

straight facts of the Indian calendar. Now, translated, it's October 15, 1886..

(That's good. Can you think of any other cases where people came to you or maybe to one of these other custodians to find out--)

Well, yeah. Well, those old Indian people didn't have much use for them Indian calendars, too much. It's the new generation that's making use of them. When was it that they enlisted Indian soldiers at Fort Sill, and organized? We have to find that date when it happened. Well, it was 1892.. 1892. When the Indians was organized. Scouts, and L Troop, later.

"PEACE SMOKES": SMOKING, FEASTING, AND STORYTELLING

(Tell me some more about these meetings you were calling these "peace smokes" where these men would tell stories and get into discussions.)

Well, the beginning of that, it's what you might say--something like these white people's fraternal order. They have a village camp. Maybe two or three hundred tipis. In the early evening somebody ride a pony--ride through the circle of the camp. "Tonight we gonna have a smoke at certain so-and-so's tipi. Smoke." That's the way they advertise. Well, that means anybody that wants to go over there and enjoy fellowship and smoke, that's where they change stories, and events, and tell war party stories, and all that. Kind of a club meeting. Good time. And then after the meeting, they eat--feast. So lot of them want to go. Well, everybody's looking for the sun to go down so they could go in the evening for the smoke. The old hostess (host), he furnish his tobacco sack. He's got a bag--buckskin bag--granger twist tobacco. And he gets his knife and he cuts it up. He cuts it up and grind it up small, and after he gets it all prepared, he gets some shumate (sumac) leaves. Dried shumate leaves--bright red ones. He's baked them a little bit and when they get baked up, then he breaks them up and crumbles them, just like