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RAY BLACKBEAR, KIOWA-APACHE

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

INTERVIEW DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1968

TRANSCRIBED BY: PRUDA SHANK

GENERAL SUBJECT: NAC; KIOWA-APACHE SOCIETIES; KIOWA-APACHE GHOST DANCE; DOCTORING; DEVIL'S LAKE STORY; PEYOTE

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH, CHARTERS

APACHE BEN AND OTHER APACHE TRIBES

KIOWA-APACHE SOCIETIES

BLACKFOOT SOCIETY: OLD WAYS

TERMS FOR GOD

KIOWA-APACHE GHOST DANCE

SUN DANCE

OLD TIME SOCIETIES: BLACKFOOT AND HORSE SOCIETIES

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OLD AND CONTEMPORARY PEYOTE RITUALS

USE OF FANS AND EAGLE FEATHERS IN PEYOTE RITUALS

DOCTORING

USE OF FANS AND FEATHERS

USE OF TWO FEATHERS SYMBOLIZING MALE AND FEMALE

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CRESCENT-SHAPED ALTAR AND OTHER ITEMS IN

PEYOTE RITUAL

FIREWOOD USED IN PEYOTE MEETINGS

PEYOTE DRUM

USE OF PLANT AS RATTLE IN PEYOTE RITUAL

CHANGES IN PEYOTE RITUAL

PREPARATION OF ALTAR

SCISSORTAIL FEATHERS AND EAGLE FEATHERS IN PEYOTE RITUAL

OLD TIME KIOWA-APACHES PROMINENT IN PEYOTE RITUAL

OLD MAN ACHILTA: HIS DOCTORING

APACHE JOHN: HIS DOCTORING

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Ray Blackbear was born near the present town of Hatchettville in 1903. He is a Kiowa-Apache and a fluent speaker of the language. He is married to a Kiowa and lives on an allotment about two miles west of the junction of Highways 19 & 58. Ray died in February, 1969. Ray was the son of Joe and Priscilla Blackbear, and the grandson of Old Man Blackbear who served in L Troop. Ray was active in Native American Church activities, and in the revitalized Kiowa-Apache Blackfeet Society. He was a noted singer and composed many of the Blackfeet songs in use today.