

HISTORY OF FORT HUACHUCA,  
1877-1913

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PATRICIA LAGE

HISTORY OF FORT HUACHUCA, 1877-1913

by  
*Louise*  
Patricia Lage  
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A Thesis  
submitted to the faculty of the  
Department of History and Political Science  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
MASTER OF ARTS  
in the Graduate College, University of Arizona

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1949

Approved: H. A. Sheppard  
Director of Thesis.  
*by R. C. Berry*

Aug. 6 1949  
Date

HEADQUARTERS  
U.S. ARMY ELECTRONIC PROVING GROUP  
Fort Huachuca, Arizona

SIGPG-SGS

23 August 1960

Dr. Russell C. Ewing  
Department of History  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona

Dear Dr. Ewing:

*An error*  
~~occurs~~ occurs in Footnote (34), page 64, in the Masters Degree thesis of Patricia Louise Lage, "History of Fort Huachuca, 1877-1913," University of Arizona 1949. This letter intends in no way to discredit Miss Lage for her fine Historical research on Fort Huachuca - it being our sole intent to correct an erroneous statement reflecting upon the reputation of a fine officer of the United States Army.

This footnote, obviously an error in assembling thesis material, indicated that Lieutenant Colonel ALBERT P. MORROW, 6th U.S. Cavalry, was "tried before a court martial at Huachuca on the charge of being drunk on duty as post commander . . . he was dismissed from the service."

This appears to be an error in identity, for Colonel MORROW had a most distinguished career as a cavalry officer of the Army; and it was instead Captain EDWARD BUCKLEY HUBBARD, Acting Quartermaster of Fort Huachuca, who was dismissed from the service, October 31, 1883.

Statement of Service, Department of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, 25 March 1959, shows that ALBERT P. MORROW, was promoted to "Lieutenant Colonel, 6th Regiment of Cavalry, 17 December 1882 . . . commanded the post of Fort Huachuca, Arizona Territory, from July 1883 to September 1883. . . Colonel, 3rd Regiment of Cavalry, 18 February 1891. . . Retired 16 August 1892 as Colonel, 3rd Regiment of Cavalry . . . died 20 January 1911 at Gainesville, Florida."

Statement of Service, Department of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, (undated-1959), shows that EDWARD BUCKLEY HUBBARD was appointed "Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, U.S. Army, 22 March 1881 . . . was stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona Territory, from 21 November 1881 to 30 September 1883. He had been ordered to take station at the Post in connection with construction of public buildings. He was assigned

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as Acting Quartermaster of the Post on 26 March 1862, and was appointed Acting Ordnance Officer 24 May 1882. He was relieved from duty as Post Quartermaster, Acting Ordnance Officer, and in connection with construction of public buildings on 25 March 1883. . . He was dismissed 31 October 1883."

Sincerely,

*Orville A. Cochran*

ORVILLE A. COCHRAN

Fort Huachuca Post Historian

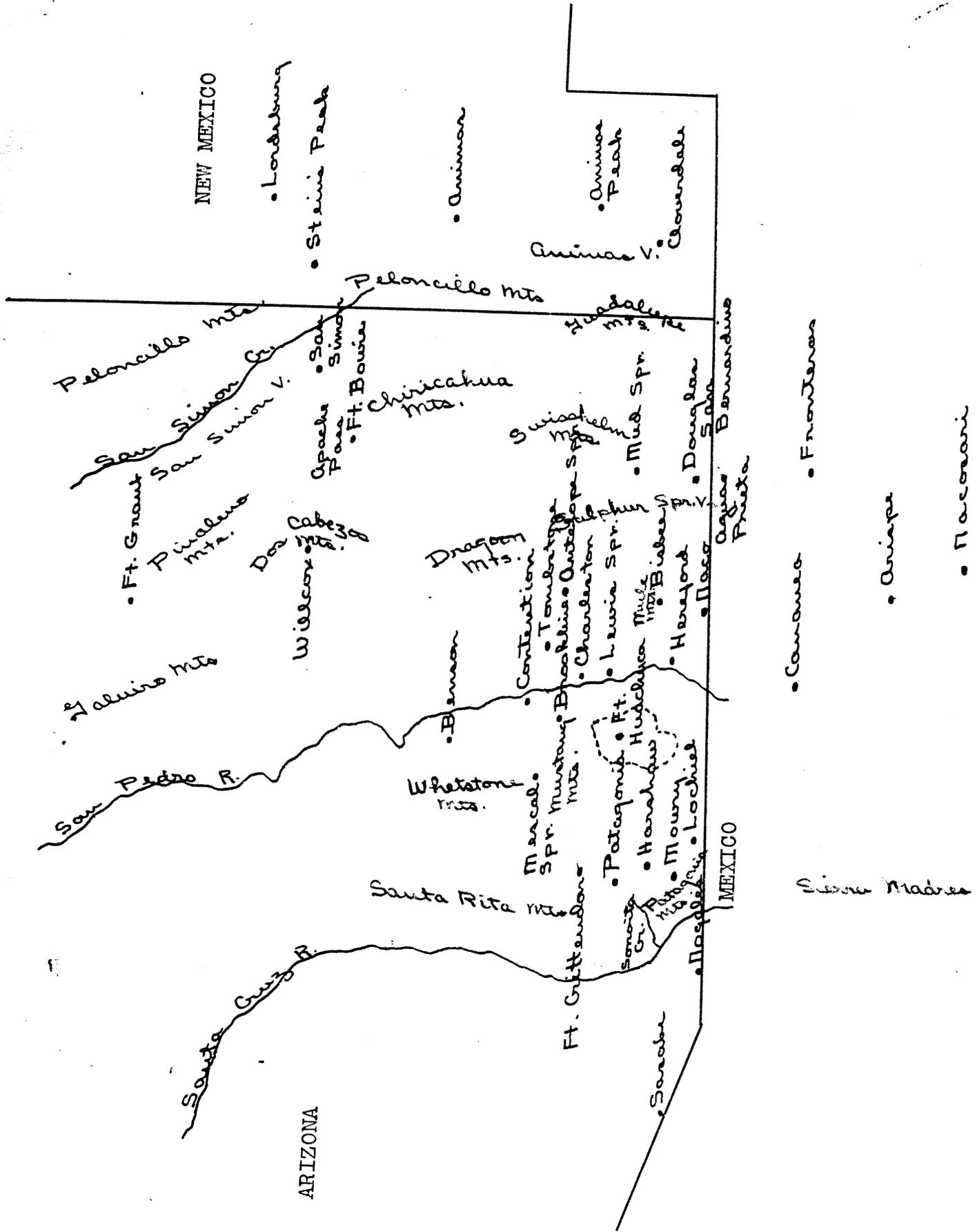
*R. Ewing*

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## CHAPTER I

### CAMP HUACHUCA, 1877-1882

By 1877, Southern Arizona had become so infested with filibusters, red hostiles, and bandits that it became imperative to bring the region under control.<sup>1</sup> The marauders, with their bases of operations across the border, had been slipping unheeded through the valleys of the Santa Cruz and Sonoita, crossing over the Whetstones, plundering and killing as they moved through the valley of the San Pedro to the Puerto de las Mulas (Pass in the Mule Mountains) and down into what we now know as Bisbee Canyon. Their depredations would continue as they moved eastward or returned into Mexico whence they had come, avoiding all troops, both Mexican and American.<sup>2</sup> To meet these difficulties, the camp in the southern end of the Huachuca Mountains was established.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Handbook for Civilian Employees, Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Civil and Personnel Branch, (pages not numbered).

<sup>2</sup> Newspaper clipping on file under Fort Huachuca in the archives of the Tucson Newspapers, Inc.; Bisbee Daily Review, April 1, 1948.

<sup>3</sup> An article on file under Fort Huachuca in the Tucson Newspapers, Inc. archives states that "Huachuca" is an Indian word thought by some to mean "Rainy Mountains," by others, "Windy Canyon." Will Barnes, author of Arizona Place Names, reports it to be a Chiricahua-Apache word

The immediate cause for the establishment of the camp lay in a raid made by "renegade" Indians from the Warm Springs Reservation in New Mexico on the 4th and 5th of February, 1877, in which they swept down into the valleys of the Santa Cruz and Sonoita. A few days later the body, comprising some fifteen to thirty individuals, split, some filtering down into Sonora where reports of their outrages drifted back to the authorities in Southeastern Arizona, others returning to the reservation at Warm Springs. As this raid proved to be of unusual extent, Colonel August V. Kautz, Department Commander, ordered a detachment down into the Huachuca Mountains on the 12th of February to establish a temporary camp to protect the inhabitants of that region who had been hard hit by the raid.<sup>4</sup>

On March 3, 1877, two companies of 6th Cavalry under Captains Samuel M. Whitside and William A. Rafferty<sup>5</sup> rode into the Huachuca range in search of a site which, while permitting easy access to the valleys of the Santa Cruz and Sonoita would, at the same time, control the San Pedro

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<sup>3</sup> (cont.) meaning "Thunder," going on to say that an unsigned manuscript in the Arizona Pioneers Historical Society gives it as the Indian for "Gum Mountain"; a pamphlet entitled At Ft. Huachuca, SCU 1922 alleges the word to mean "Mountains with Water," p. 4.

<sup>4</sup> Colonel August V. Kautz, Annual Report of Colonel August V. Kautz, 8th U.S. Infantry, Brevet Major-General, (Assigned) Commanding Department of Arizona for Year 1876-'77, pp. 4-5.

<sup>5</sup> Handbook for Civilian Employees, op. cit.

Valley and be within striking distance of the Puerto de las Mulas. At a situation well up a canyon on the southern end of the mountains where scouting detachments frequently stopped overnight, Captain Whitside found the site for which he was searching. There were a few adobe huts, in all probability built by prospectors, fit for storing immediate supplies and a small mountain creek sufficient to provide water for men and animals.<sup>6</sup> Putting his detachment into camp under canvas on the edge of the small mountain creek, Captain Whitside proceeded to locate himself and his men.<sup>7</sup>

As the men were in the field constantly, construction of the camp proceeded slowly, but by the advent of the rainy season in July, the tents had been set up and the bakery, an adobe building, built and thatched with grass. A hospital tent was then erected, the sick and wounded being ministered to by the soldiery and a hospital steward during the first few months of the camp's existence. The arrival of Contract Surgeon O.J. Eddy on March 23 relieved the troops of this unpleasant duty. As the hospital was constantly brim full, the necessity of its being enlarged became a pressing one, and in consequence of this another tent and two tent

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<sup>6</sup> Newspaper clipping on file under Fort Huachuca in the archives of the Tucson Newspapers, Inc.

<sup>7</sup> Bisbee Daily Review, April 1, 1948.

flies were added and several enlisted men detailed to act as hospital stewards.<sup>8</sup> A fine pinery was located sometime during the late summer or early fall, and from it the garrison procured stockades for winter quarters.<sup>9</sup>

This new post, Camp Huachuca, located about twelve miles from the Sonora boundary in the extreme southern portion of the Territory<sup>10</sup> and about forty miles east and south of the Santa Rita Mountains, derived its name from the range of mountains in which it was situated.<sup>11</sup> The camp lay at the mouth of Central Canyon,<sup>12</sup> about eight miles south and southeast of old Camp Wallen which preceded it and was abandoned in 1874.<sup>13</sup>

The post, garrisoned by Companies B and M of the 6th Cavalry, drawn from Camps Grant and Lowell<sup>14</sup> and commanded

<sup>8</sup> Edward J. Kelley, "Old Fort Huachuca," Arizona Highways; XVIII(10):33 (October, 1942).

<sup>9</sup> Bisbee Daily Review, April 1, 1948.

<sup>10</sup> Kautz, op. cit., p. 1.

<sup>11</sup> Richard J. Hinton, The Handbook of Arizona: Its Resources, History, Towns, Mines, Ruins and Scenery, p. 312.

<sup>12</sup> Interview with Major John H. Healy, March 6, 1949; this canyon was Huachuca Canyon. Francis H. Heitman, Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, from its Organization, September 29, 1879, to March 2, 1903, II, 510.

<sup>13</sup> History of Fort Huachuca, 1889, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General; Hubert Howe Bancroft, History of Arizona and New Mexico, 1530-1888, p. 554.

<sup>14</sup> Kautz, op. cit., p. 1.

by Captain Samuel Whitside<sup>15</sup> was reinforced in the spring of 1877 by a company of Indian Scouts enlisted among the Hualpai Indians<sup>16</sup> at the San Carlos Reservation.<sup>17</sup> This Company D, consisting of thirty-six men, arrived in camp under the command of Lieutenant Robert Hanna on the 29th of May.<sup>18</sup> As the scouts were unable to speak English, they were usually thereafter under the command of Scoutmaster Dan O'Leary, an Irishman who spoke the Apache tongue fluently.<sup>19</sup> During the latter half of October this group was mustered out, their term of service having expired, and a new company numbering forty men returned to the post November 19.<sup>20</sup>

Peace and quiet were not to descend upon the camp for a good many years. Indian troubles were plentiful, and the remoteness of the camp and the delay in communicating orders were hindering factors, which kept the troops constantly engaged in scouting expeditions. Scarcely had the troops established themselves in their new location, when

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<sup>15</sup> Handbook for Civilian Employees, op. cit.

<sup>16</sup> Kautz, op. cit., p. 1.

<sup>17</sup> Field Return for Camp Huachuca, April, 1877.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., May, 1877.

<sup>19</sup> Kelley, op. cit., p. 33.

<sup>20</sup> Field Return for Camp Huachuca, October-November, 1877.

Captain Rafferty was ordered in pursuit of red hostiles who, on the 15th of April, had plundered the ranch of Tom Hughes, killing a couple of his men and driving off all the loose cattle and horses. Never still, they moved on and by sunset of the following day had attacked and raided the ranches belonging to Mr. Sanford and to Messrs. Long and Day, making off with several horses; had stolen five head from a Mexican wagon train; had driven away another three at Allison's; and at Hardin's had wounded Captain Devers in the left leg and shoulder. Leaving camp on the 16th with forty-one enlisted men, Captain Rafferty proceeded to Camp Crittenden thence to the valley of the Santa Cruz, over the Whetstones, and down along the San Pedro.<sup>21</sup> That the Indians made good their escape was due, in large part, to the lack of competent trailers.<sup>22</sup> On the day following Rafferty's departure a detachment from Company B under Lieutenant Louis A. Craig left the camp with instructions to scout the area adjacent to the Huachuca range.<sup>23</sup> This expedition, and another made by Lieutenant Hanna between June 6 and June 23 with thirty-six scouts and a detachment of cavalry,

<sup>21</sup> Arizona Citizen, April 21, 1877.

<sup>22</sup> Kautz, op. cit., p. 5.

<sup>23</sup> Field Return for Camp Huachuca, April, 1877.

proved equally unfruitful.<sup>24</sup> Thus, it will be seen, that the troops at Camp Huachuca had been called into use almost immediately after the establishment of the post.

Further expeditions and constant harassing of the Indians by the troops throughout the summer and fall of 1877 kept depredations to a minimum. Around August 20, several bands of "renegades" filtered across the Mexican line into this country at diverse places and, converging by preconcerted arrangement, advanced to the San Carlos Reservation. While following a trail picked up near Camp Huachuca, Lieutenant Hanna received information that the mail rider had been killed just east of Camp Bowie. Hastening to that post he was joined by Lieutenant Rucker, and the two companies of Indian Scouts with a detachment of cavalry followed the trail whose proportions grew steadily larger. The "renegades," heading for the Steins Peak Range, led them a merry chase over country so wild and desolate that a number of the soldiers became nearly insane for want of water. When it became apparent that the Indians were slipping back to the reservation at San Carlos, the troops reined in at Camp Thomas to telegraph for orders before entering the reservation. But before they could receive an answer, the "renegades" had created such dissatisfaction among the Warm Springs Indians that they broke from the

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<sup>24</sup> Kautz, op. cit., p. 6.

reservation closely pursued by Captain Tupper with Troop G from Camp Apache, detachments from Companies B, H, L, and M, and Lieutenants Rucker and Hanna with their companies of scouts. Overtaking the fugitives on the 8th of September at the San Francisco River in New Mexico, they killed twelve and wounded thirteen in a scattered and running fight which was ended only by the fall of darkness.<sup>25</sup>

In the wake of every army come adventurers and colonizers, and so it was with Camp Huachuca. By the latter part of December, 1877, Captain Whitside and the garrison were becoming disturbed at the number of people pasturing their stock upon the military reservation. One even had the audacity to establish himself and to locate a homestead claim upon the reservation. As Captain Whitside needed the grass to pasture his own horses, he requested authority to oust the settlers. These settlers now developed into a disturbing element, opening low rum shops, establishing houses of ill fame, and becoming the rendezvous of all manner of brigands, thieves and smugglers.<sup>26</sup> Thus ended the first year of Camp Huachuca's existence.

On the 21st of January, 1878, the status of Camp

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<sup>25</sup> Theo. F. Rodinbough and Wm. L. Haskin, editors, The Army of the United States, Historical Sketches of Staff and Line with Portraits of Generals-in-Chief, p. 245; Lt.-Col. W.H. Carter, From Yorktown to Santiago with the Sixth U.S. Cavalry, pp. 190-192; Kelley, op. cit., pp. 34-35.

<sup>26</sup> Bisbee Daily Review, April 1, 1948.

Huachuca was changed from that of a temporary camp to a permanent one by the Commanding General of the Department of Arizona, and supplies were ordered shipped in bulk for issue at the post.<sup>27</sup> Captain Whitside continued in command of the camp.<sup>28</sup>

Settlers had begun to sift into the valley of the San Pedro, and with the increasing growth of settlement about the post, the Indian problem waxed grave, for the expanding population offered a fertile field for plunder. Richard Hinton has this to say concerning Camp Huachuca, its vicinity, and the relation of the latter to the need of provisions:

It is reported that the country is rapidly settling up for miles around the point where the troops are stationed. The military have a garden down at old Camp Wallen where they produce vegetables for the camp.<sup>29</sup>

The following extract of a letter by Captain Whitside written on the 3rd of September shows that living conditions at the camp were far from ideal:

Sir: I have the honor to submit for ... the rainy season started early in July and it has rained almost daily since ... all buildings in this post have been constructed of 'dobe and

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<sup>27</sup> Newspaper clipping on file under Fort Huachuca in the Tucson Newspapers, Inc. archives.

<sup>28</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1878-79, pp. 24-25.

<sup>29</sup> Hinton, op. cit., p. 236.

covered with earth and were considered good buildings until the rainy season set in ... the roofs last season gave ample protection but within the last 60 days 35 to 40 inches of water has fallen... roofs are now saturated... perishable supplies damaged ... every possible means have been adopted to protect government property ... a recently completed 'dobe building has fallen down and is in a total wreck ... Capt. Rafferty and Lieut. Craig's quarters have been undermined and have fallen down ... all quarters occupied by officers were built at their own expense the loss has been considerable ... all fireplaces in squad rooms have been washed away ... conditions are very trying and discouraging ... we have labored constantly getting out material and erecting buildings, all of which are now washed away or rendered inhabitable...<sup>30</sup>

Notwithstanding such conditions, Captain Whitside later that year submitted estimates on lumber to the Quartermaster Corps asking for a school, a library, and a Post Chapel.

During the 70's the nature of Indian warfare changed. It was now conducted on a small scale by scattered bands, seldom numbering over a hundred, who would sack and lay waste isolated settlements, slipping across the border at the appearance of the military. Another factor of no little importance in determining the methods to be employed by the military against their adversaries was that the Indians were now in possession of weapons the equal in efficiency<sup>31</sup> of those possessed by the army.

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<sup>30</sup> Bisbee Daily Review, April 1, 1948.

<sup>31</sup> Bancroft, op. cit., p. 569.

The year 1878 was characterized by restlessness and frequent clashes between the soldiery and the Apache. Throughout the month of January small scouting parties were constantly dispatched,<sup>32</sup> and on the 23rd of February, Lieutenant Hanna with Company D and twenty-five men from Companies B and M was ordered from the post in pursuit of red hostiles. Though the route of this expedition is unknown, there is a notation in the Post Returns for March that they abandoned a horse while scouting in Chihuahua, Mexico, and returned to San Bernardino Springs, reaching that point on the 20th of the month. This command returned to the post on the 30th of March, having traveled some 520 miles.<sup>33</sup>

On March 7, 1878, Colonel O.B. Willcox assumed command of the Department, replacing Colonel Kautz. There had been considerable difficulty between Kautz and Governor Safford,<sup>34</sup> their personal quarrel culminating in a newspaper battle from which the Governor emerged bearing the laurels of victory.<sup>35</sup> Safford had charged the military with dispatching expeditions which followed only the much-traveled paths, secured for themselves widely known and comfortable camps, and returned to their posts when their supplies had been

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<sup>32</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, January, 1878.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., February-March, 1878.

<sup>34</sup> House Executive Documents, 45 Cong., 3 Sess., No. 1, pt. 2, p. 193.

<sup>35</sup> Bancroft, op. cit., p. 569.

consumed.<sup>36</sup> In addition, Kautz had been roundly censored by residents of the Territory for alleged inefficiency in his treatment of the Chiricahuas and for the general inertness which characterized military operations in Southeastern Arizona.<sup>37</sup>

Prior to Colonel Willcox's assumption of command of the Department in March, 1878, Kautz had maintained scouting operations against the Chiricahuas and other so-called renegades from the reservation at San Carlos, striking in December of 1877 at a band of marauders who were provoking considerable trouble. The remnants of this band, some eighty to a hundred braves and their families, were compelled to seek refuge in the mountains. From their rocky fastness this group would sweep down upon the settlers in the valley and

such was the terror of their names and fear of their raids that whole valleys and ranges of mountains and roads in Southeastern Arizona were practically abandoned by the whites except under escort of troops.<sup>38</sup>

Colonel Willcox now set about to rid Southeastern Arizona of these Chiricahuas who were menacing the peace and security of the inhabitants of that region. His first

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<sup>36</sup> Arizona Citizen, March 24, 1877.

<sup>37</sup> House Exec. Doc., op. cit., p. 193.

<sup>38</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1878-79, p. 193.

military action was to coordinate scouting operations under one head and to advance the frontier to the southern boundary. Lieutenant Robert Hanna's company of scouts from Camp Huachuca worked in conjunction with the company from Camp Bowie, commanded by Lieutenant Rucker. The "renegades" were fairly fenced out by the establishment of a camp of supply<sup>39</sup> by scouting detachments on the old San Bernardino Ranch, almost on the boundary line. Sometime later this camp was moved back several miles and located on the White River at the southern end of the Chiricahua Mountains so as to be more conveniently situated to wood, water, and grazing. By September not a single outrage had been perpetrated, nor had a white man's life been taken.<sup>40</sup> But success was not without its limitations, for in the execution of his campaign Colonel Willcox was quite handicapped by the reduction of his departmental strength to 700 troops.<sup>41</sup> A further check, and an unexpected one, came when the central government of Mexico refused him the right to follow the marauding bands across the boundary line. The Mexican Government did, however, maintain its own troops along the line to

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<sup>39</sup> This camp, later called Camp Supply, was established by Lts. Rucker and Carter from Bowie. A short time after this they were joined by Lt. Henely with Co. D, Indian Scouts, from Camp Huachuca. Rodinbough and Haskin, op. cit., p. 246.

<sup>40</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1878-79, p. 193.

<sup>41</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, June 13, 1878.

prevent illegal entry.<sup>42</sup>

Throughout this campaign the troops at Camp Huachuca were not idle but participated actively, rendering every assistance. During April several detachments, of a preventative rather than a punitive nature, were dispatched from the post under Lieutenants Winchester and Henry P. Perrine to survey and scout the San Pedro Valley and the San Bernardino River.<sup>43</sup> In the latter half of May, a force of seventeen men from Companies B and M under the command of a non-commissioned officer, Sergeant Bruikman, departed from the post with orders to take up station at Camp Supply on the old San Bernardino Ranch and report to Lieutenant Austin Henely,<sup>44</sup> commanding Company D, Indian Scouts, from Camp Huachuca. There they were to remain, their instructions being to patrol the vicinity and clear the area between Camps Supply and Huachuca. Sergeant Bruikman remained with his command until the middle of July when he was replaced by Lieutenant Perrine who, at the same time, assumed command of Company D, Indian Scouts. August passed, likewise September, and it was not until October that one comes

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<sup>42</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1887-79, p. 193.

<sup>43</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, April, 1878.

<sup>44</sup> Shortly after Lt. Henely's arrival at Camp Supply both he and Rucker were drowned. Henely was caught in a cloudburst and carried away by the torrent. Rucker lost his life in attempting to save his classmate and friend. Rodinbough and Haskin, op. cit., p. 246. Their deaths occurred July 16, 1878. Arizona Citizen, July 19, 1878.

across information bearing upon the movements of the soldiery at this outpost. In that month it is entered in the Post Returns at Camp Huachuca that Lieutenant Perrine left the camp on September 4 with Company D, Scouts, and a detachment of cavalry numbering forty-five men, to scout along and south of Apache Pass and Hage Road. Proceeding by way of the Chiricahua Mountains to San Simon, Cienega, and Ralston, New Mexico, thence over to the Gila River, the command struck the trail of three Indians which they followed, overtaking them on Bear Creek in New Mexico. In the engagement which followed, two of the Indians were killed and four horses and a mule acquired. One scout was lost in action. With this minor victory to their credit the command made their way back to camp, arriving there on the 15th of October. Throughout November, Lieutenant Perrine with Company D, Indian Scouts, at his command continued to scout the field; it was during this month that the eight enlisted men from Company B who had been assigned to duty at Supply on May 17 were returned to Camp Huachuca and their vacancies at Supply filled again by men from Huachuca. On December 24, 1878, the command in its entirety was recalled to Camp Huachuca from detached service at Supply.<sup>45</sup>

The recall of these men may have been influenced by the fact that Camp Huachuca had lost Company M, which had

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<sup>45</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, May through December, 1878.

been transferred to Camp Lowell the middle of October.<sup>46</sup>  
 The loss of this company reduced the camp to a two-company post with a garrison in the neighborhood of ninety-eight men, including the scouts. Of even more significance was that the transfer had been effected during a period when the post was badly understaffed, Company D, Indian Scouts, and a goodly portion of Company B being on detached service at Camp Supply. Thus from the middle of October through December, the camp must have been almost without a garrison, at most a mere handful, pitiful protection for the valleys of the Santa Cruz and San Pedro.

By 1879 all available agricultural and grazing land surrounding Camp Huachuca had been settled upon, and the country was fast "filling up to the brim."<sup>47</sup> At the same time the new camp on the eastern slopes of the Huachuca range was commencing to assume the proportions and take on the appearance of a town. Pete Thompson, one of the district's discoverers and an old Arizona prospector, had opened up a store in Ramsey's Canyon, while Messrs. Flinn and Mason were operating another at the head of that canyon.<sup>48</sup> The sutler's store, managed by Fred Austin, a

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<sup>46</sup> Ibid., October, 1878.

<sup>47</sup> Arizona Daily Star, June 28, 1879.

<sup>48</sup> Daily Nugget, October 2, 1879.

former Tucson resident, was stocked with everything such a spot demanded. The hotel, of which Mr. C.E. Burton was proprietor, was well kept up and would in time, as Major Hall predicted in his letter to the Washington Republican, become a resort for the inhabitants of Southern Arizona.<sup>49</sup>

Major Hall's prediction could scarcely be called a novel one, since the Huachuca range had been considered the choice section of Southeastern Arizona for some time; and even Captain Whitside was now entertaining a plan to subdivide that portion of the valley above and west of the garrison to encourage residents of Tucson to build summer homes there.<sup>50</sup>

The post lay in a fine oak grove and was "kept clean as a new floor." The men stationed there were reported as being quiet and orderly.<sup>51</sup> Sometime during the latter half of 1878 or the opening months of 1879, Captain Whitside had requisitioned a sawmill outfit and had erected it in a nearby canyon in order that he might obtain lumber for a more comfortable and permanent camp. Soldiers committing misdemeanors were condemned to hard labor at this lumber camp, while those who applied voluntarily or were detailed to this work received extra pay, amounting to twenty cents

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<sup>49</sup> Arizona Daily Star, August 27, 1879.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid., September 28, 1879.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

per day for enlisted personnel and thirty-five cents for sergeants and corporals and those enlisted men whose experience or training enabled them to qualify as masons, carpenters, or blacksmiths. In consequence of this vigorous policy, the camp began to shape up and in 1879 Captain Whitside dispatched the following report to Washington:

#### Camp Huachuca

Located in the Huachuca Mountains, South-eastern Arizona. Lat.  $31^{\circ}12'$  N. Long.  $33^{\circ}49'$  West. Alt. 5306.

Post office, Tucson, Arizona Territory.

Officers live in framed hospital tents.

Enlisted men live in framed A tents floored and boarded up  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet. Two men to a tent.

Kitchen and Mess Hall. A stockaded building roofed with canvas  $45' \times 20'$ .

Reading Room for Men. A stockaded building with mud roof  $40' \times 20'$ . Also used for chapel and recreation.

Post Hospital. Consists of four hospital tents. Two of them wards. Others, office and storeroom. Wall tents are used for hospital kitchen and mess hall.

Dispensary. A stockaded building with mud roof  $35' \times 18'$ , and divided into two rooms.

The Post Bakery. A frame building with good shingle roof  $36' \times 20'$ . Has two adobe ovens capable of producing 250 rations daily. The man detailed as baker receives 35 cents daily.

Guard House. A stockade building with mud roof  $35' \times 15'$ .

The Quartermaster Storehouse  $60' \times 20'$  and the Commissary Storehouse  $60' \times 20'$  is one stockade building  $120' \times 20'$  with mud roof and divided by a stockade partition.

The Offices of the Post Adjutant, Quartermaster and Commissary Supply are in one stockade building  $35' \times 18'$ . There is a cellar  $18' \times 18'$  for the storage of port and bacon.

Granary. Frame building with shingle roof  $30' \times 20'$ .

Animals of the Q.M. Dept. are kept tied while in camp, to a hay crib near the Post Guard-house.

The horses of Co. B, 6th Cavalry are kept stabled in a stockade shed with mud roof 160' x 20'.

Carpenter and Wheelwright Shop. A stockade building with mud roof 45' x 20'.

Water is obtained from a creek running through camp and is of excellent quality.

Reservation Area. 81 square miles.

Climate. Healthy and delightful.

The nearest local Civil Authorities are at Charleston on the San Pedro River; 12 miles distant.

There is no public conveyance between this point and Tucson.

Mail carriers are dispatched once per week to Tucson.<sup>52</sup>

A less statistical and more graphic description of the post is rendered by Major Hall:

Major Whitside was detailed for duty here two and a-half years ago. He found the whole region deserted; but one man near his intended camp, owing to the border and Indian troubles. By his vigor, courage, sound judgment and alertness, he has quieted the border, corralled the troublesome Apache, and brought into the district two thousand pioneers and workers; the result of which is the opening of mines, starting of towns, the erection of mills, etc. It [Camp Huachuca] lies at the base of the greatest mountain peaks of the range, where the gorge between them widens into a grassy valley of a fourth of a mile or more, gently sloping, winding through which a sweet stream flows, affording water supplies for the camp, and over which oak trees grow. ... Officers' quarters are built in neat style of adobe brick, and are very home-like, especially at Major Whitside's, where the hand of a good wife has come to the rescue with exquisite taste in simple home adornments. The hospital tents were clean and cheerful, and the mess room, built of lumber, was large enough for eighty soldiers; the tents of the troops were fixed upon a base of boards three feet high; the reading or "loafing" room was large, clean and provided with papers, etc., while the whole camp was clean, bright, embowered and attractive. ...

<sup>52</sup> Kelley, op. cit., pp. 35-36.

About the camp were some contractors and a few Mexican families who worked for them. ... Around this one spot there is wood, water, and grass in abundance for scores of settlers.<sup>53</sup>

The hospital served military and non-military alike, and destitute inhabitants of the country round about frequently sought its aid. Sometime during the summer of 1879 \$3,500 was appropriated for a new building. Construction commenced in the latter part of September, and by the 13th of November the building was approximately half finished.<sup>54</sup>

Mineral wealth in the Huachuca range attracted great numbers of prospectors, the mountains being allegedly rich in gold, silver, and copper. By the late fall of '79 around one hundred claims had been located and a number of interests had sold well.<sup>55</sup> Mining had become so lucrative that a considerable portion of the garrison appears to have engaged in it during leisure hours, for several of the officers possessed valuable claims on the western slopes of the range, roughly four miles from the Sonora line.<sup>56</sup> In the opening days of September, Doctor Gardiner, post surgeon, gave notice of a rich find on the east side of the mountains about eight miles from camp, adding that over

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<sup>53</sup> Arizona Daily Star, August 27, 1879.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid., November 13, 1879.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid., September 29, 1879.

<sup>56</sup> Daily Nugget, October 2, 1879.

thirty locations had been made, that the ledges were wide, and that assays averaged \$480 to the ton in silver.<sup>57</sup> Captain Whitside himself possessed a copper claim close by which yielded, so he asserted, 60 per cent pure metal. The wealth of this hill he held immeasurable.<sup>58</sup> Expectations were cherished, as early as this, that the railroad would, within a short time, be extended to Tombstone and thence over to the Huachuca Mountains with their fine summer resorts and rich mines.<sup>59</sup> A step toward this, though a very minor one to be sure, was the changing of the Tombstone mail route so as to give the camp a tri-weekly mail. This change, secured through the efforts of Captain Whitside, enabled travelers to reach the post at more frequent intervals.<sup>60</sup>

There was yet another who envisioned a brighter future for Camp Huachuca, if only the formulators of this nation's military policy could be persuaded of the feasibility of changing the post's status from that of a mere camp to a permanent station. This man commanded the Division of the Pacific; he was Major-General Irvin McDowell. The bent of his argument was that Huachuca had been maintained for so long a period as a temporary cantonment that, little by little, notwithstanding military orders, shelter, medical

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<sup>57</sup> Arizona Daily Star, September 5, 1879.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid., August 27, 1879.

<sup>59</sup> Ibid., September 28, 1879.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

stores, forage, and subsistence for the garrison had been built up, and even a temporary hospital just recently had been authorized, so that now there was no practical distinction between it and other posts in the Territory. Not to be overlooked was the fact that the camp commanded the Mexican border, was located in a healthful area, and was fairly close to a railroad.<sup>61</sup>

Sometime around the middle of January, 1879, Captain Whitside was confined to the hospital at Camp Lowell with a broken leg. Apparently he was granted a leave of absence which extended well into July, for one notes in the July 5 edition of the Arizona Daily Star that he had just recently arrived from Los Angeles, his limb fully recovered, on his way to take command of his post on the 7th, or shortly thereafter.<sup>62</sup> During his absence Lieutenant Hiram Winchester assumed command of the camp.<sup>63</sup>

Indian troubles continued to absorb the attention of the military during 1879, and numerous expeditions were kept scouring the country round the post. A scout of brief duration was made during the latter part of January to Rio Bonito and Ash Springs to obtain information concerning the movements of renegades.<sup>64</sup> Comparative quiet ensued in

<sup>61</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1879-80, p. 132.

<sup>62</sup> Arizona Daily Star, July 5, 1879.

<sup>63</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, February through June, 1879.

<sup>64</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1879-80, pp. 168-169.

Southeastern Arizona for the next couple of months, one of the fleeting intervals between the sporadic bursts of hostility which broke forth periodically, for the marauding bands of Apaches soon commenced and kept up their deeds of murder and rapine.<sup>65</sup> The spring months introduced a rash of scouting expeditions, few enduring more than three weeks, which were made by Lieutenant Tassin to San Simon Valley and Ash Springs in anticipation of trouble with the Indians, and by Lieutenant Guy Howard to the San Carlos Reservation, to Fort Bayard, New Mexico, and lastly to New Mexico along the Gila River to verify reports of Indians being in the lower Gila Valley.<sup>66</sup>

On the 31st of July Mr. O.E. Shaw, who had just recently delivered a load of barley to the Acting Assistant Quartermaster, reported that four Apaches had made off with eleven of his mules and a mare in the neighborhood of old Camp Wallen. Stable call was sounded at once, and Lieutenant A.S. Bailey, one non-commissioned officer, and eleven privates were ordered to ready themselves and depart immediately. By 1:30 a.m. August 1, the detachment had already covered some thirty miles and the trail, which lay midway between the Huachuca Mountains and the San Pedro River, was quite plain in the moonlight, indicating that the party was

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<sup>65</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, January through June, 1879.

<sup>66</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1879-80, pp. 168-169; Diary of 2nd Lt. Guy Howard for year 1879 in the archives of the Pioneer Historical Society, Tucson.

heading in a southeasterly direction, traveling at a rate of five to six miles per hour.<sup>67</sup> The strength of the hostiles was estimated at about sixteen, with twenty-five head of horses and mules. Lieutenant Bailey pursued the marauders for a distance of 155 miles, but had no other alternative than to return to his post for provisions and fresh horses when his rations had been exhausted. Reinforced with fresh horses, six days' rations, ten additional soldiers, and fifteen volunteer citizens under the leadership of Pete Kitchen,<sup>68</sup> Lieutenant Bailey took to the trail again. Meanwhile, the Indians had fled with their plunder towards Mule Pass where they swept the region bare of cattle and horses,<sup>69</sup> and at a distance of around seventy-five miles from the point at which they crossed the San Pedro River, the band divided, the main body moving down into Chihuahua where Mexican troops surprised them just south of Black Water, killing five.<sup>70</sup> The raiding party, with headquarters at Janos in Chihuahua, comprised not only Chiricahua and Warm Springs malcontents,<sup>71</sup> but white men as well. Previous to this affair, small bands of Mexicans, Indians, and

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<sup>67</sup> Arizona Daily Star, August 5, 1879.

<sup>68</sup> Arizona Citizen, August 8, 1879.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid., August 15, 1879.

<sup>70</sup> Ibid.

<sup>71</sup> Ibid. The Indians may have been Chihuahua Indians since they could speak Spanish.

Americans purporting to be miners and prospectors, had been seen prowling about the region at the headwaters of the Sonora and San Pedro Rivers in Mexico, moving in a westerly direction.<sup>72</sup> Bailey returned to Camp Huachuca August 10, and on the 22nd Lieutenant Howard left to scout the border east to the San Bernardino Ranch.<sup>73</sup>

During July, 1879, New Mexico was plunged into another Indian war when Victorio made his final exit from the reservation at Warm Springs, initiating a succession of raids which were to carry him from New Mexico into Arizona and Chihuahua, and ultimately to his death.<sup>74</sup> The first indication of their presence was given when they attacked the herders of Company E, 9th Cavalry, at Ojo Caliente in New Mexico on the 4th of September. Closely pressed by Major Morrow, commanding Southern New Mexico, Victorio and his band fled to the mountains north and west of Ojo Caliente where they eluded arrest by breaking up into small bands. Though numerous skirmishes occurred with these bands, no decisive fight could be forced. Early in October the forces in New Mexico were strengthened by two companies of 6th Cavalry and two companies of Indian Scouts dispatched from

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<sup>72</sup> Arizona Daily Star, August 13, 1879.

<sup>73</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, August, 1879.

<sup>74</sup> Martin F. Schmitt, General George Crook: His Autobiography, p. 242.

the Department of Arizona. With his forces thus augmented, Major Morrow moved in against Victorio who was skulking in the San Mateo Mountains.<sup>75</sup>

Though no troops from Camp Huachuca were involved in military movements in New Mexico during the opening days of this new rupture between the Apache and white man, the camp had its role to play, despite the fact that it was a minor one. Disaffection and restlessness among the Indians at San Carlos mounted during the latter days of September. Fearing that Victorio might endeavor to slip his women folk out of the reservation, steps were taken to frustrate this by moving a detachment of cavalry from Camp Lowell up to the reservation boundary.<sup>76</sup> Lieutenant Guy Howard with a detachment from Huachuca was shortly afterwards ordered down to the border to scout along the line to intercept Victorio should he seek to escape into Sonora. From this expedition he and his command returned on the 11th of October,<sup>77</sup> and just two days later they were detailed to field duty against the Apache with a detachment of 6th Cavalry numbering two non-commissioned officers, thirteen privates, and Company D, Indian Scouts.<sup>78</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War for the year 1880, pp. 86-87.

<sup>76</sup> Arizona Daily Star, September 30, 1879.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid., October 11, 1879.

<sup>78</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, October, 1879.

The year 1880 ushered in a turbulent new decade. For Southeastern Arizona there was neither peace nor security, only a lawlessness verging on chaos. Victorio continued to range at large and to persevere in his acts of rapine and murder, though his day was fast drawing to a close and before the year had passed would meet a timely end. At this time Geronimo and Juh were nonentities whose names caused no stir of excitement, much less dread, in the breasts of white men whose attention was absorbed by the wily intrigues of men such as Victorio and Nana, yet scarce five years were to elapse ere their names would become synonymous with death and destruction. The decade commenced with the white man facing the open hostility and machinations of practically every chief and sub-chief of the Apache nation. But before the decade would be brought to a close, the Apache would be reduced and the Indian problem become negligible.<sup>79</sup>

In the meantime, Camp Huachuca and vicinity continued to expand. Settlement in the Patagonia and Huachuca districts continued to increase rapidly, and in the Huachuca range new mineral discoveries were being made daily.<sup>80</sup> Now the stage plied daily between Benson and the post; there was telegraphic service from Charleston; the camp was

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<sup>79</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for Year 1880, pp. 216-218.

<sup>80</sup> Arizona Daily Star, February 1, 1880.

situated fairly close to the Southern Pacific Railroad, only forty-seven miles distant; a schoolhouse for the post had been authorized, and moneys appropriated for a larger hospital.<sup>81</sup> By the 1st of February construction of the hospital had been completed, save the painting which was to be finished within a few days. This building, containing six rooms of ample proportions, was well floored and roofed with shingles. In addition to the above appropriations, funds had been received sufficient to permit the re-roofing of all company quarters.<sup>82</sup> There were even rumors circulating that Huachuca would be expanded into a four-company post. The health of the camp could not have been better, for there had been no sickness excepting cases brought into the post from elsewhere. During the winter of 1879-1880 the camp received eight inches of snow, but those stationed there considered the winter a moderate one. With the advent of spring all of the springs and brooks were running high and the outlook for a large, permanent water supply and sufficient pasturage throughout the summer months was a promising one.<sup>83</sup>

Pleas to expand the camp into a full-fledged station continued to be forthcoming from military personnel such as

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<sup>81</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, pp. 31, 295, 461.

<sup>82</sup> Arizona Daily Star, February 1, 1880.

<sup>83</sup> Ibid.

Major James Biddle, Acting Assistant Inspector-General of the Department. His argument paralleled Major-General Irvin McDowell's in that it would be to the interest of the national government, as well as to the health and comfort of the commands stationed there, to have this camp recognized as a post since, in spite of everything, it was gradually attaining the status of a permanently-built station in regard to buildings and improvements.<sup>84</sup>

Victorio's hostility carried over into the new year not a whit abated or diminished in its intensity. On the 27th of January, 1880, a portion of his band attacked a military supply train northwest of Palomas, New Mexico, which was carrying ammunition and supplies to Major Morrow's command.<sup>85</sup> Sometime after the middle of February, Lieutenant Stephen C. Mills, 12th Infantry, relieved Lieutenant Howard of the command of Company D, Indian Scouts, at Camp Huachuca and on the 27th left the post with his scouts and a detachment of twenty-five men from Companies, F, G, and M, 6th Cavalry, under orders from the officer commanding field operations in Southeastern Arizona to proceed to Fort Bowie, where he was joined by Lieutenant Gatewood and his company of scouts.<sup>86</sup> On March 16 Lieutenants Mills and

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<sup>84</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, p. 215.

<sup>85</sup> Arizona Silver Belt, February 21, 1880.

<sup>86</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, February, 1880.

Gatewood arrived in New Mexico with their scouts and eighty-five men of the 6th Cavalry. Twenty miles out of Fort Cummings the command encountered a raiding party of Mescalero Apaches who, abandoning their stock, nearly all of which had been seized from the people in the vicinity, scurried into the Black Mountains, adroitly avoiding their pursuers. It was not long after this that Captain C.B. McLellan, Fort Bowie, assumed command of all troops from the Department of Arizona and started in pursuit of Victorio who was believed to be in force in the San Mateo Mountains.<sup>87</sup> While moving in on the Apaches in the San Andreas Mountains, Captain McLellan and his troops, Company L, 6th Cavalry, Lieutenant Mills' Company D, Indian Scouts, Lieutenant Gatewood's Company A, Indian Scouts, and a company of scouts under Lieutenant Maney, 15th Infantry, stumbled upon a battalion of 9th Cavalry hard-set upon by Victorio's party and were successful in dislodging the Apaches and dispersing them. This engagement occurred April 7<sup>88</sup> in Memtrillo Canyon in the San Andreas Mountains.<sup>89</sup> The Arizona troops were now ordered through the "White Sands" to Tulerosa without an experienced guide, with the result that they got lost in the desert and were without water for seventy-two hours.<sup>90</sup>

<sup>87</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, p. 87.

<sup>88</sup> Ibid., pp. 217, 220; Rodinbough and Haskins, op. cit., p. 246.

<sup>89</sup> Thomas Cruse, Apache Days and After, pp. 71-75.

<sup>90</sup> Carter. op. cit., p. 202.

On the 17th of April, Lieutenant Mills had a run-in with a small party of Indians, killing three and capturing twenty head of stock.<sup>91</sup> The continued struggle in New Mexico was destined to involve Huachuca troops further.

After the Mentrillo engagement, the hostiles began to gather on the upper reaches of the San Francisco River in New Mexico<sup>92</sup> and to reunite their scattered units in the fastness of the Black Mountains. To divert military attention from this location, Victorio dispatched Washington with a band of around ninety warriors to attack the San Carlos Agency.<sup>93</sup> On the 7th of May they disclosed their presence by descending swiftly upon the camp of Stevens' sheep-shearers on Ash Creek,<sup>94</sup> moved rapidly on to the Gila River and over to the Sub-agency where they opened fire on the Indian camps, then returned to Ash Creek Flat. There they suffered a reverse at the hands of a military force which had been stationed at the borders of the San Carlos Reservation to meet just such an emergency.<sup>95</sup> Several commands went after Victorio, but he successfully eluded them all and laid waste to New Mexico in such manner that practically the entire 6th Cavalry was thrown into the field against him

220. <sup>91</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, p.

<sup>92</sup> Ibid., p. 217.

<sup>93</sup> Cruse, op. cit., p. 81.

<sup>94</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, p.217.

<sup>95</sup> Cruse, op. cit., p. 82.

in an effort to stem the outrages being perpetrated against the inhabitants of New Mexico and Arizona. The troops were engaged during the summer months in constant scouting, culminating in an expedition into Sonora and Chihuahua.<sup>96</sup> On the 9th of May a company from Lowell and the regimental headquarters band, together with a detachment from Company B and Company D, Indian Scouts, from Huachuca, were moved up to Grant.<sup>97</sup> And on May 31 Lieutenant Bailey with thirty-six men from Company B left Camp Huachuca for duty in the field, not returning until October 10.<sup>98</sup>

The end of August found the regimental headquarters band and the detachment of Company B and Company D, Scouts, from Huachuca in camp at Bowie and Grant.<sup>99</sup> On September 8 Company D, Scouts, departed from Fort Grant en route to Bowie, arriving there the following day. Leaving that post with Colonel Carr's command on the 10th, they moved into New Mexico for duty against Victorio. Under verbal orders the detachment from Huachuca left the camp at White Water in New Mexico on the 22nd of September and proceeded to Palomas Lake in Mexico, there contacted Colonel Buelo, and from that

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<sup>96</sup> Rodinbough and Haskin, op. cit., p. 247.

<sup>97</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, p. 217.

<sup>98</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, May through October, 1880.

<sup>99</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, p. 218.

time until September 30 was on detached service in Mexico.<sup>100</sup>  
 Events now moved rapidly to a climax, and in October<sup>101</sup> Victorio was driven into the hands of a Mexican column under General Joaquin Terrazas at Santa Rosalia and his ranks decimated. The citizenry of Santa Rosalia, at the instigation of the Mexican army, had staged a great fiesta to which they invited all of the Indians. When the "celebration" had run its course, Victorio and his band had been utterly destroyed, save Nana and three others who had been dispatched to the mountains a few days previous to secure money cached while they were retreating. From April, 1879, to December, 1880, Victorio and his men had slaughtered well over a thousand people, had compelled three regiments of cavalry, parts of two regiments of infantry, the Texas Rangers, and the Mexican rurales to take to the field, had destroyed an incalculable amount of property, and were in the end eliminated only by treachery.<sup>102</sup>

While in the field at Bowie, Colonel Carr received a telegram from Lowell on the 9th of August informing him that the Mexican consul had brought to the attention of the post authorities the matter of a party of twenty-two men who had departed from Tucson on the 5th and were making their way

<sup>100</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, October, 1880.

<sup>101</sup> Ralph H. Ogle, Federal Control of the Western Apaches, 1848-1886, p. 210.

<sup>102</sup> Cruse, op. cit., p. 86.

toward Mexico with the intent of entering that country either as invaders or filibusters. Captain Whitside with all available men from Huachuca was ordered in pursuit of this party, which subsequent information proved to be the expedition of Brigido Reyes.<sup>103</sup> In compliance with instructions received from Colonel Carr on the 13th to intercept and prevent the expedition from entering Mexico, Captain Whitside quit his post and hastened to San Raphael, a small settlement located on the border, arriving there the following morning. As the citizenry of that town could give him no information, he and his force advanced to La Noria and there learned that six Mexicans had come into the town that morning, stating they had fled into Arizona for protection from revolutionists who had seized Magdalena. With this information, Captain Whitside moved on to Harshaw where he was informed by the editor of the Harshaw Bullion that a reliable Mexican citizen reported that Colonel Reyes, accompanied by forty-eight well-armed men, had passed through Ymuris on August 11 en route to Magdalena which they reached that same day and took possession of without encountering resistance. Captain Whitside, having complied with instructions, returned to his camp, arriving there on the 15th of August, 1880.<sup>104</sup> Thus Camp Huachuca had done its best in

<sup>103</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for year 1880, p. 218.

<sup>104</sup> Ibid., p. 223.

a futile attempt to prevent an expedition based in this Territory from entering a country whose government it was going to attempt to overthrow.

The opening months of the following year, 1881, were characterized by inactivity among the Apache. Life on the post swept smoothly and quietly along until March 26 when Captain Samuel M. Whitside,<sup>105</sup> who had established and commanded the camp from 1877, was relieved of post command and, with Company B, was ordered to take up station at Camp Thomas. The effect of this transfer was to reduce garrison strength to one company, and that not truly military in the strictest sense for it was Company D, Indian Scouts. Command of the post was assumed by Lieutenant S.C. Mills, though not for long, inasmuch as the arrival of Company G, 6th Cavalry, under Lieutenant Touey from Camp Verde on April 10 heralded the approach of the new post commander, Captain T.C. Tupper. This small flare of excitement promptly subsided and May, June, and July slipped by without event, the troops being confined to camp performing garrison

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<sup>105</sup> Heitman, op. cit., I, 1031. Whitside, Samuel Marmaduke, Canada. Pvt. general mounted services and Sergeant Major, 6th Cav., Nov. 10, 1858 to Nov. 4, 1861; 2nd Lt., 6th Cav., Nov. 1, 1861; 1st Lt. Jan. 25, 1864; Captain October 20, 1866; Maj. 7th Cav. Mar. 20, 1886; Lt. Col. 3rd Cav., July 17, 1895; Col. 10th Cav. Oct. 16, 1898; Brig. Gen. volunteers Jan. 3, 1901; honorable discharge from volunteers June 20, 1901; Brigad. Gen. U.S.A. May 29, 1902; retired June 9, 1902; bvt. capt. and jam. Mar. 13, 1865 for faithful and meritorious service.

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duty.

The interval of peace was summarily terminated in August when the White Mountain Indians, hitherto quite amicable, began to show signs of disaffection and became stirred up to such a pitch that they were ready to break from the reservation at San Carlos as the result of promises made by Nooh-ay-del-Klinne, a Medicine Man of some  
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repute, to raise the long-dead warriors and rid the country of the white man. To the malcontents, this was a solemn injunction to clear their adversaries from the country which they adduced rightly belonged to the Apache. The situation at San Carlos and Fort Apache became grave. When Agent Tiffany declined to issue passes to his Indians to attend the gatherings on Cibicu Creek, forty-six miles distant, they departed without authorization. The scouts at Apache, not backward in demanding permits, overstayed their time and returned in a state of exhaustion unfit for duty, exhibiting signs of surliness and insubordination. The imminence of an outbreak compelled Colonel Carr, post commander at Fort Apache, to summon Lieutenant Thomas Cruse before him to ascertain the loyalty of his scouts. When he learned that nothing but trouble could result in their being allowed to remain in the vicinity, he acceded to

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106 Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, March-July, 1881.

107 Rodinbough and Haskin, op. cit., p. 246.

Cruse's suggestion that he and his command be transferred temporarily to Camp Huachuca, and that the void created by his departure be filled by a company of scouts who would have no such interest in Agency affairs as his men did. A wire was immediately forwarded to General Willcox, Department Commander, for approval of the scheme, but scarce had the message been sent than the telegraph line had another of its frequent breakdowns and was not in use before August 28.<sup>108</sup> In the meantime, General Willcox quietly ordered all available troops in the southern portion of the Territory to stand in readiness to assist in quashing any disturbance which might arise.<sup>109</sup> On the 10th of August a command under Lieutenant A.S. Bailey<sup>110</sup> consisting of Company D, Indian Scouts, together with eleven men from Company G and three men from Companies A, B, and M, 6th Cavalry, left the post en route to Fort Grant, and was followed by Company G under Captain Tupper on the 16th. Camp Huachuca was not, as might appear, left without a garrison, for on August 2 Company K, 12th Infantry, had arrived under Lieutenant J.H. Hurst from Camp Verde to take up station. Meanwhile, Lieutenant Bailey, who had quit the post on the 10th, arrived at Grant on the 13th, left there the next day for Camp

<sup>108</sup> Cruse, op. cit., pp. 96-101.

<sup>109</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, September 8, 1881.

<sup>110</sup> Lt. A.S. Bailey, 6th Cavalry, relieved Lt. S.C. Mills, 12th Infantry, of command of Co. D, Indian Scouts. Heitman, op. cit., p. 180.

Thomas where he remained until the 25th of the month, then was detailed to field duty. Proceeding to Mule Springs, he spent the next few days there making a survey of the country side and then returned to Camp Thomas on August 30. <sup>111</sup>

Under orders from General Willcox, Colonel Carr with a force of seventy-nine men, twenty-three scouts, and six officers <sup>112</sup> went out to the Indian camp on Cibicu Creek to arrest Noch-ay-del-Klinne on the 29th of August. The Medicine Man made no attempt at resistance but passively accompanied the command. As they were preparing to bivouac, a number of Indians led by a scout, Sergeant Dandy Jim, sought to enter the camp but were denied permission, whereupon the Indian Scouts opened fire upon the command, thereby precipitating the fight that won for itself the title "Bloody Cibicu." Though the numerical strength of the Indians was fully twice that of the soldiers, the military managed to hold its own in a desperate hand-to-hand conflict and retired under cover of darkness to Fort Apache. <sup>113</sup> Captain Tupper's detachment had returned from detached service at Fort Grant on the 26th of August, and on September 3 in compliance with telegraphic orders, hastened to Camp Thomas where he and his force were dispatched to the borders of the

<sup>111</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, August, 1881.

<sup>112</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, September 8, 1881.

<sup>113</sup> Cruse, op. cit., pp. 102-126.

San Carlos Reservation. It was not until October 29 that Tupper was able to return to his post. At the same time Tupper quit the post on the 3rd of September, Company K, 12th Infantry, moved out of Huachuca toward Fort Grant where they remained for several days and returned to camp by the 13th of the month.<sup>114</sup>

The withdrawal of troops from the Sonora border to aid in driving in these Apaches left the way open for the Chiricahuas, who broke from the reservation at San Carlos and, heading south, fell upon the Samaniego wagon train, killing six about a mile east of Cedar Springs and fifteen miles northwest of Fort Grant.<sup>115</sup> They were hotly pursued and hard pressed by two troops who overtook them near Cedar Springs; a fight ensued October 2 which lasted more than five hours until 9:00 p.m. The hostiles, who were in deep shadow, were greatly favored by the bright moonlight which enabled them to see every movement made by the soldiery. They fought pluckily, their boldness mingled with desperation, for they were apparently determined to maintain their position long enough to get out their stock.<sup>116</sup> Abandoning their strong position precipitously, they fled the region, retreating across Arivaipa Valley toward the Galura Mountains, thence

<sup>114</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, August-October, 1881.

<sup>115</sup> Rodinbough and Haskins, op. cit., p. 247.

<sup>116</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1881-82, pp. 146-147.

down into Mexico and the rocky fastness of the Sierra  
 Madres. <sup>117</sup> Lieutenant S.C. Mills <sup>118</sup> and Company D, Indian  
 Scouts, under Lieutenant Bailey, who had arrived at Fort  
 Apache September 27 from the Cibicu country, <sup>119</sup> partici-  
 pated in this skirmish and saw further action in the Dra-  
 goon Mountains October 11. The arrival of the command at  
 Camp Huachuca on October 23 coincided with that of Troops  
 C and M, 1st Cavalry, under Captains Henry Wagner and Moses  
 Harris. <sup>120</sup> October 22 found Lieutenants Mills with a detach-  
 ment of San Carlos Apaches and von Schrader with a force of  
 Hualpai scouts in Tucson, having arrived there from a scout-  
 ing expedition seventy miles into Sonora. <sup>121</sup>

The Chiricahuas continued to range at large, and on the  
 4th of October a detachment of 6th Cavalry struck a band of  
 Indians, consisting of about one hundred men with all their  
 women and children and around 600 head of cattle and horses,  
 in the vicinity of the Dragoon Mountains. Retreating to  
 the west side of the mountains and across country to the  
 Huachuca range, thence to the Mule Mountains, they abandoned  
 their possessions along the trail and killed their stock.

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<sup>117</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, October 6, 1881; Ogle, op.  
cit., p. 209.

<sup>118</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1881-82, p. 147.

<sup>119</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, September 29, 1881.

<sup>120</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, October, 1881.

<sup>121</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, October 27, 1881.

Troops from Huachuca were ordered to intercept this band, and on the 5th Lieutenant Bailey with a detachment of forty or fifty scouts joined the command of Colonel Bernard, and around fifteen miles east of Tombstone picked up the trail which indicated that the Indians were moving toward the west end of Mule Mountains and the San José Mountains in Sonora. Moving rapidly, they had by dusk moved up to within five miles of the "renegades" who were encamped in Sulphur Springs Valley. The troops bivouacked at Soldiers Hole, remaining there until the 6th to rest and secure additional provisions. During the night a hard rain badly effaced the trail, yet Bernard continued the pursuit which took him through the Southern Chiricahuas into the Guadalupe range. The expedition proved unfruitful; the Indians not only eluded their pursuers, but because of long and continuous service many of the cavalry horses broke down.<sup>122</sup> By the 21st of October the force was encamped at Antelope Springs, and Lieutenant Bailey, accompanied by several other officers,<sup>123</sup> spent the evening in Tombstone.

The remainder of the year was peaceful with the garrison being engaged in straight troop duty, and the year came to a close with the strength of the post having increased from two companies to four. The companies stationed there

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<sup>122</sup> Ibid., October 6, 13, 20, 1881.

<sup>123</sup> Daily Nugget, October 22, 1881.

were G, 6th Cavalry; D, Indian Scouts; K, 12th Infantry; and Troop C, 1st Cavalry; Troop M, 1st Cavalry having been relieved from duty November 16 and transferred to Fort Bowie. <sup>124</sup>

The changes that had come about in Southeastern Arizona within the past four years were remarkable indeed. The vast range lying about Camp Huachuca in 1877 had been virtually terra incognita to any but the Indians, for few maps existed of the country excepting the Wheeler Survey. <sup>125</sup>

Stringent orders had been issued in 1878 to all men commanding Indian Scouts to turn in with their reports an outline map indicating trails covered, situation of ranches, water holes, and so forth. But this was more often than not honored in the breach, for there was little time to work one's information up into a sketch map when on a hot trail. <sup>126</sup>

Though the region was thought to contain considerable wealth, so great was the danger that few dared even venture into the outskirts of that unexplored area. But with the establishment of a military camp in the Huachuca range, comparative quiet descended upon the area. And with this encouragement and promise of protection the stock raiser, the prospector, and the farmer swarmed into the mountains and

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<sup>124</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, November and December, 1881.

<sup>125</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, March 24, 1881.

<sup>126</sup> Cruse, op. cit., pp. 48-49.

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valleys.

Within the brief span encompassed by the years 1877 to 1882, mining had become so profitable that an anonymous author in the Arizona Weekly Star for April 14, 1881, predicted the possibility of the Huachuca range becoming the foremost center of interest to mining men of this Territory before another year had elapsed. Although Montezuma Canyon attracted the most attention, mineral-bearing rock was to be seen in all the canyons and in large quantities. There were a number of fine properties in Ramsey's Canyon; and Tanner's Canyon, owned jointly by Lieutenant Bayley and Mr. Tanner, showed promise despite the fact that it was in an undeveloped state. The mines in Ash Canyon west of Montezuma appeared to contain some valuable minerals, for high-grade ore was being removed from them. Notwithstanding all this activity, the mineral wealth of the range had scarcely been scratched, so people thought at this period. <sup>128</sup>

Sometime in 1880 measures had been adopted for the selection of a new site in Southeastern Arizona for Camp Huachuca which would permit the concentration of troops and possible withdrawal of others from points in this section of the Territory. In April of 1881 a report made to the War Department by Major-General McDonald stated that Old

127 Arizona Weekly Star, March 24, 1881.

128 Ibid., April 14, 1881.

Camp Grant, Crittenden, Buchanan, Mason, and Goodwin had been abandoned after a great outlay of funds, principally because of sickness. The health of Huachuca had been found to be excellent, hence should be made a permanent post of augmented capacity.<sup>129</sup> A commission comprising Captain Tupper, Lieutenant Bowie, and an unidentified officer inspected the site for the new post in Tanner's Canyon and made an amicable compromise with the settlers residing there<sup>130</sup> sometime before the 31st of July. On the 1st of September a board of officers composed of Captains G.C. Smith and T.C. Tupper and 1st Lieutenant Carl F. Palfrey, Corps of Engineers, met at Camp Huachuca; after a careful examination of the vicinity, it was decided to make Huachuca a permanent post. Captain Smith was assigned the duty of preparing plans and estimates of the buildings for the new post,<sup>131</sup> and \$20,000 was appropriated for construction.<sup>132</sup> But the plans laid in the early part of September went awry, and the immediate site of the camp in Huachuca Canyon was not abandoned in favor of the one in Tanner's Canyon.<sup>133</sup> Lack of an adequate and enduring water supply had been given as the cause

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129 History of Fort Huachuca, 1889.

130 Daily Nugget, July 31, 1881.

131 Arizona Weekly Star, September 1, 1881.

132 Daily Nugget, October 22, 1881.

133 Interview with Major John H. Healy, March 6, 1949.

of change,<sup>134</sup> yet when a survey was conducted of the water facilities in the surrounding canyons, it was discovered that there was a greater abundance and a more plentiful supply in Huachuca Canyon than in any of the other canyons.<sup>135</sup> The work of constructing the post commenced in the fall, probably around November, since Captain E.B. Hubbard arrived at the camp on the 21st of that month to assume supervision of the building activities.<sup>136</sup> During the year, funds totaling \$1,765 were appropriated for the erection of a school-house.<sup>137</sup> On October 29, 1881, the President created a military reservation for the post which was later extended to the southern boundary of the Babacomari Grant in 1883.<sup>138</sup> Some 71,760 acres were included within the boundaries of this early reservation.<sup>139</sup>

The nearest railroad, the Southern Pacific, was forty-seven miles distant from the camp,<sup>140</sup> but before the year was out there were prospects of one being built even closer. In the latter part of July, A.A. Robinson, chief

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<sup>134</sup> Daily Nugget, July 31, 1881.

<sup>135</sup> Interviews with Major John J. Healy, Col. Edwin N. Hardy, and Ralph P. Merritt, March 6, 1949.

<sup>136</sup> Post Returns for Camp Huachuca, December, 1881.

<sup>137</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1881-82, p. 229.

<sup>138</sup> History of Fort Huachuca, 1889.

<sup>139</sup> Interview with Major John M. Healy, March 6, 1949.

<sup>140</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1881-82, p. 67.

engineer for the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, announced that he would inspect three proposed routes from Benson, one of which would run from Benson to a point on the San Pedro in the vicinity of Contention, up the Babacomari Creek and over to a point near Fort Crittenden, down the Sonoita Valley to the Santa Cruz or over to Calabasas, and thence down to the Sonora border to unite with the Sonora Limited.<sup>141</sup> Eventually, after much dispute, this route was selected. Then the question arose as to whether the road, after leaving Charleston, should proceed up the San Pedro or go west between Cananea and the Huachucas, or by-pass the Huachucas on the north and strike the Sonoita and Magdalena.<sup>142</sup> This was settled in September by an announcement that the route of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe would advance up the San Pedro to somewhere between Grand Central and Contention, thence westward to Babacomari Creek and to the Sonoita Valley, coming out at Calabasas.<sup>143</sup> In the meantime, the camp had to make out with wagon transportation.<sup>144</sup>

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<sup>141</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, July 21, 1881.

<sup>142</sup> Ibid., August 11, 1881.

<sup>143</sup> Ibid., September 5, 1881.

<sup>144</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1881-82, p. 370. Route of supply was from Benson to Camp Huachuca, thirty-seven miles, at 38 1/10¢ per 100 lbs. the entire distance, and 19 1/20¢ per 100 lbs. for the entire distance from Camp Huachuca to Benson.

## CHAPTER II

### FORT HUACHUCA, 1882-1886

Though the camp on the eastern slopes of the Huachuca range was destined in time to supplant many of the posts in Southeastern Arizona by preempting their only excuse for existence after the waning of the Indian wars, that of preventing border disturbances, it was, for the present, preoccupied with its struggle to maintain existence. In 1882 the status of Huachuca was changed from that of camp to a permanent station, the title of "Fort" first being affixed on the 9th of February; while the cavalry units, previously designated as companies, were henceforth to be known as troops.<sup>1</sup> The stage now plied daily between the post and Huachuca Siding on the New Mexico and Arizona Railroad seven miles distant; the military telegraph was extended to the fort during the year, the labor being performed by the troops;<sup>2</sup> and on the 3rd of October the residents of the West Huachucas, having become civic minded, petitioned for the establishment of a voting

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<sup>1</sup> An article on file under Fort Huachuca in the archives of the Tucson Newspapers, Inc., Tucson. Edward J. Kelley, "Old Fort Huachuca," Arizona Highways; XVIII:36 (October, 1942).

<sup>2</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, pp. 47, 152.

precinct at the post.<sup>3</sup> During the latter half of April, General W.T. Sherman inspected the post, electing another site and authorizing supplementary improvements and modifications on the down canyon slope. Indications are that the arrangement of the post was altered in a thorough-going manner, as headquarters was abandoned, the proposal being made to use the building formerly housing it for a chapel or school.<sup>4</sup> Post records attest to the fact that construction of a permanent post of augmented capacity commenced during the early months of the year. By June the buildings containing the offices had been completed, and the middle of October witnessed the completion of barracks to house two troops, while work on another was expected to begin shortly. From the manner in which moneys were appropriated, estimates and specifications approved, and the promptness which attended the filling of requisitions by the San Francisco Depot, it was manifest that Huachuca was being groomed to occupy the position of an important post in the Department.<sup>5</sup>

Though the year opened quietly enough, the Indian problem

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<sup>3</sup> Petition, Voting Precinct at Fort Huachuca, filed October 8, 1882 with the Board of County Supervisors, Cochise County--in a portfolio of newspaper clippings at the Pioneers Historical Society, Tucson.

<sup>4</sup> Kelley, *op. cit.*, p. 36; an article on file under Fort Huachuca in the archives of the Tucson Newspapers, Inc., Tucson; Arizona Weekly Star, April 13, 1882.

<sup>5</sup> Articles on file under Fort Huachuca in archives of Tucson Newspapers, Inc.; Weekly Arizona Citizen, October 15, 1882.

continued to vex the military and on the 15th of February, 1882, General Willcox received information that emissaries from the hostiles in Mexico had visited the Indians at San Carlos during January, endeavoring to induce them to break out by threatening them with the return of the hostiles who would swarm out of Mexico before forty days had passed and descend upon their camps, killing all who refused to accompany them. In consequence of this, all posts in Southeastern Arizona were immediately alerted, and with the passing of time an even more rigorous vigilance was enforced along the border.<sup>6</sup> As restlessness was negligible among reservation Indians, Troop C, 6th Cavalry, Captain Madden commanding, was ordered from Fort Thomas to Huachuca to take up station and strengthen the border cordon. But Madden did not succeed in this until May<sup>7</sup> for, true to their word, sixty hostiles swept into San Carlos on April 19 under Chato and Nachee, worsted Loco's band of Warm Springs Indians, forcibly abducted them and, joined by the Chiricahuas, departed driving their herds before them as they moved slowly in the direction of Eagle Creek. In leaving they killed Chief of Police Sterling and an Indian Sergeant, demolished the cattle pens, and provoked an engagement with the agency police

<sup>6</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 147.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.; Arizona Weekly Star, April 6, 1882; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, April, 1882.

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 in the afternoon. From Eagle Creek they moved in an east-  
 erly direction toward the San Francisco River, past Thomas,  
 east of San Simon, and down along the Peloncillo and Stein's  
 Peak ranges into Mexico.<sup>9</sup>

Because of orders issued by Major Perry, commanding  
 scouting operations in Southeastern Arizona, troops from all  
 posts in that section of the Territory were set in motion to  
 apprehend the hostiles.<sup>10</sup> Already in the field was Captain  
 Madden with his troop encamped at Soldier's Hole en route to  
 Huachuca, and Troop G under Captain Tupper with Mill's In-  
 dian Scouts in the vicinity of Bisbee. The Dragoon and Mule  
 Mountains were placed under surveillance by Lieutenant Hurst  
 who quit Huachuca about the 20th with a detachment of fifteen  
 infantrymen.<sup>11</sup>

All cavalry units in the Department were now placed  
 under the command of Perry; and the troops which had been  
 garnered from McDowell, Huachuca, and Rucker between the 21st

<sup>8</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 147;  
Ralph H. Ogle, Federal Control of the Western Apaches, 1848-  
1886, p. 213; Prescott Weekly Courier, April 22, 1882;  
Arizona Daily Star, April 20, 1882; Martin F. Schmitt,  
General George Crook: His Autobiography, p. 243.

<sup>9</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 147;  
Arizona Daily Star, April 25, 1882.

<sup>10</sup> Arizona Daily Star, April 20, 1882.

<sup>11</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, pp. 147-148;  
Prescott Weekly Courier, April 22, 1882; Arizona Weekly  
Enterprise, April 22, 1882.

and 23rd were summoned to Wilcox Station. Lacking information on the hostiles' movements, he dispatched Captain Tupper with Troop G and Mill's scouts by rail to San Simon Station to search for trails.<sup>12</sup>

On the evening of April 24, Tupper at San Simon and Rafferty at Fort Bowie were jointly advised of the presence of hostiles in the vicinity of Galeyville and hastened to that point, Tupper arriving at 3:00 the following morning, joined soon after by Rafferty and Darr's scouts. Pack train and provisions were left to follow as they moved out onto the trail which was discovered leading within a few miles of Galeyville. Eight miles beyond Galeyville<sup>13</sup> the troops bivouacked at Cave Canyon for Tupper, being very discreet in

<sup>12</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, pp. 148-149; Lt.-Col. W.H. Carter, From Yorktown to Santiago with the Sixth U.S. Cavalry, p. 229; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, April, 1882.

<sup>13</sup> The deputy sheriff of Galeyville, Mr. Meagher, had been assigned to ride with the troops; but when the time of departure arrived, he was unable to accompany them, being preoccupied with other work. His business completed, Mr. Meagher set out to overtake the troops, electing to go by way of a cut-off. Chancing to glance over his shoulder, the deputy sheriff was filled with dismay, for bearing down upon him in full pursuit were a number of Indians. Unaware that they were Tupper's scouts who thought him a renegade, the poor wretch set spurs to his mount and sailed out across the desert endeavoring to shake his pursuers from his trail. When the cavalry joined the madcap chase there was "witnessed the interesting spectacle of two companies of U.S. Cavalry and about fifty scouts in hot pursuit of one man." Driven on by desperation, Meagher led his pursuers a merry chase for about four miles when he was overtaken. This being too great a measure of distinction for one day, the troops went into camp. Arizona Gazette, May 4, 1882.

his movements, had prudently concluded to move only after dark. As the shadows lengthened and dusk descended upon the canyon, the troops readied themselves and resumed march, moving across San Simon Valley at a trot and gallop until the Peloncillo range was reached. Presently the trail became quite broken and within thirty miles gave out altogether, indicating that the hostiles had dispersed. The darkness which enveloped the troops overspread the scattered trails with equal impartiality, giving Tupper no other recourse than to go into camp, which he did at 2:30 a.m. in the White Water Canyon in the Chiricahua Mountains. By 4:00 there was light sufficient to enable the scouts to discern the trails, and the troops took to the saddle again.<sup>14</sup> In the middle of afternoon a dry camp was made above Cloverdale on the eastern slopes of the Peloncillos in Skull Canyon; the pack train was brought up and the troops given a little bread and bacon. On this day, the 26th, Tupper precipitated an engagement near Stein's Peak in which he lost four scouts and a soldier but routed the Indians. Pursuit was resumed early next morning on a trail which led within a couple miles of Cloverdale, down across the Animas Valley, and into the range of mountains bearing that name. Proceeding along the eastern

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<sup>14</sup> Prescott Weekly Courier, May 20, 27, 1882; Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 149; Arizona Daily Star, May 26, 1882; Arizona Gazette, May 4, 1882; Tombstone Epitaph, May 13, 1882.

slopes of this range, the command halted briefly at the mouth of a canyon sixteen miles below the boundary. Though they had already come forty-five miles that day, march was resumed, for it was manifest that the hostiles were but a few miles in advance, their flight having been impeded by a heavy growth of manzanita through which they had had to cut a trail.<sup>15</sup>

The "renegades" were shortly found encamped about eight miles distant in the Sierra Piedras. When Tupper arrived at the advance scouting post alone and on foot, he discovered that Lieutenants Darr and Mills had already dispatched a reconnaissance party to determine the nature of the camp. Presently the scouts moved out in two columns, crept around to the rear of the camp and secreted themselves above the hostiles on the sides of the mountains and among the rocks at their base, having removed their boots and walked four miles over the desert floor in their bare feet. The cavalry was conducted into a position immediately opposite the scouts, Troop G being dismounted and deployed as skirmishers by Lieutenant Touey about the hostiles who were entrenched upon a rocky knoll. Instructions had been left the guards at the pack train to keep up the fires to lull any suspicions

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<sup>15</sup> Arizona Gazette, May 4, 1882; Weekly Arizona Citizen, April 30, 1882; Arizona Daily Star, May 26, 1882; Tombstone Epitaph, May 13, 1882; Prescott Weekly Courier, May 27, 1882.

entertained by their adversaries.

The conflict, which was to have commenced with a shot fired by Mills, was precipitated prematurely at 4:30 a.m. when Loco's son and a couple of squaws inadvertently happened upon the scouts while in search of mescal cached in the rocks. Frequent flashes of fire in the foothills advised the cavalry of the fray, and Troop M under Rafferty and Tupper charged up the canyon over open ground swept by enemy fire from all sides. When 150 yards distant from the camp they were ordered to dismount and charge on foot. Tupper now returned to his own company, leaving Rafferty to discover that he had trapped himself almost beyond possibility of escape, being caught under a murderous crossfire. While Tupper and the scouts sought to detract attention from the entrapped men, the cavalry began slowly to withdraw, every man for himself. Had the Indians retained their wits about them, escape would have been impossible; instead, they grew panicky and fired erratically. Once out, the cavalry formed a skirmish line and took up position behind Troop G. Meanwhile Touey had been ordered down to cut out the hostiles' herd and succeeded in doing so, losing but one man.

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<sup>16</sup> Carter, op. cit., p. 229; Tombstone Epitaph, May 13, 1882; Arizona Daily Star, May 26, 1882; Weekly Arizona Citizen, May 14, 1882; Prescott Weekly Courier, May 27, 1882. The sources do not seem to agree on the location of the battle. The Tombstone Epitaph holds it to be the Sierra Piedras; the Arizona Daily Star, the Las Animas Mountains; while the Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 149 maintains that it took place in the Hatchet Mountains.

Throughout the engagement Loco and the chiefs could be discerned making overtures to the scouts to desert the military. Fearing treachery, Mills quickly made his way to the front and, standing in advance of his command exposed to the constant fire of the hostiles, gave his scouts to understand that the first treasonable action would result in death.<sup>17</sup>

It was not until noon that Tupper gave the order to withdraw, having attempted the impossible in seeking to dislodge from a natural fortification a band fully twice the size of his force. The scouts prepared to descend from their places of concealment, and as the lines fell back the "renegades" swarmed out over the rocks to seize their stock. With his captured ponies Tupper moved back to water, being joined there at sunset by Colonel Forsyth, 4th Cavalry, New Mexico. Informed by Forsyth that he and his command would be expected to accompany him that evening Tupper balked, for his men had been without rest for over thirty-six hours. On the following morning, the 29th, Forsyth and Tupper made their way back to the scene of the previous day's fray to discover that the hostiles had decamped, abandoning numerous saddles, considerable loot, and even ammunition.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Arizona Daily Star, May 26, 1882; Tombstone Epitaph, May 13, 1882; Prescott Weekly Courier, May 27, 1882; Carter, op. cit., p. 230.

<sup>18</sup> Prescott Weekly Courier, May 27, 1882; Carter, op. cit., pp. 230-231; Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 149.

Rather than permit the "renegades" to effect another escape unopposed, the troops pushed deeper into Mexico on the trail which led in the direction of the Janos River, at whose headwaters they camped that evening, having come thirty-seven miles. Dawn saw them in the saddle again. But they had scarcely gone a mile when they encountered Colonel Garcia and a column of Mexican infantry who had been in the process of changing posts when they observed the dust raised by the Indians and lay in wait to ambush them in Canyon Alezio on the Corralitus River, punishing "their already shattered column with heavy losses ..."<sup>19</sup> Upon learning this, the United States troops returned to Separ on April 30, Tupper having been detached from Forsyth's command and sent by way of Taylorville with three troops of the 6th Cavalry. The trek home was a leisurely one, for the mounts were footsore and physically run-down from lack of adequate forage. On the 8th of May, Troop G and scouts, totaling eighty-one en-<sup>20</sup>listed men, returned to Huachuca.

<sup>19</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 148; Ogle, op. cit., p. 214; Prescott Weekly Courier, May 27, 1882; Arizona Daily Star, May 26, 1882; Weekly Arizona Citizen, May 14, 1882.

<sup>20</sup> Arizona Daily Star, May 4, 25, 1882; Prescott Weekly Courier, May 6, 1882; Carter, op. cit., p. 232; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May, 1882.

"April 28, 1882

Colonel Perry, Willcox: We jumped a large force of Indians at daybreak this morning, about 35 miles east of Cloverdale. Killed twelve or fifteen, among them Loco's son. Captured 70 or 75 head of stock. Engagement lasted till 12 n. We were unable to drive them from a very strong

To encompass the movements of all troops at Fort Huachuca, it will be necessary to retrogress a bit and take up the threads dropped in April when Captain Tupper was dispatched to San Simon Station. During the latter part of April an abortive attack was staged upon Ayer Camp by the hostiles, who had passed by Galeville on the evening of the 24th. A courier was promptly dispatched to Captain Madden in the field with orders to investigate the incident; but by the time the troops arrived, all that remained to indicate the presence of the Indians were their receding tracks. Madden continued to reconnoitre in the field, and on the 27th of April was reportedly closing in on a body of "renegades" near Rucker Pass. <sup>21</sup> On the 29th a scouting expedition quit the post under Captain W. Dove and Post Surgeon Gardiner, proceeded to Antelope Springs, and returned on the 1st of May. In response to word from Hurst at Tombstone that

20 (cont.) natural position. The stock was cut out by the cavalry at the first charge and under fire they withdrew quietly without loss or apparent encouragement to the hostiles. During the fight Loco endeavored to induce scouts to turn against us. Our casualties were M troop, one man killed, one wounded; G troop, one man wounded slightly, two horses killed. Lt. Touey received a close call by a bullet through the lining of the coat... It seemed somewhat desperate as their force was at least four times greater than estimated by me. Mills and Darr with their scouts took up position in the rocks above the hostiles during the night, while the rest of us endeavored to get into position near the camp. We proceed with General Forsyth by his directions in further pursuit tomorrow.

(Signed) Tupper, Captain commanding."  
Arizona Daily Star, May 2, 1882.

21 Arizona Weekly Star, May 4, 1882; Arizona Gazette, May 4, 1882.

hostiles were laying waste Babocomari Valley, Dove and a small detachment of infantry departed the following day but returned a short time later having found nothing amiss.<sup>22</sup>

Toward the close of May, remnants of Loco's band began to sift across the border into Southeastern Arizona and to skulk there in the mountains, slipping down from their refuges occasionally to parade in the valleys while awaiting an opportunity to steal back to the reservation. On the 27th of May, 1882, a party of seventy-five Indians was seen by-passing the Customs House, and on the 29th Mexican troops reported a small band in the vicinity of the Huachucas heading for the Santa Cruz, while another group was observed the following day in the Whetstones. These developments were promptly communicated to the commanding officer at Huachuca who, on the 28th, dispatched Tupper with Troop G and scouts to the boundary line, Madden with his troop to the Santa Cruz, and Dove with twenty-five infantrymen to Ochoaville. Within a week all had returned to their post, Tupper and Madden on June 1 and Dove a day or so later.<sup>23</sup>

Not all of the malcontents had accompanied Loco in his émude of April and, as the season lengthened, dissatisfaction waxed and the air grew pregnant with discontent and

<sup>22</sup> Tombstone Epitaph, May 13, 1882.

<sup>23</sup> Arizona Daily Star, June 14, 1882; Prescott Weekly Courier, June 3, 1882; Arizona Gazette, June 1, 1882; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May-June, 1882.

restlessness, culminating in an outbreak July 6 under the Cibicu chiefs, Nantiatish and Arshay, who schemed to embroil the whole of San Carlos in revolt. The "renegades" elected to depart as they were being counted preparatory to receiving provisions, and in their egress killed Chief of Police Colving, three scouts, and plundered the agency buildings. Repudiated by their people, the hostiles, sixty strong, swept down upon the community of McMillenville. The core of this outbreak existed in a camp of renegade White Mountain Indians who had fled from the military the previous fall and were now dwelling among the myriad canyons of the Mogollon range, existing upon wild game, cattle filched from ranches nearby, and corn left standing in the fields.<sup>24</sup>

The troops at Huachuca did not participate in the opening movements of the campaign, their function being to patrol the border. Reconnaissance expeditions were made during the month of July by Lieutenants J.M. Glass and A.S. Bailey, and by Captain J.C. Thompson commanding Troop F, 3rd Cavalry, on detached service at Huachuca. August saw the military still in the field after the hostiles who, hotly pursued, fought their way across Southwestern Arizona, their route through the Santa Cruz marked by blood and devastation, the Soncita

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<sup>24</sup> Ogle, *op. cit.*, p. 215; Report of the Secretary of War, 1882-83, p. 150; Arizona Daily Star, July 12, 13, 1882; Arizona Silver Belt, July 8, 1882. Carter, *op. cit.*, p. 233, maintains that it was Nantiatish and Sanchez who led the raid.

region being abandoned as settlers swarmed down upon Calabasas seeking protection in numbers. During the latter half of the month the hostiles separated into smaller units and scattered off, one group marauding near La Noria on the upper reaches of the Santa Cruz, then moving in a southeasterly direction over the Patagonia and San Juan Mountains down into Mexico, having crossed the border near Fronteras around the 30th with Lieutenant Glass and his scouts in full pursuit. On the 28th, detachments from Troops C and G under Lieutenants Sands and Bailey and twenty scouts under Glass had been dispatched from Huachuca to investigate the reported killing of a Mexican and two children on the Santa Cruz near Harshaw.<sup>25</sup>

The year 1882 commenced with garrison strength being comprised of the following units: 6th Cavalry, Troop G and Troop D, Indian Scouts; 1st Cavalry, Troop C; 12th Infantry, Company K. The close of December found garrison strength as follows: 6th Cavalry, Troops C and G; 3rd Cavalry, Troop F; 1st Infantry, Company D.<sup>26</sup> Since the fall of 1881 Captain William Dove had been in command of the post and continued

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<sup>25</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, July-August-September, 1882; Arizona Daily Star, August 29, 30, 31, September 1, 1882; Tombstone Epitaph, September 2, 9, 30, 1882.

<sup>26</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, January-December, 1882. March 31, Troop C, 1st Cavalry was relieved from duty and departed. May 12 Troop C, 6th Cavalry, Capt. Madden took up station at Huachuca. August 6 Co. D, 1st Infantry, Capt. D. Callinan took up station at Huachuca. September 8 Co. K, 12th Infantry left to take up station at Fort Walla Walls, W.T. July, Troop F, 3rd Cavalry took up station.

to function in that capacity until relieved in July, 1882, by Captain D. Madden, who was succeeded by Major J.M. Mason on the 4th of September.<sup>27</sup>

With the San Carlos Indians perilously close to revolt and the Chiricahuas in Mexico keeping the border district in a state of constant agitation by their marauding, General George Crook was summoned back to Arizona and assumed command of the Department on September 4, 1882, replacing O.B. Wilcox. From this time forward until March, 1883, there was neither a murder committed nor a foray made either by reservation Indians or by renegades. The measure of security accruing from this interval of tranquility lulled the citizenry of Southern Arizona into believing that the Indian wars were at an end. Cessation of hostilities brought stagnation to Huachuca, the troops being confined to garrison duty for want of anything better to do.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, September-December, 1881; January-December, 1882.

<sup>28</sup> Thomas Cruse, Apache Days and After, pp. 183-184; Rupert H. Bancroft, History of Arizona and New Mexico, 1530-1888, p. 570; Schmitt, op. cit., pp. 243, 245; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, October-December, 1882, January-February, 1883. Records of the U.S. Army Commands: Selected Documents concerning Indian Depredations and Estimates and Appropriations, Fort Huachuca, Arizona Territory, 1883-86. Orders #9, January 14, 1883--Lt. T.A. Touey ordered by Capt. Madden to proceed with 15 men and 10 days' rations to the Santa Cruz, thence to the Customs House on the San Pedro, to Bisbee and to Antelope Springs to investigate rumors of hostiles being along the border.

Within their stronghold in the Sierra Madres the Chiricahuas, unknown to anyone, were bestirring themselves; the latter part of March, 1883 witnessed their separation into two bodies, one of which was to make an incursion into Arizona to procure ammunition, while the other under Geronimo was to sweep Sonora bare of stock. Out of Mexico on the evening of the 21st came Chato's band of twenty-six, fell upon a charcoal camp southwest of Huachuca, then moved north to the western slopes of the Whetstones, descended upon the Total Wreck Mine and, leaving behind them a trail of death and destruction, crossed the San Pedro in the vicinity of Benson and fled to the Caliuero range where they split into two smaller groups whose trails led across the Pinalero Mountains down into San Simon Flat and over to Stein's Pass, thence in a northwesterly direction across the Peloncillo range into the Gila Valley and Clifton. Turning south they passed within a few miles of Solomonsville and, drifting past the retreat of Mangas Coloradas, slipped into the Little Burros, having been in Arizona less than a week during which time they traveled considerably more than 400 miles.<sup>29</sup>

As soon as their presence became known to the military, troops were dispatched to intercept them. Lieutenant Gatewood

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<sup>29</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1883-84, pp. 161-162; Ogle, *op. cit.*, pp. 218-219; Cruse, *op. cit.*, p. 184; Britton Davis, *The Truth about Geronimo*, p. 56; *Arizona Weekly Citizen*, March 25, 1883; *Arizona Weekly Star*, March 29, 1883; *Prescott Weekly Courier*, March 31, 1883.

and his scouts were ordered to Huachuca, while Major N. Nolan, commanding officer at that post, was instructed to keep the region between the Dragoon and Huachuca Mountains under constant surveillance. Accordingly, Thompson with forty men from Troop F left March 24 for Igo's ranch with instructions to scout as far west as Antelope Springs and east to the Swisshelm Mountains, from which expedition he returned April 11. Madden, having quit the post on the 22nd with a detachment of thirty-five men, was directed to the coal camp and, having investigated, continued his scout of the eastern extension of the Huachucas, the Santa Cruz Valley, Sonoita Creek, and the Santa Rita and Patagonia ranges. But such was the celerity of the hostiles' advance that not only was effective pursuit utterly hopeless, but the hostiles themselves were without success in the execution of their foray which had been made for the express purpose of obtaining ammunition.

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With the onset of April was begun the practice of sending forth details of fifteen to twenty days' duration to patrol the border from the Swisshelm Mountains to Antelope Springs; in May when Crook undertook to return the Chiricahuas to San Carlos the distance was extended from Lewis'

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<sup>30</sup> Report of the Secretary of War, 1883-84, p. 162; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, February-April, 1883; Weekly Arizona Citizen, March 25, 1883.

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Spring to the Chiricahua range. From time to time reconnaissance expeditions were sent into the field from Huachuca, but generally speaking the remainder of the year was without event,<sup>32</sup> as was the ensuing year 1884.<sup>33</sup>

Throughout 1883 and 1884, the position of post commander shifted repeatedly from one man to another.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, April-May, 1883; Report of the Secretary of War, 1883-84, pp. 174-176; Schmitt, op. cit., pp. 246-248; Carter, op. cit., p. 238.

<sup>32</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, June-December, 1883; in December a search was made for outlaws by Lt. Stotsenburg and Troop H through the Guadalupe Mountains.

<sup>33</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, January-December, 1884. Co. C, 1st Inf., Faison commanding, left the post August 11, stationed themselves at Tombstone, and returned to Huachuca September 1 where they performed escort duties. Arizona Daily Star, Aug. 14, 1884 reports that it was Capt. Wm. Tisdall, rather than Faison, who was commanding Co. C and that troops had been called into Tombstone to maintain order. "Army in Arizona," Arizona Highways; XIV:13, 22 (April, 1938). During the latter part of March, Lt. Stotsenburg and a detachment were sent to scout the San Bernardino and Guadalupe Mountains where bandits were reported hiding out, and on the 8th of April overtook and captured a party who had robbed the Bisbee train on the 24th.

<sup>34</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, January-December, 1883-84. January, 1883 saw Tupper in command, though he was relieved of his station in February by Major Nicholas Nolan who functioned as commandant until June. In July, Lt.-Col. A.P. Morrow assumed command, replacing Tupper who re-assumed control two months later, being relieved in October by Capt. A. Chaffee who continued in the capacity of post commander until June, 1884 when he was succeeded by Maj. J.K. Mizner, who in turn was relieved by Capt. A.E. Wood in September. Arizona Weekly Citizen, October 27, 1883. On October 26 Nicholas Nolan died at Holbrook, Ariz., while Major Mason had passed away the previous fall. Arizona Weekly Star, November 1, 1883; Prescott Weekly Courier, October 20, 1883; Phoenix Weekly Herald, November 22, 1883. In October, Morrow was tried before a court martial at Huachuca on the charge of being drunk on duty as post commander. Though evidence was submitted showing that Morrow, in one instance,

Characteristic also of these two years was a frequent turn-over in personnel at the fort.<sup>35</sup>

Despite several years of existence, Fort Huachuca remained deficient in buildings requisite to establish it on a permanent basis. Post Headquarters was conducted from under canvas, while officers were constrained to live in tents or one-room adobe huts constructed largely at their own expense with tentage attached. Cavalry and quartermaster corrals, guard house, ordnance magazine, and shops were yet to be erected, the corrals being makeshift affairs of brush thrown up to keep the stock from wandering; while the bakery, guard house, and magazine were temporary frame structures erected by troop labor. Other temporary expedients were the blacksmith shop, wheelwright shop, and sawmill. Constituting the nucleus of permanent established buildings were four cavalry barracks, three of which had been completed in 1862, while the fourth was in an imperfect state and required

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34 (cont.) was suffering from nervous prostration resulting from a sleepless night, and on another was under the influence of morphia administered by Post Surgeon Gardiner, he was dismissed from the service.

35 Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, 1883-84. September 28, 1883 Co. D, 1st Inf., left Huachuca en route to McDowell and the following months Troops C (Madden's) and G (Tupper's), 6th Cavalry, were transferred to the same post; while Troop F, 3rd Cav. was removed to Grant. The vacancies occasioned by their departure were filled by 1st Inf., Co. C (Tisdall) and 6th Cav., Troops L (Overton), H (W. Wallace), I (A. Chaffee). June 5, 1884 Troops H, I, L, 6th Cav. were relieved of duty and departed to take station in New Mexico, while Troops B and I, 4th Cav. under Capt. H.W. Lawton and A.E. Wood arrived on the 21st from New Mexico. In July Troop D, 4th Cav. arrived at Huachuca to take up station.

flooring, partitions, chimneys, plastering and painting throughout to render it tenable.. Although estimates indicate that it had been intended as company quarters, plans were being entertained for converting it into post quartermaster and commissary offices, library, reading room, and an adjutant's office. Meanwhile, it was being used as a carpenter shop. Other buildings of a permanent nature were the Post Hospital and a one-story adobe building housing the quartermaster and commissary storehouses, separate structures covered by a single roof and divided by a passageway. <sup>36</sup>

In 1883 effort was bent toward procuring funds for enlargement of the fort by the post officials, who seized every opportunity to decry the inadequacy of facilities. Because original estimates called for an appropriation of \$143,544, a proposal was advanced that \$61,259 be expended forthwith upon one commanding officer's quarters, four sets of captain's quarters, six sets of lieutenant's quarters, an adjutant's office, and general repairs, leaving the balance to be provided for by future appropriations either through

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<sup>36</sup> Estimates, Specifications, Plans, Reports and Pertinent Correspondence Regarding Construction, Alteration, and Repairs of Public Buildings, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, 1883-86. Annual Report of Inspection of Public Buildings made at Fort Huachuca, A.T. on 27th day of May, 1883 in compliance with Pir. 1832 A.R. 1881. 4th Endorsement Chief Quartermaster's Office, Division of the Pacific, Presidio San Francisco, California. From Post Headquarters Office, Fort Huachuca, A.T., January 10, 1884 to Chief Quartermaster, Department of Arizona, Prescott, A.T.

Also April 10, 1884 from Fort Huachuca to Adjutant General U.S.A., Washington, D.C.

barracks and quarters or extraordinary grants by Congress. Thereupon, General Crook applied to the War Department to have the entire allowance of \$75,000 placed at his disposal to be expended by him as he saw fit. On August 17 the Secretary of War revoked the original allowances, reduced Huachuca's grant from \$61,257 to \$57,820, and empowered Crook to call for the moneys en masse.

The 1st of November, 1883 witnessed the laying of foundations for eleven officer's quarters, and 150 laborers, carpenters, brick layers and adobe workers were being given employment at the post. However, the appropriations proved inadequate and construction ceased in March of 1884. All lumber was stacked, an inventory taken, and an estimate prepared for completion of the quarters. Yet when construction was resumed in July, it was discovered that there was insufficient material to bring the buildings to completion. Called upon to account for this glaring deficiency, Major Mizner, commanding officer at Huachuca, sagely concluded that there had been a miscalculation in the inventory, while the post quartermaster swore up and down that he had guarded the pile with his life, though it was openly admitted that since

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37 Records of the War Department, Office of the Adjutant General, copy of 6th and 7th endorsements on Report of Annual Inspection of Public Buildings at Fort Huachuca, A.T. on May 27, 1883. Report of the Secretary of War, 1883-84, p. 408. Estimates, Specifications, etc., op. cit., October 2, 1883, memo.

it was the only lumber available a considerable quantity had been diverted for tables, porches, coffins, outbuildings, and repairs on main buildings. Recognizing the necessity of supplying the lumber but powerless to do anything about it because their funds were exhausted, Whipple Barracks referred the matter to the San Francisco Depot who proved equally sympathetic on a purse fully as empty as Whipple Barracks'. Huachuca eventually got \$300 for lumber, but not before the requisition got to the Secretary of War.<sup>38</sup>

In April, 1884 a plan was submitted for a twenty-four bed modified regulation post hospital; the immediate hospital, built in 1880-1881 when the fort was only a two-company post, had but an eight-bed capacity and was decidedly inadequate. In consequence of this \$11,894 was appropriated for a new hospital in July, followed somewhat later by \$17,676 for a water system and \$8,000 for partial completion of the eleven sets of officer's quarters and two cavalry stables.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Prescott Weekly Courier, November 3, 1883; Arizona Weekly Star, November 29, 1883; Estimates, Specifications, etc., op. cit., 2nd, 6th, 8th, 14th Endorsements, August 19, 1884.

<sup>39</sup> Estimates, Specifications, etc., op. cit., Fort Huachuca, April 10, 1884 to Adjutant General U.S.A., Washington, D.C. Annual Report of Inspection, op. cit., 4th Endorsement, January 10, 1884; 14th Endorsement, July 14, 1884. Table showing source, quality, mode of water supply, etc. at Fort Huachuca; Records of the United States Army Commands.

Report of the Secretary of War for 1885, p. 458.

The spring months of 1885 were markedly quiet at Huachuca, notwithstanding the contest being waged at San Carlos between the Indian agent and the military regarding a system of Indian government. The friction engendered by this spirit of uncooperativeness resulted in divided control, enabling the Apache, astute diplomats that they were, to put aside the rules most vexatious to them by playing department against department.<sup>40</sup>

On May 15 the power of the military was put to a decisive test when, after a night of debauchery, the Apache, abetted by their chiefs, congregated at daybreak before the tent of Lieutenant Britton Davis arrogantly demanding to know what he proposed to do about their nocturnal reveling. Davis replied that he would telegraph headquarters for instructions. Having waited two days for an answer which was never to come, the Indians grew alarmed and forty-two braves, including Geronimo, Mangus, Nana, Nachee, and Chihuahua, slipped away with their families. Dissension became manifest when Geronimo and Mangus were charged with deception in reporting the deaths of Chato and Davis and in revealing that troops had been dispatched to arrest them. With this the band split asunder, Mangus and his followers departing for Mexico, Chihuahua and his people lurking in the Mongollon

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<sup>40</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, January-April, 1885;  
Schmitt, op. cit., pp. 251-252.

range undecided whether to proceed down to Mexico or return to the reservation.<sup>41</sup>

Crook's general strategy in this exigency was to blanket every camp site, waterhole and canyon crossing frequented by the hostiles with scouts and mobile cavalry units, while maintaining a line of reserves along the railroad.<sup>42</sup> On the 19th of May Colonel W.B. Royall, commanding officer at Huachuca, ordered Troops B, D, I under Captain H.W. Lawton into the field to intercept the hostiles. While Lawton was scouting in the vicinity of Guadalupe Canyon, the Apaches fell upon his camp, killed two guards and made off with the camp equipage and several horses, which were recovered by Crawford who struck the party on the 23rd. The 15th of June saw the troops from Huachuca encamped on Eliza Creek in Mexico, having abandoned the trail on the 13th in the Sierra Madres fifteen miles southwest of the Bavispe River. Forced marches had exhausted the horses, while the men were badly in need of clothing. Lawton's command returned to the post on the 20th of June, having traveled 575 miles. Though twenty troops of cavalry had been put into the field, the Indians were scarcely caught sight of by the troops and

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<sup>41</sup> Schmitt, op. cit., pp. 253-254; Davis, op. cit., pp. 144-149; Ogle, op. cit., pp. 224-232; Cruse, op. cit., pp. 207, 209; Arizona Weekly Enterprise, May 18, 1885; Report of the Secretary of War, 1885, p. 169.

<sup>42</sup> Cruse, op. cit., p. 208. John P. Clum, "Geronimo," New Mexico Historical Review; III(3):218 (July, 1928).

crossed into Mexico June 10.

General Sheridan now pressed forward his demand that the hostiles be promptly quashed, ordered Crook to remove headquarters to the Southern Pacific Railroad, merged the district of New Mexico with the department of Arizona, and authorized the enlistment of additional scouts on June 9. The 1st of July saw Crook at Bowie and Huachuca organizing an expedition against the Apaches who, whenever the caprice overtook them, sallied forth from their fastness in the Sierra Madres to plunder and murder.<sup>44</sup> Seven troops of cavalry, two companies of infantry, and 100 scouts were stationed at camps scattered from Bisbee to Lang's Ranch, the principal ones being at Mud Springs, Silver Creek, Guadalupe Canyon, and San Bernardino Ranch.<sup>45</sup> These supply camps, situated at five-mile intervals, were located near waterholes

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<sup>43</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May-June, 1885; Arizona Weekly Enterprise, June 13, July 4, 1885; Carter, op. cit., pp. 243-244; Prescott Weekly Courier, June 19, 1885; Clum, op. cit., pp. 217-218; Schmitt, op. cit., p. 254; telegram signed by Tisdall from Ft. Huachuca to Adj. Gen., Dept. of Arizona, June 10, 1885.

<sup>44</sup> Schmitt, op. cit., p. 255; Ogle, op. cit., p. 232; Clum, op. cit., p. 218; Arizona Daily Star, July 2, 1885.

<sup>45</sup> Arizona Daily Star, August 30, 1885; Daily Tombstone, July 7, 1885; Prescott Weekly Courier, July 3, 1885; Post Returns for Ft. Huachuca, June-July, 1885. Troops F and E, 4th Cav., arrived at the post on the 19th and 24th of June, respectively. On July 5 Capt. Wirt Davis quit the post with five troops and orders to post them along the line in such a manner as to cover all waterholes from Silver Creek west to the Huachuca range. They were stationed as follows: Lawton's Troop B in Long Mountains; D, Hatfield commanding, at Copper Canyon; I, under Wood in Bisbee Canyon; E at Mud Springs; and F at Lang's Ranch, New Mexico.

and supplied from Huachuca. The approaches from Sonora were kept under surveillance by lookouts stationed on prominent vantage points near the camp, while the scouts were kept scouring the adjacent country.

For four months the troops dogged the heels of the hostiles, surprised them on several occasions, but were unable to force a decisive engagement. On July 24, Troop B broke camp and followed a trail which led through the Patagonias and Whetstones, captured twenty-two head of stolen stock on the 25th, struck a band of hostiles on the 26th, killing seven, and on August 1 returned to Fort Huachuca. On the 26th Troops D and I, under Captains C.A.P. Hatfield and A.E. Wood left Hanna's Ranch on a trail which took them south toward the San Jose Mountains. The following day Lieutenant Faison quit the post with two wagonloads of troops, and was reported as having been seen on the 28th in the foothills of the Whetstones where he was going to take up station. On the 24th of September, Hatfield's command fell upon a band of sixty hostiles encamped in the Cananea Mountains of Sonora, and in the ensuing engagement killed several of their number and took forty-three prisoners. The latter part of September found the Apaches in the Guadalupe range where they separated into two parties, one of which moved along the eastern slopes of the Chiricahuas, the other on the

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<sup>46</sup> Arizona Daily Star, July 2, August 30, 1885.

western side crossing Sulphur Springs Valley apparently bent on returning to the reservation before their capture could be effected or their identity established. In this they were thwarted by Captain Lawton who was dispatched with Troop B from Huachuca on September 30, orders being given Hatfield at Bisbee and the force at Mud Springs to join him as soon as was practicable. Reports drifted in around the 1st of October that Indians were sifting up through Guadalupe Pass; having discovered that they were traveling in the direction of Cochise's Stronghold, Wood whisked his command to the east side of the Stronghold on the 2nd, while Hatfield brought up his force on the western side.<sup>47</sup> The close of 1885 saw Troops D and I still in the field tenaciously pursuing the hostiles.<sup>48</sup>

The citizenry of Southern Arizona continued to be harried by Indian raids during the opening months of 1886, and the campaign progressed seemingly without tangible result, though in reality the hostiles were being slowly exhausted. Then unexpectedly came word out of Mexico that the Apache were suing for peace. Crook hastened down to the appointed rendezvous in Sonora at Canyon de los Embudos, and negotiations opened March 25. After no little argument Chihuahua,

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<sup>47</sup> Ogle, *op. cit.*, p. 233; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, July-August, 1885; Arizona Daily Star, July 26, 29, 1885; Daily Tombstone, September 26, 1886; Arizona Weekly Enterprise, October 3, 1885; Arizona Daily Star, October 1-3, 1885; Weekly Arizona Journal, October 7, 1885.

<sup>48</sup> Post Returns for Ft. Huachuca, Nov.-Dec., 1885.

Nachee, and Geronimo agreed to surrender and Crook started for the border, leaving the Indians to follow under escort of troops. The evening following his departure, mescal was sold by an unscrupulous American to the hostiles with the result that twenty irreconcilibles, led by Geronimo and Nachee, simply melted away into the night.<sup>49</sup>

This break, coupled with his falling out with General Sheridan over the efficiency of the Indian Scouts, made Crook's position as head of the Department impossible; at his own request he was relieved of this duty, being succeeded the latter part of April by General Nelson A. Miles.<sup>50</sup> Straightway Miles outlined his plan of action in a General Order of April 20. A feature peculiar to his scheme was that of a highly mobile force of cavalry and pack trains intended to follow the hostiles wherever they might go, after the fashion of a relay race in which "commanding officers are expected to continue a pursuit until capture, or until assured a fresh command is on the trail."<sup>51</sup>

Before Miles was fully prepared to execute his plan,

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<sup>49</sup> Kelley, op. cit., Ogle, op. cit., p. 235; Cruse, op. cit., p. 223; Arizona Daily Star, March 30, 1886; Weekly Phoenix Herald, April 8, 1886.

<sup>50</sup> Clum, op. cit., p. 223; Ogle, op. cit., p. 236; Schmitt, op. cit., p. 261; Arizona Daily Star, April 4, 21, 1886; Nelson A. Miles, Serving the Republic: Memoirs of the Civil and Military Life of Nelson A. Miles, p. 221.

<sup>51</sup> Nelson A. Miles, Personal Recollections and Observations, pp. 485-486; Cruse, op. cit., p. 224; Ogle, op. cit., p. 237; Ms. on the Geronimo campaign, loaned by Major J.H. Healy, who found it in a desk when the fort was abandoned.

Geronimo and Nachee precipitated the campaign by sweeping across the border into Santa Cruz Valley on April 27. Though vigorous pursuit parties rapidly scattered dispersed groups of the raiding party all over Southern Arizona, it soon became evident that the mounted troops upon whom Miles had placed principal reliance could not operate effectively in the rough terrain where the Indians were accustomed to lead them, and so the cavalry was dismounted and took to the trail on foot along with the scouts and infantry. Pursuit had been initiated by Captain Lebo, and when his command had become exhausted the trail was taken up in succession by Lieutenant H.C. Benson, Lebo, Lawton, and finally by Hatfield, who had been stationed at Santa Cruz, Sonora with Troop D to intercept the hostiles. On May 14 he succeeded in surprising them in the Santa Cruz Mountains. In the ensuing engagement the Indians lost their camp equipage and around twenty horses, but soon recovered it when they attacked and routed the command as it passed through a narrow defile, embarrassed with the captured property.

In compliance with instructions from Miles, Colonel W. B. Royall, commanding officer at Huachuca, relieved Lawton from duty May 4 so that he might head an expedition into

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<sup>52</sup> Ogle, op. cit., p. 237; Miles, Personal Recollections and Observations, pp. 489-490; Clum, op. cit., p. 225; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May, 1886; Arizona Daily Star, May 26, 1886.

Mexico. To Lawton was given a command consisting of thirty-five men of Troop B, 4th Cavalry, a detachment of 8th Infantry, twenty scouts, two pack trains, and sixty days' rations. May 5 witnessed their departure from Huachuca, Lieutenant H.C. Benson having been sent ahead with a detachment of cavalry to cut the trail. The main portion of the command was brought up May 9, but was compelled the following day, on account of the extreme roughness of the terrain, to dismount and proceed on foot in company with the scouts and infantry.<sup>53</sup>

Shortly after the middle of May, the hostiles separated into two groups, one moving north through the Dragoons hotly pursued by ten troops who seized their stock and turned them south into Mexico, the other retreating west followed first by Lieutenant Brown and later by Lawton.<sup>54</sup> While encamped near Calabasas awaiting the result of a reconnaissance being made by Lieutenant L. Finley, Lawton received information bearing upon the movements of a body of hostiles who had

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<sup>53</sup> McClintock, James H., Arizona: Prehistoric, Aboriginal, Pioneer, Modern, Vol. I, p. 261; Report of the Secretary of War, 1886, pp. 176-177; Ms. from Healy; Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May 8, 1886; Arizona Daily Star, May 7, 9, 1886.

<sup>54</sup> Miles, Personal Recollections and Observations, p. 491; Clum, op. cit., p. 226; Report of the Secretary of War, 1886, p. 169; Weekly Phoenix Herald, May 7, 22, 27, 1886; Arizona Daily Star, May 7, 21-23, 25, 27, 1886; Arizona Silver Belt, May 29, 1886.

emerged from the Whetstones. In consequence, Lieutenant R.D. Walsh with a detachment of cavalry and scouts was dispatched on the morning of June 6 to intercept them and in the evening fell upon the band, seizing their animals and baggage and compelling them to disperse on foot. Though darkness delayed location of the trail, daybreak found the troops in full pursuit. Orders had been issued Finley to cut the country ahead of Walsh; Lawton brought up the main portion, rejoined Walsh and pushed pursuit so vigorously that the Apaches were obliged to abandon their remaining stock and flee on foot. When the trail was again located, it was found to lead from the Azul Mountains in a southeasterly direction which led Lawton to suspect that the hostiles were returning to the more hospitable wilderness of

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the Sierra Madres. Because of this, active preparations were commenced for a campaign in that region. The first phase of the campaign may be considered to have ended at this time. During this period Lawton's force marched 1,396 miles, nearly all of it over mountainous terrain or through country laid waste by fire. One portion of the command found itself without sustenance, with the exception of such game as they were able to kill, for five days; while water

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<sup>55</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for 1886, pp. 177-178; Miles, Personal Recollections and Observations, p. 491; Weekly Phoenix Herald, June 10, July 1, 1886; Arizona Silver Belt, June 12, 1886; Arizona Daily Star, June 10, 16, 27, 1886.

was frequently so scarce that the command suffered exceedingly.<sup>56</sup>

As the term of enlistment for the scouts was due to expire presently, another detail was secured, the infantry replaced by a fresh detachment, and the base of operations removed to a point 150 miles south of the border. After the first of July, command of the infantry section was given over to Assistant Surgeon Leonard Wood, one of the few medical officers ever to assume active command of troops in the field.<sup>57</sup>

On the 6th of July the command, consisting of infantry and scouts, departed from the new supply camp at Oposura, directed their march toward Tepache Creek where the Apaches in passing had committed depredations, and after a brief interval were overtaken by a courier from the prefect of the district and informed of the presence of hostiles in Tonababa the previous evening. The scouts were immediately pushed ahead of the command and, despite heavy rains which badly defaced the trail, succeeded in keeping the general direction. On the 14th a runner was sent back to Lawton informing him that the camp had been located, that the scouts would attack at once and were requesting the support of the infantry in this offensive movement. Though he moved his

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<sup>56</sup> McClintock, op. cit., p. 261; Davis, op. cit., p. 220.

<sup>57</sup> McClintock, op. cit., p. 261.

remaining troops forward as rapidly as was possible, Lawton was unable to render effective aid, for he arrived after the camp had been entered. By some means the Indians had become acquainted of the presence of their pursuers and though their animals, baggage and supplies fell to the military, the Indians themselves fled unscathed into the wilderness on foot. Hard set upon by the troops, the hostiles retreated up the Aros River, thence northwest until the 23rd of July when the military was compelled to call a halt because provisions had become exhausted and the Aros River threatened to rise as a result of heavy rains.<sup>58</sup>

During this short campaign the suffering was intense. The country was indescribably rough and the weather swelteringly hot, with heavy rains every day or night ... Disabilities, resulting from excessive fatigue, reduced the infantry to 14 men, and they were worn out and without shoes.<sup>59</sup>

Lawton moved back across the river to meet the fresh supplies being moved up from Oposura under escort of the cavalry. When these arrived on the 29th, the infantry was returned to the supply camp, and Lawton and the cavalry pressed forward the campaign.<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for 1886, pp. 178-179; Davis, op. cit., p. 221; Weekly Phoenix Herald, July 22, 1886; Daily Tombstone, July 13, 1886.

<sup>59</sup> Report of the Secretary of War for 1886, p. 179.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.; Arizona Daily Star, August 19, 1886.

Upon receiving information regarding the movement of the hostiles through Campas and Nacosuri toward the Sierras Mountains, Lawton hastily maneuvered his force to intercept them, and by means of forced marches arrived near Fronteras on August 20 where he discovered that the hostiles had earlier communicated to the Mexican officials their desire for peace.  
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Quite early Miles had anticipated the possibility of such a contingency and, with a view to meeting the situation, dispatched Lieutenant Charles Gatewood from Fort Bowie on the 15th of July. Shortly thereafter Gatewood was joined by Lieutenants Parker, Bullard and Richardson who accompanied him down to Lawton's camp where he remained until August 15 at which time he secured an escort and departed for Fronteras where he met Lieutenant Wilder, who informed him that a couple of Geronimo's women had been in town a few days previous to buy provisions and open negotiations. Acting upon this information, Gatewood pushed his scouts forward, learned that the hostiles had decamped, and set out to overtake them with Wilder's detachment and Lieutenant R.A. Brown's scouts. Negotiations were already under way August 24 when Lawton brought up his troops. Having intimated their desire for peace, the hostiles refused to negotiate further with

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61 Report of the Secretary of War for 1886, p. 179; Ms. from Healy.

either Gatewood or Lawton, though they agreed to accompany Lawton to Skeleton Canyon to confer with Miles.<sup>62</sup> A courier was sent to the commanding officer at Huachuca with the following message from Lawton:

I am bringing in Geronimo, Natchez, and his following, in all 38. Mexican troops are in the neighborhood and the hostiles fear treachery. Will arrive at San Bernardino ranch Sept. 29. 63 Please have General Miles send me instructions.

On September 4, 1886 the hostiles surrendered to General Miles. Accompanied by Natchez and Geronimo, Miles departed for Bowie the following day, leaving Lawton the task of escorting the main group. Within hours of their arrival, while the 4th Cavalry Band saustically rendered "Auld Lang Syne," the entire body of thirty-two Chiricahuas was escorted from the post to Bowie Station and entrained for Florida. Thus ended a colorful era in the annals of the Apache nation.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>62</sup> Report of Lt. C.B. Gatewood, 6th Cav., 1886; Davis, op. cit., p. 224; Miles, Personal Recollections and Observations, pp. 512-514; Cruse, op. cit., p. 229; Arizona Daily Star, August 24, 1886; Ms. from Healy. Col. C.B. Gatewood, "Lt. Chas. B. Gatewood and the Surrender of Geronimo," Arizona Historical Review; II(2):86-89 (Apr., 1931). Anton Massanovich, "Lieut. Charles B. Gatewood, Services Ignored," Arizona Historical Review; II(2):33-39 (July, 1929).

<sup>63</sup> Kelley, op. cit., p. 26.

<sup>64</sup> Ogle, op. cit., p. 241; Report of the Secretary of War for 1886, p. 180; Ms. from Healy; Arizona Daily Star, September 7, 1886; Daily Citizen, September 3, 1886; Miles, Personal Recollections and Observations, pp. 526-528 and Serving the Republic, p. 228.

CHAPTER III

FORT HUACHUCA, 1887-1913

While the campaign of 1885-1886 collapsed the Chiricahua insurrection, it must not be falsely concluded that the Indians had expended themselves; despite their outwardly tractable and placid demeanor, an occasional Apache sought the warpath.<sup>1</sup> His ire was generally vented upon a tribesman, and by his tribe was he taken in hand. A goodly percentage of the disturbances which made their appearance in the decade 1887-1896 arose among the White Mountain Indians whom civil and military officials were attempting to fashion into husbandmen. Of these sporadic uprisings, that of the "Apache Kid" was without doubt the most grave.<sup>2</sup>

On June 1, 1887 there came a report from the military at San Carlos stating that a few days earlier ten Apaches, among them five enlisted scouts, absented themselves from

<sup>1</sup> James H. McClintock, Arizona: Prehistoric, Aboriginal, Pioneer, Modern, Vol. I, p. 267. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1890-91, pp. 170-171, 175. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, 1890. Arizona Weekly Citizen, June 14, 1890. Tombstone Daily Epitaph, June 21, 1890. Prescott Weekly Courier, June 27, 1890. Arizona Weekly Enterprise, March 23, 1889.

<sup>2</sup> McClintock, op. cit., p. 267.

the reservation without leave and killed a member of another tribe who resided in the valley of the San Pedro. Upon returning to the reservation the evening of June 1 they were disarmed and ordered to the guardhouse, whereupon a clamor was raised by their tribesmen, shots were fired, and shielded by the confusion the scouts and others, totaling seventeen, took flight.<sup>3</sup>

At once troops were ordered from all posts in central and southeastern Arizona. From Huachuca on June 6 the post commandant, Colonel George A. Forsyth, dispatched the F, H, and K troops of the 4th Cavalry to take stations, respectively, in the Mule Mountains, the San Jose Mountains, and at Ash Canyon. Two days later Troop D quit the post to reconnoiter the Patagonias and patrol the boundary.<sup>4</sup> The 12th saw Captain H.W. Lawton in close pursuit of the hostiles, who had been observed in the vicinity of Crittenden and Willoox a few days previous. Hard pressed by the Huachuca troops, the "renegades" headed for the Rincons and, upon reaching that point, wheeled, streaked for the San Pedro, crossed Sulphur Springs Valley, and were last seen

<sup>3</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1887-88, p. 159. Arizona Weekly Star, June 9, 16, 23, 1887. Arizona Weekly Enterprise, June 11, 1887.

<sup>4</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1887-88, p. 160. Post Returns, June, 1887. Tombstone Daily Epitaph, June 7, 1887.

on the 22nd heading for the White Mountains.<sup>5</sup>

The "Apache Kid" had contrived to elude his pursuers and, in the years which ensued, ranged from Tonto Basin to the Sierra Madres, establishing himself in men's minds as a veritable hellhound. A full dozen murders have been credited to his deviltry, possibly not all of them his doing.<sup>6</sup>

While one is apt to draw false conclusions regarding the cessation of Apache hostilities and resultant collapse of the Indian problem when an arbitrary date is set, for convenience sake we will assume this date to be 1896. But it must be borne in mind that a few scattered depredations occurred in after years.

On March 30, 1896 the commanding officer at Huachuca, Colonel D. van Valzah, received a telegram from Fort Grant informing him of the violent death incurred by a sheep herder at Cave Creek. Upon substantiation of this, on April 5 van Valzah dispatched Troop A, 1st Cavalry, to Rucker to act jointly with troops from Grant under command

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<sup>5</sup> Tombstone Daily Epitaph, June 8, 12, 18, 22, 1887. Prescott Weekly Courier, June 17, 24, 1887. Arizona Weekly Star, June 16, 1887.

<sup>6</sup> McClintock, op. cit., p. 269. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May-October, 1890; July, 1891; August-December, 1892. Annual Report of Brigadier-General A. McD. McCook, 1891, Appendix B, p. 7. Arizona Daily Star, August 26, 1890. Tombstone Daily Epitaph, September 3, 1890. Arizona Weekly Star, July 23, 25, 1891; September 15, October 20, 27, November 10, December 1, 8, 1892; March 23, 1893. Tombstone Prospector, August 18, 1892.

of Lieutenant S. Rice. After scouring the border and the Swisshelm Mountains, Rice's scouts advanced into the Chiricahuas and in a remote sector of that range located the trail which the combined commands followed from the Peloncillos into New Mexico where it crossed the boundary in Animas Valley. Troop A now returned to its post, while Rice remained on the border to establish a skirmish line.<sup>7</sup>

Before spring was past, two expeditions had been organized and sent against the hostiles, who had entrenched themselves in the Sierra Madres and were sallying forth to maraud in desultory fashion on both sides of the border. During the latter part of April, Lieutenant Bullock quit Huachuca with a troop of cavalry, proceeded to San Bernardino where he was joined by Mexican troops, and together they undertook an extended campaign into the interior of Mexico.<sup>8</sup> To intercept the "renegades" should they be dislodged, Rice's border cordon was strengthened around the middle of June by stationing detachments in the mountains and at Cloverdale, Lang's Ranch, Guadalupe Canyon, and San Bernardino. During the second week of May, Rice and his scouts fell upon a body of hostiles in Guadalupe Canyon,

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<sup>7</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1896-97, pp. 142-144. Tombstone Prospector, April 4, 6, 20, 21, 1896.

<sup>8</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May-April, 1896.

but because of lax conduct on the part of the troops, who displayed themselves before Rice was prepared to open fire, the Indians fled in all directions.<sup>9</sup> After the middle of June a second expedition, command of which was given to Captain P.S. Bonus, was organized at Huachuca; its strength consisted of Troop A, 1st Cavalry, Troop F, 7th Cavalry, and a detachment of scouts. While following a trail in Sonora, Lieutenant William Yates blundered into the hostiles who were encamped on Pulpito Mountain sixty miles south of San Bernardino, and an engagement ensued. For a time the Indians fought pluckily but finally scattered, leaving the Lieutenant in possession of their camp equipage and a small white child. Pursuit continued until the rainy season commenced in July and compelled them to desist. Resultant orders recalled all troops in the field to their respective stations, but maintained the border cordon to observe the trails commonly used by the hostiles when making their way down into Mexico.<sup>10</sup> Though the "Apache Kid's" capture had not been effected, Indian hostility hereafter ceased to exist as a major problem for the white population of Southeastern Arizona.

<sup>9</sup> Tombstone Prospector, May 1, 12, 14, 1896.

<sup>10</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1896-97, pp. 142-144. Tombstone Prospector, June 27, July 11, 1896. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, July-December, 1896.

Scarcely had the troops settled themselves to the routine of garrison duty than an abortive attack was staged August 12 upon the Mexican custom house at Nogales by a band of about fifty Yaqui Indians bent on securing \$20,000 and some arms that had been cached there. For a time they fought desperately, menacing the security of the whole town, though eventually they retired, captured a Sonora train and threatened to return again.<sup>11</sup> Upon receipt of information that the attacking force had crossed to Arizona soil, the commanding officer at Huachuca, Colonel J.M. Bacon, on August 12 dispatched Troop A, 1st Cavalry, to Harshaw on a reconnaissance expedition. That evening he himself departed for Nogales with Companies C and H, 24th Infantry, in compliance with urgent requests for military protection by residents of that town who were in a quandary over rumors of a large body of hostile Yaquis advancing upon Nogales from Tubac. As reports continued to be forthcoming from reliable citizens concerning a camp of hostiles on the Santa Cruz nine miles northeast of the town, Bacon marched his troops to the vicinity intent on establishing the veracity of this rumor. The camp proved to be nonexistent.<sup>12</sup> Meanwhile a telegram had arrived from the United States

<sup>11</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1896-97, pp. 145-146. Tombstone Prospector, August 12, 1896.

<sup>12</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, August, 1896. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1896-97, pp. 145-147. Tombstone Prospector, August 13, 14, 1896.

Marshal at Tucson notifying Bacon of the raiders' presence in the vicinity of Tubac, whereupon Troop K, 7th Cavalry, was at once dispatched to Tubac on the 13th to work in conjunction with Troop A, 1st Cavalry, should a situation arise that justified such a course of action. That same day Company C, 24th Infantry, was moved to Tubac, and three Yaquis and a Mexican were captured who had participated in the attack.<sup>13</sup> Further dispatches from the Marshal informed Bacon that the hostiles were congregating in the Santa Ritas near the mining community of Greaterville. The arrival of two deputy marshals empowered to make arrests and authorized to engage trackers at the expense of the Marshal's office so convinced Bacon that the Marshal spoke with authority that he gathered in his troops, dispatched one of the deputies to Greaterville to reconnoiter the area, and commenced to lay plans calculated to take the camp by surprise. But Bacon's plans were laid on shifting sands, and fate had decreed their collapse, for with the return of the deputy on the 22nd, Bacon learned that the Marshal's fears had been without grounds--the camp had never existed.

As the incident seemed closed, the troops were ordered back to their post, Company C, 24th Infantry being stationed

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<sup>13</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1896-97,  
pp. 145-147.

at Nogales until the 1st of September.<sup>14</sup> Despite this, a spirit of uneasiness and apprehension continued to manifest itself along the border district so that Troop A, 1st Cavalry, was ordered to take station at Arivaca, twelve miles north of Nogales, when the Yaquis, many of whom were hostile, gathered at Magdalena in October for a celebration.<sup>15</sup> Though no disturbance arose, troops were kept patrolling the border as a preventive measure until June, 1899.<sup>16</sup>

The only other flurry of excitement occurring during this period arose in 1894 when the Pullman strikers in Colorado seized possession of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe; the Union Pacific; and the Denver and Gulf Railroads which had been given over to receivers of the circuit court. At Trinidad, violence was used to detain trains and the strikers, who wilfully disregarded all court orders, had even seized fifty-two deputy marshals sent to guard railroad property. Fearing Denver would be affected next, the Commander of the Department ordered six companies of the 24th Infantry moved from Forts Bayard and Huachuca to

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<sup>14</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1896-97, p. 147. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, August, 1896.

<sup>15</sup> Tombstone Prospector, October 10, 1896.

<sup>16</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, 1897; 1898; January-June, 1899. Arizona Weekly Star, May 19, 1898. Annual Report of the War Department, 1897; Report of the Secretary of War, Miscellaneous Reports, pp. 169-170.

Trinidad and points in New Mexico. Companies C and H quit the post about the middle of July and returned September 9, 17 having been absent about a month.

Little of actual moment occurred during the decade 1900-1910; indeed, it might be said that the post had embarked upon a period which was to be regarded at best as static, if not actually stagnant. With the disappearance of the Indian problem, the glamour and excitement of army life gave way to the prosaic routine of straight troop duty. An occasional disturbance, such as occurred in 1900, necessitated calling out the troops. In that year, the wounding of a cowboy who had been placed under arrest by the Mexicans produced threats of requital by American cattlemen. Happily the situation failed to progress beyond this stage, as the appearance of a troop of 9th Cavalry dispatched from Huachuca by Major B.M. Hughes had a quieting effect upon both factions. Another incident of like hue and color originated in 1906 when the American consul at Cananea, Mexico petitioned Major C.H. Watts, Post Commander, for assistance in quelling a strike in the local copper mine. In compliance with this request, the 1st Squadron, 5th Cavalry, Major Watts commanding, departed for Naco on June 2 but discovered

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<sup>17</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1894-95,  
pp. 136-139. Arizona Weekly Star, September 20, 1894.

upon arrival that order had been restored by Mexican  
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 troops.

Hereafter disturbances which arose were occasioned almost without exception by the civil strife into which Mexico had been precipitated by contentious factions competing for supreme political authority. Like many another Spanish-American state, Mexico secured independence from Spain only to embark upon a period of prolonged internal dissension, all too often approaching anarchy. Numbering dictators, regencies, triumvirates, emperors, presidents, and other autocrats, Mexico in the first half century of its existence could boast as many administrators as the colony had had viceroys throughout the entirety of Spanish rule.

Then came the lengthy Díaz regime which lasted from 1876 to 1911 with the exception of a single term. Under the rigid sway of Porfirio Díaz, Mexico was lifted out of the welter of tumult and revolution to peace and order, while his dictatorship gave not only financial stability, but also a remarkable industrial development to a country sorely in need of such improvements. But for the lower classes--the proletariat and the peon--whose condition

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18 Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, January, 1900. Annual Report of the War Department, 1900; Report of the Lt.-Gen. Commanding the Army, p. 237; 1906, Reports of the Division and Dept. Commanders, p. 160. Tombstone Prospector, June 2, 4, 5, 1906. Tombstone Epitaph, June 3, 1906. Arizona Daily Star, June 2, 3, 1906. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, June, 1906.

tended to become increasingly unbearable, little or nothing  
<sup>19</sup>  
 was done.

By 1906 indications were that all was not well in Mexico; towards the latter part of the year, a revolutionary movement became manifest in Sonora. Reports that the revolutionists in the vicinity of Cananea were looking to the Yaquis for support stirred memories, and immediately the border district began to arm. Troop C, 5th Cavalry, was dispatched to Douglas on September 9. At the request of the Mexican Government a detachment under the command of Lieutenant L. Forester quit the post two days later to take station at Naco and patrol the boundary to prevent smuggling of munitions of war to the insurgents.<sup>20</sup> Twice in 1910 troops were called upon to investigate accounts of filibustering expeditions reputedly being organized against Mexico. In November, insurrection again lifted its head in Mexico and immediately troops were rushed to the international boundary from Huachuca.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Graham H. Stuart, Latin America and the United States, pp. 145-151. Charles E. Chapman, Republican Hispanic America: A History, pp. 231-234. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 11th ed., Vol. XVIII, p. 343. Henry B. Parkes, A History of Mexico, pp. 285-311.

<sup>20</sup> Tombstone Epitaph, September 16, November 4, 1906. Tombstone Prospector, September 7, November 1, 1906. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, September-October, 1906.

<sup>21</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1910; Reports of the Division and Dept. Commanders, p. 129. Tombstone Prospector, November 18, 22, 28, 1910.

Though it did not lack for political aspects, the revolution which occurred in 1911 under the aegis of Francisco Madero was, in large measure, an economic movement on the part of the poverty-stricken masses against the privileged groups who had so ruthlessly and contemptuously oppressed them. Apparently Díaz erroneously calculated the strength of the insurgents and, finding himself unable to quell the movement, hastily quitted the land.<sup>23</sup> Because of the situation thus created, numerous commands, among them troops from Huachuca, were constantly kept patrolling the border from the Colorado River to El Paso in an endeavor to execute the neutrality law "by overhauling and intercepting the passage across the line ... of armed or organized parties or of arms, ammunition or materials of war." The troops were stationed at San Bernardino, Naco, Nogales, Douglas, Yuma, Tucson, Lang's Ranch, and other points in New Mexico. Orders were issued in February for the installation of telephone and telegraph systems along the boundary and in March, field headquarters was established at Huachuca. During the latter part of the month, the garrison at Huachuca was distributed throughout the Huachuca Mountains, ostensibly for practice and sham battles, in

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<sup>22</sup> Chapman, op. cit., pp. 232-234. Tombstone Epitaph, January 1, 1911.

reality to be ready for any contingency which might arise.<sup>23</sup>

With a view to recovering Agua Prieta, the Federalist troops attacked that town on April 13, 1911. During the engagement

a large number of people congregated at Douglas ... just across the line from the scene of action, overcome with curiosity and bent on witnessing the fight. Stray bullets, probably from both sides, fell among the sightseers and a few were wounded and two or three killed.<sup>24</sup>

Shortly after Díaz's overthrow, Madero was elected to the presidency, which position he held less than two years. As a reformer and an idealist, he lacked not only resolute character but every attribute necessary to see his program brought to fruition. The revolution rapidly passed beyond his control once his supporters discovered the impracticality, even the impossibility, of carrying through the reforms immediately. So critical became the situation in 1912 that the United States Government felt constrained to inform Madero that American property in Mexico must not be jeopardized. Before the year was out, there was talk of possible intervention.<sup>25</sup> The border control continued

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<sup>23</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1911; Reports of the Division and Dept. Commanders, pp. 125-126. Tombstone Epitaph, January 1, March 12, 19, April 16, July 9, 1911. Tombstone Prospector, November 23, 1911.

<sup>24</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1911; Reports of the Division and Dept. Commanders, p. 126. Tombstone Epitaph, April 15, 23, 1911.

<sup>25</sup> Stuart, op. cit., pp. 151-153. Parkes, op. cit., pp. 325-335.

throughout 1912 to combat border raids made by Mexicans formerly part of Orozco's rebel army. The precedents for these had been set in 1911 when bands of Mexicans invaded Arizona through the remote Sonoita and Ajo country, depre-  
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 dating sufficiently to arouse uneasiness among residents of that region.

Though no formal uprising had manifested itself, by February 13, 1913 there had been a substantial increase in the number of troops along the boundary, for circumstances seemed to denote a continuation of confusion and turmoil. With the overthrow of Madero and the rise of Huerta to power, there were rumblings heard in Sonora and Coahuila, which states refused even nominal adherence to the Huerta regime. With surprising rapidity the movement spread into neighboring states, rendering it necessary to extend the cordon to Sasabe. Shortly thereafter a succession of contests for possession of the border towns occurred, some of which resulted in fighting on the line. During this period the troops were engaged in restraining the hordes of the curious who gathered to watch each battle, in guarding the

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<sup>26</sup> Sguart, *op. cit.*, pp. 151-152. Annual Report of the War Department, 1912; Report of the Secy. of War, Chief of Staff, Adj.-Gen., Inspector-Gen., Judge-Advocate Gen., Chief Quartermaster Corps, Surgeon-Gen., Chief of Ordinance, Chief Signal Officer, Chief of Coast Artillery, p. 13. Tombstone Prospector, February 26, April 16, July 25, September 6, 1912. Tombstone Epitaph, February 5, March 26, April 1, 1911; March 3, May 31, 1912.

border against incursions by Mexican raiding parties, and in cooperating with the civil authorities to enforce the neutrality law. Despite their constant vigilance, the military were unable to prevent a certain amount of smuggling because virtually the entire border population commiserated with the rebels, and everywhere hardware stores constantly received large consignments of munitions of war far exceeding any legitimate demand.<sup>27</sup>

While garrison and escort duty became the chief occupation of the troops after 1886, in as far as was practicable they were thoroughly trained in everything pertaining to field service, particular consideration being rendered marching, signaling, heliograph, and maneuvers.<sup>28</sup> Monthly practice marches were made to such points as Hereford, Charleston, Douglas, Tombstone, and Nogales. The troops were instructed in camping, patrolling, outpost duty, advance and rear guard, attack and defense of a position, reconnoitering, and the defile of a convoy. By 1905 these marches had become weekly and bi-weekly affairs "involving the solution

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<sup>27</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1913; Reports of the Division and Dept. Commanders, pp. 59-64. Tombstone Epitaph, February 16, March 16, 19, 1913. Tombstone Prospector, April 5, 14, 1913. Major E.L.N. Glass (ed. and comp.), The History of the Tenth Cavalry, 1866-1921, p. 64.

<sup>28</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1888-89, pp. 125-126. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, January-December, 1887-1910.

of tactical problems and rendition of reports with sketches of routes and positions.<sup>29</sup> Betwixt and between, straight troop duty, field exercises, target practice, small arms firing, and fire drill engaged the troopers' waking hours. Raids were simulated by detachments of troops who sought to elude capture, while commanding officers endeavored to intercept them by means of lookouts and through skillful maneuvering of their men.<sup>30</sup>

In 1891 a proposal was made by Major W.A. Rafferty whereby a Board of Officers would be convened to examine the troops, and those found wanting in the rudiments of education would be compelled to attend school until they were able to demonstrate before the Board a proficiency in these fundamentals. Should the troops desire higher education, nothing should deter them from attaining it; but military discipline was to remain disengaged from the formal, i.e. classical, education imparted by the post

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<sup>29</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1905; Reports of the Division and Dept. Commanders, p. 194. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1890-91, p. 163. Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, 1902, 1905-1910. Arizona Daily Star, September 27, 1907.

<sup>30</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, 1887-1910. Annual Report of the War Department, 1903; Reports of the Division and Dept. Commanders, p. 29; 1913, p. 52. Arizona Weekly Star, May 9, 1891; October 11, 1888. Tombstone Prospector, August 6, 1913. Tombstone Epitaph, August 24, 1913. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1888-89, pp. 125-126.

school. Despite the fact that in 1891 the post school had an average daily attendance of thirty-five enlisted men compared with a dozen in 1904, Major Rafferty's proposal was never acted upon.<sup>31</sup> Nevertheless, a progress of sorts was made in education with the introduction of the lyceum, the first of which was held in 1893. Field officers acted in the capacity of instructors, the following subjects comprising the curriculum: troops in campaign, fire discipline, security and information, General Orders No. 100, Adjutant-General's Office 1863. By 1899 the course of instruction in the lyceums embraced such subjects as small arms practice, close and extended drill order, minor tactics and field problems, signal instruction, first aid and litter bearing.<sup>32</sup>

The abolition of the post canteen just prior to 1903 had marked ramifications as regards the general contentment and discipline evinced by the soldiery.

Since this action ... saloons of the lowest type have been established just outside the boundaries of the various reservations. Their

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<sup>31</sup> McCook, op. cit., Appendix D, pp. 4, 11. Annual Report of the War Department, 1904; Reports of Division and Dept. Commanders, pp. 174-175.

<sup>32</sup> Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1894-95, p. 142. Annual Report of the War Department, 1899; Report of the Major-Gen. Commanding the Army, p. 26; 1900, Report of the Lt.-Gen. Commanding the Army, p. 237; 1905, Reports of Division and Dept. Commanders, p. 194.

proprietors are in almost every case unprincipled scoundrels, who leave nothing undone to debauch the soldiers and obtain their money... Gambling is universal in these "dives," and they are frequented by dissolute women.... There can be no reasonable doubt that most of the trials by general court-martial and summary courts<sup>33</sup>.. are directly traceable to this cause.<sup>33</sup>

Also attributed to the situation thus created by the removal of the canteen were the number of desertions, which had increased to alarming proportions by 1905, the offenders in most instances being men who had seen service but a short while. In an effort to stem the growing tide, the government abandoned its policy of paying rewards for the capture of deserters after July 1, 1907 and inaugurated a system of fingerprinting and photography which rendered reenlistment difficult, if not impossible. Even this failed to achieve the desired result, for desertions continued at a wholesale rate.<sup>34</sup>

Scarcely a year passed that the Huachuca Mountains were not visited by destructive fires. Generally the civilians were too few in numbers to bring the blaze under

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<sup>33</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1903; Reports of Division and Dept. Commanders, p. 33.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid., 1904; Report of the Secy. of War, Chief of Staff, Adjutant-General, Inspector-General, and Judge-Advocate General, p. 320. Tombstone Epitaph, August 13, 1905. Tombstone Prospector, May 7, July 30, 1907.

control, which necessitated calling out the troops.<sup>35</sup> While the post commanders were cloaked only with authority to dispatch troops in cases of extreme emergency, they commonly deferred, though they were of the opinion that the public had not the proper conception of a soldier's duty. They maintained, and with some justification, that owing to the strenuous nature of garrison routine, the ordering of any of the troops to perform disagreeable work over and above their legitimate duties was not to be taken lightly.<sup>36</sup>

If the military were cognizant of the adage that a man given an inch will take an ell, they were not ones to betray the fact. By 1909 difficulty had arisen over private companies pasturing their stock upon the military reservation within sight of the post. To jack up the ranchers, the post officers erected a corral and threatened to impound all cattle found upon military range. The fountainhead of this action lay in the arrest of soldiers at various times in the past for killing stock that was being herded on the reservation by the ranchers. Even as this was being put into force, two soldiers lay in a territorial jail on this

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<sup>35</sup> Post Returns for Fort Huachuca, May, 1899; June, 1902; June, 1909. Tombstone Epitaph, July 3, 1904. Tombstone Prospector, July 1, 2, 1904; May 21, 22, 1906.

<sup>36</sup> Tombstone Epitaph, July 3, 1904; July 1, 1906. Tombstone Prospector, June 30, 1906.

count, whom the adamant officials refused to release until their commanding officer acceded to their deportation to the Islands.<sup>37</sup>

The diversity of post recreation and social life kept ennui from crowding the door. Visitors and sightseers were numerous; and if one grew weary of back-fence gossip, there was always the swimming pool, bowling alley, or a baseball game in need of rooters. Afternoon teas and parties, weddings, lectures, and dances with music furnished by the military band were regular features of post social life. In 1895 a minstrel show, reportedly above average, was produced at Bisbee by the colored troops. Apparently holidays were celebrated in an unrestrained manner, judging from a record of St. Patrick's Day as observed in 1907 which scheduled a program of entertainment including bronc busting, badger fighting, horse racing, and a dance to take place in the evening.<sup>38</sup>

While construction continued after 1886, there was a noticeable decline in building activity during the early 90's. By 1889 there were complete accommodations at the

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<sup>37</sup> Tombstone Prospector, January 20, 1909.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid., April 8, 18, May 27, August 14, 1895; November 25, 1901; April 26, 1902; Tucson Post, November 3, 1907. Tombstone Epitaph, March 10, 1907. Annual Report of the War Department, 1908; Armament Transportation and Supply, p. 18.

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post for twenty-four officers and 420 troops. Between 1887 and 1895, the following public buildings were erected: one double-company barracks, granary, commissary storehouse; two cavalry stables, amusement hall, non-commissioned staff quarters; two cottages for officers' quarters, magazine.<sup>40</sup>

Upon examining the post in 1897, the inspector remarked favorably upon the efficiency of the troops, having noted particularly their skill in athletic exercises. Inspection was not restricted alone to fitness of the troops but was extended to post buildings, sanitary conditions, supplies, methods of administration, and water advantages. Cognizance was taken of the fact that the fort was suffering from an inadequate water supply, and that the post authorities had undertaken experiments to remedy this defect but were lacking in funds to carry their plans to fruition. As a result of this, an appropriation was made for an increased water supply in 1898.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Narrative History of the Post, p. 2. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1892-93, p. 430; 1893-94, p. 377; 1891-92, p. 541.

<sup>40</sup> Arizona Weekly Star, June 9, 1887. Tombstone Prospector, February 17, 1891. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, 1888-89, p. 457; 1889-90, p. 482; 1892-93, p. 401; 1893-94, p. 349. Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Narrative History of the Post, pp. 3, 5-6.

<sup>41</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1897; Report of the Secretary of War, Miscellaneous Reports, p. 174.

In 1895 the post entered upon a period of suspended activity in its program of expansion, a situation which persisted until 1908. The extent of construction during this period comprised some non-commissioned officers' quarters authorized in 1903 and a post exchange erected in 1904 at a cost of \$18,572.<sup>42</sup> There occurred during this time a number of losses by fire, most of which were readily made good. The first of these unhappy occurrences took place in 1897, and involved the loss of a troop stable. This was followed in succession by the loss of a hayshed and over 400 tons of hay; the partial destruction in 1902 of the quartermaster corral, mechanics shop, troop stable, and quartermaster and other supplies aggregating \$1,400; and damage to a troop barrack's library in 1903.<sup>43</sup>

Indications by the latter part of 1906 were that Huachuca would be abandoned and a new fort constructed on the mesa several miles below the present site, owing to the

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<sup>42</sup> Tombstone Prospector, May 30, 1903. Annual Report of the War Department, 1905; Report of the Secy. of War, Chief of Staff, Adj.-Gen., the Military Secy., Inspector-Gen., and Judge-Advocate Gen., p. 286; 1904, Reports of the Division and Department Commanders, p. 172.

<sup>43</sup> Tombstone Prospector, June 30, 1902. Annual Report of the War Department, 1897; Report of the Secy. of War, Misc. Reports, p. 375; 1898, Report of the Secy. of War, Misc. Reports, p. 487; 1899, Report of the Major-Gen. Commanding the Army, p. 27; 1900, Reports of the Chiefs of Bureaus, pp. 380, 494; 1902, Reports of the Lt.-Gen. Commanding the Army and of Department Commanders, p. 23; 1903, Reports of the Department and Division Commanders, p. 30.

acute problem which had been created by an inadequate water supply. In September, 1906 this was confirmed by General Humphrey who was engaged at that time in a tour of inspection of military stations in the Division. The alert and circumspect merchants of Tombstone were quick to perceive that a bridge must be built at Charleston if they were to profit from this proposed removal. For many years they had lost the trade of miners and ranchers west of the San Pedro because of this lack, and they stood to lose again if steps were not taken immediately to rectify the situation. Consequently the matter was at once laid before the County Board of Supervisors. But their scheming bore no fruit. For by the latter part of 1909 a movement, heartily endorsed by a number of the most influential men in the Territory, was gaining momentum which would have removed Huachuca to a location midway between Bisbee and Douglas. The possibility of having their plum plucked did not overly fret those who basked at the gates of the post, since they regarded the reservation as the site of a prospective gold mining camp which would doubtless fetch them more wealth than a military post ever could.<sup>44</sup> But the desires and hopes of all three came to naught when the War Department failed

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<sup>44</sup> Tombstone Prospector, December 7, 1906. Tombstone Epitaph, September 23, 1906; October 31, 1909.

to authorize the change.

After 1907, expansion and enlargement of the post went on apace. The year 1908 saw funds made available for the construction of a swimming pool, a bowling alley, ambulance shed, an extension to the band stable, and a new telegraph line which was erected by the Signal Corps from the post to Huachuca Siding replacing the Western Union line which had been maintained by the army for a number of years.<sup>45</sup>

Garrison strength of Huachuca was increased the following year by a battalion of infantry and, in keeping with this trend toward a post of augmented capacity, a recommendation was submitted for increased Departmental appropriations for the immediate restoration and repair of buildings that had long been untenanted. This was not the first proposal of its kind, for Huachuca had not been without supporters in the years following the turn of the century. Realization rendered deliberation of an increased water supply for the post inevitable, since even at that date during periods of drought the water supply was not regarded as overly abundant. Estimates and plans were now ordered prepared regarding a new supply, which was to be procured from springs in Garden Canyon about seven miles south of

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<sup>45</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1908; Armament, Transport, and Supply, p. 18; Reports of Division and Department Commanders, p. 149.

the post.<sup>46</sup> By the latter part of the year, the War Department was contemplating the establishment of an aviatory station on "Nigger Head" Peak up Post Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains where aerial navigation was to be taught enlisted men, instruction being restricted to the infantry. Ten bi-planes of the Wright brothers' patent were to be obtained and work on the aviatory was scheduled to begin in the early spring of 1910.<sup>47</sup> It is doubtful that anything ever came of this scheme, since there are no allusions to it either by the Secretary of War or the periodicals for 1910.

An impetus to the construction program was given in 1911 by an appropriation of \$138,000 which greatly facilitated post expansion, the first improvements being additional troop quarters, cavalry stables, and a water system. Full accommodations for six companies of cavalry were made available in December, 1911 by the completion of stables

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<sup>46</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1909; Reports of Division and Department Commanders, pp. 122-123. Tombstone Epitaph, September 25, 1904.

As early as 1903, post authorities were deliberating the advisability of fencing the military reservation to protect their water supply, which had run a trifle short the previous year owing to private companies grazing their stock on the military range. Tucson Post, July 25, 1903. Tombstone Prospector, March 30, 1905. Tombstone Epitaph, July 26, 1903.

<sup>47</sup> Tombstone Epitaph, October 31, 1909.

and quarters for four officers. Cavalry stables, officers' quarters, and temporary housing for civilian employees comprised the extent of construction during 1912.<sup>48</sup>

By 1912, officials of the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad were deliberating the advisability of constructing a road through the reservation. When approached regarding the construction of a spur from Huachuca Siding to the fort, they demurred, for would not the revenue from this spur be wholly dependent upon the post, whose permanency was equivocal? Only when a guarantee was forthcoming from the government that Huachuca would be expanded to a full brigade post would the company undertake construction of the branch, work on which commenced in August that same year. A passenger depot had been erected at Huachuca Siding some months previous.<sup>49</sup>

The idea of a summer resort in the Huachuca Mountains

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<sup>48</sup> Tombstone Prospector, June 20, July 24, 1911. Tombstone Epitaph, July 30, October 1, December 3, 1911. Annual Report of the War Department, 1912; Reports of the Secretary of War, Chief of Staff, Adj.-Gen., Inspector-General, Judge-Advocate Gen., Chief Quartermaster Corps, Surgeon-Gen., Chief of Ordnance, Chief Signal Officer, Chief of Coast Artillery, p. 582.

<sup>49</sup> Tombstone Prospector, March 2, 14, July 16, 1912. Tombstone Epitaph, January 28, March 3, 17, August 11, 1912. Annual Report of the War Department, 1910; Reports of the Division and Department Commanders, p. 129; 1913, Report of the Secy. of War, Chief of Staff, Adjutant-General, Inspector-General, Judge-Advocate Gen., Chief Quartermaster Corps, Surgeon-Gen., Chief of Ordnance, Chief Signal Officer, Chief of Coast Artillery, p. 328.

had never ceased to cast its spell over men's imaginations; and now with the construction of the El Paso and South-western line through the military reservation, the project once more became feasible. Efforts were made to promote the idea.<sup>50</sup>

Rumors that Huachuca was to be enlarged from a regimental to a brigade post received confirmation in August, 1913 when Secretary of War Garrison personally inspected the post. Instructions were issued the post quartermaster to prepare and forward estimates, specifications and plans of the physical equipment requisite to advance the fort to the status of a brigade post.<sup>51</sup> Contracts were let and extensive improvements were begun that same month, the following construction being completed by December: five double sets of officers' quarters, two company barracks, one cavalry stable, extension of sewer system, and additions to the hospital and commissary. Construction of the water supply line from Garden Canyon was commenced but not completed. As the cold storage plant had proven itself no longer adequate, specifications were submitted which would have increased its capacity. However, these were regarded

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<sup>50</sup> Tombstone Epitaph, March 3, 17, 1912. Arizona Weekly Citizen, June 20, 1891.

<sup>51</sup> Tombstone Prospector, October 17, 1911; May 10, December 9, 1913. Tombstone Epitaph, May 11, August 10, 24, 1913.

as impractical, hence the temporary expedient of authorizing \$149 for the purchase of boards and nails to better insulation while measures were instituted to secure authorization for the construction of a combined power plant which would furnish electric current, water, and refrigeration.<sup>52</sup>

The post had increased in size considerably since 1886, but before a full regiment of cavalry could be comfortably accommodated, the following construction had to be completed: six double sets of officers' quarters, one bachelor building (eight sets), fourteen non-commissioned officers' quarters, four troop barracks, one band barrack, one machine gun platoon barrack, one quartermaster corps barrack, six troop stables, one stable for band and machine gun platoon, one pack train stables, one administration building, one ice and electric plant, one quartermaster storage shed, one ordinance storehouse, enlargement of guardhouse.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>52</sup> Tombstone Epitaph, February 23, 1913. Tombstone Prospector, May 22, August 6, 1913. Annual Report of the War Department, 1913; Reports of the Division and Department Commanders, pp. 46, 56; Report of the Secy. of War, Chief of Staff, Adj.-Gen., Inspector-Gen., Judge-Advocate Gen., Chief Quartermaster Corps, Surgeon-Gen., Chief of Ordinance, Chief Signal Officer, Chief of Coast Artillery, p. 324.

<sup>53</sup> Annual Report of the War Department, 1913; Reports of the Division and Department Commanders, p. 56.

## CHAPTER IV

### SUMMARY

The establishment in 1877 of a military outpost at the southern extremity of the Huachuca range came as the result of the government's desire to bring under control Southwestern Arizona which had long been harassed by brigands, filibusters, and hostile Indians. Troops denoted security, and with such encouragement the prospector swarmed into the mountains which were regarded as the potential source of vast mineral wealth, while the stock raiser and farmer sifted into the fertile valleys.

With increasing growth of settlement the Indian problem waxed grave, for the expanding population invited conquest. Hence the frequent clashes between troops and hostiles, the most important of which occurred between 1879 and 1886, involving such Indian leaders as Victorio, Juh, Mangus, Chihuahua, Geronimo, Natchez, and Nana. Of these numerous uprisings, that led by Geronimo between 1885 and 1886 has probably been most publicized, with the result that Geronimo has been cloaked with much that is purely myth or legend.

While the campaign of 1885-1886 quashed the Chiricahua insurrection, the Indians continued to view the whites with hostility and, though they were hereafter pacific, an

occasional Apache went on a tangent which temporarily threw the border district into a state of apprehension. Such was the case with the "Apache Kid" who menaced the security of Southwestern Arizona from 1887 to 1894. With the disappearance of the Indian problem after the middle of the 1890's, the troops settled down to the prosaism of straight troop duty, the monotony of which was relieved by maneuvers, field exercise, mock raids, and the internal dissension which arose in Mexico after 1906.

Since the troops were constantly engaged in field service during the early years of the post's existence, construction proceeded slowly. Despite this, it gradually attained the status of a permanently-built post in regard to buildings and improvements, and by 1882 had become sufficiently important to warrant its being made a fort. Post records attest to the fact that construction of a post of augmented capacity commenced in 1882; from the manner in which moneys were appropriated, estimates and specifications approved, and from the promptness which attended the filling of requisitions in the years which ensued, it was evident that Huachuca was being groomed to occupy the position of an important post in the Southwest. By 1889 there were accommodations and facilities sufficient for twenty-four officers and 420 men.

During the 1890's and early 1900's, construction underwent a marked decline but was resumed in 1911 when Huachuca

was designated as a regimental station. Momentum was lent the program of expansion with verification of rumors in 1913 that the post was to become the home of a brigade. The factor underlying this rapid growth was the desirability of the post in regard to attractive physical surroundings, proximity to the international boundary, good water, and the excellent health of the post.

Thus in a span encompassing less than forty years, Huachuca had been lifted from the status of a temporary outpost whose garrison numbered but two companies to a full brigade post of no little importance.

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