In early days they just think they're putting security down and they don't know what they're losing. So the government had to step in and every stock, the government put an ID brand on. Government brand. And when they bought a lot of these horses with money from land sales and other things, and everything bought from land sale money and all that, the government put an ID brand on that. It represents the Interior Department. And everything that had an ID brand on it cannot be garnisheed or taken on mortgage. It's supposed to be government property. And even if the Indian mortgaged it, whoever holds the mortgage cannot take it under no kind of law. So you even can't give away an ID property. That's how strict the Indian rule--circuit rules were. You can't even give it away. For instance, I want to tell you, a lot of big merchants forclose on the Indians and take in all these ID horses. So the United States attorney had to come up there and replenish all these horses and give them back to the Indians. And made a big penalty for those that take those horses. And some of these Indians have these giveaway dances they have today. Some other tribe--like Cheyenne or Arapaho--come visit and they hold a big powwow dance. And they give away, in honor of their son returned from war, they give away their horses. And a lot of them give away these ID horses for years.

GOVERNMENT CHECKS ON BRANDED STOCK

So the government finally found out about a lot of these horses. One day they send me all over the country to check on the ID's that were bought through the Agency. They give me a list of them. What become of those ID horses? Who's got them today? Ask those Indians what they done with them, or if he hasn't got