

One Participant's Recall of “The War of the Ghosts”

Recalled 15 minutes after hearing story:

The Ghosts

There were two men on the banks of the river near Egulac. They heard the sound of paddles, and a canoe with five men in it appeared, who called to them, saying: “We are going to fight the people. Will you come with us?” One of the two men answered, saying: “Our relations do not know where we are, and we have not got any arrows.” They answered: “There are arrows in the canoe.” So the man went, and they fought the people, and then he heard them saying: “An Indian is killed, let us return.” So he returned to Egulac, and told them he knew they were ghosts.

He spoke to the people of Egulac, and told them that he had fought with the Ghosts, and many men were killed on both sides, and that he was wounded, but felt nothing. He lay down and became calmer, and in the night he was convulsed, and something black came out of his mouth.

The people said: “He is dead.”

Recalled 2 weeks later:

The Ghosts

There were two men on the banks of a river near the village of Etishu (?). They heard the sound of paddles coming from the up-stream, and shortly a canoe appeared. The men in the canoe spoke, saying: “We are going to fight the people: will you come with us?”