

WARD

Bobby, let me tell ya, the Ninth and Tenth didn't shed many tears when Sitting Bull tore up Custer long haired behind. In fact! They was glad he hadn't taken charge of the Tenth cause that fool might have led them out into some massacre...

(Lights out, WARD. Lights up on CUSTER.)

CUSTER

From the newspaper the Topeka Weekly Reader...the Homesteaders have little sympathy for these Indians...As far as we are concerned they are a set of miserable, dirty, lousy, blanketed, thieving, lying, sneaking, murdering, faithless gut eating skunks as the Lord ever permitted to infect the earth, and their immediate and final extermination all men, except Indian agents and traders should pray for.

(Photos of Native Americans families on screen.)

WARD

Hates to say it, but a lotta Native Americans died in them days. Tortured, massacred. I feels bad about our part in that. White folks hated the Native American worst than they did us. I reckon cause the Red man owned the land. We didn't hate nobody. We was just tryin' to survive ourselves! Not just the Buffalo soldier but ANY soldier separates his mind from what he's ordered to do. He concentrates on the job - not on - is the job right or wrong. You take what "questions" you got and put um in a "closet" in the back of your mind. Keep it there. That's the worse thing about soldierin', boy.

(As the lights slowly come up, TRIMBLE and STANCE are dancing around a campfire. BOYER is playing a fiddle, while SHARPE is sipping on a cup of coffee. SHARPE steps out to us and speaks.)

SHARPE

I like being a buffalo soldier. I 'spects it was because of the work. I liked working with the horses, buildin' roads and bridges, being a cavalry man. As far as being with the men, being a part of the Ninth was being like family. I think we felt that as long as we had each other, nobody and nothing could hurt us and for sure NOTHING could stop us. And nothin' did.