- Detailed description of the happenings at Blackfoot Crossing when Treaty #7 was signed. On what I am about to speak is very important. Just the way I heard it is how I am going to speak on it. This is Bruised Head who branches out from Red Crow. He was close to what was said, and he is the one who told me the full story, in the first Peace Treaty #7.

Every tribe of the Blackfoot Confederacy camped at Ridge Under the Water, who were about to negotiate. Tall White Man who also had camped where the Indians' camps were. The scarlet coats, a police force, had also their camp.

Crowfoot, Blackfoot; Red Crow, Bloods; Sitting on Eagle Tail Feathers, Peigan; Bull Head, Sarcee; and Stoney Head Chief is the only one I don't know. These are the four head chiefs of the tribes. After the negotiation was over with Tall White Man (David Laird), I was told the one who interprets, I don't know his name, had a hard time in translating the English into Blackfoot language. Tall White Man told the Blackfoot representatives, "I am here to represent our Great Mother Queen, to negotiate with you in making a peace treaty, and to quit killing each other and keep a good relationship amongst you and all the different tribes in your future lives. That's why I am here. Soon after we get through making peace treaty, for a short period of time, you will still be hunting the buffalo for your livelihood. You will be supplied with ammunition from our Great Mother Queen, the police and myself."
At the change of life when you have nothing to hunt, with the assistance you will be getting, which we might say some money for your livelihood. Whenever the best means of food and so forth, that's where the money will be spent."

After negotiating how much money you will be getting, the sum of $12.00 was decided, and that's when this ammunition money was promised. They are separate funds from our annuity payment of $12.00 and I don't know which one of the chiefs or minor chiefs it was who told Tall White Man that until you solemnly take oath as long as the sun shines, rivers flow, grass grows and the mountains stand, will be the only time we will agree and sign peace treaty. These are the negotiations. Tall White Man answered, "I will certainly agree to make an oath according to what you want me to do." Right after Tall White Man took the oath on the wishes of the chiefs, then the chiefs and minor chiefs signed the peace treaty.

As the year went by, the following summer the Blood Tribe camped at the junction of the two rivers, the Old Man River and the Belly River, and that's where they received their second payment in money and their third payment took place just where the old hospital is at Fort Macleod and that's where another government official came to pay the $12.00 per head to the Blood tribe. That's when the high official told the Blood tribe, this is the last time you will be receiving $12.00. $7.00 will be paid into a tribal fund for you. Every year after this one you will be getting annuity of $5.00. The $7.00 will be used to educate your children and medical services and whatever you will be in need of assistance. This $5.00 which will be paid out to you every year will last as long as the earth exists.

At earlier times during negotiations for the Peace Treaty, Tall White Man told the Blackfoot tribes to give how much their annuity payment would be. One chief wanted $50.00. Another chief asked for $25.00. Most of the tribes were just getting ready to be in favour of the $25.00 payment. This police sent a word to Bad Head for him to say how much money he wants to get paid. Early the next morning, Bad Head called on his tribe to listen to what he was going to announce and he said our annuity will be $12.00.

This man called Tall White Man told Crowfoot, right here where we just got through negotiating the Peace Treaty, is where your reserve will be set aside, for it will be surveyed. East and west are satisfied with this land and Crowfoot answered, "Yes I am." Then he called on Red Crow, "You are the next in line. On the east end or the west end of Crowfoot's reservation, pick out which one you want for your reservations. The other end will go to Peigan tribe. When some assistance comes from the government, they will be shipped in one place." This is what Tall White Man told Red Crow and Red Crow answered him, "No I am going back to the Belly Buttes and Whoop-up and that's where I am going to stay." Tall White Man answered and said to Red Crow, "You have signed Peace Treaty. You cannot argue with me. What I tell you goes. We will close the meeting till tomorrow. When you hear the first shot of the cannon in the mid-morning,
it means you must get prepared to come to the meeting. The second, that means the meeting will start."

The next morning, the first shot came and Red Crow was already prepared with his spiritual powers, the powers he used on his warpaths. The second shot went off and he went over to where the meeting was to be held. He was the last to arrive. Tall White Man and the rest of the high officials and all other tribal chiefs were already waiting for him. He just walked straight to where Tall White Man was seated and offered to shake hands with him, which Tall White Man accepted. And right then, he told Tall White Man, "What I am going to tell you is what's going to be, as you are looking at me. This land you see is what I own and all these people who are here also own this land. I will give the command. For you, you were born across the big waters - that's where you can give your command. I signed the Peace Treaty to be brothers as long as we live and for the future, and as you are looking at me, my father, mother, blood relations and relatives are all buried in Belly Buttes and Whoop-up, and that goes for all the Blood Tribe because I know this part of the country for a fact. In winters, there are times when the buffalo freeze to death. Over at Belly Buttes and Whoop-Up there is plenty of shelter to camp and the buffalo also spend the winter in that area." When he got through talking to Tall White Man, he just leaned way back on his seat and he answered, "What you have just said is true. You have every right to choose which land you want to keep during the negotiations."

On the Peace Treaty, Tall White Man never mentioned land deal when he promised to pay $12.00 every year as long as the sun shines and rivers flow.

This concludes my story.

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