

and Medicine Bottom there at Fort Sill. A group of young men including some of my relatives which is got pretty close to my family there, called upon the leader that night he was going to hold his Sun Dance ritual there at this Comanche village on the east side of Cash Creek almost directly east of where it is now, the American Legion Post or Hut. And they had the preparation made now - one thing must be made clear here that when you are going to put on a Sun Dance, all of the Sun Dancers know how they were dressed which is down to the bare skin except for a breech cloth and a belt to hold up the breech cloth. And then, the reed, the sage brush, the reeds for the dancers. And a whistle about four or five inches long made from a bone, an eagle bone, the collar bone of an eagle. And then the singers who at that time did not use the big drums but used small hand drums we called, a little larger than a large dish. And if that wasn't agreeable, it might be, they might beat upon a raw hide, hard rawhide. Now the pole itself the lodge itself is usually striped of all the branches and stuck into the ground to form a circle, a circular enclosure for the ritual. There would be no place to hide anything, no place to hide weapon or anything that could be mistaken for weapons on the person of the dancers or on the lodge itself. So the leaders, each time that I am talking about was Pah-Tsoo-Koo Too-Hoo-Phtun, which is Black Otter. And this took place probably, sometime in the 1780's. I have exact date now somewhere. And this relative of mine made preparations to take part in this Sun Dance at this time because that was his group, you might say, his little close circle of friends that were going to take part. And, being a member of that group, he made his plans and was talking about how he was going to take part but his mother and relatives interfered with him. They told him that there's something not right, there was some uneasiness some little, some reason they felt that he should not take part. So, they delayed him, although he was getting ready, he was going to go anyway, he delayed long enough, that the dance started.