

T-666-2

MYRTLE LINCOLN, ARAPAHO

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 1-31-72

GENERAL SUBJECT: ARAPAHO SONGS

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

RABBIT SONGS, FORTY-NINE SONGS AND WOLF SONGS

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Myrtle Lincoln was born at Cantonment June 25, 1888. Her father was Bad Man, an Indian policeman, and her mother was Red Feather. Myrtle was an orphan by the age of 13. A grandmother helped raise her, and later an aunt took her but she stayed at Cantonment boarding school much of the time. Myrtle's marriage to Howard Howling Buffalo or Howard Lincoln was arranged by her uncle, Coal Fire. Myrtle and Howard had seven children, two of whom--daughters--are living today. One son was killed in World War II, and two other sons were killed in local accidents. Myrtle and her husband supported themselves by farming on tribal land and doing farm labor for neighboring white farmers. They moved to a place near Cantonment in 1936, and Myrtle has lived at this place ever since. Myrtle has also worked as a cleaning woman in Canton. She now lives on a very small Social Security allotment and a small income from a land lease. She is well known to Indians and whites in the Canton area and her status as a Gold Star mother has earned her a great deal of respect. She appears to be in very good health, for her age, and is active and quick and alert.

NOTE: In a number of previous interviews Myrtle sang some old time Arapaho songs. These were all copied and put together on a single 5-inch reel tape, T-665. Beginning with this interview T-665 was played back for Myrtle so she could identify the songs and give the Arapaho words and English translations. T-665 was played for her, one song at a time, and then the recorder stopped while she gave the English translation and repeated the Arapaho words slowly. Some comments were usually made about each song, also, explaining it's meaning or when it was sung, etc. The Arapaho words are not transcribed here but the diction is clear and they can easily be transcribed when needed for some special purpose.--J. Jordan

(The first five songs are Rabbit Dance and Forty-Nine songs with English words. They were not played back here. However they are listed in order to preserve the sequence of identifications of T-665.)

RABBIT DANCE, FORTY-NINE AND WOLF SONGS

(Song Number 1. A Rabbit Dance Song, an old song. Has English words, "Oh yes, I love you, honey, hey. I don't care if you're