

T-458

JESS ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO

RALPH GOODMAN, CHEYENNE

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

TRANSCRIBED BY: DARLENE FIELDS

TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY:

JULIA A. JORDAN

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 6-4-69

GENERAL SUBJECT: ANECDOTES PERTAINING TO CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO  
HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

STORY OF A PAWNEE RAID ON A COMANCHE HORSE HERD  
TWO CHEYENNE SACRED ARROWS MAY BE IN CUSTODY OF PAWNEES  
ARAPAHO SACRED OBJECTS  
SOME COMMENTS ON CHEYENNE SUN DANCE  
CHEYENNE CHIEFS AND DECISION MAKING  
JESS'S STORY ABOUT HOW HE HELPED OBTAIN GOVERNMENT CONSENT  
FOR ARAPAHOS TO HOLD SUN DANCE IN 1917  
MORE COMMENTS ON CHEYENNE SUN DANCE  
AN OLD CHEYENNE'S TALK TO A YOUNG BOY

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANTS:

Ralph Goodman was born in 1894, and attended Chilocco Boarding School. In recent years he has been an active member of the Native American Church and a Cheyenne chief. His daughter is Josephine Red Cherries of Kingfisher. Ralph Goodman died in 1970.

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 claims 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, and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of this 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 Eggan.

STORY OF A PAWNEE RAID ON A COMANCHE HORSE HERD

(Conversation at first is on the Pawnees and how they used to steal horses from other tribes.)

Jess: --it wasn't very long till these ponies done got through