

T-436
RALPH GOODMAN, CHEYENNE
INTERVIEWED BY: BOYCE D. TIMMONS
TRANSCRIBED BY: FLORA QUINATA
TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY:
JULIA A. JORDAN
DATE OF INTERVIEW: 6-4-69

GENERAL SUBJECT: INDIAN PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE; CHEYENNE CHIEFS
AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES; COMMENTS ON CERTAIN ASPECTS
OF CHEYENNE HISTORY

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

CHEYENNE PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS
CRITICISM OF INDIAN BELIEFS BY WHITES
RALPH'S HOPE THAT SOME CHEYENNE TRADITIONS WILL CONTINUE,
AND HOW HE PROVIDED FOR HIS GRANDCHILDREN
ADVICE OF OLDER CHIEFS TO CHIEFS-ELECT AND RELATIONSHIP
OF CHIEFS WITH EACH OTHER
ROLE OF CHEYENNE CHIEFS TODAY WITH RESPECT TO OTHER KINDS
OF LEADERS
ETIQUETTE FOR CHIEFS
COMMENTS ON BLACK KETTLE, AND SAND CREEK MASSACRE
COMMENTS ON CUSTER AND BATTLE OF LITTLE BIG HORN; YELLOW
NOSE'S STORY
TRUE STORY OF INDIAN HISTORY STILL NOT BROUGHT OUT, AND
PATRIOTISM OF AMERICAN INDIANS
COMMENTS ON HOW PAT HENNESSEY, A WHITE FREIGHTER, WAS
KILLED

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Ralph Goodman was born in 1894 and attended Chilocco Boarding School. He was an active member of the Native American Church and a Cheyenne chief for many years. At the time of this interview he was the next to the oldest of the 44 Cheyenne chiefs. His daughter is Josephine Red Cherries of Kingfisher. Ralph Goodman died in 1970.

NOTE: The quality of this recording is not good as the microphone was too far away from the speaker. Most of the testimony is intelligible, however, though there are a few gaps as indicated.

(Tape opens with a few minutes of conversation between Mr. Timmons, Ralph Goodman, and Jess Rowledge the night of June 3, 1969. This conversation is not transcribed as the comments made by Jess and Ralph were made again on other tapes. This transcript begins with the interview between Mr. Timmons and Ralph Goodman in Mr. Timmon's office the morning of June 4, 1969.)

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF CHEYENNES

My people used to say to live just to be living--just to be alive. Maybe live. Like I said, I hear lots of old people talk, you know. I told her (some lady who had apparently