

been held every five years for many years. Jess has been in charge of getting together a group of Arapahoes, including descendants of signers of the Treaty on several past occasions and was in charge again this year of the Arapaho group. Other tribes sending groups were the Cheyennes (a few), the Kiowas, the Comanches, and the Kiowa-Apaches. This interview is continued on T-475.

PAGEANT AT MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS: CHEYENNE BOYCOTT

(--the Cheyennes didn't have very many dances up there at Medicine Lodge?)

Well, at our annual meeting at the Thunderbird Coliseum at El Reno, the 7th of October where all of us go and attend--during the line-up of our tribal affairs by the business committee's reports. Naturally a good many Indians were there. I was there myself. And that afternoon while I was getting my Medicine Lodge Arapaho bunch organized and informed of what they should know, I was told that some of the older Cheyennes were going about to the Cheyennes that were anticipating going up there, telling them that that Medicine Lodge was no peace treaty. That Black Kettle, before he signed, announced to his Cheyennes that they'd break camp and move away from there, while the rest of them were going in to sing. Getting ready to sign the treaty. So the Cheyennes did pack up and leave and the soldiers were instructed to go out and run them down and bring them back in. Which did happen. And of course later on, about a day or so, Black Kettle was made to sign that treaty. Very much against his best judgment. But a little over a year thereafter, a previous order was carried out--the order that John M. Chivington that massacred the Cheyennes at Sand Creek, Colorado Territory, 1864, at which time he instructed the soldiers to spare Black Kettle's life, for Custer's army, later on. So evidently, through military forces or influence or information, Custer had that in mind to carry out. So after that Medicine Lodge Treaty in October 28, 1867, the following year, November 26, 1868, Custer did attack the Cheyenne camp out here in Roger Mills County near the town of Cheyenne. And he did kill Black Kettle and his wife. Because of that the Cheyennes said it was no peace treaty. And because of that no descendants of Cheyennes would go up there--even though