

On March 27, 1864 JAMES H. WHITLOCK, Captain, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers made the following report to his superior officer.

Together with 56 men, a guide, scouts for a total of 61 men, 2 wagons and teams loaded with rations for 30 days left the post. Half of the men mounted and the balance were foot soldiers. In search of maurading Indians they traveled down the Gila. After five days, Captain Whitlock crossed a rocky and rough cragge mountains. Then they came out on an open plain. When they found a fresh pony track it was about 4: P.M. The army guide and scout said that they could soon expect to find the mauraders. Captain Whitlock ordered a 'dry camp' and sent a scout to discover water. In Captain Whitlock's written report he described our Mount Graham as Mount Gray and Sierra Bonita.

The scout sent out by Whitlock returned to the 'dry camp' with the information that he had discovered an Indian camp of about 250. It was about 4:A.M. when the scout gave Whitlock the information. Whitlock continued in his report that the Captain and his soldiers were put into a moving action within two minutes. Just as the savages were awakening from their slumbers, between daylight and sunup, Whitlocks command charged the Indian Camp. The fight lasted about one hour. "At the end of which I had in my possession the entire Indian 'campody' with all its property, including 45 head of horses and mules. There were the dead bodies of twenty-one Indians." The report continued, "I am satisfied that as many as thirty Indians were killed in this fight. Some of my men fired as many as eighteen shots from their Minnie muskets.

I could form no idea how many of those wretches went away with holes in their hides, but suffice it to say a great many. On our side some of the men had arrows in their clothing but no man's skin was broken." Whitlock determined the Indians to be from the Chiricahua Apache tribe. Whitlock determined that the fight took place about perhaps thirty-five miles northwest of Fort Bowie, at the south end of a range of mountains called and referred to by the army as the Sierra Bonita range. *MOUNT GRAHAM*

Later the area in army maps and verbal discussion, "Where Whitlock had his Indian battle." Thus we discover the Whitlock Mountains, Whitlock Cienega were named for James H. Whitlock, Captain, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers in 1864.

*When O. R. Smythe bought the ranch -
built a home like a fort - skin bleached
bones of Indians still covered the
battle ground
Arizona's Mount Graham*

Dear Jack:

Appreciate hearing from you and the invitation. We will keep such an invitation open.

I spoke recently to a Gem & Mineral Club and used part of the enclosed as part of the talk about places in history of Graham County.

You are a geologist, perhaps you are related to Captain Whitlock

Sincerely

Spencer Brinkerhoff