

Tape #474

David Ortiz

Navajo

Interviewer - Michael Husband

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Side 2

Interpreter - Ray Yazzie

Navajo language

A. He went to Crownpoint last week ago.....he went over there to talk to these people down there, those outfit over there in Crownpoint, they want to help him with the building materials for the hogan.

Q. He needs a hogan.

A. Yeah, they told him there, so they are going to bring some material from Crownpoint pretty soon.

Q. The hogan he has got now is what.....is it old?

A. Yeah, he needs a new one.

Q. How old is it?

Navajo language

A. Right there where he is living.

Q. How old is that hogan?

Navajo language

A. It is pretty old.....

Q. Oh yeah, well who did he talk to the welfare people at Crownpoint.

A. Yeah, already.

Q. What did the people tell him?

A. They told him that they are going to bring out the lumber material from there.

Q. Does he build it himself?

A. No, the people have to work there. The welfare, I think that they are the ones.

Q. Is that what they told him in Crownpoint?

A. Yeah. That they are going to bring some materials over here, that place right over there, that is his wifes palce. Maybe he needs some.....everything.

Navajo language

A. After this he says where are you guys going he said. He wants to know.

Q. I am going home.

Navajo language

A. I think that he gets paid....

Q. He doesn't get stamps?

A. Yeah, he gets stamps.

Q. How much does he get?

Navajo language

A. 32.

Q. 32 a month?

Navajo language

A. 76.

Q. \$76 a month?

A. No, that is his age...

Q. How long has he lived here?

Navajo language.

A. About 11 years .

Q. 11 years.

A. Do you want to see the lady too? She is 76 years old too.

Navajo language

A. His wife is 70.

}. Was he born here?

Navajo language

A. I think that he was born, near Eagle Springs or something. Yeah, that is where he was born.

Navajo language

A. Yeah, he has been working on the railroad a while back.

Q. How long did he work on the railroad?

A. Navajo language

A. Three years old working on the railroad.

Q. 30 years?

A. No, three years.

Navajo language

A. There is nothing to work.

Navajo language

A. He even has some little goats, there are some right here.

Navajo language

A. Bad legs, bad eyes....

Navajo language

A. Just one horse, I don't know, disappear....he had two of them, but one he lost it.

Navajo language

A. Yeah, he used to use a wagon to go to the store.

Q. You said that he was talking in Crownpoint to someone about his hogan, who did he talk to over there.

Navajo language

A. Yeah, he went to see those guys like somewhere, like welfare, right? BIA.

Q. He talked to the BIA people?

A. They are going to bring the lumber material.

Q. When?

Navajo language

A. On February 6th they are going to bring it.

Q. Are they going to build it for them?

A. Those other people have to work.

Q. Everybody around here huh?

A. Yeah.

Navajo language

A. He needs a large large...

Q. Bigger one?

A. Yeah, someone is going to come out and look at the place and he is going to measure all the place where they are going to put the hogan.

Q. Oh yeah?

A. Yeah.

Q. But they are going to build it out of lumber huh?

Navajo language

A. They are going to use lumber. The whole thing.

Q. The whole thing out of lumber.

Navajo language

A. Even inside....

Q. It is going to be a big one though?

A. Yeah, nothing but board, they are not going to use cement.

Q. What about food stamps, how much a month? Foodstamps do they get?

Navajo language

A. I don't know, they were going to send in that stamp card but he didn't find it.

Q. Well how does he buy his food?

A. I don't know what he is going to do. He said they are going to send him that food card already, but he didn't see it.

Q. They don't have any money in the month though? They don't get money?

A. Yeah, they usually do but....

Navajo language

Q. \$48 dollars a month huh?

A. No, \$32 and then he gets \$48 stamps.

Q. Yeah \$48 stamps every month. Where does he buy his food? Tinian?

Navajo language

A. He buys the food over here at Tinian and then he has to carry they he has to carry them by himself. I don't know, it is too hard for them.

Q. Got a wagon or a horse?

A. Yeah, but one horse is gone.

Q. Did somebody steal it?

A. No.

Q. Just went away huh?

Navajo language

Q. Did they go to school at Crownpoint?

Navajo language

A. No, they have never been to school.

Q. Never been huh? Do they go to any of the missions?

Navajo language

A. No, they go too far.

Q. Too far to go huh?

A. Yeah.

Navajo language

A. These traders they don't help the poor around here?

Q. From Tinian, they don't help?

A. No, not even Winston.

Q. What do you mean, if they buy things, they won't bring them out?

A. Yeah, if they buy flour or coffee, they don't bring it.

Q. They have to carry it huh?

A. Yeah, that is no good right?

Q. Missionaries don't help? Don't they come around here?

A. Too far he said.

Q. Is it? So they don't come here?

A. No. They had to buy a stove, and they have to pay for the wood too.

Navajo language

A. You know when they pay for the wood, it takes a long ways, ten miles or over.

Q. Well who do they pay?

A. Oh somebody around here, they want money.

Q. How much for a load of wood?

A. Oh about 10 or \$8..... It is too cold in the night time.

Q. That is why they want a new one huh?

Navajo language

A. You see the wood now, can I ask him about the water, where they get the water?

Q. Yeah.

Navajo language

A. Sometimes they bring it from the trading post or down in the canyon.....

Q. Do they have to buy it though?

A. Yeah they have to pay for it.

Q. How much?

Navajo language

A. Two dollars.

Q. Two dollars a barrel?

Navajo language

A. Even if your wood you have to pay \$10.

Navajo language

A. He wants to get the \$55 from the railroad, but he needs about 10 dollars more.

Q. Oh yeah.

A. He is supposed to be visited by the welfare, but they don't come around.

Q. You mean he gets money from the railroad every month?

A. Yeah.

Q. How much a month?

A. \$55.

Q. \$55 a month?

A. Yeah and those other guys, they raise theirs, ever since Nixon came in there.

Navajo language

A. Oh, they quit his welfare check. He was getting \$54, I don't know what happened.

Q. You mean from the welfare or from the railroad?

A. From the welfare. Yeah.

Q. Plus the railroad?

A. Yeah, he was supposed to, but they cut it off.

Q. And then the food stamps too?

A. Yeah. I don't know why.....they do that.....Maybe down there they get the increase...

Q. Get more huh?

A. But Stevie was telling us about the

Navajo language

A. I think that you know, he go to Crownpoint, they help more down there than these welfare down here.

Q. BIA helps more?

A. Yeah, old people like him. They can't see or....

Q. Does he go to the hospital over there sometimes.

Navajo language

A. He has never been in the hospital.

Navajo language

A. Ever since he remembers about that Winston, he trading over here. I can't remember that name.

Navajo language

A. His name Tanner there are two off them. Shall I ask him about the Gib?

Q. Yeah.

Navajo language

A. He used to have that store before Winston.

Navajo language

A. There was Gib there, a long time ago.

Q. What about missionaries? How long....

Navajo language

A. His name was Band Wagon.....

Q. Where at Tinian?

A. No he was down at Star Lake.

Q. What was his name?

A. Banner Wagon.

Q. Banner Wagon?

A. Yeah, he was an old man. He is the one that help the missionaries.

Navajo language

A. He was good that time, he leave something good there.

Q. Did he help you bring it up here?

A. Yeah.

Q. It is a long way....

A. Yeah, long ways.

Q. How long has the missionaries been at Tinian?

A. No they don't have any just sister Baker is there.

Q. But do they have a Baptist mission there.

Navajo language

A. There is a mission there too.

Navajo language

A. What do you call it Colorado?

Navajo language

A. Yeah, I think that they are from that mountain in Colorado.....I don't know he didn't remember who was this, that is where he came from.

Q. He was born when, does he remember?

Navajo language

Q. 18.....something?

Navajo language

A. He is 70 years, figure it out?

Q. Yeah.....1894.....Did his parents live here?

A. I think down at Eagle Springs, that is over there.

Navajo language

A. He has got boys and.....girls too.

Q. Where do they live?

A. They live over here, and one that went away, and they don't come around.....

Navajo language

A. He has got a sweat house, that is what we were talking about.

Q. Oh yeah, where is it down there?

A. Yeah.

Navajo language

A. You know one time we took some Spanish in there.

Q. In the sweat house?

A. Yeah and they stayed in there, they were old men....

Navajo language

A. He has been having to burn this wood around the outside for a long time.
Nobody will help him.

Q. Not much wood huh? Pretty cold.

Navajo language

END OF TAPE