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INFORMANT: JESS ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO
INTERVIEWED BY: BOYCE TIMMONS AND BOB MILLER
DATE OF INTERVIEW: MARCH 26, 1967
TRANSCRIBED BY: NONA M. KERR.

GENERAL SUBJECT: EARLY DAYS OF THE ARAPAHOS

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

EARLY HISTORY OF THE ARAPAHO TRIBE
HOW THE NAME "ROWS OF LODGES" ORIGINATED
BOYHOOD NAME
EARLY SCHOOLING
LITTLE BOY IS SAVED
VICTORY ROPE DANCE
DEATH AND BURIAL OF BLACK KETTLE AND HIS WIFE
BURIAL PLACE OF JESSE CHISHOLM
WHAT THE ARAPAHOS WERE CALLED IN EARLY DAYS
TRADITIONS OF ARAPAHOS ON SCALPING
CONCERNING NAMES AND THUNDERBIRD SYMBOL
JESSE CHISHOLM AND LIFE AMONG THE COWBOYS AND INDIANS
MR. ROWLDGE COMPARES LIFE 50 YEARS AGO WITH PRESENT TIMES
ARAPAHO PHILOSOPHY
STORY HEARD FROM GRANDFATHER ABOUT TREATY OF 1851
GENEROSITY OF THE ARAPAHO SYSTEM
GENEROSITY OF ARAPAHO DETERMINED BY 25TH CHAPTER OF ST. MATTHEW
OF NEW TESTAMENT
THE HIDE WITH HIERGLYPHICS - A WARNING TO ARAPAHO PEOPLE
STORY ABOUT DULL KNIFE AND MORNING STAR
MEDICINE PARK SHOULD HAVE BEEN CALLED MYSTERY BLUFF
A BOOKLET ABOUT OLD FORT RENO AND MR. ROWLDGE MAKES 47 TRIPS TO
WASHINGTON IN BEHALF OF ARAPAHO TRIBE
MORE PHILOSOPHY OF ARAPAHO TRIBE LIFE
STAR HAWKS AND TRAINING OF YOUNG MEN
FAMILY INCIDENT - SMOKING AND CARD PLAYING
CHIEFS PROVIDE A FEAST
EXPERIENCES WHILE WORKING IN A BANK AND ALSO EXPERIENCES DURING THE
ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR
MOTHER BITTEN BY A RATTLESNAKE
GETS HAIR CUT AND TELLS EXPERIENCES WITH APACHE BEN
STORIES ABOUT HIS FRIEND WILL ROGERS
MORE PHILOSOPHY OF THE ARAPAHOS
MR. ROWLDGE TALKS TO HIS GRANDCHILDREN IN ARAPAHO LANGUAGE
HE GIVES HIS OWN INTERPRETATION OF THE TALK IN ENGLISH

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT: Jess Rowldge was born in 1884 and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and has traveled extensively on tribal business, having visited Washington, D.C. a number of times. He has been active in tribal politics for many years and has helped the Arapahoes in pressing their claim cases against the government. Nevertheless, Jess is well versed in the traditional culture of his tribe and anxious for at least some parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members of the Star Hawk Society, one of the old age-graded warrior societies, and he has often expressed hope that this organization would be revived in modern times. He is a peyotist, as well as a member of the Baptist church member and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of his greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jess is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A.L. Kroeber, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Egan.