The Bates Battle

Told June 17, 2004 by Mary Kate Underwood

he'i'oothiino' nuh'u' beh'eiho' hunit.
*The old folks were camped right there.*

beh'eiho' wo'ei3 heeneiteihinoo3i woow hitiiteen,
*Our ancestors, or people from whatever other tribes.*

anyway hitiiteen you know what that means? the tribe.

he'i'oothiino'
*They were camped.*

He’ne’ii’bisisiotei3i3i’ nuh'uuno nihsii nonooneeheini3i.
*Then they were attacked by this cavalry.*

'oh ne'iini nosoutei’eihini’, boo’ei3i' nuhu'.
*And then we were still strong, they were [still] fighting.*

he‘nee3neeniisini booboo'ei3i'.
*They were really fighting hard.*

neneeninoo noh hu'un wooneihi3i' honoh'oho'.
*Me and those young men [said one elder].*

betebi- betebihiho' he'ihcisiini 3owouucitiino’ hiyeih'inoo.
*The old ladies were spending their time taking down their lodges.*

nih'iteeteesenou'u hu'un, niisih'oo3i', niiteeseye3i'.
*They were loading things on that, what they call it, where they load things.*

yiih3ookuhoo3i'.
*They followed [the rest of the camp] over to there.*

nebesiibehe' nebesiibehe' ne'cih'esooku'oot.
*My grandfather, my grandfather, then he was watching all this [from a distance].*

cih'esoohowoot nuh'uuno nooneeheini3i.
*He was watching the cavalry.*

“cihnee!” nih’ii3eihok nuh’uuno.
*“Come on!” [a relative] said to him.*
“neenowo’!”
“Hurry!”

“cihnee! bonoo3eti’,” he’ih’ii3e’.
“Come on!, we’re fighting,” [the relative] said to him

hu’un hee3nee- “ne’cih’owootooku'oono’,” my grandpa said.
*Those ones were really... “then we were enjoying the show,” my grandpa said.*

cih- hoowoot- I enjoyed watching the battle.
*It was fun...I enjoyed watching the battle.*

Kokoh’u3ecoo.
*Imagine that!*

*And as they were moving along, you know that’s where these cavalry, then this cavalry would chase them, nuh’uuno nooneehei3i’ they went up.*

'oh hini' hiisoo' hee3ebcowootee' booo.
*And how the land was there, there was a path over there along the ridge top.*

nee'eetoo3i' nuh'uuno nooneehei3i’.
*That’s where the cavalry were.*

'oh he'ihno'o3- nihii neeneh’éi3i’ hinit.
*And those cavalry killed a lot of people right there.*

nih'iitees- teestokohu3i'.
*They fled up to the top.*

wo'ei3 he'iitoxuni3i nuhu' nono'eino, hi'in hihnó’ooninoo,
*And some number of Arapahos, the ones they had killed [were left behind],*

'oh ne'- he'- he3ebciistokohu3i’.
*[The rest] fled far over there.*

Noh noonoo'ooheii3i’ hinit.
*And [the cavalry] killed a lot of Arapahos right there.*

‘oh biibisisinenino.
*They were all lying around in the open.*

hiwo'oh'ooninoo hinit he3ebiini, wonenei'ooheii3i’.
Their moccasins were lying right there, they went to look at them.

He’ihbisiseninino nhuhu’ hiwo’oh’ooninoo noh nhuhu’ hinii3iyooninoo.
Their mocassins and their other possessions were all lying there in the open.

Noh nih’ii-
And they were...

Noh niihibisisineninino.
And [their possessions which they had abandoned or lost] were all lying around.

Ne’iini he’iitoxunoo3i toonhee3ebiisiiini tokohu3i’.
Then some number of them fled over there somewhere.

Wo’ei3 hi’in hinoh’ooinoo, ‘oh nih’iiinoo’oohoo3i’ nih’ii3i’ hinit.
And those they had killed, well they massacred [lots] right there, [the old folks] said

‘Oh ne’iini bee3iini boo’ei3i’.
And then they finished fighting.

Ne’cihce3ixohoo3i’ nhu’uuno hiniihei’ininoo wo’ei3 hiniito’eininoo.
Then they carried off their parents or their relatives [who had been killed].

‘Oh nhu’u nhu’o3ou’u, noh ne’niih’iisnoonoo’oohi3i’
And the whites, that’s how they lots of Arapahos got killed.

Ne’niih’iiniisih’iitou’u nhuhu’ Bates.
That’s what they named it, this Bates.

Ne’nii’iitou’u Battlefield.
That’s what they call it, battlefield.