

of it now.

EARLY ARAPAHO HISTORY, AFFILIATION WITH CHEYENNES:

(Go on then back to the time that you all joined up with the Cheyennes.)

That was, oh, a little after the 16th century. Last half of the 16th century. That's when they rejoin the Cheyennes. The Arapahoes, and the Sioux, they became friendly with--and of course, the Piegiens coming down. They had festivals, like games, you know like in the fall, sometimes, along in there, maybe August. There was naturally Cheyennes that got in several years before that. Came on down and wandered around there and heard there was quite a gathering there. So they came and they saw these tribes all similarly in physique, you know and-- And they kept--one tribe--the way they acted and the way they talked sounded like they were pretty near saying some Cheyenne words. Whatever name they went by I don't know. I've always known 'em as just Cheyennes. That's just one name that was given to them early. So they maintain it. But anyhow, during the games--these dart wheels, bow-arrows, shooting, you know, and all these other Indian games--women kicking the ball--standing there and throw ball at their feet and kick it--bounce about three or four hundred times without ever dropping it. And they kick it up and put it on their shoulder like this, you know, and they take it (?), and they never let it drop. That's a women's game. So this one Cheyenne claims--and the Cheyennes tells it themselves--they came to one man and he was nice looking. Had long black hair. "Say," he said. "What you come from?" He understood his language. "I come from sunrise country." He says, "How'd you come? Big Water?" "I come south at Big Water. Took about eight years getting up here. We moved up to the Red Stone pipe--" Where they quarry that red stone pipe, you know. "Then we moved on and we found our people up there that came before us, and we live with them. And we branched off. Other tribes coming in, and we branched off where there's a lot of game--buffalo and elk. Then we went back to Minnesota. Then we came back west again. Met the Sioux tribe"--Dakotas, they call them, or Lacotahs-- Indians call them Lacotahs. That's the Indian word. It means "Sioux." "Then," he said, "Our people, part of our tribe, they went to Sioux tribe, north. And they're here again with us. Some of them already gone back." All those recollections.