

(Wasn't he killed in the massacre we were talking about earlier?)

Yeah, over here at Washita. Yeah. He had about, anyway five wives.

(Was Birdchief one of Blackkettle's right hand man, was he a favorite warrior, or were they...)

They was just about on equal basis, he was a chief and grandpa was a chief.

All chiefs had equal, equal rating, I'd say. Yeah. My wife is a descendent of Blackkettle.

(She's a descendent of Blackkettle?)

Yeah.

(Then she would have come from one of the seven wives of Blackkettle...)

Yeah, her grandmother's mother.

MORE ABOUT AUTHORITY AND QUALIFICATIONS OF A CHIEF

(A point that interested me, you said whenever a chief said anything, they just took his word as law, didn't contest it... What do you account for the gradual decrease in the authority of the chief over the years? What do you think contributed to it?)

Well, just like I said, when the old chiefs died off and the other ones come in, they didn't understand the rules and regulations, to my way of thinking. Besides, all the other chiefs are gone now. There's one up here. My daddy could give you some others. He'd be hard of hearing...if he's in his right mind, he could tell you a lot, about the rules and regulations.

(You were telling me that you knew the rules and regulations that your grandfather had to abide by when he was chief, could you, could we go over those again? Could you tell us a little more about them?)

Well, the rule, the first rule was when you're chief, you have to have respect