

T-257

PETE BIRDCHIEF, CHEYENNE  
INTERVIEWED BY: JOE TRIMBLE  
INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 9, 1968  
TRANSCRIBED BY: DARLENE FIELDS  
PROOFREAD BY: NONA KERR

GENERAL SUBJECT: STORIES ABOUT GRANDFATHER, BIRDCHIEF, PURPORTED  
CHIEF OF SOUTHERN PLAINS CHEYENNES UNTIL 1933;  
PEYOTE

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

BRIEF INTRODUCTION  
GRANDFATHER BECOMES CHIEF  
AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF A CHIEF  
MARITAL CUSTOMS  
MORE ABOUT AUTHORITY AND QUALIFICATIONS OF A CHIEF  
GRANDFATHER WAS COURAGEOUS AND WAS IN THE BATTLE OF  
CUSTER'S LAST STAND  
STORY OF BATTLE OF LITTLE BIG HORN  
BLACK KETTLE AND BATTLE OF WASHITA - SAND CREEK MASSACRE  
PERSONALITY OF CHIEF BIRDCHIEF  
RATIONS IN EARLY DAYS - GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS IN SILVER  
DOLLARS  
FOOT RACES  
BIRDCHIEF WAS A GREAT WARRIOR - SCALPS FOR EVIDENCE  
GRANDPA FARMED BUT WAS CARELESS  
GIVES HORSE CREDIT FOR SAVING GRANDFATHERS LIFE FROM  
CAVALRY  
UNCLE USED SENSIBLE PAINT HORSE IN BATTLES  
BELIEVES IN USE OF PEYOTE AS A RELIGION

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Pete Birdchief was born August 27, 1900 in Canadian County,  
about two miles north of El Reno, Oklahoma. Mr. Birdchief has  
lived in the area of El Reno and Clinton, Oklahoma all of his  
life. He is an active member of the Native American Church.