

better than it did. So they voted here at Tablequah, August 1861. They gave him total rights to do what he wanted to. They met all the Confederate leaders came and met October, 1861, at Park Hill. They signed the act of Union with the Confederacy. This really made Stand Watie mad.

He said, "My god, what happened. My boy raised a regiment." In order to avert trouble, President Jefferson Davis says, "Ross, you raise a regiment. And Watie, I'll let your regiment stand, and I'll supply the money for both of us." So we had-- the John Ross was commanded by Colonel John Drew. Stand Watie's group was of course, he was first in command and his nephew. Son of the murdered Elias Boudinot was the second in command. So they started raising the troops, and I drew up a few statistics which was pretty incredible about the Civil War. And I just wanted to run thru them real quickly--for instance, most of the Cherokees carried double barrel shot gun. Now, girls, I mean, ladies, you don't know difference when it's double barrel or a rifle; but, anyway, a double barrel shot gun if you were lucky from here to that back wall wouldn't kill no body. But a rifle, you could shoot half way across town and kill anybody if you're a good shot. But the Cherokees had these old double barrel muzzle loading rifles. That's all they had, because through most of the war, the Cherokees--the Confederates did not furnish any arms. They also brought in the squirrel rifles, they brought in flint locks, they brought in all sorts of things. Now, the Cherokees loved the thing called the Bowie Knife. The Bowie Knife was two sided. You could cut people up both ways. They also had what they called Arkansas Toothpick. It was about that long, and the blade was about that wide. So you can stick it in and pull it out real easy, see. It wouldn't get too bloody. They also used a great deal of British arms in here. As I've told you, these two particular Confederate guns here--they were declared obsolete. Did you know Confederates fought four years with obsolete guns? Several of the battles-- and this one particular battle when the Cherokees were going into it, over half of their men did not even have guns. And so, they waited exactly like the Chinese did in the Korean War.