

T-620-1 (First of Six Interviews)

RUBY DIEBOLD, SENECA-CAYUGA

INTERVIEWED BY: VELMA NEIBERDING

INTERVIEW DATE: NOVEMBER 30, 1969

TRANSCRIBED BY: MONETTE COOMBES

TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: MONETTE COOMBES

GENERAL SUBJECT: FAMILY HISTORY; CEREMONIALS; DESCRIPTION OF DANCES
AND GAMES; SPEECH BY ERNIE WHITETREE IN SENECA
LANGUAGE

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

INTRODUCTION OF INFORMANT

CEREMONIES - DANCES

CLANS

PEACH SEED GAME AND HARVEST DANCE

PICTURES AND RECORDINGS NOT PERMITTED IN CEREMONIES

TOBACCO SACRED IN CEREMONIES

GREEN CORN DANCE

LANGUAGE CLASS

SPEECH IN SENECA BY ERNIE WHITETREE

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Ruby Diebold is about 45 years of age. She is of Seneca-Cayuga descent and a prominent leader in the tribe. She is an expert in the language and is now conducting a class at the Seneca Indian School at Wyandotte, Oklahoma on the Seneca language. Mrs. Diebold is the leader of the ceremonial committee, having inherited this position from her mother. She is very active as a leader of the "Pot Hangers" and both she and her brother, Robert White, who is assistant ceremonial chief, have visited the New York Seneca reservations to brush up on the history and language of the Seneca tribe:

Note: The other interviews on this tape are: William Shawnee, Shawnee
Mary Land Red Eagle, Quapaw
Language Class, Seneca
Emelece Reynolds, Cherokee
Language Class, Seneca
Robert White, Speaker