

LIENEMAN, P. T.

THIRD INTERVIEW

10230

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

LIENEMAN, P. T. THIRD INTERVIEW

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Field Worker's name Linnaeus B. RanckThis report made on (date) March 1 19381. Name P. T. Lieneman2. Post Office Address May, Oklahoma

3. Residence address (or location) _____

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

5. Place of birth _____

6. Name of Father _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about father _____

7. Name of Mother _____ Place of birth _____

Other information about mother _____

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 4.

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Linnaeus B. Ranck,
Investigator,
March 1, 1938.

An Interview with Mr. P. T. Lieneman,
May, Oklahoma.

According to Mr. Lieneman intoxicating liquor filtered in to the Indians at Fort Supply in spite of the efforts of the military authorities to keep it out. And as a rule when one of the Indians got whiskey in their system there was trouble in the Indian camp. Mr. Lieneman declared they could always tell at Fort Supply during those early days when there was drinking of intoxicating liquor among the Indians. Inevitably trouble started with the squaws. First they could be heard screaming, next the squaws would dash out of the Indian camp and run for shelter and protection in the homes of the civilian residents at the Fort. The dwelling of Mr.

Lieneman's parents was one of those along the eastern edge of the Fort site proper, and most easy of access to the squaws in trouble. Lieneman says that he can well remember of his mother taking in as many as a half dozen panic stricken squaws at one time, quite often the bucks would pursue their women; in case such happened when any fled to the home of Mr. Lieneman for a

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temporary haven, Lieneman said, usually his mother repelled the bucks with stove wood or anything else necessary to make sure that they molested no one about her premises.

Chief Stone, an old Cheyenne and the father-in-law of Amos Chapman, the famous scout, liked his whiskey and got it some times. It made a very bad Indian of the Chief and caused trouble with his wife every time he drank. Chief Stone was a bad Indian when he got a few drinks and was a dangerous man, and struck ^{terror} in the hearts of those about him in the Indian camp when he got drunk. Stone's wife used to seek shelter at the Lieneman dwelling when the old Chief got unruly because of drink.

Mr. Lieneman's sister married a non-commissioned officer on duty at Fort Supply. On the occasion of one of Chief Stone's drinks his wife fled from the camp and dashed to the home of Lieneman's sister and brother-in-law. The Chief pursued his squaw as far as the yard of the Soldier. Stone's demeanor appeared so threatening that the soldier drove him away at the point of his saber.

Just a few years before the post was abandoned there worked at the Fort as a teamster, a half-breed, who had married an attractive Cheyenne girl. The couple lived amongst the Indians in

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the Indian camp. It happened that the young husband left Fort Supply going to Mobeetie, Texas, and vicinity looking for employment. He remained away some time. In the meantime nothing of his whereabouts was learned at Fort Supply nor when he might be expected home. His Cheyenne wife pined for him. Amos Chapman and others about the Fort chided the young squaw about her husband, told her that he had deserted her and that such was his intentions when he left, and finally the unfortunate girl must have come to believe them. At any rate, despondent and desperate, she contrived to hang herself to death down in the Indian camp. Mr. Lieneman's father made a wooden box in which she was buried in the Indian graveyard among the sandhills southeast of the fort. Not long after the tragic end of the young squaw, her husband returned to Fort Supply. Upon learning of the fate of his wife, and the likely contributing causes, he became so enraged that he sought to kill Chapman and others who allegedly had contributed deliberately to his wife's tragic end.

During the early days at Fort Supply when there were so

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many Indians about the post and on the reservation most of the time, the Government conceived the idea and plan of preparing a big garden tract for them to cultivate and for their benefit. In the bottoms north of Beaver Creek, about two miles northeast of the Fort, a tract of some forty acres was cleared of mammoth cottonwood timber, plowed and prepared for the Indian garden. Mr. Lieneman said the authorities at the Fort sought diligently to get the Indians to work in that garden but with no avail. They showed no aptitude at truck gardening and less inclination and interest; eventually the tract was worked by the soldiers for the benefit of the troops. It was near this garden that the Indians used to dispose of their dead by tying them in the tops of large cottonwood trees.
