

That man. A certain man. They do that.

(Who paints the center pole?)

That man. He's ordained for that. Certain way they got to paint that. I don't know too much about it, but that's what I've seen. Because I always go there every year and watch.

OBTAINING OF POLES FOR SUN DANCE LODGE

(Well, does he paint it out there where everybody can see him?)

Yeah, it's right there... (unintelligible comment because of wind static)

They feast up there and they sing up there and have ceremonies up there.

They stay over night. They have another big feast and singing up there.

When the poles are cut, then they bring them down. (John is here talking

about the activities surrounding the obtaining of the poles for the Sun Dance Lodge). It's like a big parade coming down.

(Do they use a truck?)

Before they used to use horses. Now they've modernized it--they use a truck.

(Did they use wagons, or did they just drag them along on the ground?)

Just used horses and drag them. Now they don't hardly use wagons--they use trucks.

(What kind of trees were those--I call them rafter-poles--?)

Them's the ones I'm talking about--the ones they cut in the mountains.

(Are they pine?)

That's pine they use. Down here we used to use cottonwoods, but up there they use pines. But the center pole is cottonwood.

(Well, when they had it here in Oklahoma, did they ever get cottonwood rafter-poles that were as long as those pine ones up there?)

Yeah. There used to be long cottonwoods here.

(I thought it was just wonderful how they got all those long poles up--)