LESSON #7: CHIEF JOSEPH & THE NEZ PERCE

(Grade 11/United States History) Written by Kris McIntosh

Summary of Lesson: In this lesson, students will review and analyze the movement of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce tribe of the Northwest. The activity is intended to be used in the context of other Social Studies lessons and activities to provide students with a comprehensive study of U.S. Government Indian policy in the late 19th century.

Objective: Students will

- Analyze paintings, photos, maps, and census reports detailing the flight of the Nez Perce in 1877, and
- Produce a narrative newspaper article based on their analysis.

TEKS:

- (US 10A) Geography. The student understands the effects of migration and immigration on American society, and is expected to analyze the effects of changing demographic patterns resulting from migration within the United States.
- (US 2A) History. The student understands the political, economic, and social changes in the United States from 1877 to 1898. The student is expected to analyze political issues such as Indian policies.

Time Required: Two class periods

Materials:

Copies (or a projector to share items with entire class) of: Sid Richardson Museum painting *The Snow Trail* by Charles M. Russell Photographs of Chief Joseph NARA Photo Analysis Sheet Chief Joseph history Bureau of Indian Affairs maps Census data for Chief Joseph Magnifying glasses

Procedure: After students have studied the movement to put and keep Native Americans on reservations, and the Battle of Little Big Horn, introduce the lesson.

 Show students *The Snow Trail*, a painting by Charles M. Russell. Have students use the Photo Analysis Sheet and answer questions about the painting. Have students share their responses to the analysis questions.

- Show the photos of Chief Joseph. Have the students compare the photograph of Chief Joseph in his native dress with the photograph of him with General Howard and Colonel Pratt. Ask the students to speculate on Chief Joseph's change of clothing. "Why is Chief Joseph in this photograph with General Howard and Colonel Pratt? What may have occurred?"
- Pass out the history of the Nez Perce, and the two maps. As the students read the account, the maps can help them follow the flight of the Nez Perce towards Canada. Ask students, "What was the relationship between the U.S. Government and the Nez Perce? Why did it change? Why would some of the Nez Perce refuse to follow the new treaty of 1867? What would have been a possible solution to prevent the violence?"
- Distribute census data for 1878 and 1885. Use of magnifying glasses may be helpful.
 What can students learn about the Nez Perce and Chief Joseph by reading the data? Ask students to draw conclusions by answering these questions, "Why are there so few Nez Perce in 1878 versus 1885? What will happen in 1885 that might cause the census to rise in 1886?"
- After reading and analyzing the data, ask students to imagine it is 1885 and write an article on the plight of the Nez Perce for the local newspaper.



The Snow Trail, by Charles M. Russell, 1897, Oil on Canvas Sid Richardson Museum, Fort Worth, Texas

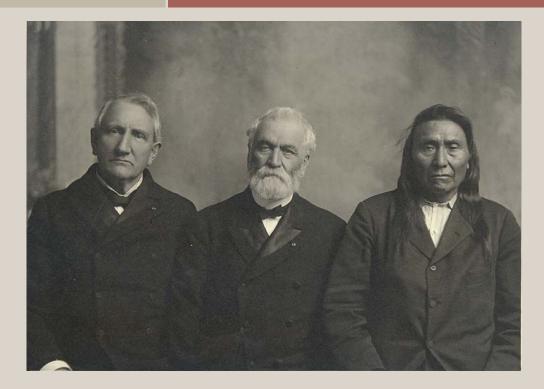


"Chief Joseph, Nez Perce, when young," ca. 1871 - ca. 1907, J Joseph (Hinmaton-Yalatkit), Nez Perce' chief; full-length, standing, by William H. Jackson, before 1877. Records of the Smithsonian Institution, 1871 – 1952, Record Group 106. Still Picture Records LICON, Special Media Archives Services Division (NWCS-S), National Archives at College Park, MD. Online version on November 2, 2006, available at:

http://arcweb.archives.gov ARC Identifier: 523607.



"Nez Perce Chief Joseph in studio portrait", Milton Loryea. Repository: Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture. Online version on November 2, 2006, available at: http://content.lib.washington.edu/cgi-bin/htmlview.exe?CISOROOT=/loc&CISOPTR=694



"Nez Perce Chief Joseph with General O.O. Howard & Colonel Pratt", ca. March, 1904. Repository: University of Washington Libraries. Online version on November 2, 2006, available at: http://content.lib.washington.edu/cgi-bin/htmlview.exe?CISOROOT=/loc&CISOPTR=2046

tep 1. Observation		
		ression of the photograph and then examine individual ch section to see what new details become visible.
Use the chart below to	list people, objects, and activities ir	the photograph.
People	Objects	Activities
		; you might infer from this photograph.
tep 3. Questions		
What questions does t	his photograph raise in your mind?	
1	answers to them?	
. Where could you find a		

Photo Analysis Worksheet, Online version on November 2, 2006, at: http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/photo_analysis_worksheet.pdf

"Chief Joseph"

Hin-mah-too-yah-lat-kekt. (1840-1904)

The man who became a national celebrity with the name "Chief Joseph" was born in the Wallowa Valley in what is now northeastern Oregon in 1840. He was given the name Hin-mah-too-yahlat-kekt, or Thunder Rolling Down the Mountain, but was widely known as Joseph, or Joseph the Younger, because his father had taken the Christian name Joseph when he was baptized at the Lapwai mission by Henry Spalding in 1838.

Joseph the Elder was one of the first Nez Percé converts to Christianity and an active supporter of the tribe's longstanding peace with whites. In 1855 he even helped Washington's territorial governor set up a Nez Percé reservation that stretched from Oregon into Idaho. But in 1863, following a gold rush into Nez Percé territory, the federal government took back almost six million acres of this land, restricting the Nez Percé to a reservation in Idaho that was only one tenth its prior size. Feeling himself betrayed, Joseph the Elder denounced the United States, destroyed his American flag and his Bible, and refused to move his band from the Wallowa Valley or sign the treaty that would make the new reservation boundaries official.

When his father died in 1871, Joseph was elected to succeed him. He inherited not only a name but a situation made increasingly volatile as white settlers continued to arrive in the Wallowa Valley. Joseph staunchly resisted all efforts to force his band onto the small Idaho reservation, and in 1873 a federal order to remove white settlers and let his people remain in the Wallowa Valley made it appear that he might be successful. But the federal government soon reversed itself, and in 1877 General Oliver Otis Howard threatened a cavalry attack to force Joseph's band and other hold-outs onto the reservation. Believing military resistance futile, Joseph reluctantly led his people toward Idaho.

Unfortunately, they never got there. About twenty young Nez Percé warriors, enraged at the loss of their homeland, staged a raid on nearby settlements and killed several whites. Immediately, the army began to pursue Joseph's band and the others who had not moved onto the reservation. Although he had opposed war, Joseph cast his lot with the war leaders.

What followed was one of the most brilliant military retreats in American history. Even the unsympathetic General William Tecumseh Sherman could not help but be impressed with the 1,400 mile march, stating that "the Indians throughout displayed a courage and skill that elicited universal praise... [they] fought with almost scientific skill, using advance and rear guards, skirmish lines, and field fortifications." In over three months, the band of about 700, fewer than 200 of whom were warriors, fought 2,000 U.S. soldiers and Indian auxiliaries in four major battles and numerous skirmishes.

By the time he formally surrendered on October 5, 1877, Joseph was widely referred to in the American press as "the Red Napoleon." It is unlikely, however, that he played as critical a role in

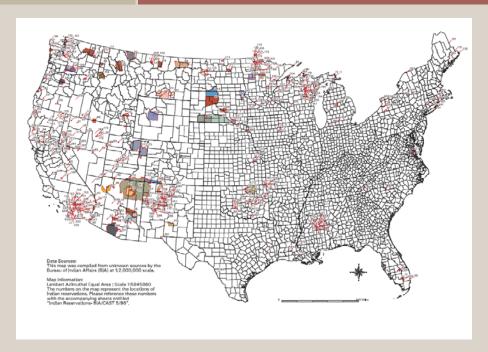
the Nez Percé's military feat as his legend suggests. He was never considered a war chief by his people, and even within the Wallowa band, it was Joseph's younger brother, Olikut, who led the warriors, while Joseph was responsible for guarding the camp. It appears, in fact, that Joseph opposed the decision to flee into Montana and seek aid from the Crows and that other chiefs -- Looking Glass and some who had been killed before the surrender -- were the true strategists of the campaign. Nevertheless, Joseph's widely reprinted surrender speech has immortalized him as a military leader in American popular culture:

I am tired of fighting. Our chiefs are killed. Looking Glass is dead. Toohoolhoolzote is dead. The old men are all dead. It is the young men who say, "Yes" or "No." He who led the young men [Olikut] is dead. It is cold, and we have no blankets. The little children are freezing to death. My people, some of them, have run away to the hills, and have no blankets, no food. No one knows where they are -- perhaps freezing to death. I want to have time to look for my children, and see how many of them I can find. Maybe I shall find them among the dead. Hear me, my chiefs! I am tired. My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever.

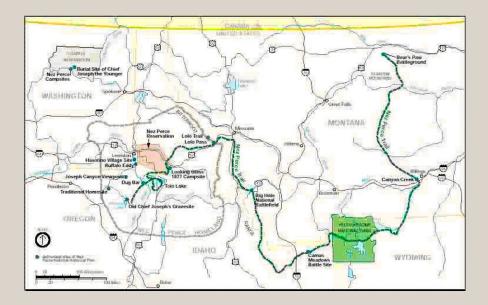
Joseph's fame did him little good. Although he had surrendered with the understanding that he would be allowed to return home, Joseph and his people were instead taken first to eastern Kansas and then to a reservation in Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma) where many of them died of epidemic diseases. Although he was allowed to visit Washington, D.C., in 1879 to plead his case to U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes, it was not until 1885 that Joseph and the other refugees were returned to the Pacific Northwest. Even then, half, including Joseph, were taken to a non-Nez Percé reservation in northern Washington, separated from the rest of their people in Idaho and their homeland in the Wallowa Valley.

In his last years, Joseph spoke eloquently against the injustice of United States policy toward his people and held out the hope that America's promise of freedom and equality might one day be fulfilled for Native Americans as well. An indomitable voice of conscience for the West, he died in 1904, still in exile from his homeland, according to his doctor "of a broken heart."

New Perspectives on the West, PBS online version on November 2, 2006, available at: http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/a_c/chiefjoseph.htm



Bureau of Indian Affairs Map of Indian Reservations in the Continental United States. Online version on November 2, 2006, available at: http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/DOCUMENTS/RESERV.PDF http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Bia-map-indian-reservations-usa.png



73 Chief Joseph 14 1 Churlen may mox 2 342 Naukes Kutt 5411 Ha that mox mox 123 Kool Kool Ancy Loo now we narmy 2 52 Scholadary Sufelpilpil 2 231 Ott Ko Ko 411 Has wet how weath In mo tak No how tow maiched 33 1322 1111 Zell howich 12 See Jow yah lam (1mm) 122 Rip. Kip. owin 142 Wall a mate timowin 1312 1421 1312 Le ket for 421 Chutlem a Lab ka nott 13 1 Sitting Bull 2313 Tom to fa lew 322 Hat way mak (1 woman) 1 Mos no 411 Aa hats, Shinnelin (1 man) 24 4 Ha hals, Shinnikin (113) 24 4 Sow yanin (113) 13 32 Jackson 111 Wall lah hotswell 21 Wats kiyicket 2212 Somony 411 Sett mod licks ah yah 2211 Yah low Cowin 2211 Ow tas sum 141 Che mood toole a kined 141 Che mosto, Che mook toolo a kiyah 1 4 1 In som ee 131 Marill ail hil 221 ume ell. sil. pil In samy 2213 - 3 2

1878 Census of Chief Joseph's Band, Miami Agency Census Rolls, 1871-1959; National Archives Microfilm Publication RA #78, Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75; National Archives - Southwest Region.

74 Bet tom ash che cown 22 Tom mooks 11 Yakake illhillhe 241 1 to Lakyrchett 3231 David 13 1 Cow cow heyah tomo 221 Cow Lulicks 22 2 Wat yat my so 1321 12 2 Cha lah coots 22 Aim ish men houses 122 Facto a Can a cat 12/3 Su wat is tualute 132 um yah ky icket 22 1 Capt Clark P 1211 Kool. Kool Kullow 12.23 Lee teen 21 1 Sus min poo 2 2 Lis Ca (Invoman) 221 · Korka ill pill pil 1212 Map tas whichit 4212 What yat ta mis note 832 Houses May Mox 1311 west su my 21 Tom the Kin 24 1 Ha tes (02) 212 Ma cha you prete it 2 1 Es pous Aim o wich 20

1878 Census of Chief Joseph's Band, Miami Agency Census Rolls, 1871-1959; National Archives Microfilm Publication RA #78, Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75; National Archives - Southwest Region.

Ales Pern auin En marts you lot the Chief brecht 39 Hustand later me ya tow way wike 35 3 Erm ton ma le 15 daughter Ha tai wa tai se okt. Linglerun 42 Ha win he hela gat in Amelia 35 Josephenife 22 Sal to got daughter 2 ellow Bull Heatena to a hacis 50 Suchand Ja were ta skown wy 40 wife Gellow Bull Sir dow. 3 15 Le horn lo here: Ochlaensboy 14 Jey to hot 10 3 Bom tow merst some very 16 Now weat to wit it hit Red Carley 50 Hustano 2 So swel non way 40 whe Cator what son Unite to 1 21 An tarya le to filet 17) Insterche Mut much i hand Source Suglear 33. Jan 40 Inistand The ses mor chierd allow read Je ma do tockt Siller 30. Them tal west 8 done Wite yet mis to ket Grace down 30 Husband . Ja minet tow one wai 20 wife Hay how it its hits 3 Son Mich la hist in 1 Brachik 30 hubart la won weint 30 Wife ta a mit hickh daughter 9 le ya te la we non wai 3

1885 Census of Chief Joseph's Band. Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940; National Archives Microfilm Publication M595, Roll 49, Frame 65; Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, National Archives.

16 Januel Husband Trukte na trukte yeak chund 35 infe de om tene kots or 20 Austand Caran :-27 write Petol ruman ickt 20 2 la len fu tin daughte 9 74 Istal 150 to of School type 6 - 16 Guils 13 21 Au above 41 16 frement " 63 8 rays under 5 116 150 Jedicey a

1885 Census of Chief Joseph's Band. Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940; National Archives Microfilm Publication M595, Roll 49, Frame 70; Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, National Archives.

luc United States Indian Service, diaid Agency, 1885. 1 min 130 ×.400 arech 122 vali transmittea Veuin

1885 Census of Chief Joseph's Band. Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940; National Archives Microfilm Publication M595, Roll 49, Frame 63; Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, National Archives.

(5-128.) Consta of the Do sephe Band of Muz Percel Indians of Colville Indian senoy, Washington taken yal go boly , United States Indian Agent, 30 1840 lime SEX. RELATION. AGE. INDIAN NAME. ENGLISH NAME. Chil Joseph. 170. Hustande 45. 3 Wife 32 2 Wash. Win - Dip - 40- La - Kate ut. 3. al-yoh. Do-we non- may 17 mack - E- min ito mo orphan 12 5. Cuto. Cuto. Cham. mes. State. Little man charf " Husband 50 6. Dob- Sal- Ni - 100 J. Wile +3 7. We- yah. Jon mot The mil m Son 14 8. Jom- mone- no- ilp. Pilp - 7 9. 1 Infants 10. Ats- chus. yoh. yal - Por . · Caynod . Hustand 38 11. Jol. Lay. Kal. Son - mory J. Wife 22 12. Wal- you- Pak- ow jane m Son 8. 13. Ow- yak we ton may 7. Daughter 5 14. (Infand) * * 1.7m 15. Du Son Mal Sal. nat. Southing Down. m Stre land 53. 16. We wal tickt 3. Wife 43 17. We- yah Sal. Nal wit m Som 20 18. Oto- Walls Chev 5 19. Pets - Soto 1. 20. Chis. 600p. 7 Wedow 57. 21. Its - Chit . Daughter 23, 22. Jour - Do- chon - my. 14 23. Ow-hi Grant mo Husband 35. 24. Jom- Jon may 7. Wife 27. 25. Jol- Los- Son may " Widow 71 26. Sittle mary " Daughter 1 4 27 life apo - See. mat - at " Widow 60 28. Sah- Got. Wah - hisod - Jin albert Wallers. m Son 23 29. We on it - Day I Daughter 34. 30. Sp. not. Sap - Lay - 110-may * * 20 31. nuse now . North Corn. Sted Gur m Huslande 30. 37. Sow. Swe- nan iny 3. Wife 23. 33. Pe- yal Dot Lay Not bet. · 33. 34. Choc - E. nev. " Daughter 1. 35. Ils-men mox - mix my Husband 30. 36 Pe. Jol. Von - nan . Set 13. Wilo 29 \$7. Do-yoh - yoh shin m Anv. Billy 2

1885 Census of Chief Joseph's Band. Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940; National Archives Microfilm Publication M595, Roll 49, Frame 326; Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, National Archives.

(5-128.) (1) CENSUS of the Josephi band of niz Sured Indians of Dolvilles Washington Agency,... taken by Half look. , United States Indian Agent, June 30 ., 189 /. INDIAN NAME. ENGLISH NAME. NO. SEX. RELATION. AGE. Ohil Joseph m Apristan Whan-win - Dip- yak La 2 J. Wile 34. J. Uh. yah. Do we non mou . 38 " H Willie andraws Sor m 14 f. Sittle man they Husband 6. Jul. Lah. Now - we Wilo +3 bornelis 7: 270 Im Mario 9 We lah. Lilph J. Daughter 2 moltustando 10 40 11. Dol- Lay - Nak I Wili 24 fin 12 Iranic. 220 10 13. On. yah we ton - mor 7. Daughter 6 14 Cha make lots mom 2 4 15. Do- pock - ye-om - may J. Daughter oothing Down! 772 Austr 655 17 We woh tick 3 Wile 45 18. We- wa- lah. No- web 222. Son 22 19. Ots- wat - Chev 6 albert Watters 20. Sturlando 25 2.1 21. Up. nal Sup- Lay - ma- 2000 7 Wile 22 22 Wi- aps- Su-mat-ak " mother 62 23 We-ow- it - toy " Daughter 36 24 Hellow Wolf m Aturtando 32 25 Setob. J. Wite 01 William 26. nu Dow ite 27. Chuck a. mal- pour J. Mother 84 21. m Widnes 37 29 Mits-chu. Ke wah. toh J. Daughter 3. Chis- Chin 30. mu Son 2. William 31. " Husband 37 32 adelia J. Wife 22 3.3. Sp. nak. Silpt- Shin - my · Daughter 4. 34 E- wait - 9000 m Din 2

1885 Census of Chief Joseph's Band. Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940; National Archives Microfilm Publication M595, Roll 49, Frame 387; Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, National Archives.

(8-128.) lem Cobville and of Hespirce CENSUS of the Indians of Colville Agency, Washington taken Half bolo United States Indian Agent, 110 0 30 , 189.2 ENGLISH NAME. NO. SEX. RELATION. AGE. Ana To Le Loket C. Whan win Tip yet Letat St. Chig Joseph Mit. Huch 4 9: 2 wife 36 4 ah yah To We hom havi Unife 41 Mech. Ema Uich Willie Andreus M. Cephan 18 4 Koto Rote Isa Me Joh Little Man Chief M Atusta 5 54 Tal Lak Ki we 6 9. Wife 47 7 Wech To Het Lel Molte Corneline M wifes don 18 Stama Mr. Til Rilp Mins Uou Loh Lilpelt-8-10 9 Faighte 4 Eter ya yeh Pau Vitas Cayner To Lay Kat Son Mai Wa Joh Pa au jou Frank On Yak We Ton May Cha Mah Loto 10 M. Sustad 42 F Wife 11 2.6 m. 12 Son 12 of 13 Kny 8 m 14 Shelew yath na Looking Lour Use Work Ticks-15 M Atustand 5-7 g. 16 Wife 47 We you Loh Ko With m 17 24 18 8 La khi wak feb Fen albert Waters M Auctor 19 27 If Mak sap wa Law Mas 20 Wife 24 We aps su motat H 21 Mother 64 We you Ta ayle F the 38 Hewin Mox Mox. Yellow Wolf Te Tol Won Man Sett Julan 6 m 23 34 A life 24 96 m Teegh See M. 2.5 Chick a Make Tor 62 Mother 26 432

1885 Census of Chief Joseph's Band. Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940; National Archives Microfilm Publication M595, Roll 49, Frame 464; Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, National Archives.

Fire 11 7 CENSUS of the Indians of Agency, Hackington taken Ju Conti , United States Indian Agent, by stat June 30? 189.3 NO. SEX. RELATION. AGE. INDIAN NAME. ENGLISH N Une to le laker Chief Joych In Hertand 50 2 Whan then lips yah lak at eit ... I Stife 37 3 Oh yo to Ur. Won mos " Stipe 41 4 Recit a man wien Stille auterson m Ochlan 17 1 Clert " to. tan me Yak little man chief + Amband 53 Collicat in the gan and Strate of Stife Hh 1 The ch. so net Selans this Cornelius IN Son 18 1 She ch. so net Selans this Cornelius IN Son 18 1 She ch. so net July Marks " I Son 18 1 Non lat will path 10 Et sa yet you we los. Cayine In Hereband Ho of Shife Sto 12 hartfet na un fan Drause of Hite 11 Do lay ach Non - Thei 26 n In 13 I Daughter 13 Cha yet. we ton moi r m 121 Cha Ma Loto 5 15 The law you lot ha Porteing down " Harband 13 5% 17 Tre. Ha. ticket a Stife . 48 m Con 1) It. Yeh- leh. to. weh 25 19 Qto- Walk. 9 21 La Koht. Warech. two Chilbert Stater . 1 Auntand 28 21 Sp. no Sup loa ion-I Shife 25 2 2 He ips. Su- mak- at 7 mother 65 23 Ik. yan ta - ayh " Daughter 38 He. min. may - max yellow loog n Ameland 35 J. Shife Be tal Abon - Kan Gester helin 34 26 de eyf clean m don Billie fran I Mother 86 thick at ma for Daniel Jefferson. m Sturchano 35 23 Mr. Yahm laks Mary 34 Stife 30 Kits. chin. Ke. Warter Sangth m. 31 eRin of Jon 32 silio Rana. Sa bred Real. Hilliam Polli Anta (OL it not the

1885 Census of Chief Joseph's Band. Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940; National Archives Microfilm Publication M595, Roll 49, Frame 597; Record of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, National Archives.