

promise you they're not going to fight you. They're not going to hurt you. They just heard about you--how you people are suffering out here. It was wintertime. You're suffering out here in this cold and no wood. The white people just want to be friends to you. They just want to be nice to you. They feel sorry for you. Now you come on down there. As soon as you get over there you're going to butcher. You're going to have all the meat you want and all the food you want." No, they still didn't come. "I don't know," my father said, "How many times they sent men--Indian scouts--to come after them." So finally they made up their minds he said. He said, "Let's try them. They've come out here too many times, and they haven't given up on us. Let's try them." He said, "We can leave the best horses that we have here in the Plain--our horses. Everybody catch your mares and ponies that are no good. Let the children ride on the ponies and the women and men ride the mares down there." So they left them boys and girls out there. And someone had already said, "Just as soon as you get here, you people, that don't want to leave the Plain, they're going to pick out the young men and young women--young girls, those that are not married, and the boys that are single. They're going to send them way off to educate them, to go to school, so they can learn to talk like a white man." No, they got scared of that. So the girls and boys stayed behind with some of the older people, I guess. And they all stayed out here, and a few of the girls and boys went with their relatives to Fort Reno. That's when they met these soldiers in a green wagon. Met them over here at the South Canadian River. When these people, just as soon as they went down that hill, the soldiers were already waiting for them. In the middle of that