

to camp--to our lodge. But the last two days--it snowed on the ninth. The Sun Dancers had to stand and dance in the snow--in the lodge--you know, that timber lodge. Of course they kept warm, I guess, dancing, and then at night they would cover up. Snow be right on top of them.

SUN DANCE: SELF-TORTURE & PARAPHERNALIA

(You were talking about the eleventh--you mean the eleventh day of the Sun Dance?)

That was the last day--the eleventh of December.

(How many days did it last?)

Three days. Used to be four days, but as I said, the government took over and just made us--made them discontinue that where they used to suspend them from the center pole--cut their skin here and put ropes--cord--and they used to have to dance till they break loose. Well, because of that cruel looking appearance to that--the government--army--took over, you know, and made us quit that those hanging (from the center pole). So they took off one day. Used to be four days and they took off one day on account of that. So that left three days. They still have three days yet, today. In Wyoming--the Sun Dance. It lasts three days, the Arapaho.

(Do you have one here in Oklahoma?)

We used to but on account of so many that became educated that they didn't want to keep--they didn't care to keep up their training. Them Indian was always--so they didn't qualify any more, so the old priests died off and they took all those that were needed in the way of Sun Dance, you know--what were required--and they took them back to Wyoming and that's where the Sun Dance still goes on every year. August.

(What was it they sent back to Wyoming?)

There's a wheel--a wheel with eagle feathers around it (hehotti or medicine wheel). A loop. And they had a two-bladed knife--a two-edged knife, and they had a straight pipe--it wasn't crooked like that (elbow-shaped)--just a