Where Nooke’ei Beh’ei Unravelled Himself

Told June 17, 2004 told by Mary Kate Underwood

hinee he’ih'oonootiino'.
They were camped there.

huu3e’ ci’kooxne'iini hi’in niihi bisiitonei3i’, hi’i
Yet again they cavalry attacked them there, and they tried to escape and hide from them.

’oh nehe' niihi nebesiibeih’inoo, nebesiibeih’inoo
And our grandfather, our grandfather,

ne'nih'iitooku3cihit niihi3oo3i’
That’s where he unravelled himself, they said about him.

he'ih'ini [ni]hii nihiiseneenit,
They wrap him up in a diaper,

neehiis[t]oo3i’ hiiwoonhehe' hiniisooninoo.
like they do with their children today.

kon tou’ciniisennoo3i’.
They just wrap them up tight in something or other.

he'ihniiseneih nehe' nebesiibeh'inoo
Our grandfather was wrapped up.

noh nenitee he’ne'ini yoo3kuu3eit.
And someone hid him [when the attack occurred].

he'ihsehbiibise'einino'.
They were sticking their heads up [from the brush where they were hiding] to see over there.

[he’ih]kookoonenowuunee nuhu' hiyeih'inoo.
[The cavalry] were opening up their lodges [and looking inside].

noh hinenitee, hi'in niihi, he'ne'3ebnei'ooku'oot.
And one [Arapaho] person, that one well, then he looked over there.

nehe’ ceese’ noohobe' nehe' nih'iihok
This one, “look at this one!” said [the Arapaho].

heeneise'enou'uyihooni3i, nuhu' hinotiiheiitooninoo;
They were ready to go on, the ones who were looking for them;

noh nehe' nooke'ei beh'ei – I couldn't think of his name –
And this “White Headed Old Man/Bald Eagle”

nooke'ei beh'ei, nebesiibeih'inoo he'ih'ooku3cihi.
White Headed Old Man, our grandfather had [crawled out in the open and] unraveled his diaper
[behind him].

See hooku3cihi means unraveled himself, he was just a baby, you know, and here they
were trying to keep him hidden.

nihneyeiyoo3kuu3eit.
They were trying to hide him.

noh he’ihniihenooku3cihi.
And he had unraveled himself [and crawled into the open].

[Fortunately the cavalry did not see him, and the Arapahos escaped].

So they called that [place] nooke'ei beh'ei heetooku3cihit.
So they called that place “Where White Headed Old Man Unravelled Himself”.