

Cherokee artist? They lived at the exact side of Cannonment Davis. The old mound's still there and you can look across. When the trees are down, you can see for his build as a spy--fort--against Fort Gibson. So he said, "You can't take the troop because," he says, "when we signed the treaty with the Confederates, the agreement was that the Cherokees were never to leave their lands, and you'll violate that treaty."

Vandorn says, "Look," he says, "I'm commander of the Trans-Mississippi." He says, "You get those Cherokees up there." He says, "You get them up fast." He says, "I want you to march them up there in three days."

(Albert Pike said), "My god, man," he says, "We can't. We'll have to run all the way."

He (Vandorn) says, "Look, get them up there."

So, also, the rest of the Confederates were hiding out in the Boston hills, Boston Mountains there around Fayetteville.

Vandorn ordered those groups on a rapid march and the Cherokees to run practically all the way from Fayetteville, I mean Tahlequah up there. This was the prelude to the big battle. So when Vandorn gathered his troops up there, Albert Pike's group ran into complete exhaustion. He had Watie's regiment and he had John Drew's regiment there. Pike set down his troops, his Cherokee troops--my god, they had shot guns, they had tomahawks, they had bows and arrows, they had hand made knives, and they were all dressed out for the finery, you know, for the big battle; they're wives had sewed their uniforms, and they were completely exhausted.

So, Albert Pike says, "My troops are going to rest."

And Commander says, "No," he says, "We're marching up to Bentonville (?)." He says, "We're going to catch General Curtis and General Seagle, and we're going to wipe them out."

Pike says, "These Indians can't do it." The other group coming over from around Fort Smith were exhausted too. He tried to reason with Vandorn and he says, "These, both of these groups, are worn out."

Vandorn says, "March up to Bentonville."

They marched up to Bentonville and there they almost trapped Seagle in the group; but they fled just a few miles from