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FRED BIGMAN, KIOWA-APACHE

INTERVIEWED BY: WILLIAM BITTLE

INTERVIEW DATE: JUNE 14, 1967

TRANSCRIBED BY: PAM CHIBITTY

GENERAL SUBJECT: ALLOTMENTS; NAC; SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

ALLOTMENTS DURING AND EARLY DAYS OF FARMING

PEYOTISM AND DRINKING

PEYOTISM AND THE PENDING LEGISLATION AGAINST IT'S USE

FORMAL ORGANIZATION OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH

VARIATIONS IN PEYOTE MEETINGS

EARLY SCHOOL EXPERIENCES IN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Fred Bigman was born in 1900 and has lived most of his life in the vicinity of Fort Cobb and Carnegie. He attended Cache Creek Mission, Cedardale school (a rural public school east of Carnegie) and Rainy Mountain school for a total of about six grades. His parents were traditional Kiowa-Apaches who never spoke English, and Fred remained close to them until they died. He married Annie Saumpty, a Kiowa, in 1920 and remained married to her until she died in October 1969. They had one son, Roy Bigman, who died about 1961, and who left a number of children whom Fred and Annie have helped raise. Fred is well informed on the traditional Kiowa-Apache ways of life but is sometimes reluctant to talk about them. Fred has worked in a number of ways for wages, most doing farm labor. He is an ardent peyotist and a peyote leader. He now lives in Anadarko, on Florida Street.