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CECIL HORSE, KIOWA

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: S. WEBER

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 10-19-67

GENERAL SUBJECT:

INDIAN GAMES AND GAMBLING

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

THE HAND GAME

CHEATING AND GAMBLING WAS COMMON DURING GAMES

DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES OF INDIANS GET TOGETHER TO PLAY HAND GAME

THE ROCK GAME WAS PLAYED MOSTLY BY WOMEN

THE ARROW GAME IS SIMILAR TO HORSESHOES IN ITS RULES

KICKBALL WAS PLAYED BY INDIAN WOMEN

MORE ABOUT GAMBLING DURING GAMES

CARD GAMES STARTED AMONG INDIANS AROUND 1871

BUFFALO HORSES WERE THE EARLY INDIAN "RACE HORSES"

ONLY SPECIFIC RIDERS WERE ALLOWED TO RIDE RACE HORSES

SOME RACING STOCK WAS STOLEN BY INDIANS DURING RAIDS IN TEXAS

HORSE RACES WERE FOUR-DAY FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

VARIOUS MEDICINES AND WITCHCRAFT WERE USED TO FIX THE RACES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Cecil Horse was born in 1891 and is now living on his allotment twelve miles south of Carnegie. Cecil has been married to Jenny Haumpy over fifty years. He is one of the sons of Hunting Horse, a well-known Kiowa who died in the mid-1950's at the age of about 107 years. Cecil is fairly well educated. He attended the J.J. Methvin Institute and also Chilocco. He became active in the Methodist Church and has served as a minister for a number of Indian Methodist churches in this area. He has also had experiences with the peyote religion. He is retired from active ministry now but is very proud of his services in this respect. Cecil is reported to have opposed the Native American Church as a minister, and his wife, Jenny, states, "We are not powwow people, though we both used to dance and go to powwows." Nevertheless, they attend celebrations such as the Gourd Dance at Carnegie around July 4 and other powwows and celebrations. Cecil is hard of hearing and Jenny assists, therefore, in both English and Kiowa.

THE HAND GAME

There's the Hand Game, Rock Game, and the Arrow Game. Which one of them do you want me to start on first?

(Tell me about the Hand Game?)

The Hand Game is played by two companies of people. Here, that's