

relatives in the same family. And this is Capitan, he's got relatives. And this old Man Tahoe...they come down from his kinfolks way back there. All these staffs. And Old Man Auchitah. Auchitah, Tahoe, Capitan, and Old Man Josh. They're the ones that are last to have it in their hands. The whip was Apaches John's...that's handed down back there from his relatives.

(Where did it come from?)

Well, when it was organized, way back, we don't know how far back, nobody knows, ever since them staffs fell into our hands. Of course, it's been decorated, maybe a little bit different or the same, we don't know. The whip, that's the way it's been brought that's the way...of course, when Francis, now, if one of these staff bearers dies, like way back there just the owners could dance with it, not the grandchildren or the sons, just the old man. He dances with it till he dies. What else? And then when they'd bury him and wrap him up, they'd break these staffs, and bury them with him. And as time goes on, well, when they're going to hit that drum, we have a ceremonial in behalf of his family. To reinstate the staffs. They start making another one just like it. Then the ones that qualified or eligible take over that staff. He's this old man's son or grandson. That's all the qualifications.

(What are these staffs made of?)

We don't know. It could be hide. What kind? It could be buffalo or elk, we don't know, it could be beaver or mink. But now, just like we was talking about the other day, with what's this doctor's name that came with Judy the other day? Dr. Greer. He asked me what