

nó. ágǫ . làhǫ. — "creator of earth." made earth. You don't see God—you just know he made it. He's the Creator. dǎxǐ' áǎé. and nó. ágǫ . làhǫ.

KIOWA-APACHE GHOST DANCE

(Did they have any other kind of religious ceremonies back before they had Christian Churches?)

Yeah, Ghost Dance. Apaches had that—what they call nǎní . sǎh

(What does that mean?)

I almost could tell you, but yet—it's an abbreviation for something—I can't explain that. It's something like—that last syllable, -sǎh—it's a "word." nǎní . sǎh nǎní. is something like a way, or path—it's not a complete sentence. You could put it, nǎnícǐh -- that's a road. That means "trail," "path." That means "road." And in this particular word, nǎní . sǎh, it seems like a road or path and the end of it, -sǎh, is a "word". Or "language."

(how did the apaches get the ghost dance?)

I don't know that. Somebody made it, but I wouldn't know. I thought about that lots of times. I just couldn't tell you, but it's probably just like any other thing.. they just make it up. Like this mǎnǎtǐdǐé. and xǐtǐdǐ'é ....and all those things... it's bound to have a motive or a reason. But the question you asked is a good question.

(Well, what was it like what kind of things did they believe?)

You mean nǎní . sǎh?)

(Yes.)

It's mostly singing. They get to singing these songs and then you might say, they just pass out. Just feel so good—in a trance, you might say. And then when they wake up—I think they're just putting on—when they come to, they tell stories, "Oh, I been to heaven, and I saw your nephew, and I saw your grandchild and saw your brothers..". And there were people that were glad to give them something—gifts. It's a racket, see. Therefore it didn't last too long. People still talk about it today, that