

Government Policies and Conflict with the Plains Indians Units 1&2

Date	Main event
1830	<p>Indian Removal Act. Indians in eastern areas (the original states of the USA) moved west behind Mississippi river in the Indian Removal Act. Became the Permanent Indian Frontier set up in 1834. The land behind it was thought to be worthless.</p>
1851	<p>1851 Indian Appropriations Act put aside government money to set up reservations for Indians to persuade them to move off land the white settlers now want.</p> <p>1851 Fort Laramie Treaty was an agreement between the government and representatives from the main Plains Indian tribes. (Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho) It protected the Indians from white settlers trying to settle on their reservations and hunting grounds and paid them a yearly payment. In return the Plains Indians promised not to attack travellers and allow surveying and forts to be built. THE GOVERNMENT REPEATEDLY ALLOWED THIS TREATY TO BE BROKEN AND THE INDIANS REPEATEDLY RETALIATED. It also is the beginning of Indians becoming dependent on hand outs as their original way of life becomes harder.</p>
1861 -1862	<p>Little Crow's War. Triggered by starvation caused by corrupt reservation management, delayed payments and poor farming. White settlers killed by angry young warriors. Harsh punishments followed.</p>
1864 - 1867	<p>Sand Creek Massacre (Black Kettle) Conflict triggered by discovery of gold in Indian territory. Prospectors started to settle on Indian territory. Young warriors attacked some of them. Then, 130 Indians massacred at dawn including women and children when they believed they were under a flag or truce.</p>
1866 - 1868	<p>Red Cloud's War Second conflict triggered by the discovery of gold in Indian Territory - a consequence of this was the second Fort Laramie treaty of 1868 as the government was forced to negotiate with the Indians this time.</p>

Government Policies and Conflict with the Plains Indians Units 1&2

<p>1868</p>	<p>President Grant's Peace Policy Attempts by the new president to improve reservation life (stop corruption, get better reservation managers (Quakers - more trustworthy) but force could still be used against Indians who resisted moving onto reservations if it had been agreed they would accept a reservation by a chief.</p>
<p>1868</p>	<p>Second Fort Laramie Treaty Government agreed to close the Bozeman Trail (the main cause of Red Cloud's War) and the Great Sioux reservation was created. No non-Indians were allowed to enter. This reservation included the sacred Black Hills. THIS TREATY WAS ALSO BROKEN</p>
<p>1876</p>	<p>Battle of Little Big Horn The defeat and killing of Custer's men by the Indians hardens attitudes - from now on - Assimilate or Die</p>
<p>1887</p>	<p>Dawes Act - the law that closed the reservations - each Indian family given 160 acres of land to farm or to sell. Any left over land sold to whites. Indians lost half the land they had in 3 years. Most of the land to allocated to Indians too poor to farm.</p>
<p>1889/1890</p>	<p>Ghost Dance - shows Plains Indians desperation - a dance they hoped would fix all the wrongs. Wounded Knee Massacre - 250 Sioux men women and children killed in 10 minutes shows the callous army response to one such example of the ghost dance. Public opinion broadly positive to these killings too.</p>