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MISCELLANEOUS"
Anonymous UNM students
November 13, 1969
Interviewers-ANNA BOYD and IRENE SIELNTMAN
Side Two

Today is November 12, 1969 and I am interviewing a University of New Mexico Navajo student.....

Q. What are your reactions to the National Congress of American Indians Convention held here recently in Albuquerque?

A. I really enjoyed it, I think that it was really one of the biggest things could every happen to Albuquerque.....if you are an Indian, that is, I mean that convention itself was great because it really brought out the Indian opinion or the Indian way of life.....the Indian somewhat out in the open especially here in Albuquerque and the southwest, and really brought out to them what politics really is.....sort of got a taste of it and I think that we all really enjoyed it.

Q. What do you think of the dignitaries that came.....Kennedy, Hickie and Agnew and Bruce?

A. Well, Ireally think they are interested in the Indian problems here in the southwest and just to give us about three or four hours of their time was really, I thought was something great and I think that we should be more.... people in their ownfields.....talk to the Indian people and really also hear what the Indian has to say. Not only give speeches and then have to catch a plane, but sit down for a while and really listen to what the Indian complaints are, instead of always having to hear it..... through the floors of Congress or the House of Representatives.....I think that if a person is willing to come out here and have his say, I think that he should also give some time to the other people.....so that he could hear what they really want done.....you know.....

Q. What do you think of radicals.....or of red power?

A. Well, I think they are great if they know what they are doing especially readical and start smearing on the g.d. stuff on the g.d. million dollar painting.....that is....

that is the kind of radicals that I am against.....you know.....Red Power.....I like Red Power, I never saw poster like that when I was going to grade school or when I was going to high school.....and then I came to the University of New Mexico and I, after that I saw a lot of what it really was, then Red Power was great to me, I like it.....I am behind it all the way. If it doesn't go into lives or endanger other people's lives, I think it is good.....

Q. What do you think is the best way for Indians to be more influential in the government?

A. Just like we had.....just like what had happened here in New Mexico a couple of weeks ago, is like bringing the Indian into a political or more public understanding like.....have them, something in the newspaper, have an article on them or something like that instead of having the bad side of it in it, you know.....I always read some series in the paper that says something on Indian alcoholics or something, they are always chopping down the Indians, you know, they never say anything good about it, they never say like.....they should have had like when the Taos people were having problems with their religious lake, they should have brought out a series like they do in the newspaper and they should have emphasized that why should have put down in the paper about what the people of Taos are fighting for. What they really wanted, they weren't grabbing land or stealing other people's property of nothing like that, that was theirs you know.....They should say something like that and they should have more conventions, and they should have them like here in Albuquerque, the educational systems are in the (?) here in Albuquerque, the Chamber of Commerce or something like that, they should have Indian speakers come like the Five Pueblo villages that we have close here to Albuquerque have some say in this, instead of having to play paper and not really, not only giving Indians a chance to say what they want to say, stand behind them and put it on paper and get them g.d. promises to hold true.....and so that is what I feel.

Q. What politicians are concerned with Indians and want to help them.....like Hickel, Kennedy, Agnew,..... are any of the national figures?

A. Well, to me I don't really think that there is any

national figure now that would stand up and say what he wanted to do or what he really wanted to do for the Indians.....there, they have always said that.....and they have always said that.....and they have always said that because the Constitution of the United States was brought even further than that.....even when the Articles of confederation was born, they always said that.....we are... going to do this, we are going to do that.....and they would only do that. So I don't know any national figure herein 1969 that will, that is really concerned with Indian problems.....because I think the only time when there would be a person in a person that would be in a national figure, it is going to have to be an Indian I think.....not really full-blooded, maybe partly..... but I think that would be the time when he would really fight for it, you know.....

- Q. How about within the state of New Mexico, are there any politicians that seem to be seriously concerned with the Indians.....?
- A. Yes, there is.....I would name Senator Montoya.....I would also name in front of him, the retired president of the NCAI, Chino from Mescalero Apache.....
- Q. Do you think that any of the Kennedy family.....J.F.K., Bobby Kennedy were really friends of the Indians?
- A. Well, I believe they were really friends to the minority groups, they were fighting against poverty stricken people in America.....I think they really, if they, say like Robert F. Kennedy was running for president of the United States and if he became president, I believe he would have done something for the Indian people.....not only in the Southwest but in the whole United States.....I believe he would have done it.....
- Q. Well, what about Governor Cargo?
- A. You meaning concerning Indian problems?
- Q. Yes.....
- A. I believe Governor Cargo is doing some good for the Indians but not much.....I don't mean nothing that is really of great importance, or of great help to the Indians..... What he does is.....what I believe Governor Cargo does is

to get support from the Indians and make promises, promises, promises, promises and then maybe he likes to a flapping eagle or something like that.....that is the way that Cargo is.....flapping eagle all over the place, all over the g.d. Navajo reservation and never really does anything.....

Q. What should the university do for the Indian students?

A. I suppose the Indian students are concerned at the University of New Mexico.....they are there for an education. I believe that the University of New Mexico administration should do is try and help the Indian students accomplish that instead of having to go through the sort of process, If they consider us to be different why don't they treat us different. Think, he knows that we are different and yet when it comes down to paper work and it comes down to admitting a person through a process of what they ever they are doing, half the time drinking coffee.....but you know they should drink about two cups of coffee for an Indian, just push them through an education and get them selves out of it what they can.....but at the same time I think many of the students at the University of New Mexico should devote time to it, you know.....it only takes about ' three hours a day.....and I believe the great disadvantages that the University of New Mexico has is the administrator, is that.....I don't know or think that there's really any great counselor or tutors or whatever you call them.....the only thing that I know is that they have for us over there at school is our advisor, half the time away, but, and a few counselors who are mainly concerned with the whites own problems, but they really have a hard time understanding our problems and so I think they should have something, a counseling center or something that really bears down on the Indian problem....You know, nothing like this shit here and there.....and none of these people work or any of this stuff.....they should have something for the Indian.. kids here at school.....

Q. What do you think about establishing an American Indian Studies here at the University?

A. I like the idea, I am for it, I really think that there should be an American Indian Studies because that is what it is.....each people, each race is bragging for it's own kind of history or it's own kind of study and I think that we have the right to do the something.

I think Indian students should have a greater say in which to hear himself with.....about what life is really..... I think we have one of the beautiful, history or one of the beautiful languages that could ever exists.....on the face of the earth..... I think we should have some say in these things, we should be taught.....

Q. Do you feel that the American Indian students are accepted as equals by whites, Chicanos and Blacks or is there any discrimination on campus?

A. I was going to say, no way can there be equality, unless we have some say.....

Q. Do you, does the university, do you think that Indian students are prepared for college, did they get a good high school education?

A. I believe they are.....I, especially when they are in a university or college, I believe they are prepared and I believe they really want to do something andI thing that is what they are beginning to do.....

Q. One Indian leader protested that graduates of BIA schools were nearly illeterate, is this true?

A. I believe so, I think they have a right to say what they want to say and I think what they said was true, I am behind them all the way. I think some of these BIA people that go out and tell the people what to do and really like having a ten year old Indian boy telling a 30 year old father what he should be doing or what, how he should live and, you know.....if that is the way it is.....then they have the right to say what they want to say.....if they don't like him, that is too bad.....

Q. So are BIA schools good or bad?

A. Well, it depends on the person himself that is studying at that school.....

Q. There was another complaint that BIA teachers are often a bunch of old ladies.....they don't know their subjects and that they don't care about their students.....they don't care if the students learn or not, is this true?

A. Well, it depends on who says that to the old baggy ladies, that are teaching in the BIA schools. If it is a person that is well qualified and says that to them old ladies, if he says that is true, then it is true, but to me it is not, to me that is a judgement made by an individual, you know.....I would turn around and say the same thing to the guy that wrote this to the same guy that is try-

ing to emphasize this.....I would say that he is nothing but an old bag of beans or an old bag of potatoes..... it depends.....I have been to BIA schools myself and the teachers are really.....some really are for it.....they really want to do something for the Indian students..... That they have in their classrooms, they really want to do something.....and then again there are others who are doing their time there, having a hell of a time.....

Q. Do you think these Indian organizations are effective, like NICY OR NCAI, United Americanthere are quite a few of them now.....

A. Well, I don't think that their smoke signals of are a great notice yet.....they should combine.....They should unite and say what they want to say instead of like.....some of the Indian tradition is unorganized.....they should from what they have learned from the democratic society, I believe that each of these leaders in these various groups have gone to school and they know what a democratic life is andthey start using that democratic life and so make themselves one party and stand up for one thing instead of always trying to beat each other and.....I think you will have a greater notice.....that way than the way it is today but they are.....I believe that they will get there

Q. What do you feel about Indians joining protest movements and marching and demonstrating to get what they want?

A. Well, it depends on what the hell they are demonstrating for and because demonstrating is against the BIA, I don't think they should do that. But if there are demonstrations against, plans that is established on the reservation and they have been receiving low wages for it, I think that they have a right to do that.....I think an Indian person is just like any other American.....citizen....., I think he should say what he wants to say and say it right out and not be bashful and not stand behind another person's back, I think he should come right out and do what he wants to do.....

Q. What do you think of these reservation schools that are off the reservations, like Intermountain, Sherman, Haskell, Chillocco///?????

A. Of the three, I think Intermountain school is the best.... does a whole hell of a lot, but not only teach elementary or not only teaches education but have them teach programs

like Haskell Institute and I think that off reservation schools are good and they are bad, depending on what kind of a family an Indian kid comes from.....and I, but really think that it is about time that we change that whole idea.....I think it is about time that we start our saying how our childre, you know, our children should be taught and what they should be taught about when they go off the reservation, I think we should have, I think we should really have some say about the students in the various schools, should really have a say on how the administration or what the administration should do as far as the off-reservation crap is concerned.....

- Q. Do you think BIA schools should remain on or get off the reservation???
- A. Well, I think most of the BIA schools are already off the reservations.....I think that they should start going into the reservations now.....let the BIA people get off the board and let some well qualified Indian people in their positions and I think if, we would all be better off that way.....
- Q. What about public schools that are located on the reservation or in the peripheral areas?
- A. I really like them, I think there should be more public schools on the reservation and more public schools should be moving into the reservation.....I think there should be more.....
- Q. What do you, this is on another subject.....what do you think of the Gallup Ceremonial?
- A. From what standpoint do you mean?
- Q. I guess, particular pertaining back to last summer, when some of the students handed out that literature and they had trouble with the Ceremonial Association.....and also your general feeling about Gallup Ceremonial, you know, what it is?????????
- A. Well, from the first time that I went to the Gallup Ceremonial, I really liked it, I liked the whole thing, I liked the arts and crafts show, I liked what the people were doing up there.....but after being there several times, I have come to believe that is nothing.....after being through college and after that I have learned from it.....the benefits from the Gallup Ceremonial and every-

thing.....I think that in Gallupthe committee on the Gollup Ceremonial and Gallup New Mexico they made a mistake on what they did this summer, in kicking out some of the students who were picketing on the fair grounds I kind of don't think they had a right to do that..... I think that they should, I hope that there would be more protesting and more of picketing if the Gallup Ceremonial should be controlled by the Indians.....none of this family to family heritage kind of deal, you know, it ... it should be controlled by the IndiansssI think it is about time that they....the guys from the Gallup Ceremonial turn the whole deal over to the Indians..... and let them run it, or else the Indians should boycott the damn thing and make their own god damn thing, I think they have enough money to do that.....And I think they should start running their own show if they don't like that thing.....If they don't like the Gallup Ceremonial, it is not to their benefit, I don't see why they should spend year after year and lose out and lose out.....unless they do something about it right now.....I think they should get together and build their own god damn ceremonial grounds or.....I think they should start doing that.....

Q. Who do you think should be the next Navajo tribal chairman?

A. Well, I don't know who is running right now and so I can't say.....

Q. Well, okay.....what are your viewpoint on Nakai and....

A. I really like him and I think he really did some good for us.....I believe that he really stood up for education and he really understood the young people and he really understood the old people and I think that he, if he ran again, it would be good, I think he would win again and let him keep on running and I hope that he is still up there when I get there so I can beat him/////

Q. This next question.....what do you think about the image that is portrayed on movies and TV?

A. O god.....that is like mickey mouse.....god damn drama, you know....well, I think that is a bunch of crap, or those guys, thos TV people or movie peopledon't even know nothing about Indians way of life or Indian history....or anything like that.....god damn drama, you know...well, maybe they are majoring in art, they don't even knwo what they are doing, as ling as it looks good on screen..... all they care about.....even though they don't even give

a damn if they hurt any kind of race....they just only want to make money, want to make it beautiful, to make it.....as long as the majority like it, that is the way that they want it.....I don't think, I think like the Navajo tribe should start it's own movie program or start some kind of industry in the movie field, like the state of New Mexico is trying to do right now!.... I think what the Navajo tribe should do or any other tribe, Indian tribe, should do is get together and just get.....tell the god damn Governor Cargo to get the god damn ass off the reservation and they should ban together and take the movie industry, man.....if you want to film anything in the g.d. village or any reservation or any beautiful thing....you are going to pay us.....not to the state of New Mexico, they are receiving enough money just for us to exist in New Mexico, you know, I don't think....what they should do is get a movie industry, to get their own, you know, so that they could have their views seen on the screen, you know, so that we could get more money, not only when the money, not only when the movie goes up but they could also get paid for it when the movie industry or the movie director moves into the reservation or into a village, they should get some money then and get paid for it and all that and then they should have some sort of.....percentage-wise, for the movie.....present it.....I think that is what they should do.....I think the movie industry had really hurt the Indian way of life.....the Indian people.....

Q. What do you think of 49's?

A. 49's in the Pueblo sense?

Q. I.....anyway you want to take it.....

A. Well, I think we should have 49's every week,....I think they are worth things, it's good to have a good time once in a while instead of always having to shut yourself up in your room and to have to spend eight hours a day.....inside and you really have nothing going.....I think you have to go off and have some fun.....and if you like 49's, okay.....I think, I really enjoy 49's.....

Q. Do you have any other things.....you would like to say anything else on what we have been talking on?

A. (?)

Q. I thought of another question.....what do you think of Navajo Community College?

A. Oh boy, I like that.....now.....I really enjoy that.... I think it is good what it is trying to do.....I tink it is one of the greatest colleges from my point of view in the southwest.....I think they need more than one, I think we should start fighting for another one..... while this one is getting a great foothold.....I think there should be more.....colleges like NCC.....

Q. Is there anything else you would like to say to what we have been talking about?

A. No, I just hope the people that hear this would consider what we say and not only pass it by and throw it in the trash can or erase it.....I think they should really study it, whenever there is always some programs or something to do.....alot of people would only consider it because of money wise, you know, and like when there is a director or a program that is sent out to the reservation, you know,.....they always have to get a director, you know, a guy that directos the whole thing, doesn't give a damn what is happeningyou know, and the only thing that he cares about is the minute he sees that money, you know.....he is allowed to receive, you know, as long as he gets that, he doesn't care what happens to what he has been working on or what he is aiming for or someting like that.....I hope this tape does something good and I hope that they consider it, instead of just to have money going into their pockets or you know and then forget about it and then get drunk.....you shouldn't do that, you should be considerate.....

Q. Okay.....

Q. You're from Canoncito, aren't you?

A. Yo!

Q. What do you plan to do after school, what are your future plans?

A. I am going to get through this university.....and if I do I am planning to go to the service and become a pilot.... a commercial pilot and I will come back to the reservation and herd some sheep for a couple of weeks and then come back to the whiteman's world and really give them a taste of what I learned from them and I think what I am fighting for them, will be right for my own people. I think I'll be really trying and put myslef up there and try to make my life worth something and not just pass it over, you know,.....I think I will try and go into law school or try and get into something great.....the problems that are concerned with,.....Indian problems in the southwest, I think that is about what I have in mind.....to this day,.....If I can cange it.....I might become a wino, I am still considering that too.....

 Today is November 12, 1969 and.....I am going to interview a Pawnee Indian.....

Q. Where are you from?

A. Pawnee, Oklahoma....

Q. How long didyou live there?

A. Oh, most of my life, up until about 22.....

Q. What did you used to do over ther?

A. I went to school at Chillocco Indian school and spend most of my vacations at Pawnee, Oklahoma.....

Q. How are the Pawnee?

A. How are they?????

Q. I mean, a little bit like history?

A. In which way do you mean.....how are they.....the plains tribes of Indians or.....their reservation is, was allotted and of course alot of them have sold their lands and the community of Indians like you would find in the villages and Navajo reservation, therefore, they are leav-

ing a lot of their old Indian ways.....

Q. When did they start allotting their lands?

A. Allotting their land went way back in.....I think the last allotment was put out in 1905.

Q. How much did the Pawnees sell their land for?

A. Well, some of the land there in Pawnee, wasn't too good, but even at that, Indians were, didn't sell their land for the value, some of them had 160 acres, that went for about \$10-12 thousand dollars.....

Q. You think that was good or not?

A. No, I don't think that was good.....I think property is one of the best assets that a person can have. If he has any land at all, and this land being restricted land and not taxable.....I see no reason why they should sell it.....

Q. How big was Pawnee reservation a long time ago, then?

A. I have no idea.....of what the acreage was but..... the square miles, but it covered quite a bit of territory, Arkansas River and around the town of Perry, Oklahoma, and down around, half way between Pawnee and the town, Cushing and then east, it went from about Pawnee out,,, Cleveland.....

Q. What did they use to use the land for, the Pawnee?

A. A lot of the land was good farming land and a lot of it was about all that it could be used for was pasture land and some of the Pawnees did farm a lot.....Pawnees were farmers to begin with, back in Nebraska and that is about what they used it for, farming and stock raising

Q. And you said a lot of the Pawnees allotted their lands, well, how much is left now?

A. I have no idea how much land is allotted there.....I would say around, about let's say 900, between 600 and 900 Pawnees left.....and about maybe 1/3 of them have allotmentship.

Q. Right now, are they run on a tribal basis.....I mean do they have a tribal chairman and council or what?

A. Yes, they do.....they have a tribal chairman, a tribal

council, and on tribal (?) they are trying to restore some of the places there.....like the old Indian school and where the hospital is now and they are trying to get and bring that back in hand.....and they tried that and have more different enterprises set up and so they can attract on back to their home lands.

- Q. What kind of enterprises are they trying to set up?
- A. Well, they hadn't decided yet what the enterprises would be, but I would say that they are defferent tribes and maybe their own cafes and stores.....
- Q. Is there any other resources that the Pawnee tribe owns now.....?
- A. Well, the Pawnee as a tribe, have very little, if any resources at all there.....and individually.....most resources there are in individually where they have their own allotment and what they have, what they make off of this land belongs to them individually.
- Q. Don't the Pawnees have a reserve, like close to the town of Pawnee?
- A. Have a reserve?
- Q. Like Echohawk maybe called it?
- A. Yes, well the reserve that he was talking about, as I just mentioned, the old Indian school, there is this land that is over in there, belongs to the Pawnees, what is being mad e off of it, I don't know, not too much.....
- Q. Is there any type of friction between the Pawnees and their people of Pawnee, Oklahoma....?????
- A. Excuse me, what was your question?
- Q. Any type of fricton or do they seem to get along?
- A. Well, it appears that they are getting along but there is quite a bit of friction there among the Anglos and the Indians.....
- Q. Do you know the causes of it?

- A. Just racial prejudices, as far as I can see.....
- Q. The town, the Pawnees have their annual homecoming during the Fourth of July, which is a pow wow, do they get any revenue from that?
- A. No, this pow wow is suppose to be the largest free powwow in the United States.....
- Q. There are about six to nine hundred Pawnees, how many are enrolled in the Pawnee tribe?
- A. Well, this figure that I gave you there are not accurate by any means, but the ones that I mentioned are enrolled as Pawnees with the tribe.....
- Q. Did the Pawnee offer any type of scholarship or do they have PHS hospitals or does the government provide any type of welfare or.....?
- A. Yes, I think that the state there or the government there provides welfare for some of them the same as they do for the Anglos.....and there is scholarships available I think through the BIA.....
- Q. Do you know why the Pawnees have a reservation that small, was it just because they started allotting their own land or.....?
- A. Well, when they did allot their own land.....they, when they were approached to sell their lands, well, alot of them thinking that they need money right then, and that they could do better by moving into town with that money, did sell, some of them sold it because they weren't in school and guess it was a sad thing that.....the government let them sell it.....because when they did sell it, they just spend the money on other things....you know and got no benefits from it.....
- Q. The Pawnees were organized in four bands.....?
- A. Yes, the Pawnees are in four bands.....
- Q. Can you name them?
- A. We have the four bands there, the Skid band is of "wolf" the Skid is, I guess the principal band, was at one time and then we have the Chaui and the Kitkehahki and the Outagayerat,,,,,The four bands thre.....they are set

up in Oklahoma when they came down from Nebraska.....
 about the sametime as they were in Nebraska there.....
 Skid from the north and the Kitkehahki from south and
 the Chaui from the east.....

Q. Was there much interaction between the Pawnees and the
 United States governemtn.....like cavalry.....

A. Let me have that question again.....

Q. Was there, when the Pawnees were moving down from Nebraska
 to Oklahoma, was there a lot of interaction, like fighting
 between the Pawnee nation and the Americans?

A. Well, as far as I know, I don't believe the Pawnee had
 ever fought against the Undited States government.....
 there were a lot of them that were scouts for the army,,
 For the Morse broghters and so forth, but as far as
 fighting agisnst the United States government, I don't
 think that they ever did.....

Q. And what was their relationship to the other tribes around
 there like that.....I think there are Poncas and Otoes
 and these other tribes around there.....?

A. That is quite a question there, but Pawnees and Otoes in
 there, rightin that part of the woods became pretty close
 closely knit.....on account of their, Oh, I guess their
 living conditions and so forth, But at one time the Sioux
 tribe which the Otoe and Osages and so forth were from,
 were bitter enemies with the Pawnees.....

Q. The 600 to 900 Pawnees, do they still live in that area?

A. No, they are scattered all over.....I guess you might
 say the globe....we even have some in Guam, we have a
 family that is living in England.....and some downin
 the middle east.....and I guess every state in the union
 has at least one Pawnee init.....

Q. When did you move down in this area?

A. I moved down in this area during the Depression days of
 1931.....I took a Civil Service examination and got
 a job with the Soil Conservation in Gallup, New Mexico...

Q. And then from there, where did you go then?

A. Well, after being in the Gallup area, I worked on the
 Navajo reservation, out in the Window Rock, Arizona....
 and that Indian School at Fort Wingate.....and from
 there I joined the army and volunteered induction into
 the army during the World War II.....went overseas and

upon my return I went back to work at Ft. Wingate Ordnance Depot and then transferred from thereto the Air Force base at Kirtland Air Force base and I was here in Albuquerque since then.....

Q. You were a soil conservationist on the Navajo Reservation, What did your job consist of and tell us something about it,

A. I worked for the Soil Conservation....I wasn't a conservationist.....I traveled mostly the reservation area.....with supplies of range riders and different projects that were on the reservation...they were building stock tanks all over the place at the time, It was my job, as a truck driver there at the duty thing.....

Q. What was your impression of the Navajo reservation during those times, depression??

A. Well, some of the reservation I thought was very poor land, but some of it.....is real good land and I imagine all of it is good agriculture land if you can get the water to it.....I think that is the thing...they just don't have the water in places that they should have.....

Q. Do you think the BIA or federal government should appropriate more money for irrigation projects on reservations?

A. Yes, I think they should,.....they should be a lot more irrigation on the Navajo reservation there, or anywhere in the southwest....not only on the Navajo reservation but on some of the others.....of course some of these Pueblos had quite a bit of water.....and they have been limited to their irrigation also.....But the Navajo land is very rich, I think, you can grow most anything there if you can get the water to it.....

Q. I guess on your opinion, how would you compare the Navajo tribe then, as to what it is now?

A. Well, I think the Navajo tribe has come a long way in the last twenty years.....and when I first came out here and what they are now.....they still have a long ways to go, of course, but they have improved their reservation a lot and I think they still love the land, they still have not given up the different things that I see going on, on the reservation in them days and then back here in the last year or so, I have seen a lot of improvement on the reservation.....

Q. Because the Pawnees alloted their lands, how do you feel that the Navajos should deal with their reservation?

A. Oh, I don't know.....it is a pretty hard question to answer, but with the Navajos and the reservation they still have....their lands.....and they still have alot of their own traditons which is being lost in a lot of the Plains tribes.....because of this allotment of land, well, they not only lost their land, but are leaving their tradtitions too.....

Q. What do you think of Red Power or militant Indians?

A. Well, II think that it is a good thing.....if they go about it the right way, also I don'tlike the words 'Red Power', if they would coin it another way.....another work for it.....it seems as though they are trying to take somebody else's word there and saying "Red Power", it could be some other means of expression there.....power to put to use into public.....

Q. What did you think of the NCAI convention?

A. Well,.....the NCAI convention, I think is good, at least, it gets several different tribesof Indians together.....and they express their views and things... and it seems to me that leaning a little towards the red side, the common side, nevertheless they seem to be doing pretty good.....and rather the United States govern-ment, know that.....the needs of the Indian people, and their ways and views of thinking about different things and the Indians do and the United Staste govern-ment has done.....

Q. Did you ever participate in the Gallup Ceremonial? As a dancer????

A. No, I have never participated there in GAllup, but my son has participated there and also my son's mother, participated there.....

Q. What do you think of the Gallup Ceremonial???

A. For the Anglo people, I think it is wonderful thing, a way of that they can see alot of the dances and ceremonials of the Indian people. For the Indian people themselves, I don't think too much of it.....it seems as though they go to a lot of dances and they are forced to go out there each year and then they get back and a lot of them have

to pawn alot of their stuff and others their customs to get back home.....And being in town like that where alcohol beverages and drinks are available naturally, they consume alot of it.....But if it is run some other place where they can get a fair deal out of it.....I would be all for it because it does show the people some of the traditions and ceremonies of the Indian people.....

Q. Going back to the Navajo reservation when you worked out there, how were you received being another Indian?

A. At first on the Navajo reservation, naturally I was taken for a Spanish or.....a Mexican but after the Indians found out that I was Indian.....I was received very well out there and still am.....

Q. When you went to Chillocco school, can you tell us something about that?

A. Well, when I went to school at Chillocco, it was..... kind of military like,.....we were up every morning long about five. We had different chores to do and we did drilling, military type of drilling, and each year they had competitive drillings during their commencement week. And as far as the school was concerned....we had our academic work all day and then we went to the shop for a half day and then we.....getting our book learning as well as learning the trade.....had a very good trade school there at Chillocco at that time.....which included a lot of different trades, such as printing and blacksmithing and metal work, dairy, farming.....and poultry raising and I think it was a very good idea at the time. We had teachers that were very conscientious in their work, there was a lot of them that stayed over hours to help the Indian that was a slow learner. And, oh golly, we were well-disciplined, we, at the time we thought that we were kind of being abused, but we learned alot of discipline there along with our studies and our shop work. And when we left there, if we were no good in book learning, we learned a trade anyhow.....

Q. About the Pawnees again.....where did the Pawnees get war dancing from?

A. Well, the war dancing is something that they expressed or used for the victory dance and also before they went on the war path.....the war dance that we have today is more or less taking the old war dance and dressing it up

a little where they have a real fast fancy dancing now,,, and they learn that the turkey feathers and I think more or less the feathers that they wear nowadays was brought on mostly by the Anglo people that thought that Indians should have feathers and they dressed accordingly.'

Q. What about other crafts.....what are some of the crafts that Pawnees do????

A. Some of the crafts that the Pawnees do??

Q. Yeah....

A. I believe most of their crafts right now are lost, but at one time they did pottery.....pottery work and bead work and bead and ribbon work and feathers.....

Q. What about the Navajos since you worked out there....do they seemed to be retaining alot of their culture and traditions or are they losing it too????

A. They are reataining alot of it, yes....but within the past ten years.....the Indian people, the younger Indian people, have been losing alot. They are not participating in the old traditons of the Navajo.....and they have gone off to school and they are losing it....andthat thing.....Some of these boys will go up to schools and they will come back andthey don't care about going to the Indian dances or ,.....participating in any of the ceremonies.....of the Indians.....and would rather....go to the other dances...but after...while these boys go back after they are 21 or 22 years old, and want to pick up these tings again.....But they are a little late because there are a lot of things that they learned when they were young boys, or young ladies, and they can't go back andpick up this because it is just gradually slipping away from the Navajo's also.....

Q. So do you think that school is the main result for this??

A. No.....I don't think that it is actually the school, it is, I would say more or less the intergration or association with along with the Anglo and therefore they are learning new ways of doing things.....and so forth and naturally they would lose a lot of their Indian ways of doing things.....

Q. So you think that American Indians should get more politically

involved into the government?

- A. Yes, I think that they should get more politically active into the government, even their own....they would do this I guess by associating more with polical bodies of the community and began to study these different political lives and they will find that they will learn alot more the ways that the government is run.....and we need more Indian people in polotics anyhow,,,,,and so I think this would be a good thing if alot of them would even study that in thier school.....
- Q. What do you think about the image that is portrayed on movies and TV about Indians???
- A. Well, the image that they have on there is alright to a certain extent, but the thing of it is, they only show one side of it mostly and I know that people that put out these pictures and so forth are not as ignorant as some of the pictures shew, But I know that they are trying to please the public, alot of the Anglos, especially those around the east think that we all have feathers and things.....and most Indians come on the screen with feathers and so forth and instead of bringing them out in their native costumes or their original costumes, well, they don't.....and that makes it bad,as well as, not going into history and bringing out some of the great battles that the Indians have won and have some of the other chiefs that were great, like they keep the Indian on the losing side.....
- Q. Can you name some of the great Pawnee leaders?
- A. Could I name some great Pawnees?
- Q. Yeah,,,,,,
- A. Well, we have a few of them there that was..... Crooked Hand.....
- Q. What did Crooked Hand do??
- A. Crooked Hand was one of the chiefs there while the Pawnees were still in Nebraska.....he organized a bunch of the women and children there to keep the place, the Sioux fromcoming in and destroying our villages.....And then we have Pitalesharo which is Man Chief and then we have

Leading Fox, Morgan.....and several of the other big chiefs, we have.....but I can't recall right now.....

Q. What did Pitalerharo do?

A. Pitalerharo was a Mexican, Pitalerharo was, I guess the one that made the Pawnee people realize that they shouldn't sacrifice human people on the altar there.....that our heavenly father didn't ask for that, at all.....by bringing this young girl off of the scapel and carrying off to her people.....

Q. And how about, what did Leading Fox do??

A. Leading Fox was one of the organizers and had, well, well government, for the people there when they were living in the villages there.....keep the people happy.

Q. About what date was that??

A. I, around 1800s' there, along the last part of the 1800's.....before they moved into Oklahoma.....

Q. And why did the Pawnees move from Nebraska..?

A. When did they move..?

Q. Why.....?

A. Why....This was when they set up the areas which is now Oklahoma, when they set up the territory and all Indians were moved from different places into Oklahoma there.....that land.....

A. You aksed me what I thought about intermarriage between Pawnees and Navajos.....I think it would be a pretty good thing.....because with the crude goodness of the Navajo and the smooth intelligence of the Pawnee, I think the off-springs would be very good, also.....rugged.....

Today is November 14th, 1969 and I am interviewing a Navajo student, Otoe-Missouri.....

Q. The first question that I would like to ask you is,

what did you think of the NCAI convention that was held a couple of weeks ago? did you participate in the NCAI convention?

- A. No, I didn't, because of my studies here at the university.....I was too involved in classes, work activities, music which I intend to major in and it takes quite a bit of my time.....
- Q. Do you have any opinions about the NCAI organization?
- A. I really don't have any opinions about the organization because I don't know too much about it.....heard..... not enough to form an opinion at all and I know that the NCAI had a convention here recently.....
- Q. Do you have any opinions about any other Indian organizations like NIYC or United Native Americans??
- A. No, I was going to say that I do not have any opinions about any organizations because I am not familiar with these organizations.....
- Q. Do you think that Indians should join together in protest movements??
- A. I think that the Indians should band together for common purpose....however, I am not too strong, I don't feel too strong about purposes I feel that the purpose, should offer some good basic criticism, solutions and this is something that I would like to see done... in the future.....
- Q. Going back to the convention.....Ted Kennedy, Bruce and Hickie and Agnew were there.....do you have any general or personal opinions about them, and do you think that they are really all helping the Indian people.....?
- A. From what I have heard from the students who have attended.....I really don't know what to say, but from the newspapers reports, I would rather pass this question.....
- Q. What about within the state of New Mexico, do you think that there are any people like Cargo or any of the other senators that are helping the Indian people.....?

- A. From.....Yes I think Senator Montoay has helped the Indian people in the New Mexico and Arizona territory, and I think that it is raelly something that we should work with Mr. Montoya on this and in the senate he has proposed and supported Indian bills which I like...
- Q. What news do you think.....do you think that Indians should be more influentcial into the government and how can they do this...?
- A. Yes, I think that the Indians should become more active in the government because the government is for the people and the Indians are people.....
- Q. How do you think they can go about achieving this voice in the governement?
- A. I think that perhaps important Indian leaders would probably be the best way.....also writing to the Congress men.....
- Q. What do you think about Red Power?
- A. I don't have any opinion...
- Q. What about militant Indians....
- A. I pass on that question also.....
- Q. Okay, do you think that Inians students are prepared for college and universities, do you think that the high schools prepared them enough for this??
- A. No, I don't, especially on the Navajo reservation which I am very familiar with.....if the boarding schools there do not prepare the students.....The students cannot fit into college life as easy as students attending public schools, they are offered a variety of activities and a number of courses.....
- Q. Well, what is your Opinion of BIA schools, is it good or bad.....
- A. I think it is improving and I think that they will continure to improve.....
- Q. Do you think that BIA schools should remain on the reservation.....???

- A. Yes,I think that the BIA schools should remain on the reservation and I also think that they should work closely with the state organizations, perhaps in introducing public schools closer to the students home.....
- Q. Is, the criticism of BIA, the people have said that BIA teachers are inefficient that they were a bunch of old ladies, what do you feel about BIA...??
- A. I think to be a teacher you have to have your proper education, but perhaps the criticism are based on personal opinions and I would rather pass on this question.....
- Q. What do you feel that the University of New Mexico should do for the Indian students..??
- A. I think the Indian students should work with the university officials and help establish tutorial services for the Indian students that come unprepared, this is giving the Indian students a chance to help one another.....
- Q. Well, what about establishing an American Indian studies here at the university...??
- A. I think that is a very fine thing to do, because I feel that the American Indians are losing their identity and I feel that this would help to restore part of this.
- Q. And if we did have an American Indian studies, would we offer a major and a minor in the way that this would help to restore part of this.....How might it be organized???
- A. I would rather much pass on this question because I am not too familiar with the Indian studies program, however, I think that it would work very well either as a major or a minor.....
- Q. What do you feel about the Kiva Club and its participation at the university? What do you think the Kiva Club is for, as far as its involvement with Indian students and trying to establish an American Indian studies.....?

- A. I think the Kiva Club has done a fine job because at the meetings, it gives the other Indian students a chance to meet with others, become acquainted with their backgrounds and in a sense, it is a melting pot for the Indians.....because I feel that as a group we would, the Indian students would receive a little more recognition.....through the Kiva Club..
- Q. What do you think about the Gallup Ceremonial and I guess in relationship to the three students who were passing out literature at the Ceremonial grounds and they had trouble with the Ceremonial board association??
- A. I would much rather pass on this question, on this question, I have had very close relations with the Ceremonial association.....
- Q. Well, what is your opinion then?
- A. The reason why I would rather pass on this question is because of my relations with them, because of my relations with the ceremonial association in which I support and have supported and probably will continue to support, however, I do not wish to make any statements on the Indians students because I feel that they are Indians and I have a sense of responsibility to them and their actions.....
- Q. Well, let me ask you another question....do you feel that the ceremonial itself takes advantage or does exploit Indians??
- A. No, I don't, because I think the Indians make it what it is.....
- Q. What do you feel about the Navajo Community College out at Many Farms.....is it working or is it not??
- A. It is a very young organization and like any thing like this, they go through a period of confusion and I believe that it has got great possibilities....
- Q. Do you think that other establishments like this, there would or should be more of them.....?
- A. Yes, I do.....especially on the Indian reservations.. I feel that this gives students a much better atmos-

phere to study in.....

- Q. What do you think about a corporation or industries on the reservation, and say like Fairchild and General Dynamics.....??
- A. This is on the Navajo reservation and I think it is really good because of the economic value, provides jobs for the people. However, in one of the establishments on the reservations, I feel that perhaps the Navajo tribe could gain more control perhaps by buying stock in it.....say, perhaps 51% where they would control the markets there on the reservation, and this would help to bring the standards up.....on the Navajo reservation.....
- Q. Earlier, you stated that Indian students really weren't prepared for college, especially the ones that went to boarding schools as opposed to the ones that went to public schools, could you elaborate on that a little more on what they are deficient in.....?
- A. I think the main thing here would be the language courses.....seems that on the Navajo reservation the school impresses on the children that they need English more than anything else.....Also the math department could be more.....extended and I think that students should be able to fit into college mathematics and the science department should also be brought up.....should be brought up.....
- Q. On theis there any other adjustment other than academic that the Indian student has to make??
- A. Yes, I believe athey need some kind of social background,.....there in the boarding school, students are used to living in such a way that they have got rules and regulations to go by at all times, but once they get into college on campus they find that they are on their own and perhaps if they are given more freedom at the boarding school perhaps it would help.
- Q. On the ceremonial again.....do you feel that more Indians should become more active in the ceremonial association.....but they must join as a member and there is a fee in joining. After you join, it is just like any other organization where you would

run for a certain office and I do think that the Indians are capable of doing this.....

A. Yes.....

Q. Is there anything that you would like to add to what we have been talking about....?

A. Yes, I would.....I think that in a bi-culture society, I.....the Indian students should not forget their heritage as I have found in many cases.....Indians, Indian students tend to downgrade their various tribes.....I don't think that this is very good and I think that all Indians, all people should be proud of their heritage, as I am of the Indians...

Q. The last question, I guess, is what do you plan to do in the future, when you get out of school, or what are your future plans.....?

A. I am only beginning my college education, however, I have a very strong business backgroiund....., however, I hope to use this as a support in case something should happen or go wrong and I would have to go back to my commercial course.....I am very interested in the music profession particularly vocal and choral music.....I intend to continue my eudcation here at the university.....studying vocal music.....and perhaps going back on to the reservation and expose this ttype of music facets to the various Indian students.....One more thing, I would like to add, is that I am interested in working with young people, especially children and I have had many experiences working with children and I came to school because I realized that I didn't have the education to work with, for these problems especially the drop-out rates on the reservation....this could be decreased by more students with education going back to the reservation to help.....

Q. What do you feel about Raymond Nakai, do you think that he is or not doing an efficient job for the Navajo people.....??

A. Well, personally, I am somewhat surprised at his recent actions and how he carries on and something I read quite interesting, sometime ago, a cartoon or

something inserted in one of the newspapers, back where a dog is taken and fatten and afterwords he turns on his master...and I feel that tat is what Mr. Nakai has done and I feel that perhaps that the students now, the modern students are ready to combat this problem and I feel that there is a change going on..... on the reservation and we need some-one young.....with a better education to work with these problems.....going into further details on this I feel that the students now, the Indian students criticize the governments on the reservations, yet they have no intentions of going back and helping them.....I think the Indian students are the people who sit off the reservation and criticize the government and various actions.....that are going on, on the reservations.....I think that they should go back and help peple instead of just criticizing.....

THE END.....