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JESS ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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DATE OF INTERVIEW: 10-24-67

GENERAL SUBJECT: PAGEANT AT MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS AND  
ALLOTMENT OF CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO RESERVATION

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

PAGEANT AT MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS: CHEYENNE BOYCOTT  
PAGEANT AT MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS: PAYMENTS TO INDIAN  
PARTICIPANTS

PAGEANT AT MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS: INDIAN PARTICIPANTS  
IN FORMER YEARS.

MEDICINE LODGE PAGEANT: RATIONS ISSUED TO INDIAN CAMPERS  
BACKGROUND OF ALLOTMENT OF C & A RESERVATION: JEROME  
COMMISSION, ETC.

MIXED BLOODS GIVEN ALLOTMENTS WITH CHEYENNES AND  
ARAPAHOS

INTERPRETERS MISREPRESENTED TERMS OF JEROME AGREEMENT  
FRAUDULENT SIGNATURES ON JEROME AGREEMENT

HOW JESS'S FATHER ACQUIRED HIS NAME

ARAPAHO CHIEFS AND CAMPS AT TIME OF ALLOTMENT AND LIFE IN  
THOSE DAYS

VALUE OF CARTRIDGES IN EARLY DAYS  
INDIANS AND COWBOYS

TRIP TO DARLINGTON FOR RATIONS

SOME TROUBLES BETWEEN INDIANS AND WHITES

LUMP MOUTH'S CAMP

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Jess Rowldge was born in 1884 and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and has traveled extensively on tribal business, having visited Washington, D. C. a number of times. He has been active in tribal politics for many years and has helped the Arapahoes in pressing their claims cases against the government. Nevertheless, Jess is well versed in the traditional culture of his tribe and anxious for at least some parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members of the Star Hawk Society, one of the old age-graded warrior societies, and he has often expressed hope that this organization would be revived in modern times. He is a peyotist, as well as a member of the Baptist Church, and feels that the peyote ceremony has given him some of this greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jess is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A. L. Kroeber, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Egan.

NOTE: This interview begins with discussion of a pageant recently held at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Medicine Lodge Treaty. This pageant has