**Battle of Powder River Research Module**

**Definition**: U.S. cavalry conducts attack upon a Sioux and Cheyenne village as part of the Great Sioux War of 1876.

**NOTE**: The references below provide information relevant to this engagement. Use these references and supplement with your own research.

**HINT**: Include analysis of the problems created by weather, limited intelligence, scouts becoming lost or disoriented, and the willingness of the Indians to fight rather than flee.

**Electronic References listed by file name:**

1934 Account BG Brown

* Article on the battle at Powder River compiled by BG (ret) W.C. Brown in 1934 with narrative and analysis of US Army actions.

Battle of Powder River CGSC 2001

* Command and General Staff College master’s thesis written by MAJ Michael L. Hedegaard entitled “Colonel Joseph J. Reynolds and the Saint Patrick’s Day Celebration on Powder River: Battle of Powder River (Montana, 17 March 1876).” Analyzes events leading up to battle, the actual engagement, and its impact upon the Great Sioux War of 1876.

***Recommended Websites:***

<http://www.benning.army.mil/Library/>

* This is the website of the Donovan Research Library, which features an online catalogue and a host of different services, including JSTOR, through which to conduct research and access source material. Once you have established a library account, you can access their electronic items, including books.

***Suggested secondary sources:***

Gray, John S., *Centennial Campaign: The Sioux War of 1876* (Norman: University of

Oklahoma Press, 1988), pp. 47-58. Available in the Donovan Research Library.

E83.876.G737 1988.

Greene, Jerome A. (ed.), *Battles and Skirmishes of the Great Sioux War, 1876-1877:*

*The Military View* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1993). Available in the

Donovan Research Library. E83.876.B3 1993.

--------, *Lakota and Cheyenne: Indian Views of the Great Sioux War, 1876-1877*

(Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1994). Available in the Donovan

Research Library. E83.876.L25 1994.

--------, *Indian War Veterans: Memories of Army Life and Campaigns in the West, 1864-*

*1898* (Havertown: Savas Beatie, 2011). Electronic book available through the

Donovan Research Library.

Robinson, Charles M. III, *General Crook and the Western Frontier* (Norman: University

of Oklahoma Press, 2001), pp. 166-172. Available in the Donovan Research

Library. E83.866.C94R62 2001.

Utley, Robert M., *Frontier Regulars: The United States Army and the Indian 1866-1890*

(New York, New York: MacMillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1973), pp. 246-251.

Available in the Donovan Research Library. E83.866.U87 1973.

Vaughn, J.W., *The Reynolds Campaign on Powder River* (University of Oklahoma

Press, 1961). Available in the Donovan Research Library. E83.866.V37.

Vestal, Stanley, *Warpath: The Biography of Chief White Bull*. Available in the Donovan

Research Library as an audiobook.

--------, *Warpath: the True Story of the Fighting Sioux Told in a Biography of Chief White*

*Bull* (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1984). Chapter XVIII

provides an Indian perspective on the Powder River fight. Available as an ebook,

but a google search of “Colonel J.J. Reynolds” will list this source and the text

sample includes all of Chapter XVIII.

***Related Search Subjects (online and library shelves):***

Powder River  
Colonel J.J. Reynolds

3rd Cavalry Regiment

George Crook

Great Sioux War of 1876