

T-437

GRAYHORSE GIVEAWAY; OSAGE

RECORDED DATE: JUNE 8, 1969

RECORDED BY: OLIVER ABRAMS

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TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: OLIVER ABRAMS

(This is Osage Giveaway dances on June 8, 1969.)

Francis Pipestem: We are here to honor here, the drummer here in the Grayhorse District. We want you to come.

(Songs last for several minutes of tape.)

(The Osage Giveaway Dances are conducted annually to commemorate the songs of families and friends. The dances last four days and the giveaway dances are usually held on the last Sunday afternoon. This tape was taken on June 8, 1969 at the Grayhorse community, just outside of Fairfax, Oklahoma. The Master of Ceremonies is Francis Pipestem, Oto Indian married to an Osage woman. The head drum keeper at Grayhorse is Pierce St. John. Criers are Jim Water and an Omaha Indian man. After each song the relatives and friends give blankets, food, shawls or money to their friends. Originally giveaway was to visiting people (tribes), only.

(Songs last for several minutes of tape.)

Francis Pipestem: Now then ladies and gentlemen I come in the interest of Mr. and Mrs. Mashburn. This is their thought, being that their boy is in Vietnam and being that this is the principal day when you think of those that are yours. Being that it is not possible for him to be here, but there is a boy here this afternoon who was wounded, who was there in that area in Vietnam, where our boy is today. We want him to come and this is our thanks to him for the contribution he has made for the cause of the way of life that we Indian people have. So in behalf of their son, Ted, they want Mr. Mashunkashey, John Henry Mashunkashey. I understand this young man finished his tour of duty in Vietnam, was wounded, is home. As a gesture of respect to this service that he has given to his country and thinking of their son