

arms down to the lower Creeks and Seminole. Some of the historians tell the pathetic story of U-Pa-Tha-Yahola--slained in Kansas, dying and starving. He had plenty of supplies. He had money. He had arms. Well, this large group of Confederates, I mean, Yankee sympathizers were gathering at Eufaula. They started raiding the Confederate's area. Just incensed the Confederates a great deal. They were trying to stay neutral. They didn't want to become involved. So, they marched a large troop of Texans right through the Cherokee Nation--holding up arms, beautiful gray coats. And they thought, "Well, this will be another thing that will impress John Ross so Much." John Ross was so strong about remaining neutral, he passed the act of neutrality. He said, "No, I won't have anything to do with it."

Stand Watie says, "This is my chance." He says, "I know exactly how most of the Cherokees feel--especially the influential mixed-blood who control the Nation." Now, bear in right--bear in mind, that John Ross said --many mixed-blood friends who were a part of his party too. They were the leaders of the full-bloods groups; but, yet, they were White People. So, John Ross still remained neutral, staying away, he says, "Fellows, I think I'm going to raise a group, and we'll call them, uh, Stand Watie's Mounded Troops or Indian Brigade." And he says, "Come on over to my place." He says, "I'll get you gun or you bring your gun and we'll start training a little bit."

This terrified Ross, because John Ross knew exactly what was gonna happen. He knew that the Confederates were going to come in and they were going to put--if necessary, they were going bring the Army in; and they would force the Cherokees to surrender to the South." Then, he says, "Oh, my god," here's Stand Watie raising--a whole regiment there, and they're going to march in Tahlequah here and they're going to take over." And he says, "Then, Wattie'll declare himself the chief, the Principal Chief." So he gathered his group up in August and he says, "Listen, fellows," he says, "it looks pretty bad." He says, "They don't pay us our money any more. They've withdrawn the troops. I changed my mind. The South looks a lot