

T-263-1

KATE OSAGE, CHEYENNE

INTERVIEWED BY: JULIA A. JORDAN

ASSISTED BY: BIRDIE BURNS, INTERPRETING

TRANSCRIPTION CHECKED BY: JULIA JORDAN

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 5-28-68

GENERAL SUBJECT:

CHEYENNE WAR DANCE CLAN AND PRESENT DAY WAR DANCE

BACKGROUND OF INFORMANT:

Kate Osage was about 75 years old at the time of this interview--possibly older. She and Myrtle Lincoln are about the same age. Kate Osage lives just outside Longdale. She was baptized by the first Mennonite missionary to work in the area and has continued as a member of the Mennonite Church. She raises a big garden every year and wins ribbons for her produce at the county fairs. She is a gold star mother. She is alert and active for her age and well-respected in the Indian community.

NOTE: This interview was carried out with the assistance of Birdie Burns, a friend of Kate's, who interpreted my questions to Kate, and interpreted Kate's answers to me. Kate actually speaks English fairly well, and made some comments in English. However, she is hard of hearing and could understand Birdie's Cheyenne much better than my English. In this interview, Kate distinguishes between an old-time Cheyenne War Dance organization, possibly a military society, and the present day War Dance organization, which was introduced in relatively recent times by a Sioux, Real Bull. Kate was Real Bull's adopted daughter.

The other interview on this tape (T-263-2) is with Jay Black, Cheyenne.

Birdie Burns: (Speaks to Kate in Cheyenne.)

Kate: What you write down, send me a copy. I got a lot of grandchildren. I get sick a lot of times.

Birdie: She said she would like to have a copy of what I'm going to tell you.

(Yes, that would be fine.)

(Birdie talks to Kate in Cheyenne, asking her about the War Dance, and Kate replies in Cheyenne.)