

T-503

DR. JACK GREGORY, NON-INDIAN

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

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GENERAL SUBJECT: THE GOLDEN AGE AND THE CIVIL WAR BY DR. JACK GREGORY, PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS.

Mr. Hagerstrand: ---around here. I don't know if he speaks Cherokee or not but he's collected a lot of Cherokee stuff from somebody; and we're very happy to have with us Dr. Jack Gregory, author, historian, from the University of Arkansas. Sister area across the road here from us. Jack.

Last summer--within the last summer--up in Georgia and Tennessee, North Carolina. When they left, it started raining, on October the 8th. The Cherokees that traveled that long milage, I don't think it ever stopped raining. It never stopped sleeting or stopped snowing on that long fearless journey that they call the "Trail of Tears". They left on October of '38, 1838, and they arrived here in this immediate area here in March of 1839, which is roughly a six month period. Now, some of the Cherokees it--it took them long to come. Some of them--it took them a shorter time. Principal Chief, John Ross (contrary to popular thought) did not struggle on the Trail of Tears as many people think; but he came in a fine cabin--private cabin with his wife and lady. The tragic did strike this vulnerable old chief. At Little Rock, his wife died and they had to get off the boat; and there they buried Quattie in the cemetery in Little Rock--near Little Rock. But the rest of the group was trudging up, and many historians and many mythologist say that on that trail, there was 4,000 people died; and, also, there was roughly 14-18,000 came. So roughly, one out every four died on the Trail of Tears. Let's set the setting over here a little bit so we get things a little bit clear.

All right, the first Cherokees came over here in the late 18 century what we call the old settlers. They were a very difficult group to analyze. There were two groups among them. There were people like Walter Webber of Webbers Fall Spring, a very