GENERAL HISTORY ON FORT SILL, FORMATION OF "L TROOP", AND GENERAL SCOTT & COL. STECKER

(Yes, or is there anything about him that is interesting--)

Yes. Well, in the beginning there was Fort Sill which was started as a cavalry post. And after Fort Sill was established they stationed the cavalry there for police protection for the caravans and the emigrants and the Indians, too. And the reservation was given to the Indians and Fort Sill was to patrol it and keep trespassers off. They have lot of trouble with trespassers because it's so big a reservation that cattlemen from Texas cross the Red River and run cattle in there maybe a whole month or two before they ever discover them. Then they drive them back over there. And that's one of the reasons--the Texas people come over here and they get killed and our Indians go over there and steal horses and they get killed, and just back and forth. And they was trying to keep peace between Texas people and the Indians. And that's the reason they built Fort Sill. Now after Fort Sill was down there, they round up the Indians. They couldn't get them. After they signed the peace treaty in 1867 (Medicine Lodge Treaty), there wasn't a permanent peace--they still run over to Texas and they're still fighting. So the only way they could stop it was to get the leaders and send them to jail. So first of all they round them up and brought them here in 1874. Then they kept going back there so they got the leaders and took them to St. Augustine, Florida. The leaders of all tribes. And after that Fort Sill commenced to grow. It was maintained a cavalry post. And about 1892 they organized an Indian Troop. And most of them in the L Troop were Kiowas. Seventh United States Cavalry. Well, the Tenth Cavalry was stationed there all the time. That was composed of colored people--negroes. And when they organized the Indian Troop as part of the Seventh United States Cavalry because--you remember about Custer being wiped out--well, they reorganized the Seventh Cavalry here at Fort Sill and L Troop was composed of Indians. And L Troop was under the