

went down there and checked our records, you know--found out that we misrepresented our ages and that disqualified us! That was 1897. All that fall. And then the next year was about the time this town was started--in 1898. Geary started. And the soldiers that were conscripted left--started moving out of Fort Reno to go to Cuba--Havana, Cuba and all those places. About that time Theodore Roosevelt started his Rough Riders. And three or four Indian boys--Cheyenne-Arapaho boys--did join. Joined with that division of Rough Riders. That was 1898. I know when Geary was started the Fourth of July here--the first Fourth of July was 1898. We had a little school band--an instrumental band. And we had a nice little band and Geary invited us to come up and we played up there on the Fourth of July. I know I was in the first potato race that they had over here the Fourth of July. And that was 1898.

(Let me go back just a minute. What ever made you decide to join the Army?) We thought we'd have a good time. We didn't think about the interests of war, you know. So many young boys there we played ball with--came as far as the state of Wisconsin and those places--and we thought we'd have a grand time and stay out of school. But I passed all right--there was no question about it. But those other boys--one of them was rather small, but two of us were husky. But then when they checked on us--that we was going to school at the Cheyenne-Arapaho school--of course the commanding officer at that time checked on us and they found out we had misrepresented our ages. So they disqualified us.

(Where that Federal Reformatory is now--where was this Fort Reno from there?) Right on the west of there--across on the north side. You see them tanks up there--the water tower--? That's old Fort Reno. And all around it were these