ceremonies, but they saw these old fellows acarrying them, and--these things, and they just want to carry them to fool people into thinking they got the same power and authority as a magic wand. And I don't know who has that authority and power now. I don't--I haven't been to a Native Church worship for over forty years. I don't know who is carrying those feathers now.

THUNDERBIRD:

(I just wondered if you'd ever heard any stories on why this water crow was the important bird? You know, how it came to be involved--)

Well, it is important in our tribe. And same as a thunderbird, you call it, now. It's a peyote emblem. You see those silver broaches made in long bird, you saw that? And they carry them. They carry them in bead work and silver and other emblems and (?) workings. Well, that's supposed to be the emblem of the sacred power. And that's how come it to be important. It possess the sacred power. And some of these boys that are still believe it and are attending these ceremonies-- If you could get to some of them, I bet they can tell you more of it, because they supposed to collect it from the original that had them. But some of them, just like I say, might be just carrying them for the ornament without knowledge of what they supposed to be.

(You know, you mentioned this thunderbird? How is that the same thing as a water crow or is that--)

No, I don't think it's the same thing, cause it's almost the same emblem, but who made the thunderbird-- The thunderbird supposed to be connected with the Ten Grandmother Gods. Yeah. And those-- That's the emblem you get-- Well, you might that in that Volume II or IV, I was talking about.

(The reason I'm asking is that a lot of people are confused between these words, you know, the "thunderbird" and the "eagle" and so forth, and I was just wondering if you could explain the difference. I didn't know if a "thunderbird" was another word for "eagle" or for "water crow" or what.)

No. The thunderbird is a bird of its own. Well, they claim that the thunderbird was way down there in the beginning of time. And you might get the facts and the story from the real American Ethnologist at the Smithsonian Institute.