

PEACE MEDALS SYMBOLIC OF CHIEFS RANK

(I've seen, in old pictures, men wearing silver discs here (around the neck)-- what are they?)

Oh, those are Washington--presidential medallions--like Lincoln, Washington, Polk and Garfield.

(Would just special men be able to wear those or just anybody?)

No. Just the chiefs wear them. Now in our treaty of 1851, Article VI provides that the chiefs shall elect their successors and maintain them, support them. And of course when the old chiefs that elect these successors, when they retire, when they elect them, when they were chiefs--like my father--well, they had these medallions--like the bust of Washington or Lincoln. They give those medals to the ones they elect. They're not supposed to be sold. Handed on down. I got a Washington medal.

(What was your father's name?)

"Row-of-Lodges. That was his nickname. His name's White Plume, but his brother-in-laws called him "Row of Lodges from a small boy. That (name) stuck here at the Agency Office. But anyway, those medallions--when there's a delegation goes to Washington, if they have any newly selected chiefs in that delegation, the government finds out that they're tribal chiefs--the Commissioner of Indian Affairs usually does that--for years that I know back--I know as far back as 1892, I think. The chiefs go up there and they're recognized as chiefs--elected chiefs. Then the government asks the Treasury Department or some other special department, and they get these medallions. That's what they wear.

DUTIES OF ARAPAHO CHIEFS

(What special duties--like when they went to Washington and they were recognized as chiefs of the Arapaho-Cheyenne--were there any special duties that the chief had? Things that he can do because he's the chief?)