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JESSE ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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DATE OF INTERVIEW: 11-14-67

GENERAL SUBJECT:

ARAPAHO DOCTORING PRACTICES AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

ARAPAHO DOCTORS: DISPOSITION OF THEIR MEDICINES AT DEATH  
PLANTS USED AS FUMIGANTS

RITUAL OBSERVED IN GATHERING PEYOTE

"DOG ROOT," AND WAY A DOCTORING CLAN PREPARED IT

DISCUSSION OF PLANT MEDICINES OBTAINED IN WYOMING

MEDICINAL PLANTS OBTAINED IN MARKETS AND DRUGSTORES AND ROOT  
OBTAINED FROM CADDOES AND TAOS INDIANS

"YELLOW ROOT," A MEDICINAL ROOT GATHERED BY COMANCHES AND  
KIOWA-APACHES

KIOWA-APACHES WHO INTERACTED WITH ARAPAHOS

MORE ON "YELLOW ROOT"

SWEETGRASS: USE OF AS PERFUME, ETC..

INDIAN LEAF PERFUME

MORE ON SWEETGRASS

A COMPOUND PERFUME (MIXTURE)

A PLEASANT SCENTED PINE WOOD FROM THE NORTH

A PINE GUM PERFUME FROM NEW MEXICO

ARAPAHO DOCTORS AND DOCTORING CLANS: LIZARD POWER

STORY OF WATCHING OLD MAN UTE DOCTOR

STORY OF WATCHING A MAN DOCTORED AT CANTON

STORY OF HOPIS WITH POWER TO MAKE A FEATHER DANCE AND A  
SKEPTICAL COMANCHE

THUNDERBIRD SYMBOLISM AND POWER

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Jesse Rowldge is between 82 and 84 years old and is a well-known and respected leader among the Arapahoes. He is fairly well educated and articulate, and has travelled 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, Jesse 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 StarHawk Society, one of the old age-grade warrior societies. And 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 his greatest personal fulfillment as well as inspiration. Jesse is no stranger to the role of teacher-informant in communicating