

One Nation

Written by Julie Henderson

Directed by Terrence O'Hara

Rev. Blue, March 27, 1996

Rev. Pink, March 29, 1996

Rev. Yellow, April 1, 1996

Rev. Green, April 3, 1996

Cast List

MICHAELA QUINN

SULLY

COLLEEN

MATTHEW

BRIAN

LOREN

PRESTON

DOROTHY

HORACE

HANK

JAKE

CLOUD DANCING

SERGEANT O'CONNOR

PRIVATE REILLY

PLENTY HORSES (PAWNEE BRAVE)

ARAPAHOE ELDER

PAWNEE ELDER

UTE ELDER*

JUDGE

FEATURED EXTRAS: KICKING BEAR - ILL ARAPAHOE

ARAPAHOE BRAVES

UTE BRAVES

PAWNEE BRAVES

**BACKGROUND: TOWNS FOLK
INDIANS
SOLDIERS**

**ANIMALS
FLASH
SULLY'S HORSE
WOLF**

Set List

**EXTERIORS: RESERVATION ENTRANCE
RESERVATION
WOODS
GRACE'S CAFE
TOWN STREET
CLINIC
JAIL
GAZETTE
HOMESTEAD
CHURCH
TELEGRAPH OFFICE
SALOON**

**INTERIORS: CLINIC
CLINIC - RECOVERY ROOM
TELEGRAPH OFFICE
HOMESTEAD
HOMESTEAD - MIKE AND SULLY'S BEDROOM
HOMESTEAD - BARN
JAIL
GAZETTE
CHURCH**

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY ONE

O'CONNOR and **TWO SOLDIERS** oversee a group of **INDIANS** as they take down a teepee which stands next to two small cabins. One cabin is newly completed; the other is still under construction.

The Indians hammer and saw, somewhat clumsily -- carpentry is new to them, and they're still struggling to learn. O'Connor steps in, irritated by an Indian's inability to hammer a nail properly.

O'CONNOR

Here. Like this. Hard strokes.

O'Connor drives the nail in, hands the hammer back to the Indian.

1A NEARBY

SULLY watches as **MIKE** examines an Arapaho Brave, **KICKING BEAR**, with her stethoscope.

MIKE

Please, one more.

Kicking Bear takes another deep breath, starts coughing.

SULLY

Consumption?

Mike nods, then puts her stethoscope in her bag and takes out a bottle of liquid and some cotton balls.

MIKE

(sadly)

The third case this week.

Mike holds up the bottle and cotton for Kicking Bear.

MIKE

This is creasote.

(demonstrates)

Pour some on the cotton and inhale. It should ease your cough.

Mike hands the bottle and cotton to Kicking Bear, as O'Connor comes over from the work detail.

O'CONNOR Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Agent Sully, where're the rest a the Indians?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 2.

IA CONTINUED:

SULLY
What?

O'CONNOR

I got orders to carry out -- get the cabins built by the end of the week.

(gestures to work detail)

An' I know we got more Indians'n this on the reservation.

SULLY

You got all the help you need.

Ignoring this, O'Connor notices that Mike has completed her examination of Kicking Bear.

O'CONNOR

What about him?

MIKE

This man needs rest, Sergeant O'Conner. His lungs are congested.

O'CONNOR

(to Sully)

Looks fine to me. Mrs. Sully's prob'ly just feelin' a little tenderhearted, considerin' her condition.

Mike reacts to the slight, but Sully jumps in.

SULLY

(firmly)

Kickin' Bear ain't workin' 'til he gets better.

O'Connor faces Sully, meeting his stare. Sensing the escalating tension

between them, the Indians stop working and watch. Mike steps closer to O'Connor, appealing to him.

MIKE

The Arapaho have lived in teepees for centuries, Sergeant. Surely a few more days won't make a difference.

O'Connor looks back at Mike, exasperated:

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 2A.

1A CONTINUED: (2)

O'CONNOR

Ma'am, if the government wants 'em livin' in cabins, that's where they're gonna live.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 3.

1A

CONTINUED:

(2)

O'CONNOR (CONT'D)

(impatient)

Oughta be grateful -- gettin' free food, clothin', cabins. Ain't like when my folks came to this country. Got off the boat with nothin' but the clothes on their backs. But they was willin' to work, and work hard, for what they got.

O'Connor notices the Indians have stopped working.

O'CONNOR

What're you lookin' at? Move it!

The Indians get back to work. O'Connor looks back at Sully before starting off.

O' CONNOR

I want those other Indians, Agent Sully. If you don't round 'em up, I will.

O'Connor heads back to the work detail, as Mike and Sully exchange a concerned look.

1B EXT. RESERVATION - BEHIND THE TEEPEES - DAY ONE

In a small clearing, a group of restless Indians is gathering. **CLOUD DANCING** appeals to the **ARAPAHO ELDER** (flanked by his **MEDICINE MAN** and a **BRAVE**), and the **UTE ELDER** (flanked by a **BRAVE**, trying to convince them to stay:

CLOUD DANCING

The Pawnee will come. They have promised --

ARAPAHO ELDER

(in Arapaho language)

Arapaho do not wait for Pawnee. Pawnee cannot be trusted.

The Arapaho Elder and Ute Elder signal for their Braves to leave.

CLOUD DANCING

We have agreed, the old ways are gone. We are of different nations, forced to live on a land not of our choosing. But now we must work together, not fight each other. Only then will we survive.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 4.

1B CONTINUED:

ARAPAHO ELDER

(in Arapaho)

Arapaho are strong alone.

CLOUD DANCING

I know the Arapaho are strong. So are the Utes and Pawnee. But together we are stronger.

The Arapaho Elder turns to lead his Braves away, but Cloud Dancing stops him, by pointing out:

CLOUD DANCING

Look.

The Joe Lando Web Page

Through the trees, three Pawnee Indians emerge -- an ELDER, followed by TWO BRAVES. The Pawnee Elder approaches, stops in front of Cloud Dancing. Cloud Dancing extends his hand in greeting.

CLOUD DANCING

Ha ho.

The Pawnee Elder looks to the Arapaho Elder, then the Ute Elder. Finally, he turns back to Cloud Dancing and returns the greeting.

PAWNEE ELDER

Ha ho.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

CLOUD DANCING

Now we will begin.

He looks hopefully to the Arapaho Elder. After a moment, the Arapaho Elder nods and signals his men to join the group, but just as they come together:

O'Connor and several SOLDIERS step into the clearing.

O'CONNOR

What're you doin'?

CLOUD DANCING

Sully has given us permission to meet --

O'CONNOR

You're s'posed to be workin', not sittin' around talkin'. Now move, you got cabins to build.

Cloud Dancing holds his ground. The Indians refuse to move.

O'CONNOR

I said go on.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 5.

IB CONTINUED: (2)

Still they don't move. O'Connor grabs Cloud Dancing, pushing him aside, then shoves the Arapaho Elder, moving him along.

The Soldiers join in, pushing the Indians along; most of the Braves reluctantly move along, but one or two try to run and O'Conner signals a soldier to follow.

**O'CONNOR
Get 'em.**

Cloud Dancing sees a Soldier, PRIVATE REILLY, grab a young Pawnee Brave, PLENTY HORSES.

Plenty Horses breaks free from Reilly and runs into the trees. Reilly takes off after him.

Cloud Dancing sees them running off and follows them into the woods...

3 OMIT

4 EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS - DAY ONE

Cloud Dancing runs through the trees, then stops when he sees, a little ways away:

Reilly, who has caught up to Plenty Horses, grabbing him from behind by the arm. Reilly draws his pistol as they struggle. Plenty Horses turns quickly, and grabs Reilly's pistol.

As they struggle for control of the pistol, Cloud Dancing quickly moves toward them. Suddenly, the pistol FIRES, and Reilly falls, unconscious.

5 OMIT

5A EXT. RESERVATION - CONTINUOUS - DAY ONE

At the wagon, Mike and Sully hear the shot. Other Indians hear it too, and they join Mike and Sully, starting toward the woods.

5B OMITTED

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 6.

6 EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS - DAY ONE

Plenty Horses gapes down at the wounded Soldier, then looks up to see Cloud Dancing approaching. Plenty Horses, stunned and afraid, drops the pistol and runs away into the woods.

CLOUD DANCING

Wait!

Cloud Dancing takes off after him.

7

thru OMIT

9

10 EXT. DEEPER IN THE WOODS - CONTINUOUS — DAY ONE

Cloud Dancing catches up to Plenty Horses in a dense area of the woods.

CLOUD DANCING

Do not run.

Plenty Horses stops and turns:

CLOUD DANCING

I saw what happened, it was an accident.

PLENTY HORSES

It does not matter. I will be dead.

Plenty Horses turns away and runs deeper into the woods.

CLOUD DANCING

No...!

Cloud Dancing watches a moment, then turns back the way they came.

11 EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS - DAY ONE

Indians arrive from different directions, along with Sully and Mike, to find Reilly lying on the ground. Mike moves to him, opening Reilly's shirt to reveal a bullet wound in his abdomen. She quickly inspects him as:

O'Connor, the soldiers and braves run up. O'Connor sees Reilly and reacts with concern. He rushes over, pushing aside the Indians and crouching beside Mike.

MIKE
He's alive.

She goes to work, opening her medical bag and taking out some bandages, with which she applies pressure to the wound.

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 7.

11A ON CLOUD DANCING

arriving back on the scene. He watches with growing apprehension as O'Connor stands, looking around at the Indians. O'Connor is fuming, ready to explode:

O'CONNOR
Who did this?!

O'Connor lunges at a nearby Indian, grabs his shirt:

O'CONNOR
You saw who did this!

The Indian says nothing. O'Connor turns to another.

O'CONNOR
Somebody saw what happened!

O'Connor turns to the Pawnee Elder, who says nothing. O'Connor's anger turns lethal:

O'CONNOR

We're gonna find out right now.

(to the soldiers)

Grab 'em all.

O'Connor starts by grabbing the Pawnee Elder by the hair. The soldiers move into action, grabbing hold of the Indians. But they resist, fighting back.

Sully quickly pulls Mike away from harm as the fight intensifies. O'Connor and the soldiers, outnumbered, quickly raise their guns and take aim, ready to open fire.

Cloud Dancing, seeing the imminent bloodshed, quickly steps forward:

CLOUD DANCING

(loud)

I did it.

This silences the group. Mike and Sully react with shock as O'Connor turns to Cloud Dancing. Cloud Dancing holds his angry stare.

CLOUD DANCING

I shot the soldier.

O'Connor grabs him roughly, twisting his arm behind him. Cloud Dancing doesn't resist. Sully and Mike look at each other, shocked and confused, then back at Cloud Dancing with grave concern, as O'Connor drags him off.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 8.

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

12 EXT. CLINIC - DAY ONE

O'Connor sits on the bench, right beside the clinic door, nursing his anger and worry. Two Soldiers stand nearby, keeping people away.

Sully rides up, gets off his horse and approaches the clinic. O'Connor immediately snaps up, stands in front of the clinic door, as if guarding it. Sully takes this in, then asks:

SULLY
Still operatin'?

O'Connor manages a curt nod. Sully evaluates the situation, sees the animosity seething in O'Connor, and decides to hang back. He moves slightly away on the porch, and waits.

13 INT. CLINIC - DAY ONE

All concentration, Mike slides a slender probe gently into Reilly's wound. COLLEEN assists, swabbing blood from the operating field.

MIKE
See the discolored line? That indicates the bullet's path.

COLLEEN
There isn't too much bleedin'.

MIKE
It missed the major arteries and organs... appears to have followed a downward trajectory.

COLLEEN
Do you see the bullet?

MIKE
No. We'll have to close the wound and make an incision at the hip to retrieve it.

Mike removes the probe.

COLLEEN
Couldn't we just leave it in?

(CONTINUED)

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 9.

13 CONTINUED:

MIKE

In many cases we would. Unfortunately, in this instance, the bullet could move and cause hemorrhaging. There's also a high risk of infection. If I leave it in, he could die.

Mike turns her attention to dressing the wound.

The Joe Lando Web Page

14 EXT. SALOON - DAY ONE

MATTHEW, LOREN, JAKE and HANK are out on the porch, watching O'Connor and his men camped outside the clinic. Matthew calls across to Sully:

MATTHEW

Sully...

Matthew motions for him to come over, Sully joins them. They speak in hushed tones:

MATTHEW

Soldiers said Cloud Dancin' shot that private.

The Joe Lando Web Page

SULLY

He didn't shoot 'im.

JAKE

They said he confessed to the whole thing.

MATTHEW

Said he stole the private's gun, shot 'im point blank.

LOREN

(shakes his head)

I still can't figure it. . . Cloud Dancin' ain't like that. We been doin' business together.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

HANK
Can't ever turn your back on an Injun.

MATTHEW
Musta had a good reason.

HANK
Sure he had a reason. Injuns hate the army --

(CONTINUED)

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 10.

14 CONTINUED:

SULLY
(sharp, sudden)
He didn't have a reason, 'cause he didn't do it. Cloud Dancin' didn't shoot anybody.

The intensity in Sully's voice quiets the men. He starts back to the clinic, leaving them in uneasy silence.

The Joe Lando Web Page

15 INT. CLINIC - DAY ONE

Reilly lies with his hip exposed. Colleen holds the incision open with clamps as Mike probes with her finger, feeling for the bullet.

COLLEEN
Maybe it's not there.

MIKE
I'm sure the bullet traveled straight through the abdomen...

Mike removes her finger, takes the Nelaton's probe and enters the wound again. She feels resistance, stops. Then tests again.

The Joe Lando Web Page

MIKE
I can feel it, it's resting against the hip.

Mike removes the probe and dips it in water, leaving the probe clean except for the stain from the lead of the bullet.

MIKE

There, do you see the lead stain?

COLLEEN

From the bullet.

Mike nods and lays the probe on the tray. She picks up the Fenestrated Forceps and slides the forceps into the opening. She tries to get a grip on the bullet, begins to pull the bullet out, but the forceps slip.

MIKE

Almost had it.

She tries again, this time squeezing the forceps tightly, and carefully pulls the bullet out.

MIKE

There.

Colleen smiles, relieved. Mike drops the bullet into a tray beside the operating table.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 11.

15 CONTINUED:

MIKE

Now let's flush the wound with chlorine water.

As Colleen turns to get the chlorine water:

COLLEEN

Is he gonna be alright?

MIKE

He should be.

COLLEEN

(beat)

What'll happen to Cloud Dancin'?

Mike pauses a moment, not ready to face that possibility:

MIKE

I don't know.

Mike holds Colleen's look a moment, then reaches for the chlorine water, returning to work.

16 EXT. CLINIC - DAY ONE

DOROTHY and PRESTON approach Sully from the cafe. Dorothy's got her pad out, ready to take notes. O'Connor sits on the edge of the bench, close to the clinic door.

DOROTHY

Sully, is it true the Indians are riotin'?

O'Connor jumps in before Sully can answer:

O'CONNOR

There ain't no riotin'. An Indian shot a United States Soldier, and he's been detained.

DOROTHY

What're you gonna do with him?

O'CONNOR

Good question. Why don't we ask the man in charge?

(turns to Sully)

What're you gonna do with him, Agent Sully?

SULLY

First I'm gonna find out what really happened.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 12.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

16 CONTNUED:

O'CONNOR

We know what happened. That Indian's gotta pay for what he done.

SULLY

Not 'til we have an investigation.

O'CONNOR

(angry, incredulous)

A soldier's lyin' in there with a bullet in 'im. That Indian says he done it. What more do you need?

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

PRESTON

Sully, perhaps you should step aside, let the army take charge of this matter.

O'Connor lets this sink in a moment, then turns to Sully.

O'CONNOR

How 'bout it, Agent Sully -- you willin' to let the army do its job?

Sully looks at O'Connor, meeting his malevolent look... until:

Mike comes out of the clinic. O'Connor and Sully turn to her.

MIKE Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

I removed the bullet.

O'CONNOR

(relieved)

So he's gonna be alright.

MIKE

He should be. I'm going to do everything I can to make sure he recovers.

O'CONNOR

(she'd better)

Good.

(turning to Sully, making a point)

I gotta go wire that boy's ma an' pa. Let 'em know what happened to their

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

son.

He mounts his horse. Sully and Mike trade uneasy looks, as they watch O' Connor depart.

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 13.

17 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY TWO

The Arapaho, Ute and Pawnee Elders stand together, flanked by other Indians, watching in wary silence as:

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

17A CLOUD DANCING

sits, his hands tied, with two armed Soldiers guarding him. Sully rides up, dismounts, addressing the Soldiers:

SULLY

You can go.

The Soldiers don't move.

SULLY

Go on. I'll guard 'im.

The Soldiers hesitantly move away, but not far, keeping watch. Sully sits beside Cloud Dancing, speaks to him with hushed urgency:

SULLY

What happened?

CLOUD DANCING

I have told you.

SULLY

We're alone now, you can talk to me.

CLOUD DANCING

There is nothing more to say.

SULLY

There's gotta be more. Why're you doin' this?

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Cloud Dancing doesn't know what to say, he's not sure himself.

SULLY

Was it self defense? You protectin' somebody?

Sully touches a nerve, and a flicker of hesitation crosses Cloud Dancing's face. Sully sees it and quickly presses the point:

SULLY

Who? Who're you protectin'?

Cloud Dancing looks directly at Sully, sees the pain in his friend's eyes.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 14.

17A CONTINUED:

SULLY

Cloud Dancin', you gotta tell me the truth.

Cloud Dancing feels torn, but cannot turn back. After a beat:

CLOUD DANCING

I shot the soldier.

Sully shakes his head, frustrated. He stands and faces Cloud Dancing.

SULLY

Since the day you found me half dead in the woods, you always told me the truth. But today, for the first time...

(painfully)

I know you're lyin' to me.

Cloud Dancing meets his gaze and holds it, unable to deny this. Sully stares back at him, confused and disheartened, feeling a gulf widening between them.

18 INT. RECOVERY ROOM - DAY TWO

Mike finishes redressing Reilly's bullet wound. She hears O'Connor at the door and looks up.

O'CONNOR

Shouldn't he be awake by now?

Mike hesitates a moment, her concern showing.

MIKE

I expected him to be...

(beat, looks back at Reilly)

But his body has suffered a severe trauma.

O'CONNOR

Gotta be somethin' more you can do for 'im.

Mike turns to O'Connor, sees that he's struggling with some deep emotions.

MIKE

Perhaps you could help me.

O'Connor gives her a look, not sure what she means by this. Mike gestures for him to come in and sit beside Reilly.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 15.

18 CONTINUED:

MIKE

Come in, sit down. Talking to him may help him wake sooner.

O'Connor enters and sits down, looking at Reilly, laying still and deathlike. O'Connor steels himself against his emotions:

O'CONNOR

He shouldn't be here..

(beat)

He was always the lucky one... always pulling everybody else outta trouble.

Saved my hide

once, battle of Summit Springs. Wasn't for him, I'd'a been...

He quiets, struggling to keep his composure, angry at himself for letting it slip. After a beat:

O'CONNOR

He ain't' gonna die now. Not like this.

(to Mike, hard:)

Make sure he don't.

MIKE

I'll do my best.

O'Connor stands.

O'CONNOR

You do that, Doctor.

O'Connor holds her look, challenging Mike, then turns and goes out.

19 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY TWO

Sully sits with the Pawnee, Ute, and Arapaho Elders, the Indian Agent manual at his side.

SULLY

Did you talk to your people?

The Elders trade sad looks, then:

ARAPAHO ELDER

(in Arapaho language)

They saw nothing.

SULLY

Nobody saw anythin'?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 16.

19 CONTINUED:

The Indians are silent. Sully glances over, sees O'Connor entering the reservation and riding over.

Sully turns back to the Elders as he stands, picking up the Indian Agent manual.

SULLY

Talk to the elders. Tell 'em they can trust me. Somebody's gotta know what really happened.

Sully walks off to meet O'Connor, who dismounts.

O'CONNOR

Still "investigatin'?"

SULLY

Almost done.

O'CONNOR

Good. Let me know what the sentence is. We'll make sure it's carried out.

SULLY

After the trial.

O'Connor pauses, reacting to this.

O'CONNOR

What trial?

SULLY

As Indian Agent I got the authority to hold a trial, here on the reservation, with Indian judges.

That propels O'Connor to the boiling point:

O'CONNOR

You're lettin' them decide what to do?

SULLY

It'll be fair --

O'CONNOR

It's a joke! An' I ain't gonna stand by an' watch you play some game while my man lies wounded --

SULLY
(firm)
You got no choice.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 17.

19 CONTINUED: (2)

Sully shoves the manual into O'Connor's hands, making his point.

SULLY
Trial starts tomorrow.

Sully turns and walks away. O'Connor glares after him, as we

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 18.

			ACT TWO
--	--	--	----------------

FADE IN:

20 OMIT

20A	EXT.	GRACE'S CAFE - DAY THREE
------------	-------------	---------------------------------

Dorothy and Preston sit at a table (closest to the road) with O'Connor. Dorothy's conducting an interview for the Gazette. Jake and Loren sit at the next table, doing their best to listen in

and interject when necessary.

DOROTHY

An Indian trial? What does that mean?

O'CONNOR

Means politicians are lettin' 'em do whatever they want.

(shaking his head, disgusted)

White man commits a crime, he goes to jail -- Indian commits a crime, they build 'im a cabin.

Preston reacts -- he knows a quote when he hears one.

PRESTON

That's good.

(to Dorothy)

Write that down.

Dorothy writes this as HORACE runs up, approaching O'Connor.

HORACE

Sergeant O'Connor! Telegram just come in for you.

Horace hands the telegram to O'Connor. Jake and Loren wander over, intrigued, as he reads. After a moment, O'Connor crumples up the telegram in frustration.

DOROTHY

Bad news?

O'CONNOR

Colonel Fields's given in to Superintendent Hazen. Indian trial'll go on.

DOROTHY

Does that mean the army'll respect their verdict?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 19.

20A CONTINUED:

O'CONNOR

Politicians say we got to.
(beat, disgusted)
Indians tryin' Indians.

The Joe Lando Web Page

LOREN

Ain't right -- an army man's been shot.

JAKE

Can't be legal.

HORACE

Indian trial was legal enough when you killed that Cheyenne.

This shakes Jake; he doesn't want to remember the incident.

JAKE

That was different.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

HORACE

Don't see how.

Preston, impatient with this tangent, gets back to the point:

PRESTON

(to O'Connor)

I find it difficult to believe the army is willing to allow this "Indian trial" to proceed.

O'CONNOR

Army ain't in charge. Hazen an' the politicians are the ones runnin' the reservations. It's all politics.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

PRESTON

Surely the army can overrule a few politicians.

DOROTHY

But you heard 'im -- the Colonel agreed with the Superintendent.

PRESTON

I doubt every army officer would agree with Colonel Fields' decision.

O'Connor takes this in; he hadn't considered this alternative.

DOROTHY

(still to Preston)
What're you gettin' at?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 20.

20A CONTINUED: (2)

O'Connor jumps in before Preston can respond:

O'CONNOR

Colonel ain't the final word in the army's chain a command.

O'Connor stands, looks at Horace.

O'CONNOR

Need to send another telegram...

(as they start back to telegraph office)

To General Wooden, army headquarters.

Preston smiles, pleased, as O'Connor and Horace head off.

21 INT. RECOVERY ROOM - DAY THREE

Colleen pours fresh water in a basin as Mike, looking exhausted, dips a cloth in the water and swabs Reilly's forehead.

COLLEEN

Ma, you ain't had lunch yet. I'll get you some soup from Grace's.

MIKE

Thank you Colleen.

COLLEEN

I'll be right back.

Mike nods, but as Colleen leaves, she leans over Reilly, holding a glass of water to his lips. Dorothy comes in, passing Colleen in the doorway with a nod.

Mike looks up at Dorothy as she comes over, staring down at Reilly.

DOROTHY

I came to see if I could talk to him... for the Gazette.

MIKE

His fever is rising. I'm trying to keep him hydrated.

Mike moistens Reilly's lips with the water.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 21.

21 CONTINUED:

DOROTHY

He's so young...

(then)

Still can't believe Cloud Dancin' shot him.

MIKE Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

What makes you so certain he did?

DOROTHY

He admitted it, didn't he?

Mike sits, her frustration showing.

MIKE

There's got to be more to this... Did Cloud Dancing tell you anything else that could indicate what really happened?

Dorothy hesitates a moment, self-conscious.

DOROTHY

Well actually, I ain't talked to Cloud Dancin'...

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Mike is surprised. Dorothy tries to cover:

DOROTHY

I mean, he confessed to doin' it, I just assumed...

Dorothy stops short, caught, feeling badly about this omission.

DOROTHY

I'm sorry, Michaela. I been talkin' to the Sergeant, the soldiers..
everybody 'cept the man accused. I didn't even think...

(beat) Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

I should go out there, talk to him.

MIKE

His trial starts today.

DOROTHY

The Indian trial.

Mike nods.

MIKE

The judges will be fair.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 22.

21

CONTINUED:

(2)

DOROTHY

Folks in town don't think so.

Mike looks at Dorothy, and a smile forms as she touches Dorothy's reporter's
pad.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

MIKE

Perhaps someone could tell them otherwise.

Dorothy looks at Mike, giving her a grateful smile.

22 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY THREE

The Indian trial is about to begin. The Pawnee, Ute and Arapaho Elders sit

in a circle with Sully and Cloud Dancing (his hands now untied). Other Indians from the varying tribes sit or stand around them. Sully addresses them all, appealing for their trust and cooperation.

SULLY

The tribal elders will be the judges. Their decision will be final. They'll listen to anybody who wants to talk... anybody who's been afraid to come forward, or don't think they can trust us...

Some of the Indians glance over at:

22A THE RESERVATION ENTRANCE

where a few SOLDIERS stand, watching them in cool silence.

22B BACK TO THE TRIAL

SULLY

(to the Indians)

Don't worry 'bout the soldiers. They ain't gonna interfere. This is your trial.

(to the Elders)

Your decision.

Dorothy rides up on horseback. The Indians look at her curiously. Sully gets up and moves to her as she dismounts.

SULLY

Dorothy, what's wrong? Is it Michaela?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 23.

22B CONTINUED:

DOROTHY

No, she's fine. I just... I thought I'd like to watch, if you don't mind...

Sully is surprised by this request.

The Joe Lando Web Page

DOROTHY

And report on it in the Gazette.

Sully looks at her, questioning.

DOROTHY

I'll write what's fair, Sully -- both sides. I promise.

Sully considers that; then nods. Sully and Dorothy return to the circle.

SULLY

(gestures)

Sit here.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Dorothy sits beside Sully, but slightly behind, out of the circle. The Indians shoot her wary glances, as Sully continues:

SULLY

After everybody's had a chance to talk, then the judges'll make their decision. Do we agree?

The Elders nod yes.

SULLY

(to the Pawnee Elder)

Black Moon, you'll speak first.

23 The Joe Lando Web Page **INT. RECOVERY ROOM - DAY THREE** The Joe Lando Web Page

Reilly, covered in sweat, moans and tosses, his wound red and infected (his bandages have been removed). Mike works quickly, assembling bottles, scalpels and forceps on the table next to the bed. She picks up the scalpel and forceps and leans over Reilly, just about to remove some dead tissue, when:

O'Connor enters; seeing her about to cut into Reilly, he snaps:

O'CONNOR

What're you doin'?

MIKE

The wound has become infected, I need to remove the dead tissue.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 24.

23 CONTINUED:

Mike leans down, removes some dead tissue (off camera, please). O'Connor moves in close, hangs over her shoulder, needing to guard Reilly even though this is difficult to watch.

Mike reaches for the nitric acid, uncorks the bottle and begins to pour. She drips the first drops of the acid on the wound, and Reilly's body bows up from the bed. O'Connor stops her hand before she can continue.

O'CONNOR
What is that?!

MIKE
I need to cauterize the wound.

O'CONNOR
You need fire and a knife to cauterize.

MIKE
The acid will burn away the infection, just like fire.

O'CONNOR
You ain't pourin' acid on him.

MIKE
If I don't stop this infection, he'll die.

Mike tries to pour, but O'Connor grabs her hand again, which makes Mike angry.

O'CONNOR
You don't know what you're doin'.

MIKE
Get out of my way. I'm saving this man's life!

O'Connor yanks the bottle away from Mike.

O'CONNOR

I'm wirin' for another doctor.
(starting out)
If anythin' happens to him...

He storms out, taking the bottle with him. Mike looks back to Reilly, then reaches for a bottle of bromine and returns to work.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 24A

24 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY THREE

The trial is in progress. Each Elder waits respectfully for the other to finish, before speaking up. Dorothy takes notes. Cloud Dancing watches (his hands still untied).

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 25.

The Joe Lando Web Page

24 CONTINUED:

ARAPAHO ELDER

(in Arapaho language)

No one saw Cloud Dancing shoot the soldier. We arrived after the soldier was wounded.

Sully translates for Dorothy, as the Elders continue:

SULLY

He says no one saw Cloud Dancin' do anythin' -- everybody came after the soldier was shot...

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

PAWNEE ELDER

It could have been an accident. There was much confusion.

UTE ELDER

Yes, there were many who could have shot the soldiers.

ARAPAHO ELDER

(in Arapaho)

But Cloud Dancing says he shot the soldier. Cloud Dancing would not lie.

SULLY

(to Dorothy)

He's sayin' Cloud Dancin' wouldn't lie.

The Indian spectators murmur agreement.

PAWNEE ELDER

Cloud Dancing is a man of honor --a man of peace. He would not risk war.

Sully looks at Cloud Dancing, and is astonished and bewildered to see him smiling:

SULLY

Why're you smilin'?

CLOUD DANCING

Look. They are talking together -- no longer fighting.

sully looks at the Indians, sees them speaking peacefully in their languages. Dorothy also sees this and makes note of it on her reporter's pad.

On Sully, turning back to Cloud Dancing, starting to understand his point...

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 26.

25 EXT. TELEGRAPH OFFICE - DAY THREE

Horace rapidly taps the telegraph, trying to keep up with O'Connor's dictation (O'Connor stands at the window).

O'CONNOR

-- Army emergency. Come to Colorado Springs as soon as possible.

(then)

How long'll it take for Dr. Cassidy to get here?

Horace struggles to finish tapping in the message while responding to O'Connor; he doesn't like him:

HORACE

There's a noon train leavin' Denver.

O'CONNOR

Good. Let me know the minute he's here.

O'Connor starts to leave. Horace holds up a telegram for him:

HORACE

This came for you little while ago. From General Wooden.

O'Connor grabs the telegram from him and reads it:

O'CONNOR

"Was not aware of serious nature of crime. Be advised army is in state of war with Indians. You have authority to quell insurrection any way you see fit."

Mike approaches with burdensome news as O'Connor finishes reading:

O'CONNOR

(pleased)

"Disregard Superintendent Hazen's previous order, the army is assuming full command."

MIKE

(alarmed)

The army's taking charge of the reservation?

O'Connor turns to her.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 26A

25 CONTINUED:

O'CONNOR

Now we're gonna do things the right way.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 27.

25 CONTINUED: (2)

He strides away from the telegraph office. Mike follows:

MIKE
Sergeant, wait...

O'CONNOR
Nothin' your husband can do 'bout it now, Mrs. Sully.

MIKE
I need to talk to you --

O'CONNOR
Dr. Cassidy's comin' in on the noon train, he'll take over then.

MIKE
(emphatic)
Sergeant please.

O'Connor stops, looks at her. Mike hesitates a beat, then:

MIKE
(difficult)
I'm sorry, but... Private Reilly died a few moments ago.

This news hits O'Connor hard.

MIKE
I'm so sorry.

He looks stunned, but he fights his emotions by hardening his resolve:

O'CONNOR
Now it's murder.

O'Connor calls to his Soldiers as he strides to his horse:

O'CONNOR
Mount up.

Horace joins Mike; they anxiously watch O'Connor mount his horse and gallop off, followed by his Soldiers. A beat, then:

HORACE
(solemnly)
I better wire Dr. Cassidy.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

26 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY THREE

Cloud Dancing, Sully, Dorothy and the Indians watch silently as the Elders speak.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 27A

26 CONTINUED:

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

PAWNEE ELDER
A medicine man would not take a life. The spirits guide him to heal, not harm --

UTE ELDER
But if Cloud Dancing says he has done this, then I must --

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 28.

26 CONTINUED:

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Elder stops short as O'Connor and a full detail of Soldiers ride onto the reservation. Sully and the Indians stand and face them. Dorothy watches, alert and nervous:

SULLY
What's goin' on here?

O'CONNOR
Game's over.

O'Connor dismounts and shoves the telegram at Sully. As Sully reads it:

O'CONNOR
(points to Cloud Dancing)
I'm here to arrest that man.

O'Connor steps toward Cloud Dancing, but Sully steps in his way blocking him.

SULLY
No.

O'CONNOR
Move aside.

SULLY
I won't let you do this without --

O'CONNOR
(cutting him off, emphatic)
You got no choice.

Mike and Horace ride up in Horace's buggy to see Sully and O'Connor facing off. Sully's not moving.

O'Connor draws his pistol, aims it at Sully.

O'CONNOR
I said, move aside!

Mike sees this and panics:

MIKE
Sully!

Sully looks over, sees Mike. He turns back to O'Connor, who holds his gun firmly, clearly ready and willing to pull the trigger. After a tense beat, Sully steps aside.

He watches, silently fuming, as O'Connor and his soldiers move in, roughly taking Cloud Dancing's arms. O'Connor steps closer to Cloud Dancing, looks him in the eye:

The Joe Lando Web Page

(CONTINUED)

The Joe Lando Web Page

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 29.

26 CONTINUED: (2)

O'CONNOR

I arrest you in the name of the United States Government for the murder of private Tommy Reilly.

Surprised, Sully looks to Mike, who nods sadly, confirming. They watch with growing concern as O'Connor shackles Cloud Dancing's arms, and we:

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

**FADE
OUT.**

END OF ACT TWO

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 30.

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

The Joe Lando Web Page

27 EXT. TOWN - DAY THREE

The Joe Lando Web Page

O'Connor rides into town past the Saloon. Cloud Dancing, in shackles, walks with dignity behind him, flanked by a couple of Soldiers. They are followed by Mike and Horace in Horace's buggy, and Sully and Dorothy on their horses.

The Townspeople stop, surprised, and watch them proceed through town toward the jail.

28 HANK

watches from the Saloon railing, flicking cigar ashes, indifferent...

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

29 LOREN, BRIAN AND COLLEEN

come out of the store.

BRIAN
Cloud Dancin'?!
The Joe Lando Web Page

Loren watches, shaking his head in sad disbelief as Colleen and Brian, shocked, run to Sully and Mike, joining the procession.

30 JAKE

stands on the Barber Shop porch, and as Cloud Dancing passes they share a long look...
The Joe Lando Web Page

31 PRESTON

nods to O'Connor from the Bank, pleased to see the army doing their job....
The Joe Lando Web Page

32
thru OMIT
33

34 OUTSIDE THE JAIL

Sully and Dorothy quickly dismount, and Sully helps Mike down from the buggy.
The Joe Lando Web Page

O'Conner dismounts, calling out:

O'CONNOR
Sheriff. Got a prisoner for you.
The Joe Lando Web Page

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 31.
The Joe Lando Web Page

34 CONTINUED:
The Joe Lando Web Page

MATTHEW comes out of the jail.

MATTHEW
What's goin' on?

O'CONNOR
This man's been arrested for murder. Put him in jail.

MATTHEW
(to Sully)
Thought you're havin' an Indian trial?

SULLY
Army's taken over.

O'CONNOR
(to Horace)
Send for the Circuit Judge, there's gonna be a real trial.

Horace hesitates.

O'CONNOR
That's an order. Send it now.

Horace glances at Sully, who nods. Then Horace turns and walks slowly toward the Telegraph Office. O'Connor turns back to Matthew.

O'CONNOR
You gonna take charge of this prisoner?

MATTHEW
(hesitating, to Sully)
Can he do this?

O'CONNOR
I got full authority, Sheriff.

MATTHEW
I'm not gonna put --

O'CONNOR
Are you refusin' an order from the United States army?

Matthew, Mike and Sully exchange looks; they realize they have no alternative. Matthew relents:

MATTHEW

Come on.

(CONTINUED)

The Joe Lando Web Page

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 32.

34

CONTINUED:

(2)

Matthew escorts Cloud Dancing into the jail, followed by a Soldier. Sully follows them as Mike, Colleen and Brian watch, feeling helpless.

O'CONNOR

(to Soldiers)

You two stand guard outside.

BRIAN

(angrily, to O'Connor)

Why're you doin' this?

O'CONNOR

Somebody's gotta keep the peace, boy.

Colleen takes Brian's arm, leads him into the jail. Mike gives O'Connor a good long look, then follows the others in...

35 INT. JAIL - DAY THREE - CONTINUOUS

Sully, Mike, Colleen and Brian watch the Soldier remove Cloud Dancing's shackles, as Matthew unlocks and opens the cell door. Cloud Dancing walks into the cell. As Matthew closes the door, he addresses the Soldier:

MATTHEW

You can go now.

The Soldier hesitates.

SULLY

He ain't goin' nowhere.

The Soldier leaves.

SULLY
(to Cloud Dancing)
We're gonna get you outta here. I'll wire Hazen.

MIKE
We'll obtain a lawyer.

CLOUD DANCING
I do not need a lawyer.

MIKE
You'll need someone to speak to the court on your behalf.

CLOUD DANCING
It will not matter. There will be no justice in the white man's court.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 33.

35 CONTINUED:

Sully's frustration is building.

SULLY
We don't have a choice now.

CLOUD DANCING
(after a moment)
Then you will speak for me.

Sully looks at him, then seeing an opportunity, nods:

SULLY
Alright but you gotta tell me what happened.

CLOUD DANCING
I have already told you.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

SULLY

Is that all you have 'ta say?

In the face of Cloud Dancing's silence Sully's frustration turns to anger.

SULLY

I ain't givin' up! If you're not gonna fight this, then I will.

Sully turns and stalks out. Brian and Colleen, very upset, look up at Mike, who shakes her head, troubled by Cloud Dancings attitude.

36 INT. HOMESTEAD BARN - NIGHT THREE

Having returned from a vigorous ride, Sully brushes FLASH down, his strokes hard and methodic. Colleen steps inside, sees Sully and stops, uncertain over how to begin.

COLLEEN

Hey, Sully.

Sully glances over as he keeps working. Colleen approaches.

COLLEEN

You take Flash out for a ride?

SULLY

(matter-of-fact)

Needed the exercise.

COLLEEN

She's been puttin' on weight since Ma stopped ridin'.

Colleen gently rubs the horse's face.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 34.

36 CONTINUED:

COLLEEN

Think they both gotten a little bigger.

They trade forced smiles at her joke. An awkward silence.

COLLEEN

Ma's gone up to bed.

SULLY

I'll be along.

He moves around the horse, hinting at a desire to be alone. But she doesn't go. Colleen studies Sully, and dives ahead.

COLLEEN

I know you're worried 'bout Cloud Dancin'...

Sully stops working, finally recognizing her awkward attempt to offer support. He comes back around the horse, meeting Colleen's concerned gaze.

SULLY

Yeah.

COLLEEN

I know he didn't say it... but I think he's glad you're gonna speak for him.

Sully shakes his head, giving in to his frustration.

SULLY

Just wish I could do more.

COLLEEN

(after a beat)

You'll figure somethin' out.

Colleen's certainty makes him feel worse, but Sully covers, pulling Colleen close in a tender, appreciative squeeze.

SULLY

Go on. Tell your ma I'll be right up.

Colleen nods and goes, leaving Sully alone. And feeling more helpless than ever..

37 INT. GAZETTE - DAY FOUR

Dorothy takes the first copy of the newly printed Gazette off the press as Preston walks in, curious.

(CONTINUED)

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 35.

37 CONTINUED:

PRESTON

I was anxious to see the latest edition of our Gazette.

Dorothy nods and hands it to Preston, proudly:

DOROTHY

First copy.

He scans it, stopping at the headline of an editorial (on the bottom half of the front page):

Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

PRESTON

"The army -- keeping the peace or breakin' it?"

Preston, his displeasure growing, continues reading it as Dorothy defends herself:

DOROTHY

That's my editorial. The Indian trial was goin' just fine 'fore the army interfered.

PRESTON

(incredulous)

What are you talking about? Indians are killing soldiers, they need to be properly tried and punished --

DOROTHY

They were havin' a trial of his peers, just like it says in the Constitution.

PRESTON

(getting angrier at her illogic)

They're not citizens -- !

(controlling himself, final word)

There is no way you can distribute this issue, Dorothy.

DOROTHY Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

I got a right to print my opinion, long as I print the facts --

PRESTON

You'll alarm people, they'll think the Indians are out of control.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 36.

37 CONTINUED: (2)

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

DOROTHY

People are fair minded -- once they read all the sides they'll figure it out for thems--

PRESTON

As your partner, I insist that you don't publish this... this...

DOROTHY

Editorial. As the partner holdin' fifty-one percent, I'm printin' it.

Preston, ever agile, alters his approach.

PRESTON

Dorothy, listen to me... If my investors discover that you're running the Gazette in a reckless manner, they may force me to call in your loan.

(trying to scare her with legalese)

You'd have to repay it in full, upon demand.

Some of Dorothy's bravado slips.

DOROTHY

You wouldn't do that.

PRESTON

I wouldn't have a choice. They could insist on it.

Dorothy looks away, says nothing.

PRESTON

You don't want that to happen.

He holds out the newspaper for her. Clearly shaken, she takes it back.

PRESTON

Neither of us do.

Preston places a reassuring hand on her shoulder, then he heads out.

ON Dorothy, as she slumps heavily into her chair, looking down at her editorial...

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 37.

38 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY FOUR

Soldiers set up army tents. Indians watch from a distance. Sully rides in, sees O'Conner directing the soldiers to tear down a teepee, using a horse and a rope. He dismounts and strides to O'Connor, trying to keep his anger in check:

O'CONNER

(to soldiers)

Hurry up! Move it along!

SULLY

What're you doin'?

O'CONNOR

Movin' the garrison onto the reservation --

SULLY

(trying to reason with him)

This ain't a good idea --

O'CONNOR

General Wooden says we're in a state 'a war. This'll help us keep a close watch on things.

SULLY

You're only gonna make things worse --

O'CONNOR

You're the ones who're makin' things worse -- all 'a you Indian lovers and politicians. You think you can just wave a magic wand an' order peace. But it's the army has to fight for it -- make it stick.

Sully sees he isn't getting anywhere, tries another tact:

SULLY

Look, this ain't 'bout politicians or the army or who's in control here. It's 'bout a man's life. Cloud Dancin' is innocent.

O'CONNOR

Innocent? I'll tell you 'bout innocent, Mr. Sully. I seen innocent families burned out, bodies mutilated, bakin' in the sun. It's my job to keep 'em safe.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 38.

38 CONTINUED:

He strides off toward the Soldiers who are putting up the tents.

Sully shakes his head, frustrated: even reason won't work.

39 INT. JAIL - DAY FOUR

Mike and Sully stand outside the jail cell talking to Cloud Dancing through the bars. Sully refers to a telegram he holds:

SULLY

Hazen agrees with the army. He won't stop the trial.

MIKE

Perhaps we could get the Judge to delay.

CLOUD DANCING

The trial will begin tomorrow.

Sully, fed up with Cloud Dancing's calm manner, explodes:

SULLY

Aren't you listenin'? Tomorrow you go on trial for murder! You know what that means? If they find you guilty, they're gonna shoot you!

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Cloud Dancing is quiet. Sully makes one last stab at it:

SULLY

I know you didn't shoot that soldier. You been lyin' to me from the start. Why?

MIKE

Cloud Dancing. Please, please tell us the truth.

CLOUD DANCING

The truth will not matter to the army.

MIKE

Sully and I aren't the army... We're your friends.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Cloud Dancing looks at her, seeing the desperation in her eyes.

MIKE

And friends deserve the truth.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 39.

39 CONTINUED:

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Cloud Dancing holds her look for a long moment. Then, very quietly:

CLOUD DANCING

I did not shoot the soldier.

Silence, as Cloud Dancing's admission sinks in. Mike and Sully are both relieved, but still frustrated:

SULLY

Then why're you sayin' you did?

MIKE

Do you know who did it?

CLOUD DANCING

A young Pawnee brave, it was an accident.

SULLY

Where is he now?

CLOUD DANCING

You will not find him.

SULLY

You gotta tell the court his name --

CLOUD DANCING

No. I tell you, my friends, this. But to the court, and to everyone else, I will say I did it.

Sully's frustration peaks:

SULLY

Why??

A beat, as Cloud Dancing struggles to put his thoughts into words.

CLOUD DANCING

At Washita, I watched my life drain away with the blood of my people, Snowbird, Black Kettle.

Sully nods, understanding Cloud Dancing's pain.

CLOUD DANCING

I came to the reservation where Ute fights Pawnee, Pawnee fights Arapaho... But now, the spirits have shown me a way to bring peace. They have shown me we are one blood... one people.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 40.

39

CONTINUED:

(2)

MIKE

Cloud Dancing, that's admirable, but you can't sacrifice yourself.

Cloud Dancing looks from Mike to Sully.

CLOUD DANCING

You asked me before if I was protecting someone...

(a beat)

I am protecting them all.

Mike gazes at Cloud Dancing at a loss for words. But Sully understands the depth of Cloud Dancing's commitment to his people: he nods sadly.

40 INT. HOMESTEAD BEDROOM - NIGHT - DAY FOUR

Mike lies on the bed, her back supported by pillows, as Sully stokes the fire, deeply troubled:

MIKE

I'll be testifying about the cause of death. I could tell the Judge what Cloud Dancing told us.

SULLY
(not looking at her)

You can't.

This only frustrates Mike more:

MIKE

It's the only way to save his life.

This hits Sully hard, but he still doesn't look at her, just keeps stoking the fire, struggling with his own emotions. Mike tries to convince him:

MIKE

Sully, he's your best friend, he's your family...

Sully finally turns to her:

SULLY

You think I don't wanna stop this?

(struggling to accept it)

But it ain't my choice... We can't go against what he wants... We can't.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 41.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

40 CONTINUED:

Sully looks at Mike, wishing he could change things, knowing he can't. Mike pulls him into her embrace, and offers what comfort she can.

41 EXT. CHURCH - DAY FIVE

Sully, Matthew, O'Connor and a group of Soldiers escort Cloud Dancing toward the church. As they approach the church, O'Connor sees the Indian Elders gathering and reacts:

O'CONNOR

What're they doin' here?

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

SULLY

They're witnesses -- for the defense.

O'CONNOR

Won't change nothin'.

They continue toward the church steps, passing by:

41A. PRESTON, JAKE, LOREN AND HANK

who turn, following the others toward the church:

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

PRESTON

(to Hank)

Glad to see the army taking a firm hand with the Indians.

JAKE

Let's just hope they got the right Indian.

LOREN

Let's just see what Cloud Dancin' has to say for himself.

42

thru OMIT

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Pa

43

44 INT. CHURCH - DAY FIVE (TIME CUT)

The church has been turned into a courtroom. The JUDGE sits at the bench. The townsfolk are seated: Jake, Loren, Horace, Hank, Preston and Dorothy. Sully sits at one table. Mike sits behind Sully, next to the three Indian Elders.

Cloud Dancing sits in the witness chair. O'Connor is facing him.

(CONTINUED) b Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 42.

44 CONTINUED:

O'CONNOR

I'm gonna make this quick so we can get this over with. Did you shoot Private Reilly?

Sully and Mike look to Cloud Dancing, silently pleading for him to tell the truth.

Cloud Dancing looks to the Indian Elders sitting side by side, then turns back to O'Connor:

CLOUD DANCING

Yes.

The crowd murmurs excitedly: that seems to be all that's needed. Sully and Mike's expressions sink. The Judge bangs his gavel quieting the crowd.

45 INT. CHURCH - DAY FIVE (TIME CUT)

Mike is on the stand. O'Connor questions her. The Joe Lando Web Page

O'CONNOR
What killed Private Reilly?

MIKE
An infection of the blood.

That isn't what O'Connor expected her to say.

O'CONNOR
How'd he get it?

MIKE
The Private sustained a gunshot wound to the abdomen. Although the bullet was removed, a severe infection developed, and that's what killed him. The Joe Lando Web Page

O'CONNOR
But he wouldn't 'a had an infection if he wasn't shot?

Mike looks to Sully, to Cloud Dancing, then back to O'Connor.

MIKE
(quietly)
Yes, that's correct.

O'CONNOR
So Private Reilly died from a gunshot wound?

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 43.

45 CONTINUED:

MIKE
Yes.. . But I don't think that Cloud Dancing --

O'CONNOR

That's all, Judge.

Mike doesn't move.

JUDGE

Is there something more you wish to add?

Mike looks at O'Connor, then to Sully.

JUDGE

Dr. Quinn...?

Mike looks at the Judge, then back to the courtroom.

MIKE

Yes...

The crowd murmurs surprise. Mike turns, looks to the Indian Elders, then to Cloud Dancing. As the room quiets, Cloud Dancing holds her gaze, willing her to keep quiet. Finally...

MIKE

I mean... no, I have nothing to add.

Cloud Dancing registers his relief. Mike gazes at him, feeling the complete opposite -- utter anguish.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 44.

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

46 INT. HOMESTEAD - NIGHT FIVE

Mike sits by the fire trying to read, but frustrated and unable to concentrate, she puts the book down. There's a knock on the door. Mike goes to open it; Dorothy stands outside. Mike is surprised, concerned:

MIKE
Dorothy?

DOROTHY
Not interruptin' anythin', am I?

MIKE
No... come in.

Dorothy comes in. Mike leads her to the chairs by the fire:

DOROTHY
(nods, sympathetic)
I'm so sorry 'bout Cloud Dancin'.

MIKE
I'm afraid I wasn't much help to him today.

DOROTHY
You stood up for him, you did the right thing.

This hits close, Mike feels worse. Dorothy, disturbed, decides to dive right in:

DOROTHY
I wish I could... do the right thing. But I just can't seem to...

Mike sees that Dorothy is upset, gently questions.

MIKE
Can't do what, Dorothy?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 45.

46 CONTINUED:

DOROTHY

I wrote an editorial 'bout Cloud Dancin'. How the army's makin' things worse for the Indians.

MIKE

(encouraging)

That's good Dorothy, perhaps it'll help change some people's minds.

DOROTHY

I didn't print it. Preston threatened to call in my loan.

(beat)

I just don't have your courage.

MIKE

You give me too much credit, Dorothy -- I'm not feeling very courageous right now.

DOROTHY

I don't know what I'd do if I lost the Gazette.

MIKE

You'd start over.

Dorothy shakes her head no.

MIKE

Dorothy, I know a woman who had the courage to leave her husband, a man who beat her terribly for years. She started over. She came to Colorado Springs with nothing but the clothes on her back...

DOROTHY

That was so long ago.

MIKE

Not that long. She was the bravest woman I ever met.

Dorothy looks away, shaking her head, unable to accept Mike's encouragement. Mike gently takes her hand:

MIKE

I know you have the courage to start over. You've done it before.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 46.

46 CONTINUED: (2)

Dorothy takes in Mike's certainty, thinking about the possibility.

47 OMIT

48	INT.	JAIL - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT FIVE
-----------	-------------	---------------------------------------

Sully and Matthew stand outside the cell, talking to Cloud Dancing.

SULLY

We'll put on our witnesses tomorrow. People who know you.

Brian comes in.

BRIAN

Hey Sully. Cloud Dancin'.

MATTHEW

Brian, what're you doin' here?

SULLY

Your ma alright?

BRIAN

She's fine. I came to visit Cloud Dancin'.

Cloud Dancing smiles and Brian walks closer to the cell.

BRIAN

Ma said Sully's gonna find a way to get you outta trouble.

The men exchange looks. They don't want to dampen Brian's hopes.

BRIAN

I brought you somethin'.

Brian reaches into his pocket and takes out the flute No Harm gave him. He hands it to Cloud Dancing.

BRIAN
It's not as nice as the one you made.

Cloud Dancing takes the flute through the bars.

CLOUD DANCING
Thank you. It is just what I need.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 47.

48 CONTINUED:

BRIAN
Play somethin'.

Sully puts his arm around Brian's shoulder. Cloud Dancing hesitates, then plays. As Cloud Dancing plays, a look of sadness crosses Sully's face, and he draws Brian closer to him.

49 EXT. GAZETTE - DAY SIX

Preston strides down the street toward the Gazette. Dorothy, holding a pile of fresh Gazettes in her arms, comes out the door, just as Preston arrives. Dorothy looks up, hands him a paper:

DOROTHY
You might want to take a look at this.

Preston scans the paper quickly, then looks up, angry.

PRESTON
It's the same editorial. I thought I made myself absolutely clear.

DOROTHY
You did... You can call in my loan if you like. This may be my last Gazette,

but folks're gonna read what I wrote.

PRESTON

This is foolhardy. No one's going to read, let alone buy this rubbish.

DOROTHY

Maybe they will, maybe they won't. But 'least I wrote what I believe in. And if you force me to give up this newspaper, I'll find a way to start another.

PRESTON

(brinksmanship)

You think it will be that easy?

DOROTHY Web Page

No. No it won't... but I'll do it.
as many pages, but
I'll do it.

The Joe Lando Web Page

Maybe not right away, maybe it won't be

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 48.

49 CONTINUED:

Dorothy's determination penetrates Preston. Short of grabbing the papers from her hands, there's no way to stop her. He gives her a long look:

PRESTON

I believe you would.

Pleased with herself, Dorothy steps around him and heads off down the street to distribute the papers.

50 OMIT

51	EXT.	RESERVATION - DAY SIX
----	------	-----------------------

The Arapaho, Pawnee and Ute Elders are gathered around Sully, who is handing them groups of day passes:

SULLY

We'll be leavin' for the church in just a minute... Gonna need you to bring all your people to make an impression on the Judge.

As the Elders hand out the passes to other Indians, Sully goes over to Mike, who's waiting for him at the wagon.

SULLY

Cloud Dancin' was right...

Sully points to the Pawnee, Arapaho and Utes preparing to walk to town for the trial. Mike looks at the Indians, intermingled and talking easily together.

SULLY

Arapaho, Pawnee and Ute, together.

MIKE

But the price...

They share a look, then Sully helps Mike into the wagon. She points out the newly installed army garrison. The tents are now fully assembled. Soldiers are relaxed, at home on the reservation. A couple of soldiers sit in front of a tent, cleaning their guns.

MIKE

It's starting to look more like a fort than a reservation.

SULLY

Now that O'Connor's got the army to admit they're in a state of war, they've moved in for good.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 49.

51 CONTINUED:

MIKE

I can't believe things have gone this far. The army can do whatever they please, simply by saying they're in a state of war?

SULLY
Yeah...

Sully suddenly pauses, an idea coming to him.

SULLY
State of war...

The Joe Lando Web Page

Sully slaps the reins and hurries the wagon towards town --

52	INT.	CHURCH - DAY SIX
----	------	------------------

The church is crowded with townsfolk: Loren, Jake, Horace, Hank, Preston and Dorothy. The Indians from the reservation stand in the back of the church. The Indian Elders are in their seats behind Cloud Dancing next to Mike. O' Connor is at his table and Sully and Cloud Dancing are at theirs. Matthew acts as the bailiff. The Judge, seated at the bench, bangs the gavel calling the court to order.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

JUDGE
Are you ready to begin the defense, Agent Sully?

Sully stands:

SULLY
Yes, your honor.

JUDGE
You may call your first witness.

SULLY
I call Sergeant Bryan O'Connor.

A wave of surprise can be heard in the room. O'Connor looks at Sully, startled. Then, pretending to give no great care to this, he stands and strides to the witness chair. Matthew picks up the Bible and faces O'Connor.

MATTHEW
Raise your right hand.

O'Connor raises his right hand and puts his left on the Bible.

MATTHEW

Do you promise to tell truth, so help you God?

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 50.

52 CONTINUED:

O'CONNOR

I do.

Matthew returns to his seat.

JUDGE

You may be seated.

The Joe Lando Web Page

O'Connor sits down. Sully takes a telegram out of his pocket and walks around the table to face him. Mike watches nervously from her seat.

SULLY

Sergeant O'Connor, is this the telegram you got from General Wooden?

Sully hands the telegram to O'Connor who scans it quickly, before handing it back to Sully.

O'CONNOR

Yeah, that's it.

SULLY

In this telegram, does General Wooden say...

(reading)

"... the United States Army is in a state of war with the Indians?"

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

O'CONNOR

(testy)

Yeah. You just read it.

SULLY

A state of war. What does that mean?

O'Connor gives Sully a suspicious look, not sure what he's up to.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

O'CONNOR

Means the army's got a right to do what's needed to keep the peace.

SULLY

Like movin' the army garrison onto the Palmer Creek reservation?

O'CONNOR

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation... " (Pink) 3/29/96 51.

The Joe Lando Web Page

52 CONTINUED: (2)

SULLY

'Cause the army's in a state a war with the Indians.

O'Connor's losing patience, getting irritated.

O'CONNOR

Yeah, right -- you drivin' at somethin'?

Sully walks to the table, gives Mike an encouraging look, then turns back to O'Connor. A beat, then:

The Joe Lando Web Page

SULLY

Sergeant O'Connor, when you're fightin' in a battle an' you kill somebody -- one of the enemy --is it murder?

O'CONNOR

(confused)

What?

SULLY

Does the army call it murder?

O'CONNOR

No.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

SULLY

What do you call it then?

O'CONNOR

A casualty of war.

Sully nods, as if suddenly remembering.

SULLY

Yeah... A casualty of war.

Sully takes a moment, letting the words linger. Then, continues:

SULLY

So... if you're in a state a war with the Indians, and you -- an army soldier -- kill one of 'em, then it's not a murder, but a casualty of war.

O'Connor's wary now, sensing a trap. Sully proceeds, not waiting for a response.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 52.

The Joe Lando Web Page

The Joe Lando Web Page

52 CONTINUED: (3)

SULLY

An' if one of them killed one of you, that would be a casualty of war too, right?

O'CONNOR

(cold, intense)

It ain't the same.

The crowd murmurs, uneasy. Sully turns to the Judge.

SULLY

I dunno. Figure what holds for one side, oughtta hold for the other.

O'CONNOR

This is crazy!

SULLY

(insistent)
Is it a casualty of war?

O'CONNOR
(to the Judge)
You gotta stop this --

JUDGE
Answer the question.

O'Connor freezes, staring up at the Judge. He then turns to Sully, who meets his stare eye-to-eye for a long, tense moment. Then:

SULLY
(to Judge, but eyes still on O'Connor)
Think I got my answer.

Sully turns to the judge, handing him the telegram.

SULLY
If Cloud Dancing's convicted of murder, you gotta arrest every army soldier that's killed an Indian durin' this state 'a war.

The Judge studies the telegram, considering Sully's reasoning. Sully steps closer to him.

SULLY
You wanna be the Judge that lets United States soldiers be tried for murder?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Yellow) 4/1/96 53.

52 CONTINUED: (4)

The Judge looks up from the telegram, meeting Sully's stare.

SULLY
Then dismiss the charges.

The crowd voices their doubts. The Judge considers for a long moment, then bangs his gavel for silence. The courtroom quiets.

JUDGE

The murder charges against Cloud Dancing are dismissed.

Some of the crowd APPLAUDS, others voice disagreement. O'Connor is enraged.

O'CONNOR

You can't let him go!

JUDGE

Court is adjourned.

The Judge bangs the gavel, ending the court session. O'Connor rises and glares at Sully, and then stalks out.

Sully turns to Cloud Dancing. The two friends embrace. Mike hugs them both. Relieved. The Indian Elders shake Cloud Dancing's hand and Matthew joins in the congratulations.

52A EXT. CHURCH - DAY SIX

Townpeople stream out of the church following the verdict. Preston and Dorothy come out, discussing the trial:

PRESTON

(cool)

I suppose you'll be putting out an extra edition of the Gazette.

DOROTHY

With a follow-up on the verdict.

53 OMIT

54 HANK, JAKE, LOREN AND HORACE

come out of the church behind them, trying to make sense out of what has happened.

LOREN

(confused)

Did he kill him or didn't he?

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 54.

54 CONTINUED:

JAKE
Don't seem to matter.

HORACE
He's a free man now.

HANK
Got away with murder.

HORACE
I still say he didn't kill him.

LOREN
(troubled)
Whether he did or didn't, a soldier's still dead.

Loren holds their look a moment. Then, they turn to watch Mike and Sully walk out of the church with Cloud Dancing -- now a free man.

55 OMIT

56 EXT. RESERVATION - DAY SIX

Sully, Cloud Dancing, Mike, Matthew, Colleen and Brian ride into the reservation in the wagon. The Indians are waiting for them and gather around the wagon.

The Pawnee, Arapaho, and Ute Elders, in ceremonial dress, step up to greet them as they climb down from the wagon. The Pawnee Elder extends his hand to Cloud Dancing, who returns the greeting.

ARAPAHO ELDER
(in Arapaho)

Welcome.

UTE ELDER

Welcome Cloud Dancing.

PAWNEE ELDER

We have been waiting for you.

Cloud Dancing is moved by their warm welcome.

CLOUD DANCING

It is good to be among my people again.

PAWNEE ELDER

Now we can begin.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Green) 4/3/96 54A.

56 CONTINUED:

The Pawnee Elder leads Cloud Dancing toward the drummers and signals them to begin. The Pawnee stops, turns to Cloud Dancing and presents him with a beaded tobacco pouch as a gift. The Ute and Arapaho Elder look on with pride.

(CONTINUED)

Prod. 2244-0426 "One Nation..." (Pink) 3/29/96 55.

56 CONTINUED:

PAWNEE ELDER

We will follow you.

Cloud Dancing nods, accepting the gift, then takes his place at the head of the honor dance. The Pawnee, Arapaho and Ute elders fall in behind Cloud Dancing, who leads the dance around

the drummers. Sully, Mike and the family watch as the ceremony begins.

57 SULLY

sees O'Connor approaching, accompanied by two Soldiers. Sully goes to him, making sure that O'Connor doesn't come too close to the ceremony. O'Connor steps forward from his Soldiers. He and Sully stop opposite each other, and eye each other for a long moment, waiting to see who'll break first.

O'CONNOR

This war ain't over.

He gives Sully a long hard look. Sully holds his ground. O'Connor turns, moves back to his Soldiers. Sully rejoins Mike, and they watch the ceremony progress. Mike is feeling optimistic:

MIKE

He did it. He brought peace.

Sully nods, but can't help but look back at O'Connor, who has turned back and stands watching.

SULLY

... but for how long?

Sully turns back to Mike.

MIKE

Now... We have peace now.

Sully puts his arm around Mike's back and turns back to watch Cloud Dancing lead the honor dance -- all the tribes united in peace.

FADE OUT.

THE END

CBS ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTIONS
in association with
THE SULLIVAN COMPANY

(c) mcmxcvi
1996 CBS Inc.
All Rights Reserved
Prod. #2244-0426
PRODUCTION DRAFT
March 21, 1996

Script provided by Marilyn Levinson, Ohio, USA
Script typed by Adele Hilton, Great Britain

[Articles & Interviews](#) | [Joe's Movies](#) | [Scripts](#) | [Pix](#) | [Biography](#) | [Cooking with Joe](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Tribute to Sully](#)
[Message Board](#) | [Joe Poll](#) | [Sully's Story](#) | [HG](#) | [Misc](#) | [Chatroom](#) | [Landograms](#) | [Thanks & Links](#) | [DQ](#)
[Candids](#)



[Home](#)