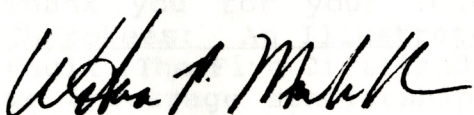


The characterization of the relationship between the Treaty Party and the military at Fort Gibson is not especially helpful in providing the reader with a clear understanding of this important period of Cherokee history.

Without attempting to speak for my predecessor, I am sure you can appreciate that anyone in an executive role is often called upon to endorse or express an opinion on the work of others. In doing so, it is not possible to verify the accuracy of every statement made in a manuscript. The content is the responsibility of the author, editor, and publisher. If a mistake is made at any point in the creation or review process, it can reflect on everyone involved. I appreciate your letter and will use it to remind myself of the potential pitfalls and the responsibility that goes with endorsing someone else's work.

Sincerely,



Wilma P. Mankiller  
Principal Chief

WPM/AC:bb