

T-205

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

GENERAL SUBJECT:

STORY TELLING AND EXAMPLES OF STORIES; MEN'S SOCIETIES; LIFE IN
DAYS OF CHIEF LEFT HAND AND JESSE CHISHOLM

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

ARAPAHO NAMES OF TREES AND USES OF WOODS
TRUE STORIES; WAR STORIES
A WORLD WAR II STORY
RECITING WAR STORIES AND HONORING VETERANS
YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETIES AND THEIR STORY CONTESTS
SMOKING THE PIPE IS AN OATH TO TELL THE TRUTH
MEN'S SOCIETIES AND STORY RIVALRIES
JESS' EXPERIENCE WITH TOMAHAWK SOCIETY
STARHAWK SOCIETY AND STORY OF JESS' GENEROSITY IN GIVING A HORSE
TO A POOR BOY
CHIEF LEFT HAND AND OTHER ARAPAHO CHIEFS
JESS NAMED A CHIEF AS A YOUNG MAN--REFUSES TO CHANGE HIS NAME
JESS EVENTUALLY CHANGES HIS NAME
LEFT HAND'S HOUSE AND LIFE IN THE 1890's
JESSE CHISHOLM'S DEATH
CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO RESERVATION SHIFTED SOUTH IN 1869
LEFT HAND'S SPRING (RAVEN SPRING)
LIFE IN EARLY DAYS
INDIANS RAISED CATTLE AND HAD GARDENS: LEFT HAND'S EXAMPLE
ARAPAHO INTERPRETERS
LEFT HAND AND HIS FAMILY
JESSE CHISHOLM
TORNADOES AND STORY ABOUT A TREE WITH SEVEN MAIN BRANCHES
BIRDS IN THE AREA
A POISONOUS PLANT GROWING NEAR THE SPRING

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 parts of it to be preserved. He is one of the two surviving members 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