

election last Saturday in October--about the middle of October--in El Remo. New officers of this Native American Church. And this Allen Dale, an Omaha Indian--he's married here in Oklahoma and has lived here probably thirty or forty years--is the new President. And Mikoby thought while he's chairman--his time expires in January--he'd like to pick up a lot of material in support of this peyote. Naturally he thought of me. He says, "I know of your good health and your interests, and you've built your character on the teachings of peyote and you're a good praying man, and you carry yourself well. And you dress Indian good when you do dress Indian, and you're a typical Indian. And we'd like to have your affidavit." So when Shannon came the next day I showed him that note. I told him, I says, "I wouldn't want just to make a brief affidavit," I says. "There's lot to go into that. I know of two or three court cases where the court throw the case out because there's no evidence against peyote. Like that Tate case in New Mexico, and that California case. And that Washington case where the Navajos was prosecuting Secretary of Interior Udall. The court throwed that out because officials are supposed to be immune to prosecution, during his office. And all those things--and the fact that these scientists made thorough research that came out and said peyote was non-narcotic and non-habit forming and it's not as much habit forming as tobacco and coffee, one.

(Where does Shannon Wannie live?).

He lives at Lawton. I don't know his street address, but-- He's about seventy years old. He's one of them old--he did like I did--he learned from those old Comanches. He knows the old languages and the old songs and the old ways--he don't want to shift to any new, modern stuff-- I'm just like that. I don't want to adopt anything new-- like in my tribe--I want to keep the authority (or authentic).

(Have you ever heard or has anyone ever told you why they passed this law in Texas?)

Well, here's one of the reasons, I think prompted this action. There was two white men came from California. They had bands around their heads just like Navajos, but they were white men. And they had their face painted. And they had their bright shirts like the Navajos, and they had their red beads like the Oklahoma Indians wear, you know -- those frijolillos -- red and silver beads (mescal beads) -- And they had no shoes or no moccasins on -- they were barefooted. They claimed that they was looking for peyote. Well one of those ranchers said, "That's too (unintellig-