## **Earn Your Rank**

Word Box: 700, Riley, blanket, battalions, scouts, 1866, wagons, railroad, rations, cholera
The 7th US Cavalry was formed in (Congratulations Corporal!). It was
organized at Fort (Congratulations Sergeant!). In Kansas, the 7th US
Cavalry protected stagecoaches and crews working on the (Congratulations
Second Lieutenant!). It was a long hot summer for those men, some became sick with a
deadly disease called (Congratulations First Lieutenant!). In the fall of 1868,
Lieutenant Colonel George Custer led the 7th US Cavalry into Indian Territory. They were
headed towards the Antelope Hills and the Washita Valley. Custer was the leader of about
(Congratulations Captain) men. Included in this group were a number of
(Congratulations Major!) and guides. Before reaching the Washita
River, Custer left his slow-moving supply (Congratulations Lieutenant
Colonel!) behind. Custer wanted his men to travel light, taking little more than a
(Congratulations Colonel!), ammunition, and a few (Congratulations
Brigadier General!), such as hardtack. Once the 7th US Cavalry arrived near the Cheyenne
village, Custer split his men into (Congratulations Major General!), each
consisting of several companies.