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ANNIE PEDRO, ARAPAHO

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

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DATE OF INTERVIEW: 4-3-68

GENERAL SUBJECT: STORYTELLING AND LIFE IN THE OLD DAYS

PARTICULAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:

STORYTELLING AND SOME WHITE MAN STORIES

STORY ABOUT OLD WOMAN WHO WAS ABANDONED AND WHO TURNED INTO A ROCK

STORY CATEGORIES

KEEPING TRACK OF YEARS BY MAKING MARKS ON ELKHORN SCRAPERS

TIPI MAKING

TIPIS AND THEIR FURNISHINGS

BRUSH ARBORS AND WINDBREAKS

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Annie Pedro was born around 1881. Her father was Hinen-nich or "Man-with-an-arrow." Her mother died when she was small. Annie's Indian name is Hawahaa-nisei, or "Ponca Woman." She attended boarding school at Darlington from the age of about six till she was eighteen. Her father was an Indian policeman during part of this time. Annie married John Pedro, an Arapaho man prominent in peyote activities, and assisted him many times when he conducted meetings. They had several children but all are now dead except one son, John Pedro, Jr. For a number of years Annie has been living with her son and his family who make their home on land which had belonged to one of her parents. It is located 5 miles north and 2½ miles west of Calumet. At the time of these interviews Annie Pedro was in good health for her age, and mentally alert. She was somewhat shy and self-conscious about being interviewed. She speaks and understands English well, though she speaks Arapaho often with her son and daughter-in-law.

STORYTELLING AND SOME WHITE MAN STORIES

(Some preliminary conversation. Informant was very nervous.)

(How did they used to tell stories when you were a little girl?)

Oh, they used to just tell us stories.

(Who would tell the stories?)

Grandmothers. To their grandchildren.

(Did the children ask them to tell the stories?)

Yeah.

(Did they ask for certain kinds of stories?)

No, they didn't. Children didn't know what they was going to hear. Grandmothers knew what they were talking about.

(Like on winter's night, what would the children ask their