

GRANDFATHER WAS COURAGEOUS WARRIOR AND WAS IN THE BATTLE OF CUSTER'S LAST STAND

(Do you remember how many coups your grandfather had, over his life, in battle? Did he ever tell you?)

No, he's in several. He was up here I think at Custer's Last Stand.

(Was he fighting in Custer's Last Stand?)

Yeah, they had a lot of different tribes over there, at that time. See, they made peace with Custer to not bother Indians again. But one of my grandpas told another chief that he was goin' find out if Custer was telling the truth. But he said, "Myself, I don't believe Custer. When we get through smokin', when we got these ashes, I'm goin' empty in my shoes and you watch him. If he don't move, why, he's tellin' the truth. As soon as I hit his foot, when he moves, why, he's tellin' a lie. When he's tellin' lie, he'll move his (Cheyenne word) or his dress." That's what he done... He took that pipe, why, Custer he moved his feet. And he told them about it and he told 'em, "I told you he was tellin' lie." And that's why he met his Waterloo, or what is it, at Little Bighorn, see. And they scout him all the time. They know they couldn't trust Custer. That's why he met his Waterloo.

STORY OF BATTLE OF LITTLE BIG HORN

(So Birdchief was up at Little Bighorn when they were fighting?)

Yeah, there was a lot of different tribes. There was Cheyenne, and there was Sioux, and I forgot what other tribes there were, several tribes. Custer is supposed to have another regiment there to help him, but you know how Custer, he wanted to get all the glory. He thought they was a little bunch...he could wipe 'em out.

(Did your, did Birdchief ever tell you anything about his battles at Little