

I probably believe a little bit more the story that the Worcester girl got on her horse and ran and warned Stand Watie, "They're coming to kill you. Because the hired--the not hired, it's a--the assassins have formed their group and you're next. You're going to be killed within the hour." When she reached there and told Stand Watie. Stand Watie fled to Fort Gibson. This I believe. He fled and told Arbuckle. He says, "They've killed members of my party. They've murdered them." So, Arbuckle insensed about this. These outstanding men of the Cherokee Nation, was murdered. He immediately demanded of Ross, he says, "turn over the killers. You know who they are? Why protect them?"

Ross says, "I don't have any idea what you're talking about." And his brother says the same thing, doesn't he--I mean, his son. But his son was a part of the assassination. I firmly believe that John Ross could name every person that took part in the assassination. As a matter of fact, later on in council he would even ask saying, "Fine, no laws were violated because this was the law of the Cherokee Nation. They must be executed. These are merely citizens taking upon themselves the law of the Cherokee Nation and murdered or killing--executing, these criminals as they were. So, of course, war broke out. The Civil War broke out, and when it finished there were 34 people who had been murdered and mauled.

One of the major killings, of course, Stand Watie was up in Mafeville, Arkansas, which is 25 miles due north of Westville. Went into the grocery store up there, and he met James Foreman; and he and James Foreman had a few choite words to say to each other, and Stand Watie shot James Foreman to death. And, you know, the famous trial that proceeded and almost Stand Watie almost was hung over this particular situation. And it was this particular raising, we had the formation of what they call the Star Gang. Now, the Star Gang was close friends and kinfolks of Stand Watie. Naturally they were going to revenge the death of their kinfolks and their treaty party members. They started a rampage killing the John Ross Indians. It was pretty give-and-take for quite awhile. Finally, 1846, President gathered both groups in Washington and they said, "Ok,