

T-257

PETE BIRDCHIEF, CHEYENNE
INTERVIEWED BY: JOE TRIMBLE
INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 9, 1968
TRANSCRIBED BY: DARLENE FIELDS
PROOFREAD BY: NONA KERR

GENERAL SUBJECT: STORIES ABOUT GRANDFATHER, BIRDCHIEF, PURPORTED
CHIEF OF SOUTHERN PLAINS CHEYENNES UNTIL 1933;
PEYOTE

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

BRIEF INTRODUCTION
GRANDFATHER BECOMES CHIEF
AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF A CHIEF
MARITAL CUSTOMS
MORE ABOUT AUTHORITY AND QUALIFICATIONS OF A CHIEF
GRANDFATHER WAS COURAGEOUS AND WAS IN THE BATTLE OF
CUSTER'S LAST STAND
STORY OF BATTLE OF LITTLE BIG HORN
BLACK KETTLE AND BATTLE OF WASHITA - SAND CREEK MASSACRE
PERSONALITY OF CHIEF BIRDCHIEF
RATIONS IN EARLY DAYS - GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS IN SILVER
DOLLARS
FOOT RACES
BIRDCHIEF WAS A GREAT WARRIOR - SCALPS FOR EVIDENCE
GRANDPA FARMED BUT WAS CARELESS
GIVES HORSE CREDIT FOR SAVING GRANDFATHERS LIFE FROM
CAVALRY
UNCLE USED SENSIBLE PAINT HORSE IN BATTLES
BELIEVES IN USE OF PEYOTE AS A RELIGION

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Pete Birdchief was born August 27, 1900 in Canadian County,
about two miles north of El Reno, Oklahoma. Mr. Birdchief has
lived in the area of El Reno and Clinton, Oklahoma all of his
life. He is an active member of the Native American Church.