

(You know last time when you were talking about this, you said the old time peyote ceremony was a little bit different than what it is today--?)

Yeah, it was a little different. Well, way back, when this man came down from Mexico somewheres--where the Lipan Apaches live-- We speak the same language, you know. When he brought it down here, he tried to interpret the way they processed their meetings. And after these Apaches and this man, they talked it over. And this man told them, "You go ahead and make your own way. The way you want to run it, well, it's all right." So these Apaches, well, they got together, and they start filling the necessary things to run this Native American Church through the night. So before that, it was a lot different. In them days, well, it was kinda a little bit old-fashioned. They believed in their tradition. All Indians were like that, you know. What I'm trying to get at, they like to show their "medicine power." They believe in those things. Well, they challenge, you know. Not only to themselves, but they try to show how much power they had. It was the beginning, 'or, not the beginning, but that's the way it was. Cause this man that come from Mexico, he told them this was like that. And he didn't agree with his own people. He said, "It's good medicine. And it makes you feel worthwhile living." Just like when you go to church. Somebody brings out a good ceremony and it makes it interesting. In them days, well, there were a few that had knowledge of everyday good living. So the way he put it out, his people, all they like to do is challenge. They use that in that way-- in that line. (That is, peyote meetings were often scenes of contests of power between rival medicine men.--jj)

(The Lipans? They like to do it that way?)

Yeah, the Lipans. But when the Apaches got hold of it, it was like that a little. These people right around here at that time-- there were lots of medicine mens. So some of these fellows that like this competitions, or that line, were medicine people. They like to show their knowledge and like to show the strength of their power. That's what we hear from the elder peoples. Of course, I didn't get to see any of that. That was abolished by these good mans. These fellows, these fellows I named--