HIGHLIGHTS:

- Gives English translations of a variety of Indian words.

NOTE: The Oowekeeno band name has a variety of other spellings: Owikeno, Oweekeeno and Oweekano. For the sake of consistency, Oowekeeno has been used to designate the band and the language, while Owikeno refers to the lake found in British Columbia.

Peter: According to, what's her name, Dorothy. (Indian) (laughs) Tell a little story.

David: Yeah, remember they were...

Peter: You hear that?

David: No.

Peter: I was talking about Bella Coola.

David: Were you?

Peter: Yeah. (Indian). (laughs) (Indian) just come here that's (Indian). (inaudible) maybe I go drive you crazy when I go up there. (laughs) (Indian) she says, where you going?
Agnes: It looks like (Indian) but it could (Indian).

Peter: If you pronounce it right I might get it.

Agnes: (Indian).

Peter: Oh, (Indian) is you recover this. Recover this table. Recover it with something, yeah.

Agnes: These are the names of the house.

Peter: You got it.

David: Yeah.

Agnes: These are supposed to have been the names of the houses itself that was up in Katit.

David: Yeah, according to David Bernard that's the names he gave this man. And he collected these names and we want to check out these names.

Peter: Are you talking Rivers Inlet?

David: Pardon me?

Peter: Are you talking Rivers Inlet?

David: (Indian).

Agnes: (Indian).

Peter: (Indian).

Agnes: All these names, is that what it is, (Indian)?

Peter: Well, I couldn't tell you but I just... I know the names of the persons, that's all. See, I couldn't tell you, I have to... It's pretty hard for me, you know, because I know the houses.

Agnes: Maybe this might be (Indian).

Peter: The first one.

Agnes: This one (Indian). It think maybe that's what it is.

Peter: Well, we'll have to wait till I'm a little better.

David: We'll come back then.

Peter: No, I can go back up there better, I may be better, you know, if I...

David: Think about it a bit.
Peter: No, I may, you know... I'll get my wife, we'll go and talk it up after. But...

Man: Well, come on now, nobody, no time is better than now.

Peter: No, it's no time for me to preach to these gospel people here. (laughs) (Indian) No, I shouldn't talk like that. Got a daughter here who's listening. Now what else have you got besides that other deal?

Man: You're like an old detective. When did she start on this? What year was it?

Agnes: There's a river called (Indian), and (Indian).

Peter: Yeah, that's right.

Agnes: (Indian).

Peter: You got Whiskey Creek there?

Man: Whiskey Creek?

Agnes: There's no...

Peter: (Indian) I can't see very good, you know. Whiskey Creek (Indian). Where's that corner?

Agnes: Which corner, that corner or this corner?

Peter: Right in the mountain side. That beach, that long beach and there's a creek there.

Agnes: Maybe here somewhere?

Peter: Yeah, somewhere there.

Agnes: There's the mouth of the river.

Peter: You know what it's called? (Indian).

Agnes: Is that the proper name?

Peter: Yeah, (Indian). And the white folks called it Whiskey Creek. (laughs)

David: Do you know a story about a man named Nodrees(?)?

Peter: Eh?

David: Do you know a story about a man named Nodrees(?)

Peter: Nodrees(?)? That's her grandfather.

David: Is there a story?
Peter: Yeah.

David: Do you know that?

Peter: A bit. We may talk about it when I'm a little better, you know. Yeah, that...

Man: Nobody even think you believe in nothing, eh.

Peter: That's why we were called (Indian). See, there was a family, you know, married into a, you know, like (Indian), and all those places, you know. There were people in those camps. (Indian) you know (Indian)? That's (Indian), and (Indian) that's the right way of pronouncing it, (Indian). You know what (Indian) is?

David: Yes.

Peter: (Indian) just straight across from (Indian).

David: There's people from everywhere there, eh?

Peter: Yeah, there were people from all over, you know. See, like me, for instance, her and I are cousins, see. Like her mother and I were cousins (Indian). See, all like that, see. (Indian) this guy might be (Indian).

David: When you were growing up were you, did they have a thing called "septs(?)"?

Peter: Eh?

David: Did you have the word "sept"? Do you know what a "sept" is?

Peter: No.

David: Was there an Eagle clan or...

Peter: Oh yeah, yeah, yeah (Indian).

David: Say that again.

Peter: (Indian) that's a (Indian) that's from (Indian).

David: That was a eagle was it?

Peter: Yeah, yeah. You see you remember those big eagles that mountain side there (Indian).

David: Which mountain is that?

Peter: Eh?

David: Which mountain?
Peter: The (inaudible) right at the gap, the first narrows. Yeah, the first narrows as you're going up, so that's what that... You could see the great big, what do you call it, you can see it yourself.

David: Yeah, I remember now.

Peter: Yeah. Well, that's where (Indian) come.

David: Is there a story to that?

Peter: Yes, yes. There is a history to it but I couldn't verify anything old, but it belongs to me. Belongs to her, too. It's part of her family and mine.

David: Yeah, when you were born, like, did you get the name from your mother or from your father's side?

Peter: Both sides.

David: You could do both?

Peter: Yeah.

David: Who decided which clan you were in? Or did you just automatically become a member of that clan?

Peter: When they get married they become two, they become one, yeah. See your story goes like this; you combine one instead of, you know. No, it's pretty hard to tell, like from my story, see, like for our chiefs, you see. He used to (inaudible), he used the (inaudible) my mother's side, see. My mother was higher and so was Sally's mother was higher. And they can't make her chief because she's a woman, and then they turned around and they gave it to Albert Harry, my uncle. See, so our story goes like this, you see; and that's where that (inaudible) come, see. See, like, for instance, see, she's married to a Marshall so you're more or less, well, when you get married you're like this, you see. That's where that (Indian) comes from. But that guy you're talking about (Indian) that's their grandfather.

David: That was a name...

Peter: He knew all the stories in the stars. You stay out there all night long. He stay out night until daylight and he'll tell you everything.

David: About the stars?

Peter: About the stars. Everything there is, killer whale, everything. The thing is I really, I see the killer whale and I seen this, you know, when us kids play (Indian) and there's one in the middle, it's there (Indian). You know that, eh. Well (Indian). Yeah, that's a killer whale. Well, the dipper
and all that. Well, you know all that.

Agnes: What's the name for the dipper?

Peter: Dipper (Indian). See, when it comes around in the springtime it turns around and the fish is going to come. (Indian). And that's what I'd like you to remember is I had a pal I went to school with in Alert Bay -- Sam (name). And he explained that word too, eh. And he explained all those little birds. He had his grandfather's stories, you know. You know the way them birds sound, you know, (Indian). Well, he sang that in his language, you know, I remember that and I forgot. But what got me was, you know, the (Indian). I know he's Japanese. Well, I was sitting there, you know, I was working and he was working and I was waiting for coffee break, you know, and we were working overtime, you know, and this little Japanese comes to me, you know. Well, I guess a lot of guys mistake me for a northern Indian, you know. And the little Japanese comes to me, (Japanese) he goes like this to me. Yeah. It's a nice day. She doesn't want to have it mentioned to anybody, you'd be surprised.

Agnes: I'll spell it for you tomorrow.

Peter: It's pretty hard. It's not hard when you know how to spell it. The easiest name you can spell is (Indian). That's my name -- I eat four corpses -- (Indian). (laughs) See, I eat that much. I never eat no flesh.

Agnes: I've got (Indian).

Peter: Where's that?

Agnes: It's, I think it's at the sawmill side, where is it?

Peter: You're right. (Indian). I was just trying to get you stuck there for a while. (laughs)

Agnes: And (Indian)...

Peter: You know where that is, though?

Agnes: Which side?

Peter: You know, I mean what do you call these?

Agnes: (Indian) and (Indian) is Round Mountain? (Indian) is Moses Inlet, and what was the name of where Hogan used to stay?

Peter: Sultry Bay?

Agnes: Yeah.

Peter: No, you got me there. We had it.
Agnes: And the other one was the name of White Rock Bay.

Peter: White Rock Bay. Just, we should wait until I feel a little better, but you keep going.

Agnes: I can't remember the west arm of Moses Inlet. It's named after a fish.

Peter: Let's see you do it, let's see you do it. (laughs)

Agnes: I can't remember, I had it...

Peter: What's a humpback?

Agnes: I can't remember the names of...

Peter: (laughs) You know that creek, creek that goes up? That's Humpback Creek.

Agnes: Yeah, that's that...

Peter: That's the only creek there.

Agnes: Oh, there's no... what's the name of it?

Peter: You just wait (laughs) until I straighten out. I'm muffled in my mind too. I know the name all right. Only humps go in that creek.

Agnes: What's the name of Draney?

Peter: Draney?

Agnes: Yeah.

Peter: Draney's Inlet.

Agnes: I just know the name of that, the mouth of it, it's in...

Peter: Yeah, you're right there. Draney is... There's so many names there too. There's one place there right if you go around the point (Indian).

Agnes: Oh yeah.

Peter: Remember that inlet, that little inlet where your (inaudible) go? That one, not up ahead.

Agnes: The west arm.

Peter: No, no, not west arm. West arm, that's way at the (Indian), but the one that...

Agnes: Further up?

Peter: No, look.
Agnes: Oh (Indian).

Peter: No, no, no, no, no. The one way up, way up, pretty near the up the top of the lake, it's up there. I don't know the name of the place.

Agnes: Allard Lake and the other one hasn't got a name, the end of it.

Peter: I know the name. It takes quite a while too, you know. I'm muffled, you know, I haven't been to so many places since, well... (Inaudible) the west arm, I know the name of the place, too. Oh, I'll get around to it sometime, you know, you should leave me a map and...

David: I can bring you down a map.

Peter: Yeah, and then I might... you know, it might come to me.

David: Sure. Okay, I'll bring you down a map. I have a copy.

Peter: (Indian).

David: Where is that?

Peter: That's just up there, right... you see the summer house, the narrows and the place where that (inaudible) Creek is. You know that big mountain there? That's where the dragon... This guy was hunting up there and he heard this noise, and he used to... You know, if you were above that thing will smell you, but he was below, he was hunting. And he heard this noise, you know. You know, the big snake's body, you know, dragon. That had four legs and it had horns on it. He just stood there, he was below, you know, in that slide, the slide there. You remember that slide?

Agnes: Yeah.

Peter: That's where the big snakes are, you know. He heard this noise and he just stood there and he seen this big dragon with horns on it. He know what it was, it was a big snake. Well, it was a dragon, you know. Then he seen the legs. Well, the leg didn't work much, you know, it's just a body like that. And the darn thing had horns on it. And to tell you the truth there was, you know, that mountain there, there was lovers, you know. You know, they went and there was one girl had her period and the snakes wouldn't go near her then because of that. And those couples, those two, two lovers tried to go wake up their... You know, some hollered and then they see these big snakes on the trees hanging down in a pool of blood. They shook the blood right out of them. Yeah. And they ran down, you know. All they could do was take the bodies down, that was all. And it went something, you know. Like I say, my
uncle, her uncle, Jack Johnson, he's real scared of those things. Even those grass ones.

David: Yeah, little ones.

Peter: Well, the thing is, see, he was a good hunter, you know. He shot a mountain goat and he was going to go and get it. And you know how the grass snake is, you know. It's the same color as their moss, you know, green. It was around, the big snake was curled around a rock and the head was like this, you see. He wanted to get this mountain goat, you know, right away, you know, and he was going to go down. And all of a sudden "ssssssssss," the big snake head was like this, see. He went like this right away. He's leaving his gun, that big snake is like this on top of a rock, big rock like that, you know. You know, the size of a big oar, you know. Well, that was... He was going to take another jump and all of a sudden "ssssssss" the big snake head was on top of a rock -- he was going to jump on him. And right away he leave his gun, you know, and he said, "I forgot everything. I was jumping down. I never even thought maybe I was going to jump on another snake." (laughs) He thought about it after, thought about it after he got down to the boat, he says. "Brother Matthew," he says. "What's the matter?" "There's a big snake up there." "Yeah, I was watching you, why didn't you watch where you're going to jump?" He said, "Well, you know." And Jack says, "I never, I didn't know what I was doing. All I know is get away from that thing." (laughs) He thought about it after he got down to the boat, he says. "Brother Matthew," he says. "What's the matter?" "There's a big snake up there." "Yeah, I was watching you, why didn't you watch where you're going to jump?" He said, "Well, you know." And Jack says, "I never, I didn't know what I was doing. All I know is get away from that thing." (laughs)

You know, when we're beaver trapping, well, we trap marten too, you know. And we were walking up this hill here and, you know, he had his boots, you know those, we were walking the hills, you know. "Hey, daddy, there's snakes here!" He was stepping in the mud (laughs) he started running, you know, and, "Right here look, come look!" You know, his face was just going like this and, "Come and look. They are going in there." (laughs) What kind of animal was it? And then I found out that he's real scared. (Indian) That's why when he's drunk, you know -- you can't understand him very good when he's drunk -- that's the cause of it. He used the same thing to kill himself, he was just like that. The frogs go like this, listen, the frog. He had the frog going and suck on his leg, you know, but that's in Drainy. His father was hand logging. And the only cure you can have is use that same thing, and the frog. (inaudible). (Indian) go on to the fourth one he would have been okay. You know, he's all right when he's sober but when he has alcohol... you know how he talks, eh. But that's what happened to him. They try to scrape it off -- that stuff that was inside that frog when he pulled it off -- they tried to scrape it off. Only cure you can have is you're going to use the same thing.

That frog keep going (Indian). But he couldn't take the fourth one. That was his trouble, he wasn't actually the way he was, it's just, he couldn't stand the taste. (Indian) the frog, you know, the skin. The frog was sucking that stuff out and he go
like this, it was going in all the time and then he has to take it out and take another one. And the third one wasn't too bad but he couldn't take the fourth one. You know, it's something that you can't understand, I guess, or...

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INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDEX TERM</th>
<th>IH NUMBER</th>
<th>DOC NAME</th>
<th>DISC #</th>
<th>PAGE #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIEFS AND CHIEFTAINSHIP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-choice of</td>
<td>IH-BC.02</td>
<td>CHAMBERLAIN2</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORIES AND STORYTELLING (GENERAL)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-animal</td>
<td>IH-BC.02</td>
<td>CHAMBERLAIN2</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>13-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROPER NAME INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPER NAME</th>
<th>IH NUMBER</th>
<th>DOC NAME</th>
<th>DISC #</th>
<th>PAGE #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KATIT, B.C.</td>
<td>IH-BC.02</td>
<td>CHAMBERLAIN2</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIVERS INLET, B.C.</td>
<td>IH-BC.02</td>
<td>CHAMBERLAIN2</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>