

(We see the painting by Nick Eggenhofer "Tenth Cavalry at the Battle of Rattlesnake Springs")

(Lights up, GRIERSON.)

GRIERSON

Victorio and his Lieutenant, Nana, would lead raids into Arizona and then cross the border into Mexico. The troopers could not cross the boarder and apprehend them. We finally caught up with him at the battle of Rattlesnake Springs, we delivered Victorio a major blow. But Victorio escaped and again fled into Mexico. We had broken down Victorio making him an easy target for the final attack. With permission, we went into Mexico after him but were asked eventually to leave. Mexican troops then attacked Victorio and the Apache warrior was killed. The Buffalo soldiers received virtually no credit - we got on with our work, there were more Apache's to capture. The fierce warrior Geronimo had escaped.

(Enter, SCOTT.)

SCOTT

I'm Corporal Scott, K. Company Tenth Cavalry. On April 27, Geronimo crossed the border and tore through the Santa Cruz Valley, killed a good number of cowboys, took some hostages. Captain Lebo got word and we set out after them, quick-in-a-hurry. We found Geronimo's trail and hung to it like bark on a tree. Geronimo tried every trick in the book to shake us, but he couldn't. Frustrated, Geronimo headed for Old Mexico. We chased that man for 200 miles, the Indians had ridden thirty horses to death along the way! We caught up with Geronimo about thirty miles south of Sonora. Now, I'm a tell ya now, Geronimo was a military genius. He always got up high, in rocky slopes, cliff country, which made it next to impossible to get him out. Geronimo opened up on us with a curtain of lead. Private Hollis was killed. As I was takin' cover, I was hit in both legs. Bullets was wizzin' every which-away. I was pinned down, couldn't move. Young Lieutnant Powhattan Clarke rose up from behind a boulder, ignorin' a hail of bullets, came to my side and carried me to safety. I never will forget what that man did for me. A white man riskin' his life to save me? I reckon we'd all become like one, white and colored. We'z all buffalo soldiers.