

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