



# Session 1

## Welcome and Introduction



1 Some philosophers say that, "Violence never solves anything."

2 They argue that man's actions can be controlled by violence but their minds can't.

3 Why are we so concerned about people's minds today?

4 I've never seen any shrink win on the battlefield... well, maybe once, but he was a Grunt!

5 He got the Taliban so confused that they all killed each other!

6 But I do agree with Martin Luther King that, "Violence never really deals with Evil."

7 You can murder a liar but that doesn't kill the lie... or establish the Truth!

8 I'd love to find another way to fight Evil and seek justice and righteousness, but right now I've got a problem to solve...

9 ... and I'll do what I must to solve my problem.

## Non-sequitur (Latin for “it doesn’t follow”)

A conclusion is not supported by its premise.

**1**

Islam means peace, therefore Islam is a religion of peace.

An arbitrary conclusion that does not follow from the evidence.

**2**

We had to destroy the village to save it.

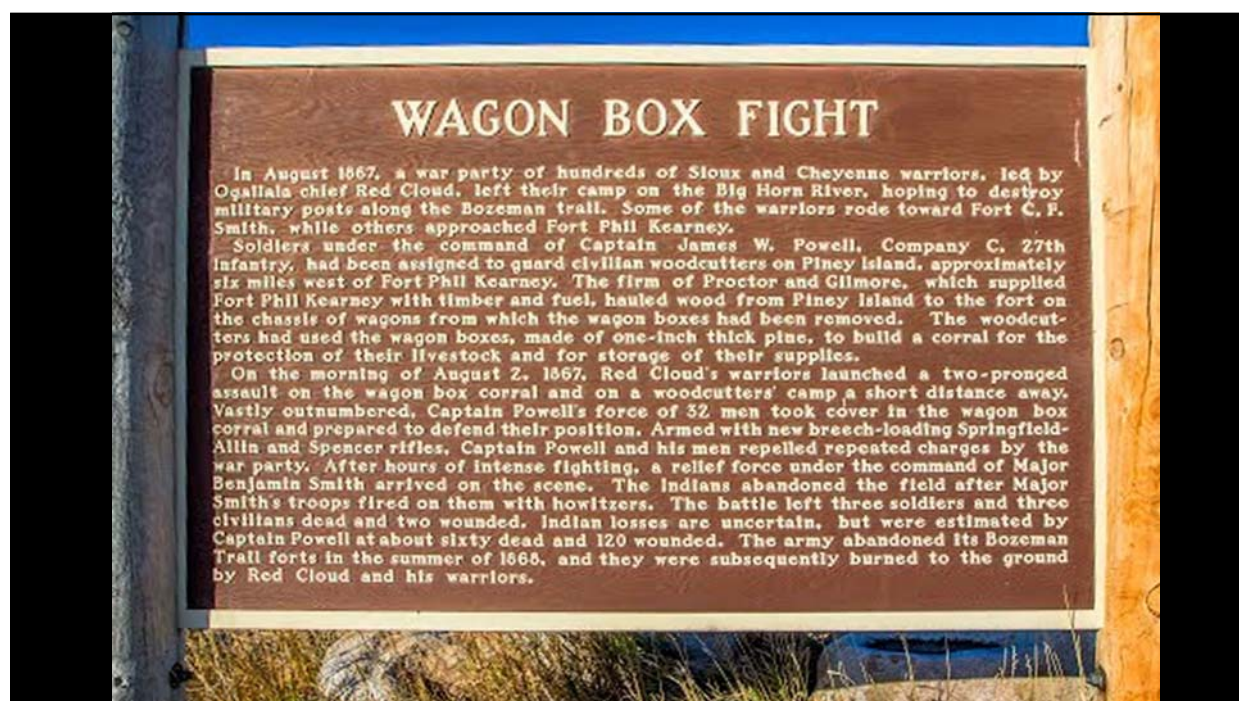
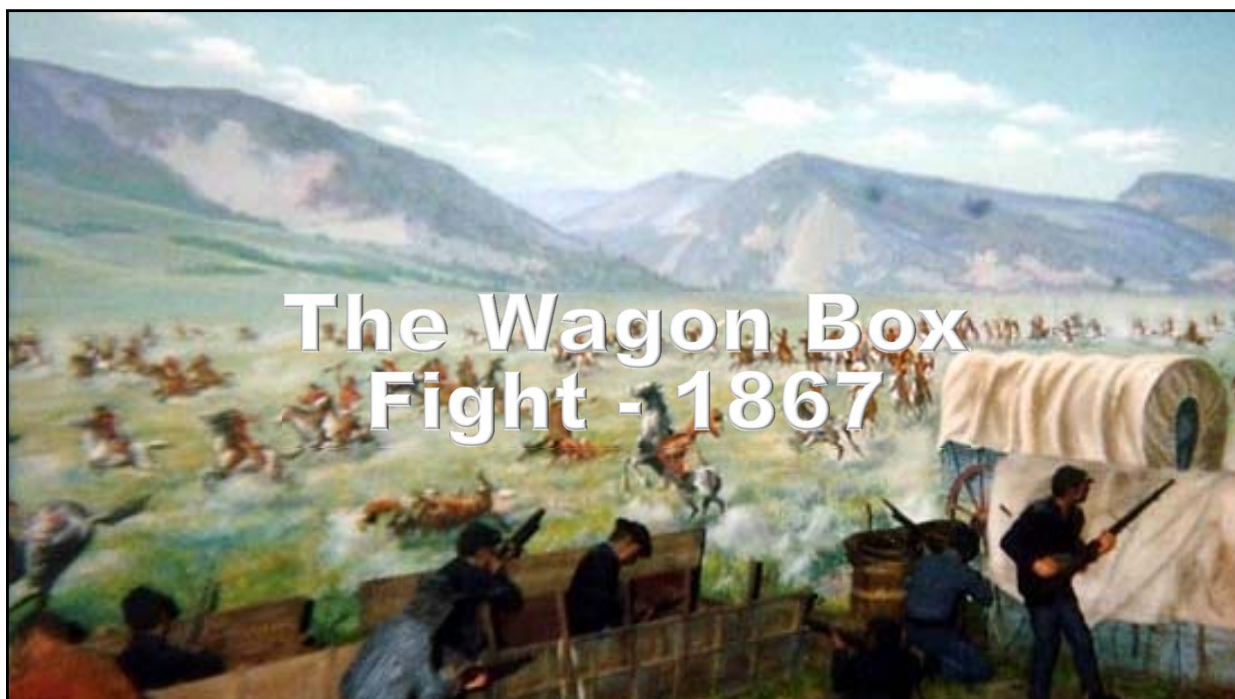
A response unrelated to anything previously said.

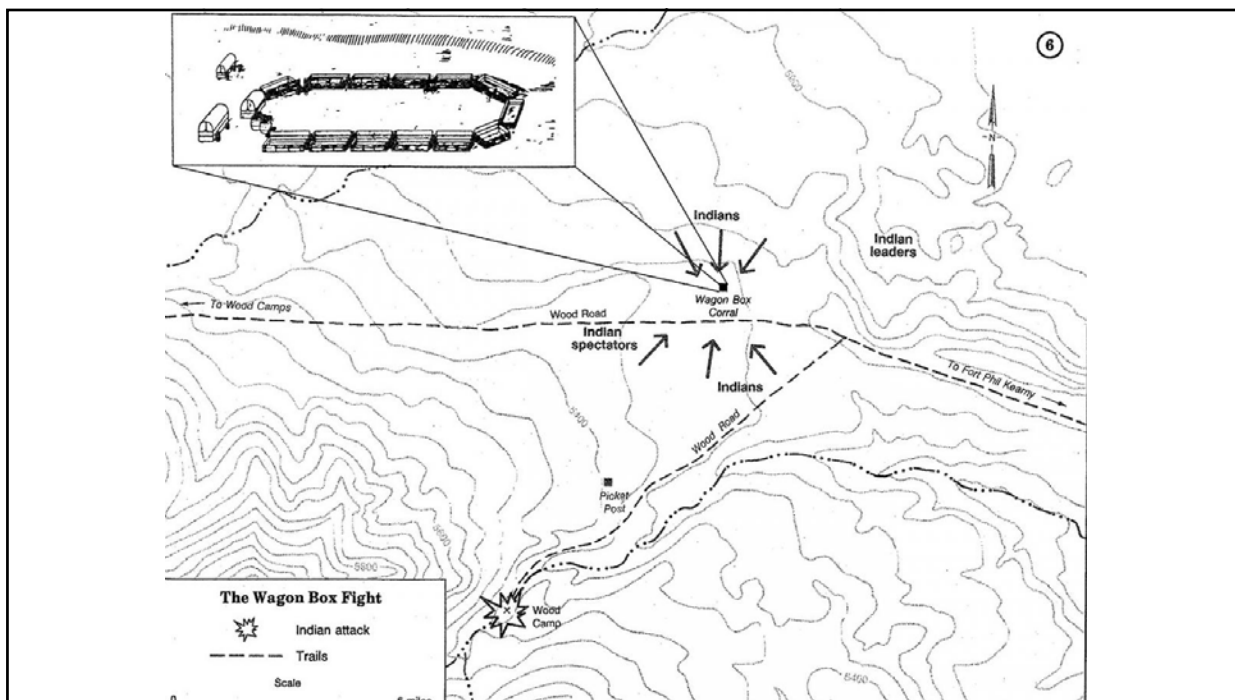
**3**

Violence never solved anything.

## “Violence never solves anything”

- This presupposes that violence is the problem.
- The problem is that immorality is the problem, not violence. We confuse causes and effects.
- Alas, violence both now and in the past has been used to solve most major issues.





For students of military history, the period of 1860-1880 is a particularly interesting and dynamic time.

Weapons development and advancement occurred more rapidly than at any time in previous history. Rapid firing repeating rifles, machine guns and powerful rifled cannon replaced muskets and smooth-bore artillery. Ammunition became more lethal and the effective ranges of weapons increased many fold.

Unfortunately for many, tactics didn't change as fast. During the first part of this period - the Civil War - both sides relied on the linear shoulder-to-shoulder attack formation against rapidly improving weapons with horrific results. Many units on both sides during the Civil War found out that firepower in the hands of a few can trump the tactics of many.

On August 2, 1867, the Plains Indians fighting in Red Cloud's War found it out too.

In a meadow about five miles from Fort Phil Kearney, 32 men with new rifles fought 1,000 braves to a standstill and schooled Crazy Horse on modern firepower. The Wagon Box Fight was a lesson he never forgot and took to the Little Bighorn with him nine years later.



American Indian warriors in the United States may have been the best light infantry in the world at that time. Their mobility, skill, tactics, horsemanship and proficiency with their weapons were second to none. One primary tactic was to close in against the firepower of a fixed enemy to negate the effectiveness of their weapons.

They used a variety of tactics, including ambush, feint, decoy and attack on multiple axes, using their speed and mobility to confuse the enemy and their war cries and face paint to frighten them.

Because a well-trained infantryman could only fire three rounds per minute with a muzzle loader, there were lulls in the rate of fire. The Indians could exploit these lulls to close with and finish their opponents with spears, knives and tomahawks, etc. A typical result would be breaches in the enemy lines and often panic that could lead to a total defensive collapse.

Over the winter of 1866-67, reinforcements arrived at Fort Phil Kearney. They were armed with a single-shot breech-loading rifle called the Springfield Model 1866.

Using a mechanism designed by master gunsmith Erskine Allin at the Springfield Arsenal, these "Allin blocks" were used to convert muzzle loaders into breech loaders. It would be several more years before the Army deployed a new infantry rifle. For now, the Allin rifle was a quantum leap in weapons technology.



With the new rifles, the average soldier could fire 15-20 rounds a minute - over a 500% increase in firepower. Gone were the long lulls in firing that had been exploited so skilfully, but Crazy Horse didn't know that yet.





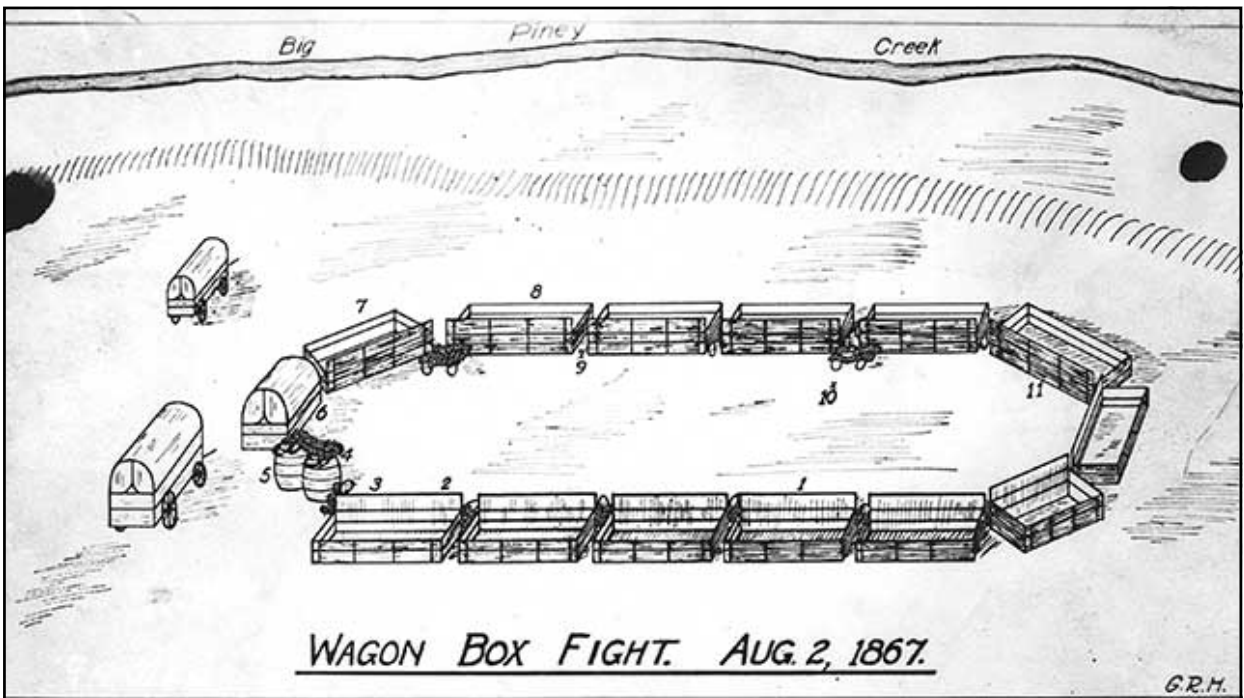


Fort Phil Kearney needed a large and continuous supply of wood. This was provided by civilian contractors who were guarded by soldiers.

A logging camp had been setup in the Wagon Box Fight meadow in July of 1867. The wagon boxes were removed from the wagons to enable longer timber loads on the wagon beds.

The boxes were formed into a defensive corral, along with supply wagons. Gaps were filled with wagon yokes, barrels and natural materials. The four foot high boxes were made of heavy wood providing good protection from fire. With the ends removed, men could move around the perimeter inside the boxes.

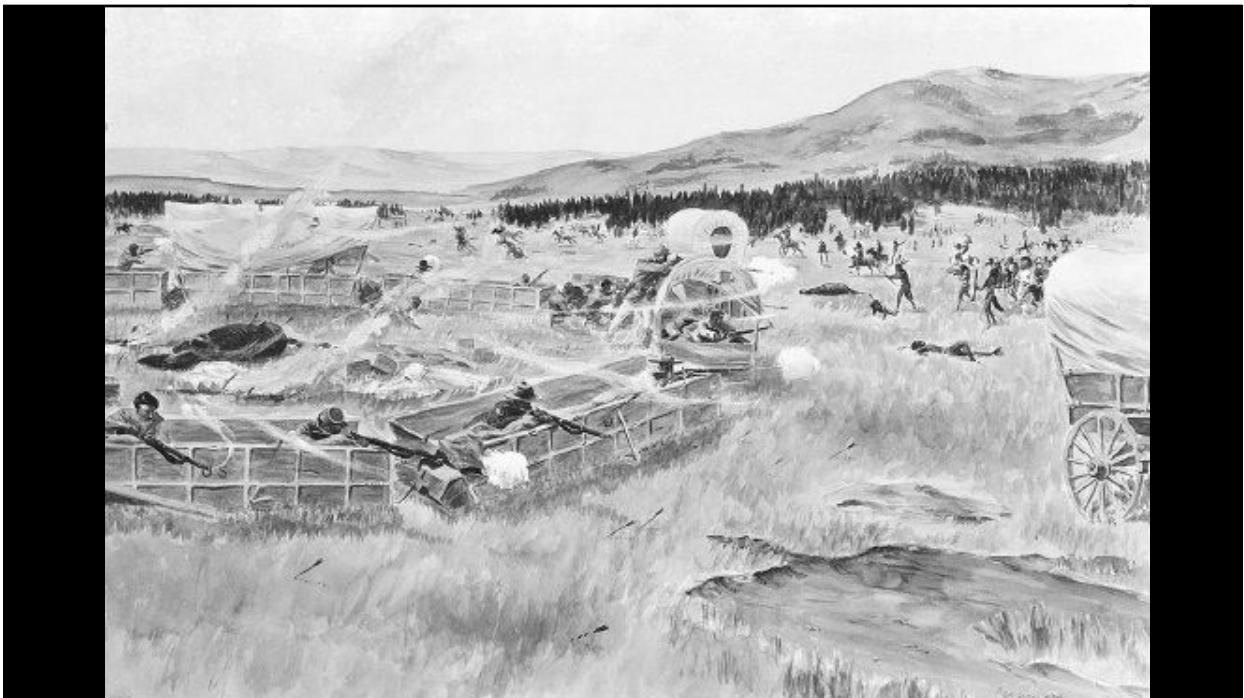
On August 1, a detachment under the command of Captain James Powell took over security duties at the lumber camp. The day before, Red Cloud's men tried unsuccessfully to run off the cattle that were grazing there and pick off a few woodcutters.



On August 2, Red Cloud returned with a force estimated at over 1,000. There were 26 soldiers and six civilians in the corral when they hit and another 50-60 in the meadow and surrounding timber. Those outside the corral took cover where they could and miraculously survived the battle, although only as spectators. Hilltop pickets from Fort Kearney saw the attack begin and a relief force began mustering but for now, the woodcutters were on their own.

The Indians attacked the laager ferociously. Red Cloud directed the attack. Warriors led by Crazy Horse attacked in waves on foot and on horseback for four hours. In between, clouds of arrows and fire arrows arched into the tiny compound, setting the thick horse dung inside the perimeter alight. Despite all, the defenders held on until relief arrived, suffering 3 dead and 2 wounded.

With losses of several hundred, Red Cloud's warriors left the Fort Phil Kearney area, although the fort was still under siege by local tribes.



Red Cloud learned a key lesson from the Wagon Box Fight, which he quickly put to use. Just three months later, they ambushed an Army supply train and captured a wagon load of modern rifles and ample ammunition.

By the time that the Indian Wars reached a climax at the Battle of Greasy Grass (Little Big Horn) on 25 June 1876, Custer's 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalrymen were up against thousands of Sitting Bull's Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne warriors who were as well armed as they were. In fact, two hundred or more of the Indians were known to be armed with lever-action repeating rifles at the battle.