

women folks heard the shootin' early that morning, naturally they knew it must be an attack. The Cheyenne were camping quite near where Custer made his attack. But the Kiowas, Comanches, the Cheyennes, and Arapahoes were camped together. They were all associated close together quite a little ways. So, the Arapahoes, at that moment, couldn't protect the Cheyennes. Anyway the women all went out there with their ropes and whatever they had to catch their ponies, and this mother-in-law of mine went out and told them, "You pack up our hides and what little food you gonna carry. I'm gonna go out and get our ponies". So, she did. She brought in three or four.

(That is when the soldiers attacked?)

Yeah. They was still shootin' and attacking. Well in the meantime, the Arapaho Company known as the War Hawks, got together under leadership of Little Shield. And they formed a group there in the vines and tall grass, slough grass, there in the bottoms of the Washita. And they made their attack and cut off Major Ellis' band. They wiped them out in no time. There was just one Arapaho killed at that time, that was Tobacco. But this--

(His name was Tobacco?)

Yeah. Arapaho. This time my mother-in-law was saddle up their ponies, getting their buffalo hides, meat, and all this and that together. This little boy's coming up from west there--one leg was down there and hair was one side his hair was unloose and he was carrying bow and arrow. She looked at him and says, "Mother, that is my nephew (Indian name not clear)." She says, "Come on and hurry up." It's a cold morning, you know, frosty--had a little snow that morning. So, little boy come there. She picked him up and put 'im on behind saddle--fine saddle. Covered him up with buffalo robe and tied up their food and blankets and the mother and mother's younger sister, and took out and the fight went on. That night they find a place to hover up for the night. They had things to eat and nice covers of buffalo robes and they told this boy. "Why did you come-- come round this way?" Mom says. He said, "My folks is running, and I couldn't find my coat and my blanket--little boys wear blankets--and I know you folks is camped here and that's why I come." So, she used to ridicule this man in