

that fellow told him, "You're going to dance by that Pipe." So since that time, he's been doing that.

(You mean that Freeman Pawnee had the custodian of the Pipe to be his grandfather?)

Yes. That's right.

(Could he have turned him down if he wanted to?)

Well--I don't think that's ever--I never have heard of anyone that's been turned down. Because they have that position to not turn anyone down. Because a vow is ahead of every other worship that the Indian will go into. Now, when you make a vow and you go ahead and say, "Now, I'm going to take that one for my grandfather, and I'm going to explain my whole story pertaining to my vow and worship." Well, he'll consider that. He can't do nothing but consider it--unless you happen to catch him without any further notice. You got to give him a notice that you are going to ask him. That you are going to approach him. You must let him know far enough ahead of time to consider you before somebody else comes and asks him. That's the way that comes in. That's the way that goes.

REASONS FOR VOWING TO DANCE

(Could you say anything about the reasons why a person would vow to dance? I've heard that Junior Sankey made his pledge to dance because of his brother, David, that he might get healed from an injury--)

Well, that's where a lot of that comes in. There's a lot of that comes in. And there's a lot of them boys--I've heard a lot of them boys up there--when they're drafted and going to go in to foreign soil--then they make this vow that they're going to go on long journey, and they make this vow, that this vow will cover their tracks, to go over there and then come back. When they return, that's their vow that they pledged to make a Sun Dance, when they come back home. That's their belief. Now that's the same category as Sankey done. That's the way that is.

That's always been a handdown of all this Arapaho tribe.

(Today are people--like here in Oklahoma--respected when they make a vow and fulfill it?)