

Side B

Informant: Raymond Johnson, Seminole
Interviewed by: Lucinda Tiger
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(This tape is in Seminole language and has been translated by Lucinda Tiger).

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOLS

(I am going to interview Raymond Johnson. He was born April 6, 1922.

We're going to take some of his life history when he was in his young days and he will speak in his language and we will interpret later on. When you was a young boy, was you raised up with your father and mother?)

A-hey (means yes).

(What was their names?)

My father, Charlie Johnson, and my mother Elsie McGirt.

(Was it a big family and where did you all live and did you all farm?)

Yes, five of us children, four miles west of Wewoka and we farmed and raise crop there but there is only two of us left now.

(Did you all have lots of food stored away, canned and stuff like that?)

A-hey. They canned green beans, tomatoes, and they made catsup etc. We had cellar and lots of things were put there. We lived there and then I started school when I got old enough. I walked to school about two miles away. Name of school was Limestone. Then we moved to my father's land in Seminole county and I went to school at Bowlegs. Year of 1941, my mother died and five months later my father died. After that I was called to service. I was in three years.

DIFFICULTY IN FINDING EMPLOYMENT

After I came back I get a job in road construction. Its good to have education. So I think it's good that kids can go to school and get education so they can have good jobs. After I get out of Armed Forces I start going to church. I now belong to Cold Springs Baptist Church. Now I have family. I have three children. I hope they all have good education and good jobs before my day comes. If you don't have education I now see its not good.

(How long have you been a Christian?)