

LAW AND ORDER IN EARLY DAYS ON RESERVATION

I thought we would start on these.

(All right. That would be fine. That's fine.)

This here, I just wrote that. I was writing that when you came in.

(You were?)

I wanted a guide to go with so we would have it in line.

(Well, that's just fine. Do you want to talk about the outlaws and the police?)

Yeah. You know, the government used to issue money to the Indians in cash. And it was escorted from Ft. Sill in wagons and cavalry and Indian Police and United States Marshals. Pretty procession. I thought I would just go by this. First, we ought to have the organization of the Indian police,

(I'd like to. Maybe you could tell me how they came to establish the Indian Police and explain why they did.)

Yeah. Well, way back there, just like I said, the country was wild. There were no laws and no government of any kind and there were Indian wars with the government and raiding and killing on both sides and it looks like it was a free-for-all without police of any kind. Then the United States organized and sent a commission to form a peace treaty and made peace with the Indians. Then tried to establish government and police, and tried to have everything in peace. But they didn't put the police at that time, they just used the cavalry men for police. United States Cavalry men. So they established Ft. Sill. That was way back in about 1869. Well, from that time on they told the Indians that they must obey the government orders and if anybody violates the law--killing or stealing or anything of the kind--they would be