



This cartoon is history.

Shortcuts®

by jeff harris

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Buff-la Rhymes.

Ya' heard?



What do you call a Buffalo Soldier who cooks? A galloping gourmet.

After the U.S. Civil War, Abraham Lincoln said that African-American soldiers had "so heroically vindicated their manhood on the battlefield where, in assisting to save the life of the Republic, they have demonstrated in blood their right to the ballot, which is but the humane protection of the flag they have so fearlessly defended."

More than 175,000 African-American men fought in the American Civil War and more than 33,000 lost their lives. The heroism and dedication established by African-American soldiers during the Civil War helped in the postwar creation of several regiments of African-American troops that would later be known as the "Buffalo Soldiers."

How do you stop Buffalo Soldiers from charging? Take away their credit cards.

Buffalo Soldiers signed on for five years of duty and received 13 dollars per month, plus room, board and clothing.

Henry Flipper was the first African-American to graduate from West Point Military Academy. He was later assigned to the 10th Cavalry.

The Buffalo Soldiers had the lowest desertion rate among army units assigned to the American West.

MAKING HISTORY

The first two regiments of the Buffalo Soldiers, the 9th and 10th Cavalries, were formed in 1866.

In 1869, four regiments of African-American soldiers were combined to form the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments.

The original 9th and 10th Cavalries consisted of about 1,000 men each.

For more information on the Buffalo Soldiers, go to your local library and check out these books:

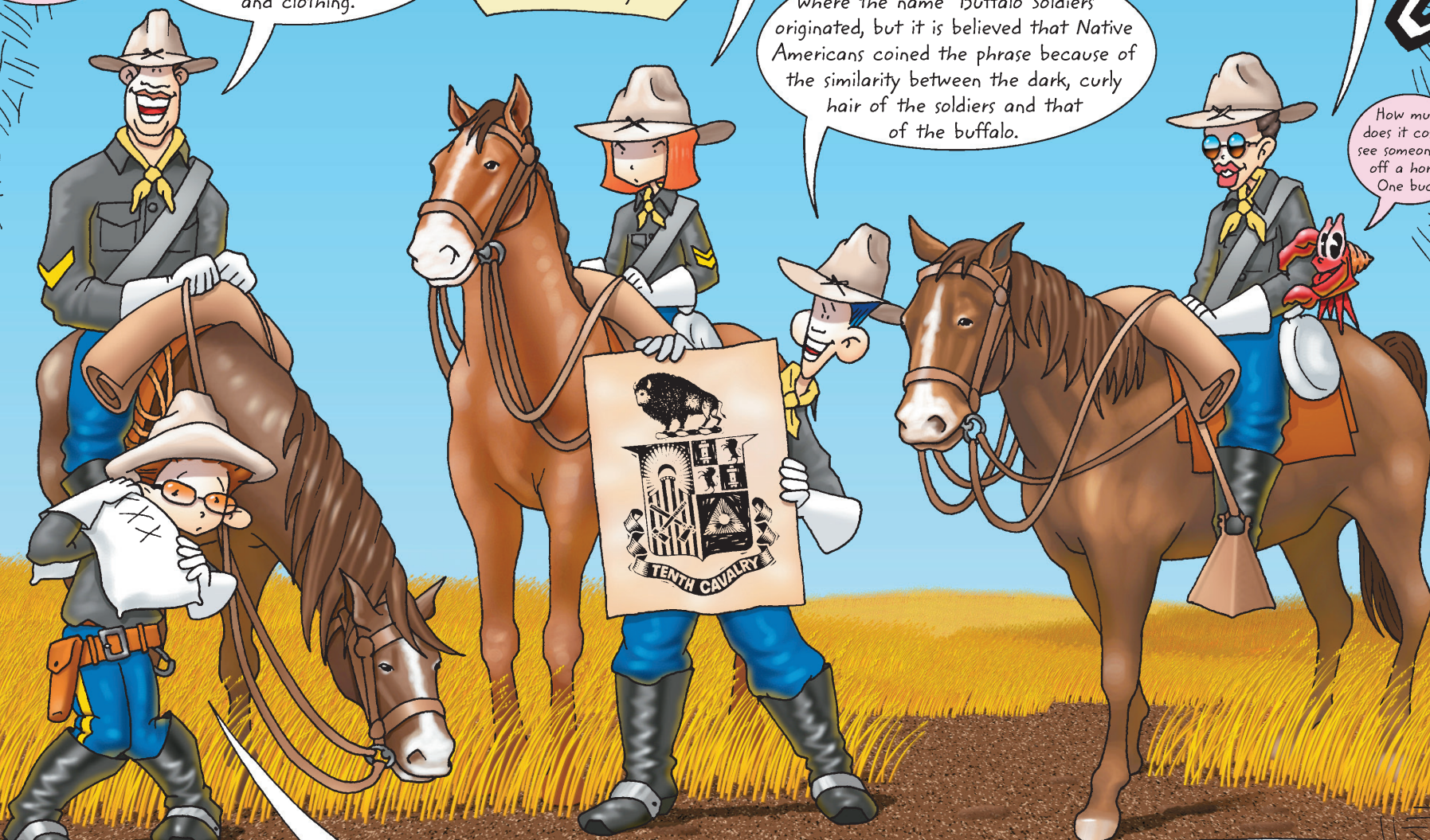
"Black Frontiers" by Lillian Schlissel (Simon & Schuster) or "Black Pioneers" by John Ravage (The University of Utah Press).

Emanuel Stance of the 9th Cavalry was the first Buffalo Soldier to receive the Medal of Honor. Members of the Buffalo Soldiers received more than 13 Medals of Honor by the end of the 1800s.

The name "Buffalo Soldiers" was a source of pride for the troops because the buffalo was the most important animal to the Native Americans and was seen as a symbol of power and courage.

No one is sure where the name "Buffalo Soldiers" originated, but it is believed that Native Americans coined the phrase because of the similarity between the dark, curly hair of the soldiers and that of the buffalo.

How much does it cost to see someone fall off a horse? One buck.



After the Civil War, many of the freed slaves chose to join the military because employment opportunities for African Americans were very scarce.

The Buffalo Soldiers were often sent to the worst locations and were given poor equipment and provisions.

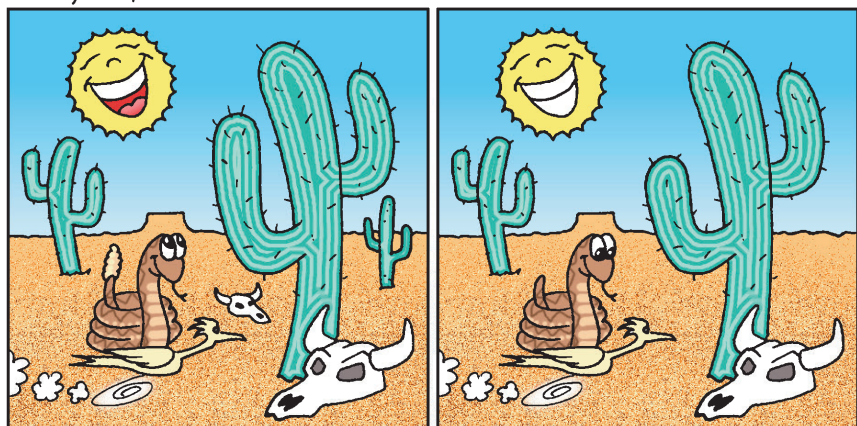
Frederic Remington was a famous artist who painted scenes from the American West. Mr. Remington's paintings portrayed the courage and bravery of the Buffalo Soldiers as well as their difficult circumstances.

During the late 1800s, units from the 10th Cavalry and 25th Infantry participated in a military experiment where the troopers used bicycles instead of horses as a means of transportation.

What do you get when you cross a Buffalo Soldier with a Tuskegee Airman? Buffalo wings.

WHERE THE BUFFALO ROAMED

Can you spot all six differences between these two scenes?



ANSWERS: 1. Sun's smile is different. 2. Snake's tongue is missing. 3. Snake's tongue is missing. 4. Snake's tongue is missing. 5. Snake's tongue is missing. 6. Snake's tongue is missing.

HOME ON THE RANGE

The Buffalo Soldiers were assigned to protect mail and stage routes, build and maintain forts, and keep the peace in the volatile American West.

More than 10,000 African-American men (and at least one woman) had served with the Buffalo Soldiers before the mounted troops were disbanded in the 1930s.

One in every five of the U.S. Cavalry troops in the American West was a Buffalo Soldier.

It was established that only white officers would be allowed to lead the Buffalo Soldiers.

WORD SEARCH

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

INFANTRY	SOLDIER	ARMY
COURAGE	HONOR	CIVIL
MILITARY	BATTLE	DUTY
CAVALRY	PEACE	WEST
PROTECT	TENTH	BOB
BUFFALO	NINTH	WAR

A PAWNT OOUR DAY
T HE PEACE CEFT C
A MONGS AND IUP R
F INFANTRY D VAN
F LYM RABAHLWIT
P IE BUFFALOMEL
S T PROTECTS NBT
P ANT CAN INTHOP
Y RLAVACSHOLBR
B YMANATEE DEEP

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