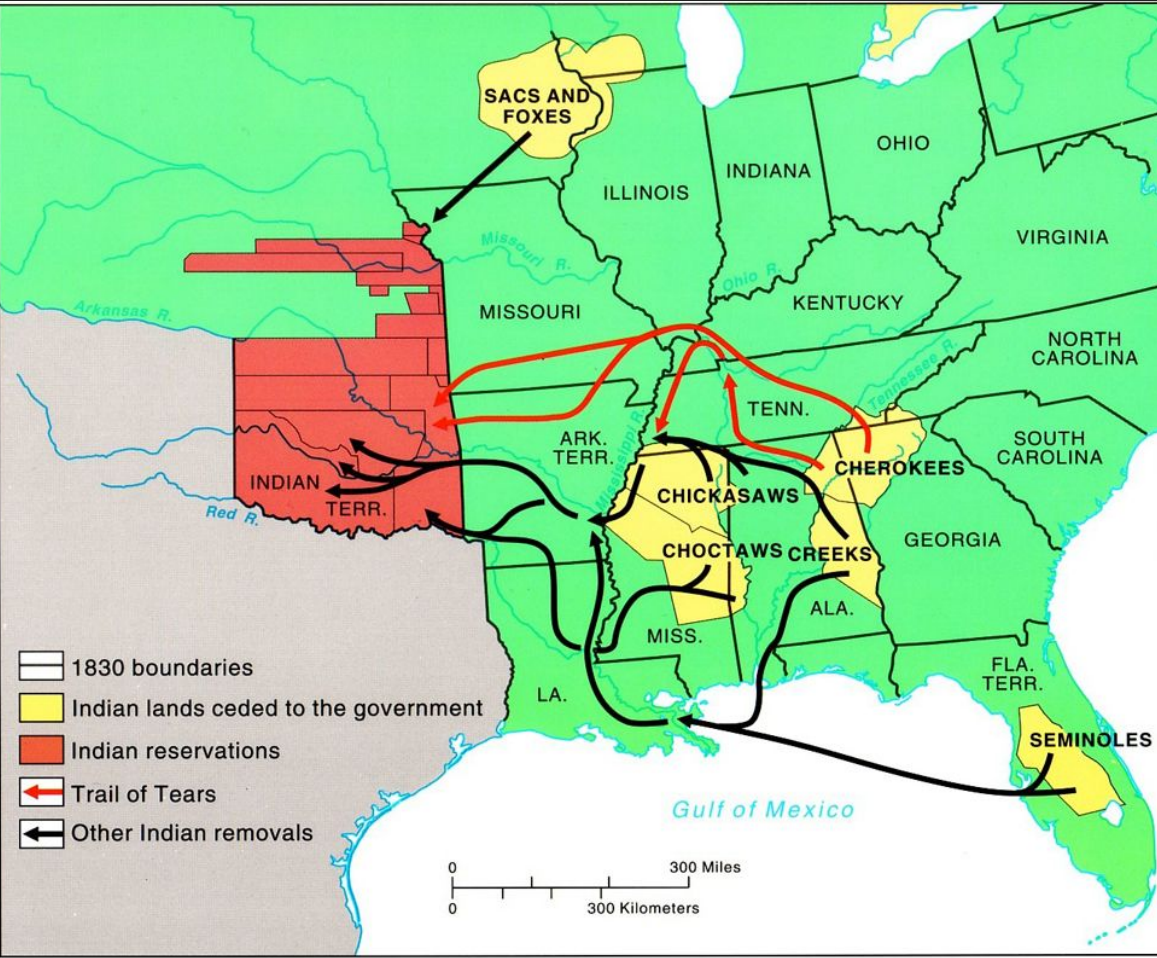
Cooldown: Were the 116 massacres inevitable? Who was more to blame: soldiers, settlers, or politicians?

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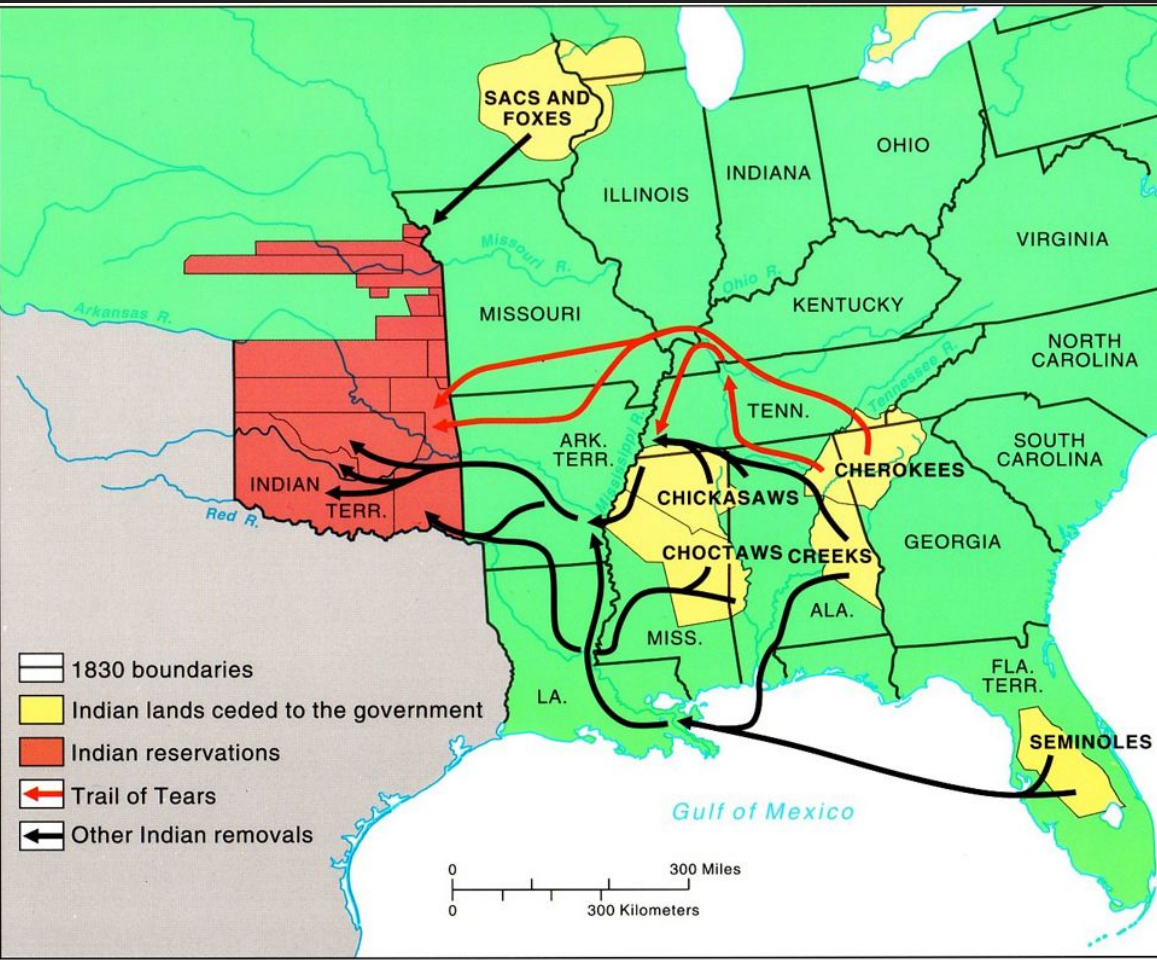
Warm-up: Write down 3 observations



Dramatic Read - Trail of Tears

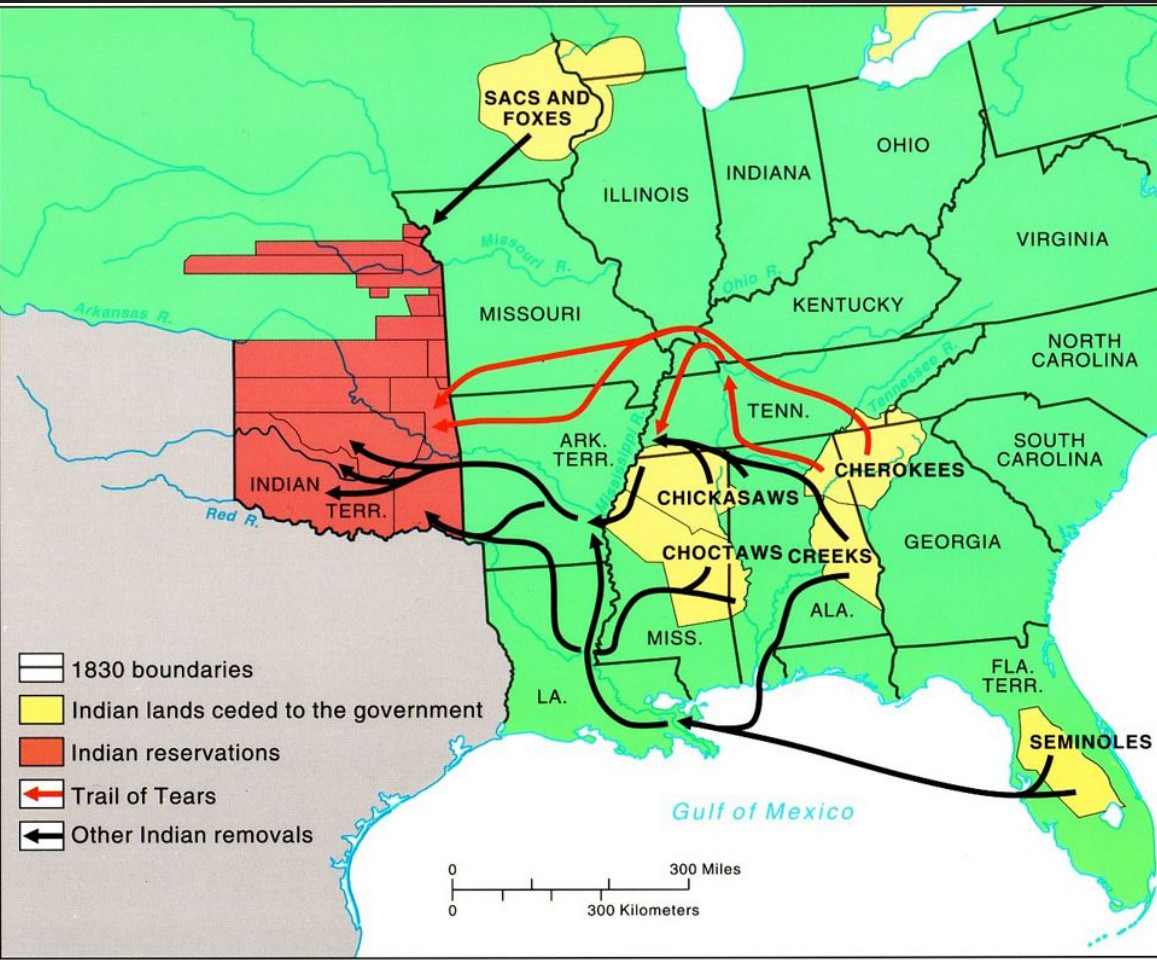


Primary Sources



Highlight 3 significant facts as we read the primary sources.

Primary Sources



How did people suffer on the Trail of Tears?

A massacre is...

A brutal slaughter of a group of people.

Gallery Walk

Directions: Travel to each of the 5 images around the room.

- 1) Write down observations
- 2) Read the matching text on page 1 and describe it

<u>Event</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Brief Observation</u>
Trail of Tears		
Sand Creek Massacre		

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<u>Event</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Brief Observation</u>
Trail of Tears		Natives were loaded like cattle into wagons. They had no shoes or blankets. 15 natives were buried at each stop.
Sand Creek Massacre		

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<u>Event</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Brief Observation</u>
Trail of Tears	Natives were forcibly sent to Oklahoma. Thousands died on this journey due to the harsh conditions. This unconstitutional act was done so Jackson could give fertile land to his white voters.	Natives were loaded like cattle into wagons. They had no shoes or blankets. 15 natives were buried at each stop.
Sand Creek Massacre		

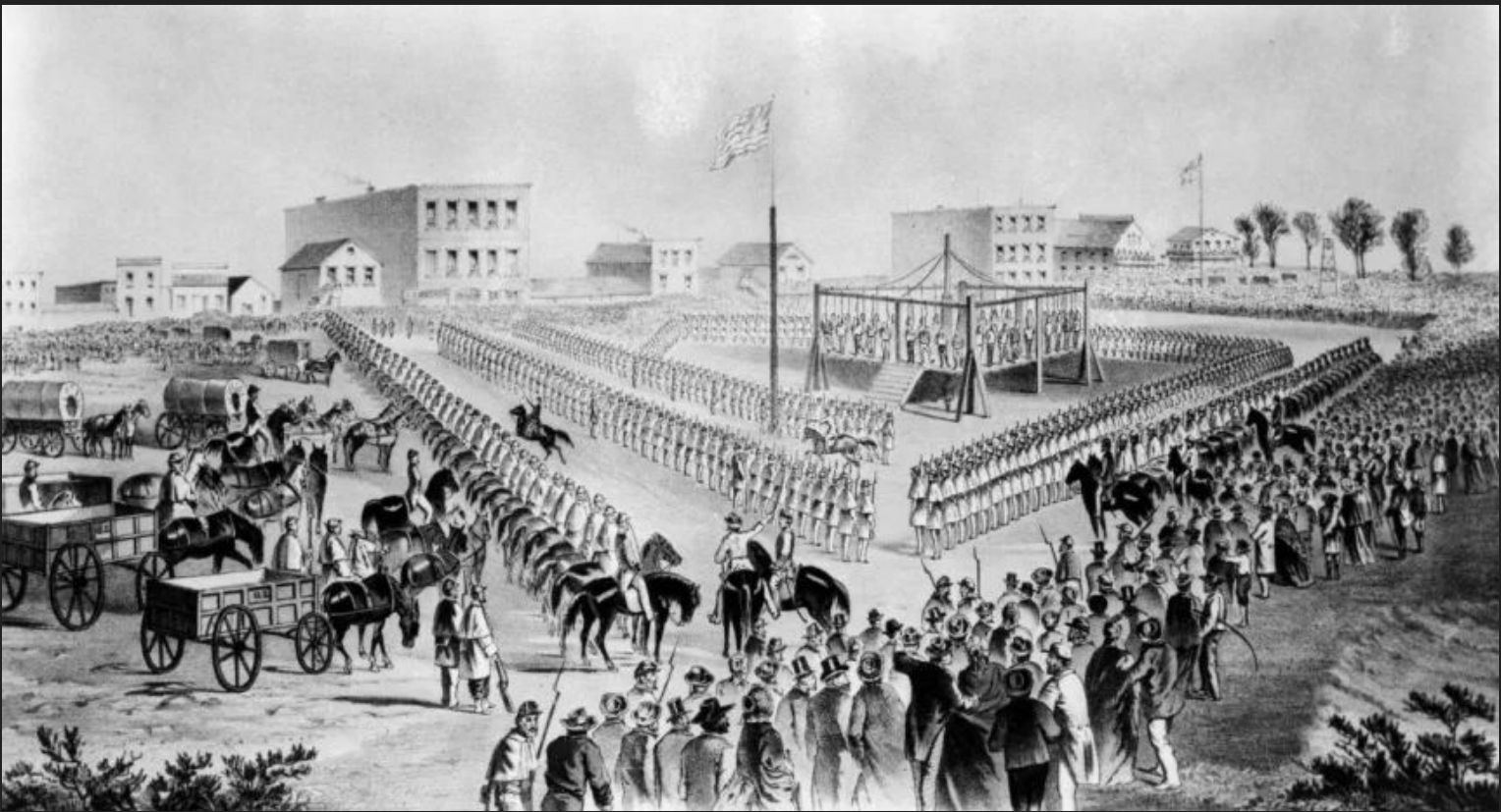
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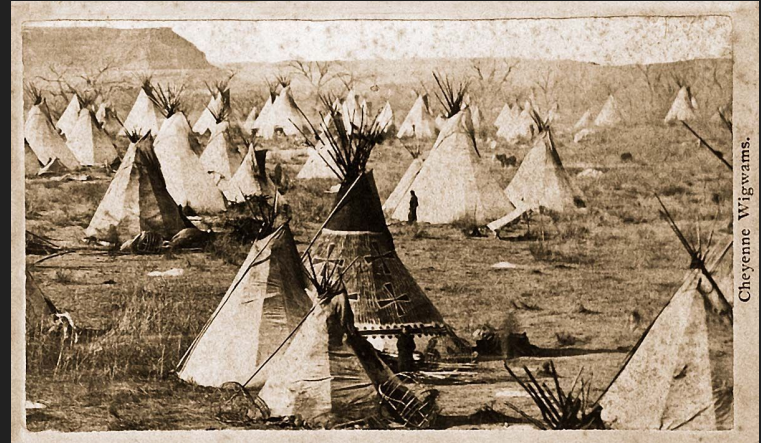
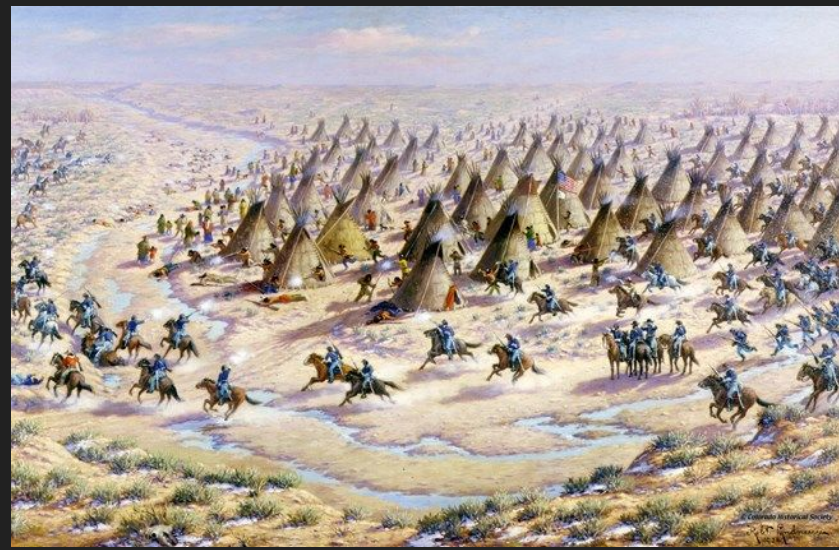
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Discussion



The Mankato Executions



The Sand Creek Massacre



The Battle of Little Bighorn

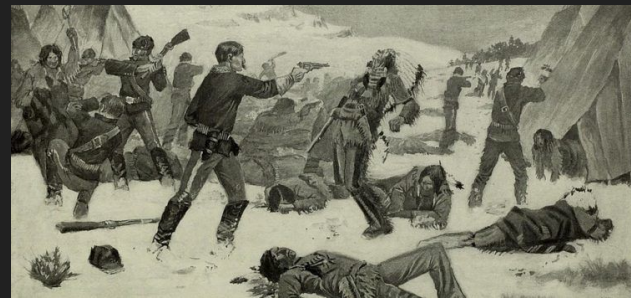


The Flight of the Nez Perce





Geronimo's Escape



Wounded Knee

Cooldown - Were the over 116 Native American massacres inevitable? Who was more to blame: soldiers, settlers, or political leaders?