

JACOB, RICHARD T. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH. 7544

Carl R. Sherwood, Interviewer
Indian-Pioneer History
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Biographical Sketch of Richard T. Jacob as given by Robert L. Stewart, Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Information secured while Robert L. Stewart and Field Worker, Carl R. Sherwood were in camp at Fort Sill, August 6-21, 1937.

Richard T. Jacob is one of the oldest military men who saw service in the southwestern country, and for a number of years his duties kept him in the old Indian Territory. His first service was at Fort Gibson and after a few weeks he was transferred to Fort Arbuckle in the Chickasaw Nation. At that time he was nineteen years of age and yet had been commissioned as Second Lieutenant of Company E. Sixth United States Infantry in the regular army. He was born in November, 1848, in Louisville, Kentucky, and received his education there, finishing his education in the Kentucky Military Institute at Frankfort, Kentucky.

When General B. F. Grierson selected the site of Fort Sill in 1868, Lieutenant Jacobs was in his company and was more familiar than any other man in Oklahoma with the facts connected with the founding of that historic military post.

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It was about that time that the soldiers were having trouble with the Arapaho Indians and until Fort Sill was established Old Fort Cobb was the nearest headquarters to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Reservations. While at Fort Sill Lieutenant Jacobs was promoted to Captain by General B. F. Grierson.

From Fort Sill Captain Jacobs went to Fort Supply in what is now Woodward County. Altogether he saw four years of service in Indian Territory during those early years, Fort Dodge, Kansas, was also one of his headquarters, and from there he was transferred to service in North Dakota where he saw eight years of service in the Sioux Indian Reservation. His headquarters were at Fort Buford for five years.

In North Dakota he was in command of the Indian Scouts. During the latter part of his career as an officer of the regular army he was in Colorado in service during the Oso Indian uprising. He left the service at Fort Lyons, Colorado, in 1881 and returned to Louisville, Kentucky, to engage in business and for a time was a United States Deputy Marshal.

At the outbreak of the Spanish American War he

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received a commission from President McKinley as Captain of Company E, Eighth United States Volunteer Infantry.

This regiment was organized and for some time was located at Fort Thomas, Kentucky, later at Chickamauga, it was mustered out March 6, 1899.

Captain Jacob returned to the country which nearly forty years before he had known as Indian Territory.