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Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, communicating, in answer to a Senate resolution of March 19, 1874, information in relation to the number of Indians captured or killed by United States troops during the year 1873.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

COMMUNICATING,

In answer to a Senate resolution of March 19, 1874, information in relation to the number of Indians captured or killed by United States troops during the year 1873.

FEBRUARY 1, 1875.—Ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., January 29, 1875.

SIR: On the 19th day of March, 1874, this Department received a resolution of the Senate in the following words:

That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, directed to communicate to the Senate any information in his possession or that may be attainable through Indian inspectors, superintendents, and agents, as to the number of Indians, including women and children, who have been taken as captives or killed by United States troops during the year 1873, and particularly under what circumstances so captured or killed, and upon whose order or for what cause, and whether or not upon their reservations, as well as the tribes to which at the time they severally belonged. Also the number and description of citizens and soldiers killed by Indians during the same period. Also that he make like inquiry for the six months ending June 30, 1874, and report to Congress in December next.

In answer to said resolution, I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 27th instant, with the accompanying statement, containing such information as the Department has been able to collect in relation to the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO,
Secretary.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., January 27, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge by reference the receipt of a copy of a resolution passed by the United States Senate March 19, 1874, calling for a report relative to the number of Indians taken captive or killed by the United States troops; and the number of citizens and soldiers killed by Indians in the year 1873; also the same information covering the six months ending with June 30, 1874.

The copy of the resolution was received on March 20, 1874, and a circular was immediately prepared calling for the desired information and mailed to each inspector, superintendent, and agent in the Indian service.

A copy of this circular is inclosed herewith.

The replies came in tardily, and many of those to whom the circular was addressed delayed responding till the termination of the whole period covered by the resolution, and it seems to have taken some time thereafter for some of the agents to obtain and forward the desired information. A few have not yet made returns.

But such returns as have been received have been collated and tabulated, and the results are transmitted herewith.

The degree of accuracy in the several statements has been incorporated in the tabulation.

	In 1873.	Six mos. of 1874.
According to the reports there were:		
Indians captured by United States troops	227	73
Indians killed by United States troops.....	405	158
Citizens killed by Indians.....	44	36
Soldiers killed by Indians.....	48	3

The copy of the resolution is returned herewith.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
EDW. P. SMITH,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

(1874—No. 2.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., April 1, 1874.

SIR: The resolution hereto appended, passed by the United States Senate March 19, 1874, and calling for information relative to the capturing and killing of Indians by United States troops on the one side, and of citizens and soldiers on the other, is so explicit as fully to explain itself. In order to enable the Department properly to comply with its requirements, you will use due diligence to ascertain all the facts contemplated by the resolution within the limits of your official jurisdiction, and make special report of them to this Office as soon as ascertained.

Observe that the resolution contemplates two different reports, the one to cover all the cases which occurred during the year 1873, and the other those occurring during the six months ending June 30, 1874, and each to furnish the following facts:

1. The number of Indians, including women and children, who have been taken as captives, or killed by United States troops, and particularly under what circumstances they were so captured or killed, and upon whose order, or for what cause, and whether or not they were upon their reservations at the time; also the names of the tribes to which they severally belonged.

2. The number and description of citizens, including name, age, and sex, and of soldiers killed by Indians during the same periods; also, as far as possible, the names of the tribes to which such Indians belonged.

You will give diligent attention to this matter, and furnish in every case, as far as may be practicable, the exact dates of the facts and occurrences you may have to report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Commissioner.

INDIANS KILLED BY UNITED STATES TROOPS.

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RESOLUTION.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, MARCH 19, 1874.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, directed to communicate to the Senate any information in his possession, or that may be attainable through Indian inspectors, superintendents, and agents, as to the number of Indians, including women and children, who have been taken as captives or killed by United States troops, during the year 1873, and particularly under what circumstances so captured or killed, and upon whose order or for what cause, and whether or not upon their reservations, as well as the tribes to which, at the time, they severally belonged; also the number and description of citizens and soldiers killed by Indians during the same period; also that he make like inquiry for the six months ending June 30, 1874, and report to Congress in December next.

Attest:

GEO. C. GORHAM,
Secretary.

Indians captured or killed by United States troops during the year 1873.

State or Territory.	Date.	Tribe.	Captured.	Killed.	By whose order, cause, and circumstances.
Arizona	Mar. 15	Mojave .....	.....	1 man; on his reservation...	Killed while resisting arrest for intoxication by soldiers under orders of post-commander.
Do	Aug. 12	Tonto Apaches .....	.....	100 to 150 men, women, and children; not on their reservation.	These Indians were part of over 900 who left their reservation, and were killed by United States troops sent out by the post-commander to bring them back to the reservation, which attempt they resisted or evaded.
Do	Sept. —	Apaches .....	.....	Delesche, an Apache chief, and his band of 50; not on their reservation.	This chief was in open hostility to the community, and committing outrages on citizens and friendly Indians; and was killed, with all his band, (it is supposed,) by United States troops and scouts acting under orders of the post-commander.
Do	During the year.	Apaches of Camp Verde ...	39 men, women, and children.	193 men, women, and children.	Reported by Inspector Daniels, who does not give further details.
Dakota .....	.....	Supposed to have been Arapahoes of Sioux reservation.	.....	Whistler and 2 other men; not on their reservation.	Reported by Agent Saville; no details given.
Do	July —	Arapahoes of Sioux reservation.	.....	4 men	Do.
Idaho.....	July —	Bannacks of Lemhi reservation.	.....	3 men, or, according to Agent Reed, 4 men.	A band of Bannacks was arrested by the sheriff for various offenses, and put in charge of the post-commander at Fort Hall; some six months prior, and while out cutting wood under guard, these men, in attempting to escape, were killed by the guard, United States troops.
Indian Territory.....	Dec. 9	Comanches of Kiowa and Comanche reservation.	.....	9 men; 1 woman; not known whether on or off their reservation.	These Indians were surprised and killed by a detachment of United States troops from Camp Clark, under command of Lieutenant Hudson; place and cause for this attack not stated.
Montana.....	April—	Assinaboines of Blackfeet reservation.	.....	17 men, women, and children; supposed to be on their reservation.	Whites from Fort Benton, in pursuit of a band of British Indians, (Crees, horse-stealers,) came upon these Assinaboines in camp, and attacked and killed them. It is not stated whether United States troops were engaged.
New Mexico.....	June 13	Mescalero Apaches .....	.....	2 men; not on their reservation.	These Indians were part of a band of horse-thieves who fled from Hot Springs reservation agency, and were pursued and killed by United States troops, under orders from the post-commander.
Do.....	June 24	Apache.....	.....	1 woman; on her reservation.	Killed by a chance-shot from the guard of United States troops at Southern Apache agency, in an affray resulting from attempt to arrest some drunken Indians.
Do.....	July 24	.....do	27, mostly women and children, arrested on their reservation.	.....	Arrested on their reservation by the post-commander, and detained for a few days at request of Superintendent L. E. Dudley, to compel a council of Indians.

Do.....	July 30	do.....	2 men, arrested on their reservation.		These Indians were arrested by the post-commander at request of Agent B. M. Thomas, and detained a few days as hostages to compel the chief to perform his promises. No further particulars given.
Do.....	Oct. 1	Mescalero Apaches.....		1 man, 1 woman.....	Part of band which had left their reservation and were killed in evading or resisting an attempt to bring them back to their reservation by United States troops under orders from post-commander.
Oregon Lava Beds, Jackson County.	May —	Modocs.....	159 men, women, and children captured or surrendered.	7 men, 8 women, 3 children..	In the Modoc war, under the general commanding.

Indians captured or killed by United States troops during the six months ending June 30, 1874.

Arizona.....	Feb. —	Apaches.....	29 men, women, and children alleged to have been confined at Camp Apache.	53 men, women, and children, as reported by the chiefs, and 100 to 150, according to United States officers. Not on their reservation.	Eskimmingin, an Apache chief at San Carlos agency, was arrested and put in the guard-house by order of the officer in command at that post. He escaped and fled to the mountains, and his example was followed by a large portion of the reservation Indians. United States troops and Indian scouts, under the orders of the officer in command, pursued and attempted to bring them back, and the Indians resisted with said result.
Do.....		Apaches of Camp Verde....	44, supposed all men.....	29 men, women, and children. Not on their reservation,	Circumstances not given, except that the Indians were driven into the reservation by United States troops in March, April, and May.
Dakota.....	Apr. 26	Sioux of Red Cloud agency..		6 men.....	These Indians were alleged to have been horse-thieves, and were pursued by United States troops from Fort Fetterman and killed, as per dispatch April 26, 1874, of Major Chambers, Fourth United States Infantry, to adjutant-general Department of the Platte.
Do.....	Mar. —	do.....		12 men.....	Killed by Bozeman expedition. Reported by Agent Saville, who does not state whether United States troops composed part of that expedition.
Texas.....	Feb. 5	Kiowas or Comanches.....		10 men, 1 woman.....	Surprised and killed by United States troops from Fort Griffin, Texas, under Lieut. Col. Buel.

Citizens and soldiers killed by Indians during the year 1873.

State or Territory.	Reservation.	Date.	Name and description.	By whom killed.	Circumstances.
Arizona	Camp Verde	Aug. —	5 white men, citizens, names not given	Rio Verde Apaches	
		Aug. —	Townsend, citizen	Tonto Apaches	
Do.	Near Utah line	Aug. —	2 men, names not given	do	
		Dec. 20	George McLennan, white, from Nevada	Pi Utes and Navajoes	
			Charles Martin, white, from Utah		
Do.	White Mountain		Lieutenant Almy, United States Army	Apaches from White Mountain reservation	
			Hospital steward, name not given	do	
			2 white men, names not known	do	
Dakota	Sioux	Sept. 17	John M. Logan	do	
		Mar. 19	Frank Grimmer, a Canadian	Minneconjoux Indians	
			Byron D. Kraner	Lone Horse band of Minneconjoux Indians	
		June —	Mrs. Richards		
		June —	Mrs. Hall		
		June —	White man, name not known		
		Apr. —	Peter Dodson		
		Apr. —	David Rodgers		
		Apr. —	— Dekalt		
Montana	Blackfeet	Sept. —	Joseph Rebold, a Mexican	Northern Cheyennes and Arapahoes.	These Indians were on a stock-stealing raid when they encountered and murdered Rebold and Noyes.
		Sept. —	Charles Noyes, white, aged 28		
		May 2	— Rivers, aged 30	North Assinaboines.	These men engaged in selling liquor to the Indians, and were killed in an affray with drunken Indians.
		May 2	White man, unknown		
Do.	On the Yellowstone	Aug. —	Veterinary Surgeon Hansinger	Not known	
		Aug. —	William Balleran	do	
		Aug. —	White man, unknown	do	
Do.	Crow	Sept. 3	Charles Boyd, white	Arapahoes and Northern Cheyennes.	
		Sept. 3	Joseph Hosea, Mexican		
		June —	Louis Gagnon	Assinaboines	
			F. H. Terrault	Sioux	
New Mexico	Mescalero Apache	Oct. —	2 herders	Mescalero Apaches	
Do.	Hot Springs	July 13	1 United States soldier	Apaches	
Oregon	Lava-Beds	Apr. 11	General E. R. S. Canby	Modocs	Modoc war.
		Apr. 11	Dr. E. Thomas	do	Do.
		Apr. 14	Lieutenant Sherwood, Twenty-first Infantry	do	Do.
		May —	Patrick McGrath, First Cavalry	do	Do.
		May —	Corporal James I. Totten, First Cavalry	do	Do.
		May —	Private Adolphus Fisher, First Cavalry	do	Do.
		May —	Corporal Edward Drew, Twelfth Infantry	do	Do.
		May —	Private Ch. Johnson, First Cavalry	do	Do.

		May	---	Bugler William Learlea, First Cavalry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Bugler William Smith, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private H. C. Hasman, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Sergt. Richard Morgan, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private John Welsh, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Captain Thomas, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	First Lieut. Albion Howe, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	First Lieut. T. F. Wright, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private John Ward, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private Michael Wallace, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private James Rose, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Sergt. Robert Romer, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private William Bayle, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private Thomas Howard, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private Berthold Rusbbaum, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	John Parker, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Bugler Ed. Moran, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private John Collins, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Corporal Law. Mooney, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private John Lynch, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private F. W. Gieb, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	First Lieut. Arthur Cranston, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Sergeant Herman Seelig, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private Louis Bloom, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private James E. Albein, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Corporal Julius St. Clair, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private Michael Flinn, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Second Lieutenant G. M. Harris, Fourth Artillery	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private W. F. Benham, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Sergeant M. Clinton, Twelfth Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private George Hollas, First Cavalry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private C. W. Lavallo, First Cavalry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private Carl Glasman, Twenty-first Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private James Monroe, Twenty-first Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private John Brauner, Twenty-first Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private John Benson, Twenty-first Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Private Robert Long, Twenty-first Infantry	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Frank Hoag, packer	.....do	Do.
		May	---	John R. Brown, First Oregon Volunteers	.....do	Do.
		May	---	W. F. Trimble, First Oregon Volunteers	.....do	Do.
		May	---	George W. Roberts, California	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Jeremiah Crook, California	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Louis Weber, citizen	.....do	Do.
		May	---	Two Indian scouts	.....do	Do.
Texas	Near Pan Handle	Aug.	25	Unknown man, a surveyor	.....do	Cheyennes, as supposed.
	Port Griffin	Sept.	13	Howell Walker	.....do	Comanches, as supposed.
		Sept.	13	Son of Howell Walker	.....do	
	Fort Richardson	Sept.	13	E. Fenlin	.....do	Comanches
	Not stated	Oct.	10	Unknown white	.....do	Not known
	Jackson County	Oct.	10	Unknown herder	.....do	do

Citizens and soldiers killed by Indians during the six months ending June 30, 1874.

State or Territory.	Reservation.	Date.	Name and description.	By whom killed.	Circumstances.
Arizona	White Mountain	One man, unknown	Apaches	
		Jan. 31	Two men, unknown	do	
		Feb. 3	Three men, unknown	do	
Dakota	Sioux	Two women, unknown	do	
		.....	Two children, unknown	do
		Feb. 22	E. Collins, private, United States Army	Minneconjoux	
		Feb. 8	Frank Appleton, clerk at Red Cloud Agency	Lone Horse	
		Mar. —	Charles Manchester .....	.....
		Mar. —	Yates .....	.....
		Feb. —	Gray .....	.....
.....	One United States soldier, unknown .....	.....		
.....	Lieutenant Robinson, United States Army .....	.....		
.....	Edward Gray, teamster	Northern Sioux	Killed while chopping wood.		
Do	Fort Berthold	May —		Christopher Weaver	
Indian Territory	Cheyenne and Arapahoe	May 21	John F. Holloway, agency employé	Cheyennes	Found killed on the road, and their wagons plundered.
.....	.....	June or July.	Pat Hennessy, George Fand, Thomas Calloway, and Ed. Cook, teamsters.	
.....	Kiowa and Comanche	One man, driver for English party	Kiowas or Comanches	In an affray between the father of Miss Costello and a Pillager Indian the latter fired through the door and killed Miss Costello.
.....	.....	.....	One man, member of Hackbusch's surveyors	do
Minnesota	Leech Lake .....	.....	One man, unknown	Leech Lake Indians
.....	White Earth	Feb. 2	Miss Costello	Pillager Indians	Killed while chopping wood.
Montana	Blackfeet .....	.....	John Rock, aged 23	North British Blackfeet
Do	Judith Basin Blackfeet	Apr. 11	Three or four men	Piegans	These men were whisky-traders, and were killed in an affray with drunken Indians.
.....	.....	Apr. 11	Frederick P. Howard	Northern Piegans
.....	.....	Apr. 11	Joseph Day	
Nebraska	Forks of the North Loup	Jan. 19	One man, unknown	Sioux	Roving Indians
Do	Green County	Mar. 2	Joseph Ditts	Not known	
Texas	Near Kiowa and Comanche	Andy Parks
.....	.....	.....	Henry Bowen, from Oregon, Mo	do
.....	.....	June 4	Walker	Comanches, as supposed