

T-174

JESS ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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DATE OF INTERVIEW: 5-21-68

GENERAL SUBJECT: LIFE HISTORY MATERIALS; INDIAN INCOME FROM LEASES AND USE OF LAND; INDIAN ARTICLES COLLECTED BY NEW YORK BANK

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

JESS'S WORK AT GEARY BANK IN 1902 AND NATURE OF LOANS TO INDIANS
INCOME FROM LEASES AND LAND SALES
JESS'S LAND AND HIS FAMILY'S LAND: HOW USED
PER CAPITA PAYMENTS FROM SALE OF SURPLUS RESERVATION LANDS
INDIAN CLAIMS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT CLAIMS AGAINST INDIANS
BLACK KETTLE AND MEDICINE LODGE TREATY
INDIAN INCOME FROM LEASES; LOANS AND INTEREST
ARAPAHO AND CHEYENNE ARTICLES COLLECTED AND SOLD TO NEW YORK BANK IN 1904
LOCAL STORES THAT BOUGHT INDIAN THINGS
ARAPAHO AND CHEYENNE DRESS STYLES
ARAPAHO CHIEF'S PEACE MEDAL PAWNED TO GEARY BANKER
LOAN COMPANY IN GEARY
STORES TAKING INDIAN THINGS IN PAWN

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Jess Rowldge is between 82 and 84 years old and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and his travelled extensively on tribal business, having visited Washington, D.C. a number of times. He has been active in tribal politics for many years and has helped the Arapahoes in pressing their claims cases against the government. Nevertheless, Jess is well-versed in the traditional culture of his tribe and anxious for at least some parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members of the Star-Hawk Society, one of the old age-grade warrior societies. And has often expressed hope that this organization would be revived in modern times. He is a peyotist, as well as a member of the Baptist Church, and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of his greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jess is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A.L. Kroeger, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Eggen. Jess was born in 1884

JESS'S WORK AT GEARY BANK IN 1902 AND NATURE OF LOANS TO INDIANS

(--at the bank--)

First National Bank--Fall of 1902.

(What kind of work did you do there?)

I took care of the notes and mortgages of the Indians that