

Tape #413 (side 1)
NAVAJO
Tribal Leader Workshop
Kaibeto, Arizona
June 19, 1969
Recorded by Tom Ration

CAC AND CHAPTER MEETING
AND EARLY EXPERIENCES OF
TWO SPEAKERS--MR. PETERSON
HALL AND MR. DENNISON

This is a story that had came up not too long ago at the Kaibeto, Arizona. Kaibeto is near Page, Arizona. It's about 10 miles from Page, Arizona. This is where the meeting was that is called all Tribal Meeting from all parts of the Navajo reservation outside and inside and meeting was called the CAC and the chapter officers meeting. This has been going on for one week. Discussing about the problem how most of the problem were being talked about CAC and some people were getting asked to talk about their old time days. As they go along we have Leonard Begay, the chairman of the tribal meeting and the vice chairman has been set up in each community. This meeting was called the Community Action Committee meeting and the tribe leader workmanship. This will set the first stage on Sunday, May 25, 1969. The first chairman that took place was called George Young. He is from Tuba City agency director. The first start was from 8:00 AM on Sunday to 12:00 noon and from 12:00 noon to 1:00 o'clock was lunch and then from 1:00 to 2:00 PM was discussion about different things from 2:00 PM to 2:05 was involving by Paul Blinchford. From 2:00 to 5:00 PM to 2:00 PM was welcome address by the most Albert Summers, councilman and the James Howell, Community Center. That was the first day on Sunday. From 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM was introduction and some discussions about self. Most of these things were being what they call guest speakers. Peter Ruddage, Lee Chee, councilman. He has been talked about different things in the first day.

Most of these talk about leaderships as we go along I will direct what things are discussed in the first talk was according to what it was called Community Action Committee and tribe leader workmanship request guidelines and committee, he faced new ideas in community development, is that the opinion people in the community are important. Often the opinion that people have are not expressed because the people are not asked or they do not have a chance to say anything. One of the ways by which the community can learn of the ideas of each member is through committee discussion. Committee by involving people in the share of the community responsibility. Also, help in the development of leadership provided by using the people's ideas. Suggestion, plans and discussion as community development workers, you will have a community opportunity of working with the CAP organization committees. When each committee is community action committee, which will be discussed in more detail during the workmanship assistance the following page has been prepared as a guideline on community organization and responsibility. First this is the first chairman talk George Young into Tube City. He is telling us more about the base line of community action guideline. CAC guideline, some guidelines serve the committee. Why have community action Committee; if the problems being considered by any organization or group is to..... culture or will take too much time to solve a committee may be formed to take care of the problem to fulfill and defense propose. These are mostly guidelines that we are talking about. The purpose of the community action

committee is to plan, consider, screening the words out, and extending problem in many other things that the chapter can talk about for further action. How long will the committee exist? The community action committee members are selected by the chapter members and may serve two years with pay. They will meet twice a month, at \$10 a meeting. What authorize will it have? The community action committee is selected by the people authorized by the chapters and has authorized to suggest iseas between and answer higher recommend and introduce to the chapter the receive. They will be annually organizate and rated by the tribal council. How many members should there be in the CAC? The number of members of the community committee depends upon the job that needs to be done. They shall be spent by the appointment authorize.... the committees shall be small enough for good group discussion and in fact workers of large enough to carry out jobs. Five members, the community action committee may have set sub-committees in additional there shall be three chapter officers, one CD workers and one grazing committee man each chapters. Who shall be the Committees? Members shall be selected on the basis of their interest and purpose of the committees. Second, willingness to do the work, third provide to do the work, fourth select by the people, redeeming numbers, resident community leaders, unemployment, housewife, the poor, teachers, missionaries, and traders. This will be the way, how it must be run. It shall be composed of members representing different points of view and ideas. Care shall be taken that the

appointment authorize doesn't appointed by members who thinks alike or agree with him. How should the chairman be chosen? When selecting the chairman a purpose of the community shall be kept in mind, will be as chairman to help the purpose of the community committee. Officer shall be chosen out of the five members of the CAC group who are some qualified a chairman should have. Number one, he shall be interesting and decided to purpose of the community. Second, it is wilderness. Third, willing to work hard. Fourth, have confessed in the presence of each new member in reside in the community. Fifth, be able to encourage all members of the constructive their ideas. Sixth, be more interested in the community jobs for the community than in his own feeling and personal importance. Seventh, enable to inspire the numbers to share in the representative responsibility of the work of the community for the people and the community. Guide for the committee chairman: what shall you do to prepare for committee works-- understanding the job and what the community committee is to do. Understanding the limit and the authorize of the years of your committee meetings,..... How much can you do, how far can you go? Develop and prepare before each meeting. Using committee members ideas, supply each number in advance of meeting with a copy of a plan and any materials to be used as a base for action on each terms of the agents. Shelter meeting at the time convention to the community members, hold meeting under conditions that encourage most attention to committees business, check fraction ahead of meeting time. These are the basic ideas of the commit-

tee workers contain guides for committee chairmans. How shall you construct the works of the committees, open meeting and time? Soon all committee members how each other in and assure members conferred, develop the common understanding of aide. The community assistant: (B.) how it is progressed, see that all necessary information is present, is known and understood. Make sure that each member think how he feels and what should be done about each terms on the agenda. Keep discussion on the right track, get all members involved in these discussion, the quiet ones we have important ideas. Summarize often considering the point of agreement and disagreement. When discussion decide generally understanding agreement has been reached get a group discussion, repeat each committee's discussion as it shall be included in the minutes. See to it that produce progress reports are present with the people and the chapter. Close the meeting properly. How should you do to follow up? See that the members are notified as a time and place of next meeting. Follow up on discussion and action. See that other interesting groups are advised of action taken by the CAC. Guides for the community secretaries: take down the important ideas in the discussion of the meeting, record the terms of business in group discussion, keep the committee's record, take care of needs corporation, report the minutes as usual. We continue guides for the committees secretary. Make the minutes as interesting, clear and brief as possible. Help the chairman by being prepared to give summaries of the discussion for times to times. Prepare for the chairman a list of unfinished business. Send interesting meeting notice and redeeming at the right time,

neither too early or too late. Guides for all coming community members understanding the purpose of the committees and the limit of its authorize. Become friendly with the basic information on each terms on the guides on the agents including discussion and action already taken. Consult the groups you were present for guidance on your community works, committee works. Be on hand and ready to do the work for the full shelter time. Take active parts in the discussion instead of sitting back and waiting. Listen to others, learn from others. When an assistant talks to the entire committee rather than to one individual member, consider the view point of others interesting groups. Never jump to conclusion, before examining all the facts. Then make up your mind. Fulfill, suggestment given by the chairman properly and fully. Report committees action properly for those who were present. Respect, cooperation and understanding the people chapter official of the community. Attend all committee meetings. Some useful tips on the effect committees works: the committee meeting, the best thinking is done and the worst discussion are made in informally warm and friendly explore to courage family understanding and corporation problems solving of portion, ideas with each agent's terms by answering the following question-- what are the important facts of the problem, how do we feel about them, what shall we do about the problem, how can we make the right discussion? It is the right problem solving discussion. Gather information needed for solving the problem, explore possibilities, demanding, corporate of solving, select the best solving to meet the needs, research other resources of information for guidance.

Reach agreement from a plan of action. Reconven final plans to chapter official and the people for discussion, organization with seeking chapter level. So, this is what we have to have during on our discussion program through the week and there is a separate slip here, paper that has been placed out. Such things can be discussed. There must be quite a few things that can be discussed in these manner of how we can do and run the program this week. We are here from all parts of the Navajo reservation today, and we have to make a great deal of plans for this meeting which we have going on today and it is Sunday that we still have to set up the program on Sunday. This will be a five day meeting here at Kaibeto, Arizona. We have arrangment for a place for your people to stay tonight and we are having lunch today. We will call it from today on to the last meeting. We will have other visitors in the next coming days. We would like for all of your membership of the CAC groups from different district or different part of the reservation to be in groups as possible because here we always want to know where you will be if you are called for long distance phone. Most of your people from your area might wanted to know where you are if you are called at emergency call. So, we ask you people that came this evening to be in groups that I like to have your numbers as you been call in. We got a whole chapter here on the schedule that we call out as we go along. So, we will start from the first end of the chapter, from the north end of the reservation as I call the names I like for you to come forward to be in line as we want to be in order here in the meeting.

So, there is a long table set up in the hall as I call you, you must get ready to line up in the hall so there is some girls out in front where can, where they can type you out if you are present at the meeting and there will be a lunch ticket being issued out at the desk. So, I want for you to be in a certain dormitory where you may sleep so if you are called long distance or emergency call we know where you will be at. There will be a night watchman here tonight and this school area where you park your cars and there will be a man at the night work desk at the phone. He will take care of the phone as he has to work nights. We have set up all these things in the past week so we're now ready for action in the morning. So, now we will call up all the rolls that as we go along and you can be checked in for the meeting tomorrow. Your bed will be already ahead of you and there is plenty of towels, soap and bath towels if you want to bathe, everything is open at the dormitories. There will be some boys that will be asked what you want if you are short on blankets you ask the boy who is in charge at the dormitory. So, this is our meeting of the day and after the signs of your district or chapter you may come back in and as we gathering up here we will be telling you some stories about different programs. In this way we will be studying some things that we have not known yet. This is just to remind you how the meeting is set up. I am here as the chairman of this community and this is the program that they want for me to tell you people as you come along from different parts of the reservation. So, as I call you in and there will be somebody at the

door to introduce you to this place. To be line to get your enrollment so you will be ready for action in the morning. This is just a start on Sunday and we will talk a little about different things and there will be questions that can be answered if you are willing to ask any kind of question. So, I am very thankful for you people to be here from all parts of the Navajo reservation. The roll call is going to be right now as I say as you be called out you can go in hall and they registered in. The girl will, the girl are already to do their parts in the hall. Now I think I have called all the rolls in the whole Navajo reservation from the inside reservation and from the outside reservation. So, now as you coming back in you can sit and we will have a discussion about different things as we go along and I will be the first one to say a little about the Tuba City area. I like to tell you about my Tuba City job. I think I have told you about my name but then I will mention it again. My name is George Young. I have been in the agency office for about a year and a half now. I like my job and it is for our Navajo people here in the western part of the Navajo reservation. We are doing pretty good in our part of the country so far. There are quite a number of our Navajo people are uneducated around this area because of it in the earliest days it was pretty far for the people to travel to go to school. This Tuba City area was established not too long ago. It was established with the agency. There was a long ways from the railroad and it is way deep in the Navajo reservation. So, it was kind of slow going to build a better school. In the later days, we had some of our people being still wild through the Navajo reservation for

quite a number of years since they came back from Fort Sumners. But still they sure worked hard to train them where they are now good people and we have had, we have Doctor Russell with us here for quite a many years and he is now stationed at the Rough Rock High School. Dr. Russell came here many years ago and he is now married into the Navajo nation and now he has set up a public school for the Rough Rock area. Rough Rock was known as a low mountain. The low mountain area had a hard time to tame their people and it took them at least a little over 10 to 15 years to talk them into all kinds of working-ships and Dr. Russell was the man that had done all of these program for our people. He is a white man and he is married to a Navajo family. Today we are all looking up to Dr. Russell as he has a very good education and he is from Arizona country. Dr. Russell has traveled through the Navajo reservation many times in his early days and I have known Dr. Russell since I was 16 years of age when I went to school. When I came back, Mr. Russell was still here and he is, he has a pretty good size family. We will see Dr. Russell at this meeting also. So, I think I have given you quite a number of details, how you can about staying here at Kaibeto, Arizona. I want to tell you a little story about Kaibeto. It was about something around 4 years ago, we was just trying to have a location where we can build a school for our children. It is known as one of the public schools for our children here at Kaibeto. During my office days I been back and forth to the place where we are going to build. The country is a very sandy country. We can't drive this anywhere

you want to you have rather either use a wagon or a horseback riding to visit different Indian hogans, but the Indians themselves they know where to go and where to come to. Kaibeto is about 50 miles east of Tuba City as we know it is paved all the way into Shiprock, and we are now working pretty hard to have it paved from Page, Arizona to Kaibeto and we will gain the other road that goes to Shiprock. This is what we are now working on. We don't think that Kaibeto will be probably a very good school for our children so I do hope that in the later days we will meet again here, the same place and I've heard about the next meeting will be Westmore. Westmore is close to Farmington and we are, we have discussed about our plan already to have our next tribal reservation meeting at Westmore, New Mexico. So, I always think that you will like the meeting here that you have come from far countries at least pretty near 200 miles. Gallup is quite a ways, it is about 124 miles from Tuba City to Ganado. From Ganado to Gallup is around 50 miles so you are, some of you people are from outside reservation which you have already imagined where you come from. We have some of you people are from around Crown Point area and from Torreon area and clear from Canoncito. Canoncito is about 200 and some odd miles because Albuquerque is quite a way from Gallup and some of our Navajo people are from Canoncito and Alamo area and Ramah area. So, I think you CAC members and chapter officers have a very good idea by coming so far a distance they you are not too lazy to come so, I do know that you are working hard for your people in a way of coming so far from your home. I think in a way as I think that you love your people. You are

trying to help them in everyway you can. So, I don't know what else to tell you if some of you want to say anything, you are welcome here to the speaker phone and I thank you all for listening carefully for what I have said. So, I will pass it on to you if you are willing to say anything. There is a note here already, a man by the name of Stancio he is from the southern part of the reservation. He wants to say introduce himself as what he is. Mr. Denson. Chairman of the committees and the vice chairman, secretary and the whole reservation area visitors and the leadership members and the district council meet and the councilmen and the listeners I have..... I wanted to say hello to you all and I am very thankful to have a little opportunity to talk to you people. I like to talk to people that I never have known before and I like to introduce myself that my name is Dennis. I live in nearby low mountain, as our superintendent here just imagine about the low mountain where the bad people used to be in the early days. So, I think I'm one of the bad peoples. Well I just want to thank you all for your gathering up so far from off reservation, from Crownpoint area, from Canoncito and Ramah I do sure thank you for you all to be here and I am here also. I like you to be at the meeting myself....I have learned quite a few things in my early days but I like to still keep learning some different other things. As I know that we Navajo people are the largest Indian nation in the United States. We are over 100,000 Navajos. We have overgrown our reservation and we are still increasing years after years. Some of these days we'll probably

have to buy more land for our people to live on. The Navajo tribe has bought quite a few lands in different areas but still we are increasing. So, during the time of the Fort Sumners time I like to tell you a little about my country. In these early days most of the low mountain people had never went to Fort Sumners as I know my grandfather and my great grandfather never did went up to Fort Sumners as they been telling us a story how they went about. During the time of my early days I had a very hardship way to live. Most of the hard problem was food. The food that we ate that was hard to get. It didn't rain much but we keep on living the best way we know how. In these days there were a lot of herbs that we used to eat. We used to eat different kinds of animals as you call porcupine are good to eat..... You can roast them in ashes oven and when it cooks it is a very good meat, it tastes like a sheep meat and porcupine does eat nothing but barks, tree barks. So, tree barks are good to eat, so this is the way I know myself that I been working among different peoples for so many years now and I work among my people, mostly every week and every other month. Today I'm still working for my people as I know that they need help from me so that's why I came over to Kaibeto, Arizona. I just heard about Kaibeto, that it was a boarding school and now I know where it is low mountain is quite a ways from here. It's close to Rough Rock, Arizona. As we are talking about Low Mountain there was quite a number of the Navajo people that had been to Fort Sumners. So, they been hiding out since some people came back from Fort Sumners. Today

the Low Mountain has good buildings of their own. It was been given to them by its people and so this is the way we have been going along since our grandfather and grandmother been to Fort Sumners. They have some very interesting history about the time of their fight with other tribes. The mostly fight that they had was with the Ute Indians, the yellow hair leader was one of the great warriors among the Ute Indians. I think they were the only worst one that they ever did have in that year. So, I think I have told you enough my story where I came from. I think there are some other want to talk here at the introduction at their place so I thank you all for the quiet listening and I thank you all. Mr. Chairman, Mr. George Nakai I thank you Mr. Dennison that you have told us a little story about yourself and now we got here with us a man that is on the CAC committee from Fort Defiance, Arizona and he is one of the CAC members of the First World War during with Germany he went to World War I in the early days in 1914 up to 1918. He will tell you some story about himself how he went to Germany in 1914 and 1918. Mr. Peterson, Peterson Hall, Peterson Hall. Hello to everyone in this community. Mr. Chairman and the secretary and the visitors from all parts of the Navajo reservation and the communities committees and the councilmen and the visitors I say hello to you all. I have every pleasure to meet you here which I know that I have been in the CAC members for quite a numbers of months ever since they have started committees of CAC members and I like to tell you a little about my young day story. I am now about 78 years of

age and I can still ride horses and can walk around and drive cars, but I have white hair now. During the time of my early days I started to school. I started my schooling at Fort Defiance, Arizona. They boys and girls that I went to school with there is just only 2 of us around Fort Defiance that went to school in the earliest days and the year of 1900 I was in school in 1908 at Fort Defiance, Arizona. I was in school in Fort Worth, Texas in 1914 during the World War with Germany. I was very young boy in that time. I was born in 1878, when I was in school during the war with Germany I was old enough to go. I was about pretty near 20, I was 19. When I was in Germany I was 20, in these days we never did train in the United States. All we have to do is arm up and start going, cause it was one of the greatest fight that we ever had in the beginning of our First World War. I never did thought of going across the ocean. During the time there was seven of us Navajo boys went to war to Germany. When we was across the ocean we had to learn this for 2 months and was ready for action. I think in these days people was very smart in gun fight so I'm one of them in that year. You could hear the big gun blowing out but we never seen the front line yet. One day I was anxious, very anxious to kill a German. I was ready for action any time. One day if you disturb the peace of any kind you can be sent to the front any day. So, we Navajo boys decided to do some disturbing. We was working in the kitchen, they don't want to separate us but we wanted to serve the peace so we can be sent to the front where we can see the shooting and I always think that I might bring something home when the war

is over. So, one day we was peeling potatoes and while we was in the kitchen we heard that one of the officer was coming from some place that was inspecting all rooms, and kitchen and dormitories in these days. So, we make our mind up to see what we can do with him so that we can be sent off to fight. So, before long we was watching who would be coming first. The officer or the big chief and then finally the officer was the only that came first. So, we was acting smart in the kitchen, we had a whole bunch potato ready to knock the head out of him and then one boy says that he will take the lead and then just as soon as he start to leave we all join. So, here comes the officer and about the minute on the doorway there was the boys was being lined up. There was seven of us and then there was somebody was in the back that we was just making him believe that he was hurt so he went right on into the back. The boy was just acting, as he was acting crying and calling for help but he was not hurt. So, he went right on through the kitchen door and on and all of a sudden he screamed and jumped on the officer and here comes the officer and we started our potatoes throwing potatoes at him and chase him out through the door way. Finally in no time he had a bunch of officers coming to throw us in jail. So, this is what the first start was that we was throwed in jail and the next day we had a trial and they decided to separate us and all the rest of the boys was sent to different companies one by one and I was the only one in the bunch from Navajo to each company. This is the way they had fixed for us and I had to wait..... wait for a, whole month

and my company was called and I was ready for action. I was sharpening my knife in a thing that could cut all the way along I been thinking of a good watch and a good gun for my souvenir. We was on the war path, on no man's land. Everytime I have a chance I have to shoot, I don't know how many Germans I kill, but everytime when we start on the run, running lane I always stop by German, if he has a watch, but we always fight about the officer. If the officer was killed he has alot of different valuables in his pocket or knife, or sword or watch. Some good thing he is dressed with or eyeglasses. So, we decided to, I decided to run into one of the officers. Everytime I have a chance I'm looking for an officer to kill. I didn't even afraid of nothing. I don't know what the German's are shooting at. They are shooting at me but then it looks to me they miss me every time. Something almighty was in me in the war time, I was not afraid at all of anything. I was brave. I know this white man, some of them were crying that they might be killed and never get back home. I never paid no attention to what they are saying, I was ready to go home in the war. Finally I was in the war shooting position for at least two months. I haven't get my watch yet but everytime they want to draw me off to no man's land I always apply for to stay on, I have a lot of fun in the wartime and they call me Brave Eagle, I'm not afraid of nothing, I was stout and strong. Finally one day the war ended. Still I don't have my watch yet, so one day I was in the hallway and decided to steal a watch off from some boys that have pick up some watch from some Germans. So, I have

made up my mind to do this. As I went along I was watching every-day what I could so. Finally one day we was near Belgium and while we was over there, even the war was over I had to stay another 2 or 3 months. I was sort of looking so I had some rings and bracelet that the Navajo made in the earliest days. They were very funny, cheap looking bracelet and rings I had, but some people like my ring and I always tell them that this is Navajo made jewelry. I always ask a big price for it, nobody buys it. One day I was in with one of the officers and he saw my ring, he ask me how much I want for it and I offer him this watch, this bracelet and ring is worth \$100, it's an Indian, genuine Indian hand made jewelry, so he kept on asking me.... I know that he had a German watch on his wrist. He kept asking me he wants a better price than, \$100, a cheaper price. One day we was in the same room again, he ask me about my ring and bracelet, he want to give it to hss wife when he gets back home. He also took my picture. Finally I made up my mind and ask him about a trade. He ask me again how much it is and I said I will do you a better favor than \$100, I'll trade you that watch for my bracelet and my ring. That watch you got there you just got it off from the Germans you didn't do nothing. So, I trade you if you want a ring and a bracelet. So, finally he just jump up and he says sure it's a trade. I will give the German watch. It was a very good watch. It looks to me that the watch will run forever. So, I found some German guns and most of these guns were not high priced. They were just only from \$5 to \$10 a gun so I thought that \$10 and \$5 was not too much

money so I thought I decided to buy one. So, I went into a gun store one day and find some German gun and I bought it then and took it back for souvenir. I still got it inside of my house at home and I have still got the watch. It was fixed about 2 times. It took at least about 15 years apart to be fixed and I think it is a very good watch so today my friend I have been in the various dead war that the men have ever been in it. As I say it was the bloodiest war that they ever had with a man named by Kaiser. He had a long mustache. I don't know who shot him but somebody did and that's the way the war ended Germany in the First World War. Germany was bad people from their early start. They were the first people that the United States has declared war on them. They were the first one to resent some summaries during the time of the First World War they busted some ships of ours and they were bad people as we know today. They keep on picking on us in the year around finally we beat the heck out of them. We had the Second World War with them as we all know they sure beat them out as they come along. My friend I think I have told you enough story about myself so I think I'll come to a conclusion and I have thank you all very much for a very kind listening and introduction of myself, I thank you all.

END OF TAPE (Side 1)