T-204
JESS ROWLODGE, ARAPAHO
INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
DATE OF INTERVIEW: 2-27-68 and 3-5-68

GENERAL SUBJECT: ARAPAHO MEN'S SOCIETIES, YOUTH TRAINING, AND ORAL TRADITION; ARROW MAKING

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

ANECDOTE: JESS TEASES HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW
SNAKE DOCTORS
FASTING AND SACRIFICE BY YOUNG MEN
SWEAT LODGE
MEN WHO NEVER JOINED SOCIETIES
JESS'S MOTHER'S FASTING IN SUN DANCE
LATE HISTORY OF SUN DANCE
TRAINING TO BE HERB DOCTOR
FOX COMPANY: TIPIS FOR MEETING--DECORATED TIPI
MAKING AND DEDICATING A DECORATED TIPI
HIDE TIPIS
ARAPAHO ORAL TRADITION: KINDS OF STORIES AND HOW TOLD
ARAPAHO STORY CATEGORIES
WHITE MAN STORIES
"TRUE STORIES" : STORY OF "BLINDY" (OLD BEAR) AND MEAN BUFFALO
ARAPAHO CARE OF THE BLIND
CONTEMPORARY ANECDOTE
BLIND MAN MAKING ARROWS
ARAPAHO ARROWS AND ARROW MAKING
USE OF BOIS D'ARC FOR BOWS AND ARROWS
USE OF HICKORY FROM OX YOKES

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT: Jess Rowlodge was born in 1844 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, 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 his 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 Eggan.

NOTE: Side A of this tape is a continuation of the interview begun on T-203. Side B is the beginning of a new interview a week later, but continues on the same subject.--jj