

KoHeLa down there where they could set up a new Cherokee Republic. Later on we'll see this is why Sequoyah removed down that particular area. All right, so they started arriving and they had suffered deaths--their wives had died, their little children had died, and their loved ones they had put under a few rocks knowing full well the dogs or cows would come and probably mutilate their bodies when they left. There wasn't time for much more than that, on the Trail of Tears. And since--when they arrived here some rough 13,000 mostly full bloods, and they were under the leadership of John Ross, a White man not a Cherokee. They arrived here. The only thing they could think of was the sure hatred of the treaty party signers. They remember old John Ridge, I mean, old Major Ridge had signed that treaty of 1829. So they called a meeting--the old settlers called a meeting up here at Double Springs--north of Tahlequah in June, 1839. Alright, the old settlers came up--including Sequoyah. Now to call Sequoyah an old settler, might be misknown because Sequoyah did not belong to any of these particular groups. Sequoyah was a uneducated Cherokee who wanted to do his job working on his silver ware, and doing some painting, and doing some other objects like that. But they brought old Sequoyah up for this meeting up here four miles north of Tahlequah called Double Springs. All right, all the old settlers came in there, and roughly in the territory probably 2 or 4 thousand old settlers. Bear in mind, the old settlers were the Whites and wildest of all Cherokees. They come out here way ahead of time. So they gathered up here. Then, the treaty party came in. Now, that was Watie, Ridge, and Boudinot--they came up here; but Ross, who had settled right here in this particular area, brought his mass mob of votes--his full bloods. So when they gathered at Double Springs, the first thing that Chief Brown of the old settlers said, he said, "All right, you come over here. All right, you come to our government so you stay here in our government 'til it's election time, in just a few months, and we'll vote for the new Principal Chief, the Senators, etc." Not John Ross because just before they left, they had a meeting. They said,