

(But you never did hear anybody tell things like who made the Pipe or how the Arapahoes came to get it or anything?)

No. No. They claim that that Pipe was found after a flood, with this turtle by it and Indian corn growing. And a duck was eating the corn, or something like that. And there's a tree there of which one leaf was kept. It looked to me like an olive leaf. But it's petrified, too. It's kind of thick and heavy, like, scaly-like. Turned to rock. It won't break but it's there. They're all in that bundle (the Pipe bundle).

(Was the turtle alive at that time?)

Probably when they found it. It might have been. But of course all the flesh of it is--(is gone)--the shell is petrified. And Arapahoes still got it.

(Do they pray to that Pipe?)

Not necessarily. They dance with it at the Sun Dance. The Pipe is brought in (to the Sun Dance lodge). The woman brings it in on her back. Her husband always follows her and they put it right there at the center pole. They set it up and put it on the tripod. And any young man that's joined that Sun Dance, when they make their vow to join the Sun Dance, they (might) say, "I'm going to dance by the Pipe." That's the reason that Pipe's brought in there. And three or four of them dance by that Pipe. The Pipe bundle is about so long and about that thick and suspended on that tripod. And they dance by it and they hold their hands on it while they dance. And they say that bundle gets real hot. Just causes them to sweat--winter or summer--when they dance by it. But they have to carry out their vows to dance by that Pipe. (Did they ever unwrap the bundle so people could see the Pipe?)