

T-223

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 CRESENT-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.