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BEAL, KNOX

INTERVIEW

8903

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

BEAL, KNOX

INTERVIEW

8903

Field Worker's name R. B. Thomas,

This report made on (date) November 5, 1937

1. Name Knox Beal,

2. Post Office Address Cache, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year 1872

5. Place of birth Texas.

6. Name of Father Quanh Parker, Place of birth Oklahoma.

Other information about father He was a Comanche Chief of Oklahoma

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about mother Died when I was very small.

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 4.

BEAL, KNOX

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R. B. Thomas,
November 5, 1937.
Interviewer.

An Interview with Mr. Knox Beal,
Cache, Oklahoma.

My name is ~~Knox~~ Beal. I am sixty-five years of age, and I live in Cache on a small tract of land one mile from town. I was born in Texas and my parents died when I was a small boy. I came to western Oklahoma when a small boy, and the Comanche Chief, Quanah Parker, adopted me and called me his son. I learned to speak the Comanche language and know it fluently now. I was interpreter for the agency many years.

I went on trips to Texas hunting with my adopted father and we killed a great many buffalo and deer and turkey. My Chief always wanted me to go as he loved me as his own son. He was a very kind father to me and I loved him very much.

Dave Grantham was also adopted by Chief Quanah Parker but he was grown and did not stay with him all the time; however, he did draw an allotment from the Government when the Comanches were allotted. He now

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lives at Mountain Park and is close to ninety years old. But he did not go with Quanah Parker all of the time like I did. I learned to shoot buffalo and deer and learned to use the bow and arrow; also I was my Chief's personal bodyguard and advisor.

I did not get to go to school very much but received a practical education.

I went to South America in 1914 for two years with an oil company. I have traveled a great deal since I was twenty-five years old. I have been in every western and central state and have been with shows and told the people of other states about Oklahoma Indians. I was a personal friend of I-Oo-See A-Pe-Ah-Tone, a Comanche Chief, who died in Cotton County, near Apeahstone, a town named after him.

I have been on long hunting expeditions with my father in Texas .

Tom Burnett was a personal friend of Quanah Parker and helped him build his house three miles north of Cache, in Comanche County, in 1890. It had twelve large rooms

and had four large stars on it, and Qhannah had a special room for himself and one each for his three wives. He built a fifteen foot fence around this house and kept the gate locked all the time.

Quannah Parker, my father, fed a great many Comanche Indians. He had a great herd of cattle and horses in 1890 and when he died in 1911, he did not have many left because he was so generous. When a person became hungry he fed them. He could not stand to see anyone of his tribe go hungry.

I was a close personal friend of Herman Lehmann, a white boy of Texas, whom the Indians captured when he was nine years old and kept nine years. He and I had lots of fun together. We were about the same age. He wrote a book in 1900, entitled Nine Years Among The Comanches. He was allotted land in the Pig Pasture near Grandfield and is now in Texas. I remember going on a big hunt into Texas with Quannah Parker, Herman Lehmann and Tuck Locke, another white man who was raised with the Comanches. We killed a number of deer

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and buffalo, and the Comanches dried the meat and sold the hides.

I think I know and speak the Comanche language better than any other white man with the exception perhaps of Tuck Locke.

I went to Parker County, Texas, with A. C. Birdsong and helped bring back the body of Cynthia Anne Parker and they buried her at Post Oak Cemetery.

I was a personal friend to Lone Wolf, the Kiowa Chief, Jasper Saunkea, now United States Marshal for the Western district of Oklahoma. I knew General Hugh Scott; he and I-Oo-See were great friends. I-Oo-See was his Apache Scout.

I spent many days at Fort Sill among the Apaches and with Colonel R. A. Sneed who was a trader from 1887.