

T-206

JESSE ROWLDGE, ARAPAHO
INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
TRANSCRIBED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN
DATE OF INTERVIEW: 3-5-68

GENERAL SUBJECT:

STORY TELLING CONTESTS AND EXAMPLES OF STORIES TOLD

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

CHIEF LEFT HAND PRAISES JESS FOR GOING TO SCHOOL
NATURE OF THE LAND NEAR LEFT HAND'S PLACE, LEASING OF, ETC.
JESSE'S GRANDFATHER GAVE HIS GRANDCHILDREN NAMES WHICH
COMMEMORATED HIS WAR DEEDS
JESSE'S GRANDFATHER'S THREE NAMES
MORE ON STORY CONTESTS AND EXAMPLE OF A CONTROVERSIAL WAR STORY
BURIAL OF BLACK KETTLE AND HIS WIFE AFTER CUSTER'S ATTACK
HOW "MEDICINE BLUFF" WAS NAMED
MORE ON STORY CONTESTS AND MEN'S SOCIETIES
OLD MEN ADVISORS OF YOUNGER SOCIETIES AND RIVALRY BETWEEN YOUNG
AND OLD WARRIORS
STORY CATEGORIES
STORY TOLD AT EXPENSE OF A BROTHER-IN-LAW
CONTROVERSY OVER REBURIAL OF BLACK KETTLE
THE ARAPAHO SACRED LIFE
ANIMAL STORIES
ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF JOKING BETWEEN BROTHERS-IN-LAW
LITTLE RAVEN SIGNS MEDICINE LODGE TREATY AND LEFT HAND SIGNS
JEROME AGREEMENT

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 of its parts to be preserved. He is one of the two survivors 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 knowledge about Arapaho culture. He has known and worked with such people as A. L. Kroeger, James Mooney, Morris Smith, Sister Inez Hilger, and Fred Eggan.

NOTE: This is a continuation of the interview begun on T-205.