

Arapahoes--the five Plains tribes--Little Raven got back his old retired chiefs. He ignored the young selection he had made. So Bird Chief, he said, "No, I ain't going to sign that treaty. We done gave young men the chiefship. We retired. Just because this is coming on--give them a chance to sign that treaty. They know all about our problems. We're old now. We can't be of no more use to them." So he refused to sign that Medicine Lodge Treaty. But he's one that signed that Treaty of 1851 at Fort Laramie, Wyoming.

(You mean he felt that he was too old to sign?)

Yeah, he felt that those boys that had been selected ought to be respected and given the job--recognition of signing that treaty. But Little Raven, he said, "No. We old ones are going to sign it." So he--Little Raven--went back on his word. And this hat he's got on? (referring to military style hat on the man in the picture)--I think he got that from a bugler. I think he killed a bugler or something like that. I think at that Washita fight with Custer. And that's why he's wearing that bugler hat.

(It's a tall hat with a bugle emblem on the front, and looks like there's a feather or plume on the side.)

Yeah. He's a fine looking man, they said.

(This Little Raven--you said he went back on his word--I don't understand--?)

Well, he already had selected these young men and he was retiring, see? Then when he heard about Medicine Lodge Treaty going to be signed he got back the old chiefs and ignored his recent selections.

ARAPAHO CHIEFS ELECTED ACCORDING TO TREATY OF 1851

(Oh. That goes back to the way the Arapahoes selected their chiefs?)

Yeah. See, we still have that. Article VI of Treaty of 1851 provides that "the parties--the second party of this treaty shall henceforth elect their chiefs and headmen who shall do all their national business in their behalf. And they shall maintain these chiefs and their successors during good behavior." That's what Article VI says. So we still elect chiefs. That's