

Apache tribe. He has a daughter living in Kingfisher now. Old Medicine Bird--Jim Medicine Bird. He told us that story one time. And then whether he told that to the northern Arapahoes or not, but the Arapahoes have that same story up in Wyoming. They originated this peyote among the Arapahoes through the Apaches. And of course the Comanches learned that from the Apaches, but after a while Quanah Parker's such a big noted and outstanding man that he took upon himself all the authority that otherwise belonged to the Apaches. But one thing, I think he made a good improvement on was--Quanah being a half-breed white--had established a religious plan whereby we put God ahead. But use his creations, like this water and fire and heat and sun and air. That's His creations that we should live by as physical--health problems, you know--benefits--water, sunshine, air--I think he established those below God. That's God's creations. And this herb that we use to bless ourselves with when we're gonna pray to be under that influence--under that nature's means of inspiration--inspiring your religious motives and conscious-- Quanah, I think, established that.

STATEMENT OF ARAPAHO RELIGION AND PRAYERS, INCLUDING SIGNIFICANCE OF  
SACRED PIPE:

(How was it before he established that?)

Well, before that I understood that the Indians--especially Apaches--and the Arapahoes learned from them--that they pray for lots of horses, lots of food, good health among the children. To who did they pray to? Some said they prayed to this peyote. I never heard them pray that way. But that's just the attitude, the feeling, the sense--that someone, as the old word goes, might have been to the Great Spirit or--what do they call that other name? The Supreme Power. Now who was that Supreme Power? They didn't know. But they prayed somewhere in that realm of that faith above the man's power and ability to create. That was the attitude at that time that I know of. Whether that came from the Apaches or not--but the Arapahoes acquired that and that's the feeling of the first few prayers I heard.