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MYRTLE LINCOLN, ARAPAHO

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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DATE OF INTERVIEW: 7-22-70

GENERAL SUBJECT: ARAPAHO WOLF SONGS AND FORTY-NINE SONGS; SOME TRADITIONAL STORIES; ARAPAHO TERMS FOR THEMSELVES AND SOME OTHER TRIBES

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

FORTY-NINE SONGS AND WOLF SONGS

SOCIAL DANCING AND JEALOUSY

FORTY-NINE SONGS CAME FROM COMANCHES AND ARAPAHO NAME FOR COMANCHES
STORY ABOUT BADGER WOMAN WHO TRIED TO SEDUCE HER BROTHER-IN-LAW AND
HER PUNISHMENT

TRICKSTER STORIES: WHITE MAN TRICKED BY COYOTE

WHITE MAN TRICKS DUCKS AND GETS CAUGHT BY A TREE

STORYTELLING: HOW MYRTLE HEARD HER STORIES

STORY OF SEVEN MEN ON WARPATH AND OF A DOG THAT DROVE THE ENEMY BACK

STORY ABOUT TWIN BOYS, THEIR ADVENTURES AND BRINGING THEIR MOTHER
BACK TO LIFE

SWEAT LODGES: HOW CONSTRUCTED AND USED

ARAPAHO PRAYING

USE OF SWEAT LODGE TODAY

PARAPHERNALIA IN SWEAT LODGE

ARAPAHO NAMES FOR THEMSELVES AND OTHER TRIBES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT: Myrtle Lincoln was born at Cantonment June 25, 1888. Her father was Bad Man, an Indian policeman, and her mother was Red Feather. Myrtle was an orphan by the age of 13. A grandmother helped raise her, and later an aunt took her but she stayed at Cantonment boarding school much of the time. Myrtle's marriage to Howard Howling Buffalo, or Howard Lincoln was arranged by her uncle, Coal Fire. Myrtle and Howard had seven children, two of whom--daughters--are living today. One son was killed in World War II, and two other sons were killed in local accidents. Myrtle and her husband supported themselves by farming on tribal land and doing farm labor for neighboring white farmers. They moved to a place near Cantonment in 1936, and Myrtle has lived at this place ever since. Myrtle has also worked as a cleaning woman in Canton. She now lives on a very small Social Security allotment and a small income from a land lease. She is well-known to Indians and whites in the Canton area and her status as a Gold Star mother has earned her a great deal of respect. She appears to be in very good health, for her age, and is active and quick and alert.