

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Matoki Society

JAN 12 1956

Dr. W. S. Campbell
School of Journalism
The University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

Dear Doctor Campbell:

Reference is made to your letter of January 3 addressed to Dr. Stirling, Director of the Bureau of American Ethnology, which has been referred to the Department of Anthropology of the U. S. National Museum.

The Matoki Society to which you refer is mentioned in the last paragraph on page 253 of The Horse in Blackfoot Indian Culture by John C. Ewers. You will find a detailed description of this Blood Indian woman's society in Clark Wissler's Societies and Dance Associations of the Blackfoot Indians, American Museum of Natural History Anthropological Papers, Volume 11, Part 4, 1913.

In 1951 Mr. Ewers made a field study of the Matoki Society in connection with research sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the Denver Art Museum. He is preparing a monograph on this subject based upon the field studies, collections of old photographs, society paraphernalia in museum collections, and a second unpublished manuscript by the late Clark Wissler which deals in part with this subject.

The photographs to which you refer probably were those made by the trader, R. N. Wilson, in the early 1890's. Since that date the form of the Matoki ceremonial lodge has been changed. Photographs of the recent type of lodge were taken by Mr. Ewers on the Blood Reserve at their sundance encampment in 1951.

Very truly yours,



F. M. Setzler
Head Curator
Department of Anthropology