

Second Speaker: Chief, I said everybody is entitled to mistake. I guess I'm entitled to the seventh. (Laughter) This was September, I didn't know about this one. But--

Unidentified Speaker: Mr. Harrington appointed me to make this presentation I have for him. This is a gift to you, Chief Belvin from the ladies of the Idabel Art and Crafts Center. (Applause) (Some Oh's and ah's from audience)

Second Speaker: He's sitting on his blanket now and everybody likes that. So it's a beautiful blanket. (Applause)

Chief Belvin: Let me thank my Indian colleagues, dignitaries, my Indian friends everywhere. I want to express my sincere appreciation for this day. And for the find tribute you have paid me, in honoring me with this dinner. These fine words of praise which I feel very humbly about. And many of which I know I'm not deserving. But I want you to know, I want you to know no one appreciates more than I. And I think I will prove it by continuing to be just as good a chief as I know how. I certainly want to thank the association for the presentation of this beautiful plaque. The University of Oklahoma for it's presentation of this fine recognition. This is recognition for my work in the field of education. The Oklahoma Bible Society for the presentation of this Choctaw Testament. And Idabel Arts and Crafts for presenting me this beautiful blanket. I say, this in all sincerity, I appreciate this more than I can express. You make me feel very humble because I'm not used to much praise. I'm just a little man that has guided, if I have guided at all by the help of the people. And I have learned one thing if I've learned nothing else that if you have good leadership, you must certainly have good followership. And during my struggle down these years theres some of the Indian problems that I have coped with, and that was in connection with the Bureau of Indian Affairs which at one time was very, very unkind to the Choctaws. I want you to know that I would have been a forgotten number long, long ago, if it had not been for fidelity, appreciation and the conscience of the