



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dull Knife Painted Buffalo Robe, details

Northern Cheyenne Dull Knife Fight (1876) Buffalo Robe, on exhibit loan in The Brinton Museum's "To Honor the Plains Nations" American Indian Gallery

THE BRINTON MUSEUM (Big Horn, WY) in collaboration with the **Northern Cheyenne Tribe** presents a commemoration ceremony on the day of the 146th anniversary of the Dull Knife Fight celebrating the return of the Dull Knife Painted Buffalo Robe. The observance takes place in the museum's *To Honor the Plains Nations* American Indian Gallery on Friday, November 25, at 11 AM.

Included in this special program will be a Northern Cheyenne Drum Group. Space is limited.

Standing room only is available for public attendees. Admission to this program is offered free.

On June 25, 1876, General George Armstrong Custer and 265 soldiers of the 7th Cavalry were defeated by an alliance of the Cheyenne, Lakota, and Arapaho Nations. After Custer's defeat, the Cheyenne, Lakota, and Arapaho moved south toward the Bighorn Mountains and then separated, as they knew that other soldiers would soon be looking for them. Some bands went north, and others went east toward the Powder River. As soon as General George Crook received word of

Custer's demise, he and reinforcements began traveling the Bozeman Trail in search for Lakota warrior Crazy Horse. During this time, Crook discovered that a Cheyenne village was camped nearby along the Powder River, and quickly sent Colonel Ranald Mackenzie to Wyoming Territory in pursuit of them.

On November 24, 1876, one of the Cheyenne scouts, Young Two Moons, warned the Cheyenne camp that a large encampment of troops and scouts were coming. On the morning of **November 25, 1876** scouts reported that they found the camp of Cheyennes dancing and celebrating a recent victory over a Shoshoni war party. A volunteer was sent to give a message to Major Gordon to order the charge. One of the Pawnee scouts blew on a pipe that made a humming tune and sound effects that initiated the initial charge. Troops then moved toward the southwest region of the village, while the Indian scouts traveled toward the southeast, and the Pawnee scouts went straight through the village.

The United States military soldiers and scouts were given free rein to take what they found within the camp as their own property. One soldier named Lt. G.G. Greenough, a member of the 4th Artillery under General George Crook during his second winter campaign of 1876, took the hide and became the first caretaker of the robe. After surviving through the auction market circuit for decades, a private donor has made it possible for this important artifact to be returned back to the Cheyenne people, and a gracious donor to the museum has financed the exhibition case making display of this rare and highly-revered robe possible.

About The Brinton Museum

The Brinton Museum connects people to the past, present and future of the American West through its historic Quarter Circle A Ranch, Fine Art, and American Indian Art Collections. Founded in 1960 and located in the foothills of the Bighorn Mountains, it features 19th, 20th and 21st century American and Indian Art in a historic Western setting. **General admission** for 2022 is FREE, made possible by a generous donation by First Interstate Bank. The Brinton is a participating member of the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Association and Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM). **Hours:** Thursday to Monday, 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM through December 23, 2022. Closed to the public from December 24 to February 9. Thursday to Monday, 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM hours resume on February 10, 2023.