

T-678-1 (First of Two Interviews)
MYRTLE LINCOLN, ARAPAHO
INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
DATE OF INTERVIEW: 1-31-72

GENERAL SUBJECT: MYRTLE'S GRANDMOTHER'S TALES OF LIFE IN THE
OLD DAYS

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

USE OF BUFFALO CHIPS FOR FUEL
USE OF POWDERED DRIED MANURE TO ABSORB BABY URINE
REMEDY TO CURE CHILDREN OF BED WETTING
MYRTLE'S GRANDFATHER CAPTURES A CHEYENNE WOMAN
RELIGION AND PRAYING
STORY ABOUT WHITE MAN CALLED "SPIDER"

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 Howlang 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.

NOTE: The other interview on this tape (T-678-2) is with Jim Warden, Arapaho.

USE OF BUFFALO CHIPS FOR FUEL

(Now you can go on and tell me about this cooking.)

My grandmother used to tell us that way over there at that what she used to call Pawnee reservation--all that over there where the Poncas and all them live over there--that big Arkansas River-- They used to always camp around there. And there was lot of buffalo, she said, and these men used to go out and hunt buffalo. Then winter came, she said, and we wintered. We wintered around there close to that Arkansas River. And then towards spring they