

you're talking about. Now I'm talking about this sacred pipe--the one that's in that bundle that they bring in and set on that tripod--)

Yeah, that's the one. They put it back there.

(I never did see them unwrap it.)

There's certain times--I don't know how many times they use it. They use it, then they put it back up on that tripod.

(I heard, though, that it was unwrapped at the Sun Dance, but I never was there at the time they were doing it.)

Yeah. They talk to that pipe just like you talk to God. It's got certain powers. I don't know--I can't explain it to you. If you was an Indian I could explain it to you, but a white person's got different version, you know. (You mean just because our way of thinking is different?)

Yeah.

(Could you explain it to another Indian, though, in English?)

Yeah. But there's a certain barrier I can't pass. Because it was given to me that way and I can't tell anyone--not unless they go through that ceremony.

See, that ceremony--the pipe ceremony--the first time they have it in the tipi. Then they have it in a wall tent. Like we want to make a vow to go through that pipe ceremony. We get ready here and collect all our stuff.

Half red and blue blanket material, you know (list cloth). Fix that stuff.

Certain items we have to get--shawls and blankets and dress goods--this and that, what we have to have. Sinews. Certain stuff that they have to require.

And paint. We take it up there. Then we pitch camp and put up two tents--

big wall tents. And when it's over with, we give them wall tents away.

Everything we got there, we give to them. There's certain things they have