



Cause of the Battle of Little Big Horn

In 1868, the U.S. government signed a treaty with the Lakota tribe granting them an area of land in South Dakota that included the Black Hills. When gold was discovered in the hills a few years later, though, prospectors began coming onto the Lakota land to search for gold. Rather than enforce the treaty with the Lakota's, and hoping to mine the gold for itself, the U.S. government asked the Lakota tribe to give the land back. When they refused, the U.S. Army was sent to get of Native American villages in the area. When it was rumored that a number of tribes were gathering new the Little Bighorn River, General Custer's troops were sent to attack them.

Do you think that the U.S. government treated the Lakota tribe fairly? Why or why not?
