

hand up like that. That meant prayer. You prayed to the Almighty and you hold your hand up. And on the left side--on the north side there was--let's see--there was a turtle, and a cedar tree. And I think there was lightning bolts around that thunderbird painting. Four of them. Two from his mouth--when the thunder roars--and two from his eyes when the thunderbird blinks--that cause that thunderbolt, you know. Flashes. And the color of lightning. Orange-yellow, like.

(What was the significance of the cedar tree?)

That's everlasting life. Long life. Winter and summer. In the color of red and green.

(I see. There was a cedar tree by the turtle, and was it just one cedar tree on it?)

Yeah. One cedar tree.

MAKING & DEDICATING A DECORATED TIPI

(Who made that tipi?)

A bunch of women. My mother was one of them, and her aunt. I know when that tipi was made--east of Eagle City back in 1894. I know we had to go and get my grand-aunt there at Cantonment Agency. She was staying with--I think her nephews. She was an old woman. She'd been on the warpath herself.

(Your grand-aunt?)

My grand-aunt. I know us boys was told to go after her for the home folks there where the tipi was being made. They killed a beef and was fixing the meat up for the people to eat when they came there to help around with that tipi. Have to take five or six women to sew that tipi up, you know. And we went after her and brought her back. Of course when that tipi's complete--when it's up--there has to be a woman who's been on a war journey--actually in war combat--and actually couped on the enemy--that can do that by her prayer and her best hopes--for the use of that tipi--all its beneficial purposes. Then she'd hit that tip, and then she'd say 'w.hei' -- 'w.hei' That meant that the way she overcome that enemy, so she'd overcome any defective or any objectionable matters of the