

Document Citation

Title	7th Cavalry
Author(s)	Richard Combs
Source	<i>Edinburgh Film Festival</i>
Date	1980
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	7th Cavalry, Lewis, Joseph H., 1956

7th Cavalry

USA 1956. Dir: Joseph H. Lewis. Prod: Harry Joe Brown. Script: Peter Packer. Photo: Ray Rennahan. Ed: Gene Havlick. Music: Mischa Bakaleinikoff. Cost: Randolph Scott, Barbara Hale, Jay C. Flippen, Jeanette Nolan, Frank Faylen, Leo Gordon, Denver Pyle, Harry Carey Jnr. 75 mins.

Two Randolph Scott Westerns, produced through his own company, which received scant attention at the time but which might be ripe for rediscovery in the Lewis canon. They were made in the last phase of his feature career (in between *The Big Combo* and *The Halliday Brand*) when Lewis seems defiantly to have come into his own, with scripts for the first time equal to his ambitiousness. *7th Cavalry*, which has Scott disproving a charge of cowardice in the wake of the Custer massacre, was based on a story by Glendon Swarthout, whose novels have also provided the basis for *They Came to Cordura* and *The Shootist*. At a great authorial remove, one might compare the ending of *7th Cavalry* — in which the 'supernatural' reappearance of Custer's horse prevents another massacre — with Swarthout's recent *Melodeon*. — Richard Combs.