

So there was no opposition among the Arapahoes. There was with the Cheyennes. See, Black Kettle was the principal chief of the Cheyennes recognized, and when they got to Medicine Lodge, Kansas to camp, and got ready to sign, well, Black Kettle said he wouldn't sign that treaty because three years before that there was the Chivington massacre of the Cheyennes in Colorado Territory. And that hadd't been forgotten yet. So he said, "The government is gonna lie to you, anyhow. They just want to get our land." So they broke camp and left before he signed. So the soldiers went out and pacified him, and he came back and eventually signed that Treaty of Medicine Lodge, but Little Raven got his old party back, and they signed that treaty. They were already retired, see.

(By the old party, you mean the old chiefs--?)

The old chiefs, yeah. But he got them together, and they're the ones that signed that treaty. So Left Hand and them didn't sign that.

(Left Hand was one of the incoming chiefs?)

Yeah.

(And who were the others?)

He would have been qualified to sign the treaty.

(Who were some of the others with Left Hand?)

There was my father, and Powder Face and Bull Thunder and Yellow Horse and Scabby Bull, Black Coyote--they're the ones that signed the Treaty of 1890 eventually.

They should have been the ones.

TRADITIONAL CHIEFS: DUTIES:

(How many chiefs did they have back in those days--was there any special number?)

I never--no, no specific number. It all depended upon the record of activities during warfare, you know. Took care of the old, and the orphan children and the sick people. That was always considered a high recognition of a man, regardless of how many coups he may have been, or experienced. Because of his tribal doings, that's how he was always recognized--even today.

POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IN EARLY 20th CENTURY: GENERAL COUNCIL AND CHIEFS:

(You were mentioning that before you wrote your Constitution back in 1937 that