

F T R O O P

"SCOURGE OF THE WEST"

PILOT TELEPLAY

Written

by

Ed James & Seaman Jacobs

REVISED FINAL

12/21/64

"SCOURGE"

Revised 12/21/64

C A S T

WILTON PARMENTER

SERGEANT MORGAN O'ROURKE

CORPORAL RANDOLPH AGARN

WRANGLER JANE ANGELICA THRIFT

HANNIBAL DOBBS

LT. JEFFERSON HAWKES

DONALD BLATTY

WILD EAGLE

ROARING CHICKEN

THE GENERAL

COLONEL MALCOLM

MAIL RIDER

INDIAN CHIEF (SHUG)

CAVALRY LIEUTENANT

PRIVATE FRANKLIN

CHAR  
ADD

LAST INDIAN (LARRY STORCH)

STAFF, TROOPER, F TROOP SOLDIERS, INDIANS, TOWNSPEOPLE

"SCOURGE"

Revised 12/21/64

SET LIST

EXTERIORS :

BATTLEFIELD AND COUNTRYSIDE  
HEADQUARTERS TENT  
CLEARING IN WOODED AREA  
FLAGPOLE  
FORT COURAGE  
COMPOUND AND GATE  
PRIMROSE GAP - MAIN STREET  
HEKAWI INDIAN VILLAGE  
WOODS AND BUSHES  
OBSERVATION TOWER AND PARAPET  
CAPTAIN PARMENTER'S QUARTERS  
CORRAL AND SUPPLY SHED

INTERIORS :

COLONEL MALCOLM'S OFFICE  
HEADQUARTERS TENT  
FORT COURAGE AND COMPOUND  
NON-COMS' QUARTERS  
CAPTAIN PARMENTER'S QUARTERS  
HEADQUARTERS BUILDING  
SHED (NCO CLUB)

SET  
ADD

STOCK:

CIVIL WAR BATTLE SCENES  
FORT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. - 1866

"SCOURGE" OF THE WEST"

1.

FADE IN:

1. MONTAGE SERIES OF CIVIL WAR BATTLE SCENES (STOCK)

The date - 1865 - is SUPERED over clips showing the changing tides of battle. First the Union Army advances, then the Confederate Army, etc.

NARRATOR'S VOICE

In the closing months of the War Between the States, ultimate victory has been reduced to a question of supply. Nowhere are shortages felt more keenly than in the headquarters tent of a certain General of the Union Armies.

2. INT. HEADQUARTERS TENT CLOSE SHOT GENERAL DAY

He is BANGING angrily on the table.

GENERAL

What happened to my laundry?!

As CAMERA DOLLIES BACK to WIDER ANGLE, we SEE that the GENERAL is surrounded by his staff, including COLONEL MALCOLM. SOUNDS of battle are HEARD in b.g.

MALCOLM

I'll put Parmenter on it immediately, sir.

Malcolm turns and EXITS.

3. EXT. HEADQUARTERS TENT DAY

as Malcolm EMERGES from tent. PVT. WILTON PARMENTER, a Quartermaster clerk, is seated at a small table immediately adjacent to the tent entrance. Pvt. Parmenter is engaged in his most serious battle of the war -- fighting the breeze which threatens to scatter the tremendous stacks of papers, requisition slips, etc. covering his table. Behind him are soldiers and U.S. Cavalry mounts. Parmenter is anchoring the papers with rocks as Malcolm BELLOWS his name in pantomime.

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

2.

3 (Cont.)

He leaps to his feet, tipping over the table which lands on Colonel Malcolm's toes. As the Private tries desperately to collect the papers which swirl all over the area, NARRATOR'S VOICE COMES in again.

NARRATOR'S VOICE

Wilton Parmenter, Quartermaster Corps. A lowly shipping clerk from Philadelphia, he has found his niche in the Union Army -- Private in Charge of Officers' Laundry.

Malcolm gestures for Parmenter to hurry to the rear lines for the General's laundry. Parmenter starts to leave, but Malcolm grabs his arm and shoves him toward a horse. Parmenter protests mildly as he is boosted into the saddle by Malcolm and a Cavalryman.

NARRATOR'S VOICE

Parmenter has come through with the underwear many times under fire, but always on foot. Now, carried away by the gravity of the situation, he ignores a vital chink in his armor. Parmenter is allergic to horses.

Malcolm slaps the horse's flank and dashes OFF, with Wilton reeling in the saddle.

4. EXT. COUNTRYSIDE MED. FULL SHOT DAY

The horse racing across country, with Wilt still clinging desperately to reins.

5. CLOSE SHOT WILT ON HORSE (PROCESS)

Blinded by tears, he starts to sneeze. After a few mild wheezes, he comes up with an explosive "ka-CHAH."

"SCOURGE"

3.

6. EXT. COUNTRYSIDE FULL SHOT

DAY

The horse rears and bolts in the opposite direction.

7. EXT. HEADQUARTERS TENT MED. SHOT

Malcolm is about to re-enter tent, but turns as Wilt and horse dash in at breakneck speed. The Colonel gestures in frantic pantomime that Wilt is heading in the wrong direction, but horse and rider race on through.

8. FULL SHOT UNION ARMY IN RETREAT (STOCK)

9. MED. CLOSE SHOT WILT ON HORSE (PROCESS)

Wilt racing in opposite direction from retreating troops, sneezes violently several times.

WILT

Ka-CHAH! Ka-CHAH! Ka-CHAH!!!

10. CLOSE SHOT LIEUTENANT AND SEVERAL MOUNTED CAVALRYMEN

They stop short and look after the fleeing Wilt.

NARRATOR'S VOICE

In times of peace, a sneeze is just a sneeze. During the heat of battle, it can become a clarion call of significance.

LIEUTENANT

You heard him, men!  
(drawing sabre)  
Charge!

ALL RACE OUT after Wilt.

11. SERIES OF STOCK SHOTS (FROM WB "CUSTER" FEATURE)

Union cavalry make a mad dash toward Confederate lines.  
Voices AD LIB: "Charge!" "Charge!" "Charge!"

NARRATOR'S VOICE

And so within a matter of days, victory came to the Union Forces -- and Wilton Parmenter, Quartermaster Corps, a man with an allergy, became a man of Destiny!

DISSOLVE TO:

"SCOURGE"

4.  
10/1/0

12. EXT. CLEARING IN WOODED AREA

DAY

Wilt, in Captain's uniform, is being decorated by the General and his aides (including Malcolm). Wilt gasps as the General pins the medal not only on but into his chest. The General extends his hand to Malcolm, who gives him a second medal. The General pins the second medal on Wilt, shakes his hand, and both men salute.

NARRATOR'S VOICE (over above)

In a wooded glen near Appomattox, Wilton Parmenter received his just reward from a grateful country -- promotion to Captain -- the Medal of Honor --

(as Wilt gasps  
in pain)

And the Purple Heart...He was the only soldier in history ever to get a medal for getting a medal...

GENERAL

(stepping back)

Now, Parmenter, we've got to find an assignment befitting your heroic stature.

MALCOLM

Sir, they've gone through their third commanding officer at Fort Courage -- two desertions and a nervous breakdown.

GENERAL

Fort Courage, eh? Good thinking, Malcolm. At a frontier post like that, he may be just the inspirational leader they need.

(impressively)

Captain Parmenter, as of this moment, you are the Commanding Officer of -- F Troop!

As Wilt gulps, we --

SWISH PAN:

"SCOURGE"

5.

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13. EXT. FORT COURAGE COMPOUND

DAY

The haphazardly shaped members of F Troop stand in formation at attention holding their mounts as a horse and buggy COME THROUGH front gate carrying Captain Parmenter and his luggage. Rustic sign over gate spells out FORT COURAGE. F Troop consists of fifteen PRIVATES of strictly non-military bearing, SERGEANT MORGAN O'ROURKE and CORPORAL RANDOLPH AGARN. Agarn stands at the guide position to the right of thirteen privates in a single rank. Sgt. O'Rourke, every inch the old campaigner, stands at the head of the formation close to the troop's cannon. PRIVATE HANNIBAL DOBBS, the Troop Bugler, stands beside the cannon, waiting for the signal to fire a welcoming salute. The last private, TROOPER FRANKLIN, can be seen standing sentry in the observation tower.

14. CLOSE SHOT CAPTAIN PARMENTER

The Captain looks extremely young and unmilitary.

15. CLOSE SHOT SERGEANT O'ROURKE

CHAR  
CHG

He looks toward Captain Parmenter and smiles in satisfaction. This time he's got a C.O. who's an obvious patsy. He turns to Agarn and pantomimically gives order to fire salute.

16. CLOSE TWO SHOT CORPORAL AGARN AND PRIVATE DOBBS

CHAR  
BUS  
ADD

Agarn turns to Dobbs and pantomimically gives order to fire salute. Dobbs touches a light to the cannon. Fuse burns rapidly, then sputters out. Exasperated, Agarn kicks wheel of cannon. Wheel falls off its axle, cannon topples to ground and GOES OFF.

17. FULL SHOT THE COMPOUND

as the cannon goes off and all hell breaks loose. The cannon ball hits a support of the observation tower and collapses with sentry in it. Immediately the Captain's horse rears and bolts, pulling the carriage right at F Troop, men and horses scattering in confusion. Over above is SUPERED MAIN TITLE, F TROOP.

18. Transposed to Scene 19C.



19. MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT SERGEANT O'ROURKE
- Screaming orders. He looks off and sees the horse and carriage bearing down on him. He dives head first into horse trough behind him, as horse and carriage sweep through scene. After carriage EXITS, CAMERA MOVES IN CLOSE on O'Rourke, sitting up and sputtering in trough. SUPERED OVER is credit: STARRING FORREST TUCKER AS SERGEANT MORGAN O'ROURKE.
- BUS  
ADD
- 19A. MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT CORPORAL AGARN
- hanging from side of Headquarters Building roof in an effort to climb to safety. A horse, pulling its trooper, shies into corner support and knocks it from under the roof. The corner of roof starts to buckle and Agarn finds himself acting as the new support. As he sinks slowly, his knees bending under weight of the roof, CAMERA MOVES IN CLOSE on Agarn. SUPERED OVER is credit: LARRY STORCH AS CORPORAL RANDOLPH AGARN.
- NEW  
SCENE
- 19B. FULL SHOT THE COMPOUND
- There's still pandemonium in area as Parmenter's horse and carriage continue to race through the disorganized men and mounts.
- NEW  
SCENE
- 19C. CLOSE SHOT CAPTAIN PARMENTER (PROCESS)
- sawing desperately at the reins. SUPERED OVER is credit: KEN BERRY AS CAPTAIN WILTON PARMENTER.
- PREV  
SC.18
- 19D. MEDIUM SHOT THE COMPOUND
- as WRANGLER JANE ANGELICA THRIFT, wearing boots and pants with a holster strapped around her waist, races through gate from town to learn the cause of the confusion.
- NEW  
SCENE
- 19E. CLOSER ANGLE
- As Parmenter's horse RACES PAST the girl, a carriage wheel hits a stray log, throwing the Captain out of the buggy.
- NEW  
SCENE
- 19F. CLOSE TWO SHOT PARMENTER AND WRANGLER JANE
- Parmenter comes FLYING THROUGH AIR, knocking Jane to ground. CAMERA MOVES IN CLOSER as both sit up, Parmenter shaking his head groggily. Jane looks at the newly arrived Captain with
- NEW  
SCENE

(CONTINUED)

19F (Cont.)

approval. SUPERED OVER is credit: MELODY PATTERSON AS WRANGLER JANE.

20 FULL SHOT THE COMPOUND

With some of the troops trying to catch their mounts and others running about frantically, Parmenter's horse pulls the carriage in a full circle through the compound and OUT the back gate of the fort into the town of Primrose Gap.

FADE OUT

(COMMERCIAL)

FADE IN:

21. EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. (STOCK) DAY

SUPERED OVER are the words: "SIX MONTHS LATER"

22. INT. COLONEL MALCOLM'S OFFICE DAY

Malcolm is taking papers and personal possessions out of his desk and stuffing them into carpet bag. JEFFERSON HAWKES, a very young spit-and-polish Second Lieutenant, stands beside the desk watching him. Capitol dome can be SEEN through window in b.g.

MALCOLM

Lieutenant Hawkes, the Inspector General's Office wants a full report on the methods of Captain Parmenter. You have heard of him.

HAWKES

Who hasn't, sir? The Scourge of the West.

MALCOLM

What a man! I was at Appomattox when he uttered those classic words, "I didn't even see the enemy!"... Do you know that in six months, Parmenter has put down a dozen attacks by the savage Hekawis alone, without losing a man?

(CONTINUED)

22 (Cont.)

HAWKES

At least that's what his  
Sergeant reported in the  
dispatches.

MALCOLM

(looks up sharply)  
You doubt their validity?

HAWKES

Well, nobody's perfect, sir.

MALCOLM

That's so true. After thirty-one  
years of military service, I'm  
being reduced from a full Colonel  
to a measly Major. Because of  
one mistake. You were very alert,  
Lieutenant.

HAWKES

Then you're not upset about the  
report I turned in on you?

MALCOLM

Upset? It was your duty to turn  
me in for dereliction. I mean,  
any officer should know that reports  
must be filed in quadruplicate.

HAWKES

I'm glad you see it that way,  
Uncle Frank...

(after pause)

I thought maybe you were sending  
me out West to get even.

MALCOLM

Nonsense. You're the man for the  
job. After all, you've been a  
second Lieutenant for three whole  
months, and at West Point you did  
get an A in Indian Fighting.

HAWKES

(after a modest  
reaction)

Well, an A minus. I was a little  
weak in smoke signals.

BUS.ADD

(CONTINUED)

22 (Cont.1)

MALCOLM

Jefferson, my boy, I have great confidence in you. It's only fitting that my last act as a Colonel should be to give you the most dangerous uh -- most difficult assignment in the department.

HAWKES

Thank you, Uncle. Well -- see you when I get back from Fort Courage.

Hawkes salutes, turns smartly and LEAVES. Malcolm returns salute and sneers.

MALCOLM

(quietly)

If you get back from Fort Courage.

DISSOLVE TO:

23. EXT. FORT COURAGE

DAY

ESTABLISHING.

24. EXT. COMPOUND

DAY

PVT. DOBBS yawns and stretches his way out of the enlisted men's barracks. He carries his shirt, hat and bugle.

25. CLOSER ANGLE

As Dobbs crosses compound, he tries to get his shirt on over bugle. He gets it stuck in one arm, but finally succeeds and proceeds to blow a clinker-filled version of REVEILLE. It's interrupted only once, when his tongue gets stuck in the mouthpiece. He finishes Reveille with a smile of satisfaction.

26. INT. NONCOM'S QUARTERS

DAY

It's a small room, containing two beds, dressers, trunks, etc. Walls are covered with Indian rugs, animal pelts, and several 1866-ish pinups. The occupants of the beds, Sergeant Morgan O'Rourke and Corporal Randolph Agarn, stretch as they unhappily prepare to welcome the new day. O'Rourke scratches his head and tries to shake the sleep out of his eyes. Agarn,

(CONTINUED)

26 (Cont.)

reaches for his watch, looks at the time and his eyes snap open.

AGARN  
Ten minutes to ten!

O'ROURKE  
Holy petunia pods!

AGARN  
(screams)  
Dobbs!

The door opens and Dobbs ENTERS with a smile.

DOBBS  
Did you want me, Corporal Agarn?

O'Rourke rises and struggles into his uniform as he talks.

O'ROURKE  
Private Dobbs, this is Fort Courage -- the last outpost of civilization. What happens to the frontier if there ain't any discipline in the Cavalry?

DIAL OMIT  
AND CHG

AGARN  
(angrily)  
Do you know what time it is?! Ten minutes to ten!

DIAL.CHG

DOBBS  
It is?  
(looks at his watch)

AGARN  
We got a schedule and you don't sound off on that putty blower any time you feel like it!

DIAL.CHG

O'ROURKE  
It's not a minute before and it's not a minute after! Reveille on this post is ten o'clock!

DOBBS  
(looking at watch)  
I'm sorry, Sergeant O'Rourke. I - I guess my watch is ten minutes fast.

AGARN  
A lotta good that does now. We're up!

(CONTINUED)

26 (Cont.)

O'ROURKE

We gotta have a system around here! Tomorrow you'll blow reveille ten minutes late!  
(crosses to door)

DOBBS

Yes, sir.

AGARN

Everything's been goin' great, and we want to keep it that way, understand?

DIAL  
CHG

O'ROURKE

(turning at door)

One more mistake, Dobbs, and I won't let you be Captain Parmenter's orderly no more!

Dobbs gulps as O'Rourke EXITS.

26A

INT. CAPTAIN WILTON PARMENTER'S QUARTERS  
MED. CLOSE ON WILT

DAY

standing beside table, saber in hand. He is reading from a book which lies open on the table.

WILT

"...To develop the wrist and improve accuracy in the slash, try to extinguish flame without touching candle."

(straightening up)

Without touching candle. That ought to be easy.

He crosses to a four-foot torchier, which bears lighted candle. It is several feet from the wall from which hangs a picture of General Grant. He swings back saber, ready to slash.

WILT

En garde, you savage redskin!

Wilt swings savagely and misses.

WILT

Shifty devil...I'd better use two hands.

Holding the saber in both hands, he swings lustily, slices the candle in half and cuts a long slash in General Grant's beard.

27. WIDER ANGLE

As Wilt stares unhappily at the picture, the door opens and O'Rourke ENTERS.

O'ROURKE

Good morning, Captain. I --

He stops short, reacts.

WILT

(slightly embarrassed)

I - I was practicing with my saber. With one swipe, I got the candle and General Grant.

(chuckles, self-consciously)

O'ROURKE

(smoothing Grant's beard)

And just think, he went through the whole war without a scratch.

(turns)

Sir, it's time for reveille formation.

WILT

It is? Oh, my gosh. I forgot it was Thursday.

He crosses to put on his coat. O'Rourke buttons it for him.

O'ROURKE

(affectionately)

Captain, I hear you went out in the woods again yesterday. I wish you wouldn't do that without me. It's too dangerous.

WILT

Dangerous? I've been here six months and I haven't even seen an Indian. Not even a papoose.

O'ROURKE

And you know why? They're afraid of you. Why else would they call you Mikanakawa-Mashawi-Hakuma?

WILT

Mikanak -- a what?

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

11A.

27 (Cont.)

O'ROURKE

Indian for Scourge of the West.

WILT

(tosses head  
heroically)

The Scourge of the West... Well,  
let's go, Sergeant. Got to keep  
my toes up on the troops. Uh,  
troops up on my toes -- their toes.

At door, he takes hat from rack and EXITS, followed by  
O'Rourke.



28. OMITTED

29. EXT. COMPOUND DAY

The fourteen other privates of F Troop are falling in as Dobbs finishes last SOUR NOTES of "Assembly". Agarn is addressing the troops.

DIAL  
ADD

AGARN

All right, let's look alive.  
That's all you gotta do all day --  
so let's do it right... Franklin --  
if you're awake, notify your face!  
... Johnson -- stop leaning! You're  
tilting the whole formation!

30. ANOTHER ANGLE THE FORMATION

AGARN

(roaring)

Atten-shun!

BUS  
ADD

Agarn's command is so loud, he frightens even himself. The men snap to their respective versions of attention as Wilt and O'Rourke ENTER SHOT.

AGARN

(continuing; saluting)

F Troop all present and accounted  
for, sir.

WILT

(saluting)

Good work, Corporal. Men, before  
you have your breakfast, and go  
back to bed... I want you to know  
I appreciate your cooperation. It  
isn't every troop that has a perfect  
attendance record at reveille. Some  
fellows oversleep. Some go out and  
fight and get themselves killed. But  
not F Troop. Thank you very much.

DIAL  
CHG

O'ROURKE

You wanta inspect the men now, sir?

WILT

Do you think they'll mind? I  
inspected them last week.

DIAL  
CHG

AGARN

It's regulations, sir. They'll  
play ball.

31. ANOTHER ANGLE

As Wilt and O'Rourke cross toward Agarn.

WILT

Sergeant, I've been meaning to ask you. How come we have reveille at ten o'clock? Back East, when I was in the Quartermaster Corps, we had reveille at seven.

O'ROURKE

Very shrewd observation, sir. Explain it to him, Agarn.

DIAL  
ADD

AGARN

Uh-- well-- the Captain's forgetting one thing. There's a three-hour difference in time.

WILT

Oh - of course. Thank you, Sergeant -- Corporal.

With O'Rourke and Agarn at his elbow, CAMERA DOLLIES as Wilt starts inspection. He stops at third man in front rank, sees a thread on the the trooper's shoulder and tries to brush it off. When it won't move, he tries to pick it off. The thread comes out and out and out, until the sleeve drops off the trooper's shoulder. Embarrassed, Wilt hands trooper the end of the thread and continues down line. He then stops before a trooper with a scraggly, drooping mustache. Wilt reacts to mustaches, twirls it into two neat points, which he turns smartly upward. CAMERA REMAINS with mustachioed trooper as inspecting trio MOVES OFF. Almost immediately, the mustache droops again.

BUS  
CHG

31A. CLOSE GROUP

as Wilt, O'Rourke and Agarn stop in front of Dobbs. Wilt points to a missing button on Dobbs's blouse.

NEW  
CAMERA  
ANGLE

WILT

Private Dobbs, you've got a button missing.

DOBBS

I know, sir. You told me last week.

WILT

I did? I'm sorry. I didn't mean to be a nag.

31A (Cont.)

Wilt and O'Rourke turn as HOOFBEATS ARE HEARD approaching the front gate.

32. ANOTHER ANGLE TOWARD THE FRONT GATE

MAIL RIDER races in on horse, blowing mailman's WHISTLE. Without stopping, he charges through compound and EXITS through back gate into Primrose Gap.

MAIL RIDER  
(as he rides through)  
Mail Call for Fort Courage! Pick it  
up in Primrose Gap!

He BLOWS WHISTLE again as he EXITS.

33. THE FORMATION

BUS  
OMIT All the privates, excepting Dobbs, break formation and race toward gate, sweeping Wilt along with them. Dobbs remains at attention.

34. REVERSE ANGLE TOWARD GATE

SHOOTING PAST O'Rourke, Agarn and Dobbs. The fourteen privates are almost to the gate, with Wilt bringing up the rear.

O'ROURKE  
Captain Parmenter!

35. CLOSE SHOT WILT

as he stops and turns.

WILT  
Oh.  
(at attention)  
Dismissed!

He turns and continues mad dash o.s.

36. THE FORMATION (WHAT'S LEFT OF IT)

BUS Dobbs falls out. O'Rourke shakes his head as he looks off  
OMIT after Wilt, o.s.

DOBBS

Aren't you goin' to mail call,  
Sergeant?

O'ROURKE

If there's any mail, they'll bring  
it. Let's go, Agarn. We got work  
to do.

DIAL  
ADD

AGARN

Don't call it work, Sarge. That's  
what I joined the Cavalry to get  
away from.

The two men start toward the corral, leaving Dobbs behind.

37. EXT. MAIN STREET OF PRIMROSE GAP DAY

The local CITIZENS and the fourteen privates of F Troop are  
gathered about the mail rider, who stands on porch of store  
marked: PRIMROSE GAP TRADING POST -- WRANGLER JANE,  
PROPRIETOR. Wilt races IN and jumps up and down behind  
group trying to get a better view.

(CONTINUED)

37 (Cont.)

WILT  
How about Parmenter?! Anything  
for Parmenter?

RIDER  
Franklin!

FRANKLIN  
Yo!

WILT  
What about Parmenter?!

Two PISTOL SHOTS RING OUT. The crowd reacts.

38. CLOSE GROUP JANE

She is standing on porch with smoking revolver in hand.

JANE  
Spread out, you varmints!  
Let the Captain through!

38A. REVERSE ANGLE

The crowd separates, opening a path for Wilt, who moves to porch and starts to clamber up. Before he can do it, Jane grabs his arm and yanks him up beside her.

JANE  
(coquettishly)  
Hello, Wilton.

39. CLOSE TWO SHOT WILT AND JANE

Jane moves closer to Wilt and takes her arm, her interest being obviously romantic. Rider continues to call names, o.s., during:

WILT  
Good morning, Jane.

JANE  
My, don't you look handsome and dashin' and --

(CONTINUED)

39 (Cont.)

WILT

Janey, please! I'm expecting a package from my mother.

JANE

Just once I wish you'd stop lookin' for chocolate brownies and start lookin' for Injuns.

WILT

I don't have to. I'm already known as the Scourge of the West. And you wait. I've been practicing with my saber and I'm going to get even scourgier.

RIDER'S VOICE

Parmenter!

WILT

Here, here here!

40. GROUP SHOT TO INCLUDE RIDER

WILT

I'm Parmenter! I'm here!  
(takes letter)

Hmm. A dispatch from Washington. What do you suppose they want?

JANE

You can bet a bucket of buzzards it ain't chocolate brownies.

41. WIDER ANGLE TO INCLUDE ALL

RIDER

Well, that's all, folks. Got to git on to Fort Butte.

He mounts his horse and dashes off. Almost immediately he brings his horse to a sliding stop and calls back.

41A. CLOSE SHOT RIDER

RIDER

Anybody here know how to git to Fort Butte? I got lost for three days the last trip.

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41B. CLOSE SHOT JANE AND WILT

JANE  
When you come to the fork at  
Porcupine Creek, you bear left.

41C. WIDER ANGLE TO INCLUDE ALL

RIDER  
Oh...Left! Right! See y' next  
month -- I hope!

Crowd starts to disperse as Rider TAKES OFF.

41D. CLOSE TWO WILT AND JANE

JANE  
He's always gettin' lost. I  
don't know why the Post Office  
hired him in the first place.

WILT  
What's his name again?

JANE  
(shrugging)  
Kit Carter - Carson - somethin'  
like that.

SET 42. EXT. CORRAL AND SHED  
CHG

O'Rourke and Agarn are walking through cavalry mounts on  
way to a small shed with soaped windows at end of corral.  
They pause at one horse which is extremely swayback.

O'ROURKE  
Poor old Lightnin'. He's just  
about had it. Let's dump him on  
the Hekawis before his belly  
starts draggin'.

AGARN  
(resuming walk)  
I don't know if we can, Sarge.  
Chief Wild Eagle says you honey-  
fogled him on the last deal. Three  
of the horses come up lame.

BUS  
ADD

They've reached the door of the shed, which is crudely  
lettered: NCO CLUB - PRIVATES KEEP OUT (and below that:)  
OFFICERS TOO. Agarn takes a key from one of many on a ring  
and opens the huge padlock.

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

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42 (Cont.)

O'ROURKE

(as Agarn works)

What does he expect? I can't  
sell the Cavalry's good horses...  
At that price it wouldn't be  
American... Tell him I'll give  
'em two barrels of flour free.

Agarn opens the door and they ENTER shed.

42A. INT. SHED

DAY

SET  
BUS  
CHG

as O'rourke and Agarn ENTER. It's a small warehouse, filled  
with loot: extra saddles, a pile of uniforms, barrels of  
flour and sugar, stacks of rifles and ammunition, etc.

AGARN

(worried)

We gotta find a customer for  
this boodles. Another month,  
it's gonna bust through the walls  
and what'll we tell the Captain?

O'ROURKE

Don't you worry about the Captain.  
We're pals.

AGARN

Only because he don't see them  
phony reports we send out.

(critically)

Knockin' off two tribes in one  
week.

O'ROURKE

Who counts tribes?...

(reacts to two  
lonely cases)

Hey! Is that all the liquor we  
got left? How can we run a saloon  
with two cases of liquor?

AGARN

I told you, Sarge. Wild Eagle  
says they need a copper coil for  
the still...

O'ROURKE

Well, get it. The Captain's such a  
sweet guy he'll think it's a part  
for the cannon...

DIAL  
CHGS

(CONTINUED)



"SCOURGE"

18A.  
Revised 12/21/64

42A (Cont.)

DIAL  
CHGS

AGARN

It's a good thing I'm a rat,  
otherwise my conscience would  
be killin' me...

KNOCK on door.

WILT'S VOICE (O.S.)

Sergeant O'Rourke?

O'ROURKE

(moving toward door)

Watch it. Here's old Blood and  
Thunder.

43.

EXT. SHED

BUS  
DIAL  
ADD

As O'Rourke and Agarn squeeze out, Wilt tries vainly to  
look past them into the NCO Club.

O'ROURKE

Hello, Captain.

Agarn locks the door.

WILT

You two non-coms certainly spend  
a lot of time in your club. You  
must have a lot of fun.

AGARN

Scads. If you ever get busted to  
a non-com, you can apply for member-  
ship.

WILT

Oh, I can? Well, thank you. Thank  
you very much.

O'ROURKE

What's on your mind, Captain?

WILT

Hm? -- Oh. Sergeant, we've got to  
get everything straightened up  
around the post! Company's coming!

(CONTINUED)

43 (Cont.)

O'ROURKE

What?

WILT

(waving letter)

Lieutenant Hawkes from the  
Inspector General's Office in  
Washington. He'll be here any  
time to look us over!

O'Rourke and Agarn exchange a worried glance.

O'ROURKE

Yessir. I'll see that everything's  
slick as a greasy whistle.

WILT

(looking toward  
compound)

Gee, when he sees how peaceful  
things are, maybe he'll close up  
the Fort. Then how'm I going to  
get a promotion?

O'ROURKE

Oh, he couldn't close up the  
Fort, sir.

AGARN

Why, fear of you is the only thing  
that keeps the ferocious Hekawis  
under control.

DIAL  
CHGS

WILT

Are you sure?

AGARN

Of course. They're afraid to show  
their savage faces.

O'ROURKE

Captain, you keep the Hekawis at  
bay for another two years and you're  
a cinch to make full colonel.

WILT

Gosh. Full Colonel Wilton Parmenter!...  
I just hope the Lieutenant gives me  
a good report.

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

20.  
Revised 12/21/64

43 (Cont.1)

WILT (CONT.)

(turning to leave)

Excuse me. I better go study my manual. It's bound to have something in it about what you do with a Second Lieutenant.

Wilt EXITS hastily.

O'ROURKE

(sadly)

DIAL  
CHGS

Well, they can blow Taps on O'Rourke Enterprises.

AGARN

Why? You got rid of two Captains and a Major, didn't you?

O'ROURKE

(backbone restored)

You're right. I oughta be able to handle a nosey lieutenant from the Inspector General's Office. Agarn, as soon as it gets dark, let's pay a little visit to them bloodthirsty Hekawis.

WIPE TO:

44. EXT. HEKAWI VILLAGE

NIGHT

ESTABLISHING, as O'Rourke and Agarn RIDE IN to a crescent of tepees. Indian BRAVES and SQUAWS are going about their business. Several horses are hobbled off to one side.

45. CLOSER ANGLE

as O'Rourke dismounts. WILD EAGLE, the middleaged Chief, rises from beside the campfire to greet them.

O'ROURKE

Wild Eagle, my brother.

(CONTINUED)

45 (Cont.)

WILD EAGLE

You some brother! Still still  
busted. How you expect Hekawis  
make fire-water?

AGARN

(dismounting)

We'll get you a new coil. And  
when we do, stop holding out liquor  
for the tribe. Indians ain't  
supposed to drink alcohol.

WILD EAGLE

Who say so?

AGARN

Everybody.

WILD EAGLE

Hah. That just nasty rumor spread  
by sister-in-law, Sparkling Water.

(shaking head sadly)

She one blue-nose redskin.

(pensively)

Blue-nose redskin...Wild Eagle  
make pretty funny joke.

He CHUCKLES inwardly.

O'ROURKE

Look, W.E., there's a snoop Lieutenant  
comin' from Washington, and we gotta  
show him we're havin' Injun trouble.  
How about attackin' the Fort?

WILD EAGLE

Attack you!? You honorary Hekawi.

AGARN

Not a real fight, Chief. We'll  
shoot over your heads, and you  
shoot over ours.

O'ROURKE

I'll fire the cannon for a signal,  
and you just come up and make a  
lot of noise. Nobody'll get hurt.

(CONTINUED)

45 (Cont.1)

WILD EAGLE

You got wrong tribe, brother.  
Hekawis not fighters. Invent  
peace-pipe... Ancestors leave  
Massachusetts so they not fight  
Pilgrims. Leave Ohio so they not  
fight Injuns. Hekawis not mad at  
nobody.

O'ROURKE

Wild Eagle, you help us or go  
back to huntin' and fishin'.

DIAL.CHG

AGARN

And weavin' your own blankets!

WILD EAGLE

(quickly)

We fight!

(second thought)

Wait! How we fight? First must  
do war dance.

O'ROURKE

So do it.

WILD EAGLE

Not remember war dance. Hekawis  
too peaceful.

(calling off)

Any you boys remember war dance?

46. ANOTHER ANGLE THE BRAVES

They look at one another, puzzled, shake heads and shrug.

47. THREE SHOT O'ROURKE, AGARN AND WILD EAGLE

WILD EAGLE

See? Nobody remember war dance.

O'ROURKE

How about the medicine man?

(CONTINUED)

47 (Cont.)

WILD EAGLE  
Him big quack, but I ask.  
(calls)  
Hey! Roaring Chicken!

48. CLOSE SHOT ROARING CHICKEN

The ancient medicine man looks up brightly.

ROARING CHICKEN  
Somebody sick? Need soup?

WILD EAGLE'S VOICE  
Come on double. We hold pow-wow.

ROARING CHICKEN  
(rising)  
Pow-wow? What is pow-wow?

49. THREE SHOT O'ROURKE, AGARN AND WILD EAGLE

AGARN  
Oh, he's gonna be a lotta help.

WILD EAGLE  
Him very old. Eastern boy. Come  
from Ohio.

Roaring Chicken ENTERS SHOT.

ROARING CHICKEN  
Pow-wow? That anything like house  
call?

WILD EAGLE  
Never mind. Doc, you ever see  
war dance?

ROARING CHICKEN  
Ugg. I see war dance many moons  
ago. Many many many moons.

WILD EAGLE  
You and your moons! When?!

ROARING CHICKEN  
Forty-two years ago last August...  
War dance just like-up rain dance,  
only drier... Run around fire, jump  
up and down, look savage...  
Rain dance got-um better beat.

"SCOURGE"

23A.  
Revised 12/21/64

50. WIDER ANGLE

as braves crowd around Roaring Chicken.

WILD EAGLE

Not ask for lecture. Stop tongue  
and start feet.

BUS &  
DIAL  
CHGS

ROARING CHICKEN

Secret of dance, keep knees loose,  
(demonstrating)  
Knee bone connected to the hip  
bone, hip bone connected to the  
ankle bone, ankle bone connected  
to the toe bone --

AGARN

That ain't a war dance!

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

24.  
Revised 12/21/64

50 (Cont.)

ROARING CHICKEN  
(disappointed)

BUS  
&  
DIAL  
CHGS

No?

WILD EAGLE

Him one big hambone.

AGARN

Sarge, you and the Chief get your  
signals straight about the cannon.  
I'll show the boys how to do a  
war dance. All right, you braves.  
Line up and follow me.

DIAL  
OMIT

Agarn goes into war dance. Braves watch a moment, then  
follow him around the fire, grinning broadly, until they  
have formed a complete circle.

NEW 50A.  
SCENE

CLOSE SHOT AGARN

He looks o.s. at last Indian in line.

NEW 50B.  
SCENE

CLOSE SHOT LAST INDIAN (WHITE FEATHER)

Last Indian smiles at Agarn, o.s. Except for missing tooth  
and Indian attire, you'd think they were both Larry Storch.

NEW 50C.  
SCENE

CLOSE SHOT AGARN

Agarn looks puzzled, fingers his front tooth, shrugs and  
continues dance.

NEW 50D.  
SCENE

FULL SHOT ON WAR DANCE

as others watch.

WIPE TO:

TIME 51.  
CHG

INT. CLEARING IN WOODS MED. SHOT

NIGHT

Hawkes, seated on a large rock, watches SERGEANT BLATTY  
kick dirt on a dying campfire. Their mounts stand quietly  
to one side. Trees, bushes, stumps, rocks in b.g.

(CONTINUED)



51 (Cont.)

HAWKES

I don't think you should have built a campfire, Blatty. As I explained in my thesis at the Point, Indians can spot them for miles.

BLATTY

There's nothing to fear, sir.  
(moving to horse)

According to the reports, every redskin in this territory is trembling in his wigwam.

HAWKES

(rising)

I saw some of those reports and they're still having trouble with the Hekawis. Now if I were running the Fort -- which I may very well be doing some day soon --

BLATTY

Sir, I'll bet even the Hekawis are under control by now.

HAWKES

(as both mount)

You may be right, Blatty. After all, we haven't seen an Indian since we left Kansas City.

They kick their horses and ride OUT OF SHOT. CAMERA HOLDS. After a moment, Indians APPEAR from behind every rock, tree and bush. In full war regalia, these are far different looking Indians than the Hekawis. These are from the Shug tribe, and they're mean looking. One of them raises a rifle to draw a bead on the departing figures, but their CHIEF stops him.

CHIEF

Hear me, Shug warriors! No kill!  
Follow!

(points off)

They lead us to Fort! Shugs attack!  
Kill many paleface!

WORD  
CHG

The braves, waving lances, bows and a few rifles, let out a quiet WHOOP, then start a WAR DANCE around the smoldering fire, as we --

FADE OUT.

(COMMERCIAL)

"SCOURGE"

26.  
Revised 12/21/64

FADE IN:

52. EXT. COMPOUND DAY

BUS  
ADD

F Troop is in formation, standing at ease. Wilt is seated on steps of his quarters with one boot on. He's feeling inside the other for a nail.

S.O.

53. OMITTED

54. CLOSE TWO O'ROURKE AND AGARN

CHAR  
DIAL  
ADD

ANGLED TOWARD troops.

O'ROURKE

(sotto)

You got it straight? When the Hekawis attack, aim over their heads.

AGARN

And if you knock so much as one feather loose, so help me, you'll be transferred to a combat outfit!

55. CLOSE SHOT SENTRY IN OBSERVATION TOWER

FRANKLIN

(shouting)

Hey, fellas! Here he comes!

56. CLOSE SHOT WILT

Wilt excitedly JUMPS to feet, boot in hand, and RUNS o.s. to join the troop.

57. FULL SHOT COMPOUND

Wilt races into position in front of the troops, hopping on one foot as he pulls on boot.

DIAL  
OMIT

57A. CLOSER ANGLE

NEW  
CAMERA  
ANGLE

WILT

Troop -- attention! Present --

(CONTINUED)

BUS  
DIAL  
ADD

57A (Cont.)

F Troop presents arms, ahead of command.

WILT

(continuing)

-- Arms! Darn! You beat me  
again!

Wilt turns and faces the back gate as Hawkes RIDES IN, followed by Blatty, Jane and some curious townspeople on foot. MARTIAL MUSIC accompanies Hawkes as he rides UP to formation and dismounts. As Blatty rides OFF, leading Hawkes' horse, the Lieutenant steps smartly up to Wilt.

58. CLOSER ANGLE

FEATURING Wilt and Hawkes. Hawkes salutes and holds it while extending paper to Wilt with left hand.

HAWKES

(as he salutes)

Lieutenant Jefferson Hawkes  
reporting, sir, on orders from  
the Inspector General.

Wilt takes paper with right hand and tries to return salute with paper in it. He puts paper in left and finally negotiates salute.

O'ROURKE

(as Wilt salutes)

Order -- arms!

59. CLOSER SHOT THE TROOPS

coming to order arms. All except two execute the order properly. One drops gun on his toe. Another loses his completely and has to scramble to recover it.

60. ANOTHER ANGLE

FEATURING Wilt and Hawkes.

HAWKES

(snidely)

Fine body of men, Captain. Uh,  
you are Captain Parmenter?

WILT

That's what my mother sewed on  
my underwear.

DIAL  
ADD

(CONTINUED)

60(Cont.)

HAWKES

The Scourge of the West? I was  
expecting someone more --

(switching)

Is that all of F Troop?

WILT

(points to parapet)

Franklin's upstairs doing sentry  
duty. We're pretty military  
around here. Would you like to  
inspect the troop?

61. TRAVEL SHOT

CHAR  
ADD

Wilt and Hawkes move along the formation, with Sergeant  
O'Rourke and Agarn at their heels.

HAWKES

(as they walk)

You draw rations and pay allot-  
ments for thirty men. Where  
are the others?

AGARN

(quickly)

They're out on patrol, sir.

O'ROURKE

A hard working bunch.

DIAL  
CHG

WILT

That's right. They've been out  
on that patrol since before I  
got here.

HAWKES

Very interesting. How do they  
draw their rations and pay?

O'ROURKE

(stuck)

Rations and pay. Uh -- tell  
him about that, Corporal.

DIAL  
ADD

AGARN

They're Indian scouts, sir.  
They sneak in during the dead  
of night.

O'ROURKE

Yeah -- that's it. And they sneak  
out again before dawn.

(CONTINUED)

61(Cont.)

HAWKES

Oh?

WILT

(news to him)

Oh!

HAWKES

(strolling off  
with Wilt)

Have you finally brought the  
Hekawis under control?

WILT

Sergeant O'Rourke's been doing  
such a wonderful job, I haven't  
even seen a --

O'ROURKE

(interrupts quickly)

What an officer! Always gives  
the credit to his men.

WILT

No, really. Ever since --

AGARN

(quickly)

Sir, the troops are waiting to  
be dismissed.

WILT

They are? Why didn't they say  
so?

(as Lieutenant  
reacts)

You're dismissed.

(to Hawkes)

Come on, Lieutenant. I'll show  
you to your quarters.

DIAL  
CHG

Troops break as Wilt and Hawkes walk OUT OF SHOT.

BUS  
OMIT

AGARN

What about it, Sarge? Think  
you can handle this one?

DIAL  
CHG

O'ROURKE

He's a real snoop. We're gonna  
hafta get rid of him, some way.

"SCOURGE"

29.  
Revised 12/21/64

62. EXT. WILT'S QUARTERS WILT AND HAWKES

DAY

as they stroll up.

DIAL  
CHG  
&  
OMIT

WILT

Gee, I'm glad you're here.  
Maybe you and I can have an  
Officers' Club.

JANE'S VOICE

Willie!

They look off as Jane ENTERS. She's carrying a hand-tooled  
holster.

JANE

Oh, excuse me. I didn't mean  
to bust in.

WILT

Lieutenant Hawkes, this is Jane  
Angelica Thrift. She runs the  
trading post in Primrose Gap.

HAWKES

(salutes  
enthusiastically)

Now I see what they mean by  
the scenic wonders of the West.  
My pleasure, Miss Thrift.

JANE

Shucks, everybody calls me  
Wrangler...  
(turning)

(CONTINUED)

62 (Cont.)

JANE (CONT.)

Wilton, I made you a holster. And I put your initials on it.

WILT

(taking holster)

Well, look at that. Nice and slippery for a fast draw... ..

Thank you, Janey.

(to Lieutenant)

Isn't that something?

HAWKES

(staring at Jane)

Gorgeous.

JANE

Lieutenant, you been out in the woods too long.

WILT

Why don't we go in and have a --

Wilt stops short as a flaming arrow ZINGS into the wall. As the others react, Wilt snatches the blazing arrow from the walls and turns indignantly toward the compound.

WILT

(continuing)

Who did that?!

63. ANOTHER ANGLE FRANKLIN IN OBSERVATION TOWER

FRANKLIN

(over-playing his part)

Oh - oh, Captain, Captain! My goodness, but there's an awful lot of Indians out there! The savage Hekawis are about to attack!

64. EXT. FORT (STOCK)

Indians FIRING on Fort, with bows and arrows and guns.

65. EXT. WILT'S QUARTERS WILT, JANE AND HAWKES

They're reacting excitedly.

JANE

(draws revolver, runs OFF)

Injun attack!

(CONTINUED)

65(Cont.)

WILT

Dobbs! Blow the charge -- the  
attack! Blow the bugle!

66. CLOSE SHOT DOBBS

He starts to blow BUGLE CALL. After several SOUR BARS, an  
arrow lands in the bell end of the bugle, producing a master  
CLINKER. Dobbs lowers the bugle and checks teeth.

67. EXT. COMPOUND

Soldiers and civilians seen previously run around in confusion,  
some heading for the parapet. GUNFIRE is HEARD throughout  
battle. An occasional arrow is seen zinging in.

68. TWO SHOT O'ROURKE AND AGARN

O'ROURKE

What happened?! Nobody fires the  
cannon!

AGARN

Them dumb Hekawis! What a time to  
get arrow-happy!

DIAL  
BUS  
CHG

They DASH OFF in opposite directions.

CHAR 69. ANOTHER ANGLE AT GATE

BUS  
DIAL  
ADD

As Agarn and another trooper arrive and start closing both  
sides of gate. Before sides meet, Agarn spots a Shug warrior  
standing behind him with raised tomahawk.

AGARN

Hey, you're not supposed to be in  
here! The fight's outside the  
other gate!

He grabs the amazed Indian and starts to shove him through  
gate.

SHUG INDIAN

(protesting)  
Komana shushnowagug!

(CONTINUED)



"SGOURGE"

32.  
Revised 12/21/64

CHAR 69(Cont.)  
BUS  
DIAL  
ADD

AGARN  
Shushnowagug nashushnee! And get  
the still fixed!

Agarn slams gate shut on the confused Indian.

70. INT. WILT'S QUARTERS DAY

Wilt is tearing the room apart as Dobbs ENTERS from porch.

DOBBS  
Sir, if you're looking for your  
muffler, it's in the top drawer.

WILT  
My sword! I can't find my sword!  
Where's my good sword?!

DOBBS  
(points)  
You told me to keep it in the  
umbrella stand.

Wilt races to umbrella stand, makes a grab and heads for  
door with umbrella extended.

WILT  
Charge!

As Dobbs ducks out of the way, umbrella opens and Wilt is  
stopped short in the doorway.

71. EXT. TOP OF PARAPET

BUS  
CHG

O'Rourke is on the parapet. Agarn scrambles up the ladder  
to join him. Jane is FIRING away at the Indians with her  
pistol. She is about to take another shot when O'Rourke shoves  
her arm skyward. Troopers, firing high, can be seen in the  
b.g.

O'ROURKE  
What are you tryin' to do -- kill  
somebody?

JANE  
(reloading)  
Ain't that the general idea? I al-  
ready got three of 'em.  
(makes third chalk  
mark on wall)

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

33.  
Revised 12/21/64

71(Cont.)

DIAL  
CHG

O'ROURKE  
(miserably)  
What'll I tell the Chief?

AGARN  
(to Jane)  
You're gonna wipe out the whole  
tribe!

O'ROURKE  
Will you cut it out, Wrangler --  
please!

72. CLOSE SHOT O'ROURKE

as an arrow pierces his hat. He takes hat off and looks at  
the arrow.

O'ROURKE  
Hoppin' horntoads!

73. GROUP SHOT O'ROURKE AGARN JANE

AGARN  
They sure missed you close. Them  
Hekawis are gettin' good!

JANE  
What do you mean, Hekawis? They're  
the Shugs!

O'ROURKE & AGARN  
Shugs?!

O'ROURKE  
Commence firin'!

AGARN  
For real! It's the Shugs!

Tempo of FIRING increases, with troopers firing in earnest.

74. EXT. FORT (STOCK)

The Indians are popping away. We see several of them fall.

DIAL  
CHG

"SCOURGE"

34.  
Revised 12/21/64

75. INT. WILT'S QUARTERS WILT DOBBS

Dobbs finishes strapping on Wilt's sword.

DOBBS

There you are, sir. Give 'em heck!

Wilt draws his sword and levels it.

WILT

Charge!

As he heads for the open door, the scabbard gets between his legs and he trips, plunging headlong through the door with the sword extended.

76. EXT. WILT'S QUARTERS

Hawkes is yelling for Blatty as Wilt catapults through the door. An Indian jumps off the roof of the porch to attack Hawkes with a tomahawk just in time to be run through by Wilt's sword.

HAWKES

(amazed)

He's dead! You killed him!

WILT

I didn't even see him!

HAWKES

You never see anybody, do you?

Blatty runs IN with two rifles, hands one to Hawkes and they RUN OFF as Wilt is trying to pull his sword out of the dead Indian (o.s.)

BUS.  
CHG

77. ANOTHER ANGLE

Dobbs appears in the doorway and reacts as Will continues to tug on the sword.

DOBBS

Sir, they're expecting you up on the parapet.

WILT

Well, I can't go yet. He's got my sword.

SCOURGE"

34A.  
Revised 12/21/64

78. CLOSE SHOT INDIAN ON ROOF OF PORCH

He raises tomahawk and prepares to jump on Wilt's back.

79. MED. CLOSE SHOT WILT DOBBS IN B.G.

With Wilt's final tug at sword, it comes loose just as Indian on roof

BUS  
ADD

(CONTINUED)

79 (Cont.)

lands on ground behind him. The handle is still clutched in Wilt's hands as sword flies in arc over his head and knocks the Indian cold, snapping blade off close to hilt. After cursory glance at his second victim, Wilt extends hilt forward, unaware that blade is missing.

WILT  
(racing OFF)  
Charge!

Dobbs COMES FORWARD and picks up blade, then calls off.

DOBBS  
Sir -- won't you need this part?

He shrugs and turns.

80. EXT. FORT (STOCK)

Indians are still FIRING on Fort. There are more dead bodies.

81. EXT. TOP OF PARAPET

Jane, O'Rourke and Agarn are FIRING side-by-side. Jane has fourteen marks on the wall. Wilt COMES UP the ladder behind them, still carrying the hilt and unaware that it's lacking a blade. Just as he arrives, a flaming arrow imbeds itself high in the wall of the observation tower.

O'ROURKE  
Somebody get that arrow outa there!

WILT  
Yessir, I'll take care of it,  
Sergeant.

82. CLOSER ANGLE WILT

Wilt starts to take a swipe with the sword at the arrow, which is about four feet above his head, then discovers for the first time that the blade is missing. He tosses hilt away, looks around for some means of reaching burning arrow. He spots top of ladder, then pulls it up. Holding the ladder over his head (horizontally), he first staggers backwards under its weight and almost falls off the parapet. Lurching forward, Wilt is carried headlong toward the wall of the parapet. He crashes into it just as three Indians stick their heads over top. Wilt and ladder DISAPPEAR over the wall, taking the three Indians with them.

83. EXT. FRONT OF FORT

Wilt, stunned by fall, lies on ground. The three Indians get to their feet, imprisoned between rungs of ladder. As they run OFF, we discover that the ones on ends are a lot taller than middle Indian, who, still jammed between rungs, is being carried with his feet about a foot off the ground.

84. ANOTHER ANGLE

The Indians running away, knocking other Indians down with ladder.

85. CLOSE SHOT WILT

WILT  
(getting to feet;  
calls after Indians)  
Hey, come back here!  
(calling up to  
parapet)  
They hooked our ladder!

86. MED. CLOSE SHOT CHIEF

He's on edge of woods, with several of braves around him, as Indians with ladder race by.

CHIEF  
(sighting gun)  
Ugg. Getum Captain.

87. EXT. FORT ANGLED TOWARD PARAPET

O'Rourke looks off, then yells down to Wilt, who is brushing off his uniform.

O'ROURKE  
Captain Parmenter, look out!

88. CLOSE SHOT CHIEF

He lowers his rifle in horror.

CHIEF  
Captain Parmenter?! Scourge of  
West! Run!

89. WIDER ANGLE

The Shugs start to beat a hasty and disordered RETREAT.

90. EXT. PARAPET CLOSE TWO SHOT O'ROURKE AND AGARN

looking out over wall.

O'ROURKE

They're retreatin'!

AGARN

The Captain scared 'em off!

DIAL  
CHG

91. CLOSE SHOT WILT

WILT

(yelling after Indians)

You darn Shugs! Come back here  
with that ladder!

92. EXT. OUTSIDE FORT MED. FULL SHOT SHUG INDIANS

mounting their horses and riding OFF.

93. EXT. FORT WIDE ANGLE AT GATE DAY

Defenders APPEAR above parapet, CHEERING WILDLY. We HEAR  
Dobbs blowing appropriate SOUR CALL on BUGLE, which still  
contains arrow. The gate opens and balance of F Troop pours  
out, CHEERING the heroic Captain. They lift him to their  
shoulders as the Mail Rider DASHES UP.

MAIL RIDER

Mail call for Fort Butte!

He sees where he is, stops and wheels.

MAIL RIDER

Oh, drat! She said left at the fork!

The Mail Rider dashes OUT again. The others LAUGH and CHEER  
and head back INTO the Fort with Wilt still on their shoulders.  
As they pass thru the portals, Wilt's head hits the arch and  
he falls to the ground. Before he can get up, the gate  
closes and a groggy Capt. Parmenter is beating on it for  
admission.

WILT

Hey, fellas, you forgot something!  
Fellas!...Lemme in, will you...It's  
your Captain...Fellas...

He's still beating on the gate as we

FADE  
ADD

(COMMERCIAL)

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

94. EXT. HEADQUARTERS BUILDING DAY

Wilt, Jane and Hawkes are walking toward entrance, but stop and turn at SOUND OF VOICE.

DOBB'S VOICE

Captain Parmenter!

95. ANOTHER ANGLE

as Dobbs, wearing bugle, ENTERS SHOT, salutes.

DOBBS

Sergeant said to give you this report, Captain.

(hands him piece  
of paper)

Shugs lost twenty-four men. We got seven and Miss Wrangler got seventeen.

WILT

What did we lose?

DOBBS

One ladder.

WILT

And I busted my good sword.

JANE

Wasn't that a tricky maneuver, Lieutenant? Wilton got three injuns with his ladder, and two with his sword. The Scourge is always doin' clever little things like that.

HAWKES

(snidely)

Incredible.

(looking at watch)

Hmm - Five o'clock. Don't you have Retreat at this Post?

WILT

We won. Why should we...Oh -- that kind of Retreat. Taking down the flag. Sure -- we do that a lot.

HAWKES

Well, if it's on your schedule for today, don't you think we ought to get on with it?

DIAL  
ADD  
&  
CHG

DIAL  
CHG

(CONTINUED)



95 (Cont.)

WORD  
CHG

WILT  
All right. Let's go, Hannibal.

CAMERA DOLLIES as Wilt and Hawkes, followed by Dobbs, CROSS to small cannon at flagpole.

DOBBS  
(taking Wilt's arm;  
holding him back)  
Captain, I can't play Retreat.  
That's the one I don't know yet.

WILT  
Sure you do. You played it for  
Retreat last week.

DOBBS  
No, sir. That was "Yankee Doodle  
Dandy."

DIAL  
CHG

WILT  
Nobody said anything. I'll shoot  
the cannon and you play that.

96. ANOTHER ANGLE AT FLAGPOLE

BUS  
CHG

As Dobbs starts to play "Yankee Doodle," Wilt steps up to  
cannon and lights match.

97. EXT. HEADQUARTERS BUILDING O'ROURKE AND AGARN

BUS  
CHG

As they approach building, they stop and turn at SOUND of  
BUGLE. O'Rourke sees Wilt about to light fuse.

O'ROURKE  
(horrified)  
No! Don't do it!!

They race in direction of flagpole.

98. GROUP SHOT AT FLAGPOLE

BUS  
DIAL  
CHGS  
THRUOUT

Hawkes is at attention as Dobbs continues PLAYING. Wilt  
lights fuse and looks off in surprise as O'Rourke and Agarn  
rush IN. O'Rourke is uncorking his canteen.

O'ROURKE  
Captain! Don't let that cannon go  
off!

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

40.  
Revised 12/21/64

98 (Cont.)

BUS  
&  
DIAL  
CHGS  
THRUOUT

AGARN  
(covering muzzle  
of cannon with hand  
You're gonna wreck everything!

O'Rourke tries to pour water on fuse, but Wilt struggles to stop him.

WILT  
What's the matter with you,  
Sergeant?! Are you coming down  
with battle fatigue?!

O'ROURKE  
Let go of my arm, sir! You don't know  
what you're doin'!

They lose their balance, fall heavily on the rear end of the cannon, their combined weight forcing it down so that the muzzle points skyward. Cannon goes off with ROAR. All stop and watch flight of cannonball up and down e.s. Dobbs PLAYS "Yankee Doodle" thruout.

SC  
OMIT

99. OMITTED.

NEW  
SC

100. CLOSE SHOT THE SHACK  
It EXPLODES spectacularly.

NEW  
SC

101. CLOSE THREE SHOT WILT, O'ROURKE AND AGARN

WILT  
Now you did it! You blew up your  
own club. What did you have in  
there, anyway?

O'ROURKE  
(sadly)  
Six months' collections.

NEW  
SC

102. ANOTHER ANGLE  
as Franklin races IN.

FRANKLIN  
Captain, we're bein' attacked again!  
It's Injuns! The Hekawis!

A few arrows fall very weakly around them.

(CONTINUED)

"SCOURGE"

41.  
Revised 12/21/64

102 (Cont.)

NEW  
SC

WILT  
(drawing saber)  
The savage Hekawis! Follow me,  
me! To the parapets!

He starts off, trips over his sword and sprawls on ground.

103. CLOSE TWO SHOT O'ROURKE AND AGARN

NEW  
SC

They ignore the battle and several arrows which hit them and bounce off as they look mournfully toward wreckage of their NCO Club.

O'ROURKE  
Six months' loot! And it's gone!

AGARN  
(putting arm  
around Sergeant)  
Look at it this way, Sarge. It  
was ill-gotten gains anyway.

O'ROURKE  
Yeah. Now we'll have to ill-get'em  
all over again.

104. FULL SHOT THE COMPOUND

NEW  
SC

Wilt brushes himself off neatly, straightens his hat, and raises his sword.

WILT  
To the parapets! Charge!

He races to the wall, followed by F Troop, Jane and Hawkes as Dobbs plays the Charge.

FADE OUT.

T H E      E N D