

(We see a series of drawings of Buffalo soldiers at battle.)

(SHARPE, TRIMBLE and BOYER are engaged in an attack.)

SHARPE

This here's the worst I been in...Kickapoos, Lipans, Mexicans, and some white renegades...about nine hundred of them total attacked Fort Lancaster...after a three hour fight the renegades broke off, we took possession of the field, leavin' twenty of their people dead, scores wounded...

(A beat.)

Us three was left guarding the herd, some of them renegades come up from behind and surprised us...there's a whole mess of um, we're tryin' to hold um off...it don't look good

(SHARPE about to fire.)

(The men freeze as STANCE comes into the light.)

STANCE

Sharpe was right it didn't look good. Surprised and out numbered they were roped and dragged off. For months they were missing and presumed dead, finally we found their remains near the banks of the Pecos River. Trimble, Boyer and Sharpe died in action.

(Fade out, STANCE, slow fade the MEN. Lights up on WARD.)

(During the monologue a series of photos or drawings can be projected that relate to the events mentioned.)

WARD

The Buffalo Soldiers never got no rest. We were everywhere. The Ninth helped put down a uprising of Kiowas, Comanches and Cheyennes in what they call the Red River war. Then we was sent down to settle that big feud between cattle barons down there in Lincoln County, New Mexico. Billy the Kid was a hired gun in that mess. That's right, Billy the Kid! We worked with all them people in the old west. Shoot, Buffalo Bill Cody, Kit Carson worked for us as scouts. Umhum! But see, things was gettin' ready to heat up. The Ninth was called on to capture the Apache...Victorio. During the Victorio campaign, Sergeant Henry Johnson, from Baltimore, won a Medal of Honor saving his fellow Buffalo Soldiers. Later, on they wanted to give Johnson another medal for his bravery on San Juan Hill during the Spanish American War. Johnson was a hum-dinger! Now, you take Grierson and the Tenth Cavalry, they had been just as busy.