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**Anglo-Zulu War - II**

**Lead: The Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 arose from conflicting aspirations of the Zulu, prospectors for gold and diamonds, Christian missionaries, and Dutch and British settlers frontier in South Africa's Natal province.**

**Intro.: *A Moment in Time* with Dan Roberts.**

**Content: In 1838 the decades old expansion of the Zulu nation in northeastern South Africa was abruptly halted at the Battle of Blood River. 3000 Zulu warriors were killed**

**in a bloody confrontation with Afrikaner voortrekkers under Andries Pretorius. The Zulu retreated into their traditional homeland north and east of the Tugela River in Natal province. Their powerful army and centralized government allowed them to remain independent of European encroachment for more than four decades. By the mid-1870s this autonomy was under serious threat.**

**Over the mountains in the Transvaal, miners had discovered huge deposits of diamonds and gold and from this region prospectors and Dutch settlers were beginning to encroach on the western edges of Zululand. Missionaries anxious to bring Christianity and civilization**

**were demanding the right of access to Zulu lands and Zulu minds. In 1820 an influx of emigrants from Britain increased the population and tensions along the Zululand border. Many of them were Scots who had recently and sometimes brutally been removed from their land in the Highland clearings of the early 1800s. These Brits, already suspicious of the Africans, gazed longingly across the Tugela at the rich, well-watered Zulu land and weren't shy in demanding imperial intervention to increase their land holdings and prevent alleged cross-border cattle raids by the Zulu. By 1877 it seemed that the interests of white domination in South Africa required the dismantling of the highly efficient Zulu military apparatus. On**

**December 11, 1878 the British High Commissioner in Natal, Sir Bartle Frere ordered Chief Cetyshwayo to disband the Zulu army and make important social changes within Zulu society, a demand the Chief most certainly could not accept. Next: the Zulu war.**

**At the University of Richmond, this is Dan Roberts.**

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