

to come over and eat with them. I been invited a lot of times. I go eat with my nephew when he joins and they give us special places there. Of course when I'm up there I don't eat no water-melons or Oklahoma foods, you know. Because that's too common here. And I don't care about watermelon or anything like that up there. But I eat deer meat and elk meat and all that, you know--wild fruits. And then they have a big supper and you can take as much as you want. They give you a little bag or a paper sack. Take some elk meat to your house or camp.

(Is this at night when this is going on?)

When the sun's gone down, that's when you eat supper. The last day. Just about dark they start eating supper.

(What about the star that comes up?)

Well, it's daylight, yet, when the sun goes down--especially behind the mountains. And the star that follows the sun, when it shows, then that's when they stop the drum. And it's still a little light. And that's when they start drinking and rinsing their mouth.

(Was the star over there right above the mountains?)

Yeah, right over the mountains.

(Is there an Arapaho name for that star?)

Not in particular. They just call it the first star. That's the only name I know of.

(How do you say that?)

ní.θá wá θá' -- ní.tà' hū' θá'

(What?)

ní.tà wá θá' -- ní.tà hū' θá' -- ní.tá w- is "first."

hū' θá' is "star." ní.tà whá' θá' Then, of course, the Oklahoma

Arapahoes that are up there put on this what we call "Forty-

Nine" here in Oklahoma. Just pleasure, you know. Everybody's

happy. And when they start drumming them Oklahoma boys in

there and Oklahoma girl friends sing these Oklahoma Forty-Nine

pretty songs. And the people hurry up and eat--the whole camp--

and then they all flock over there, adults, kids, and all. Some

of them take their pillows and quilts and sit up half the night

listening to that dance--the Forty-Nine. That the Oklahoma

Indians put on. Oh, there's a lot of joy to that!