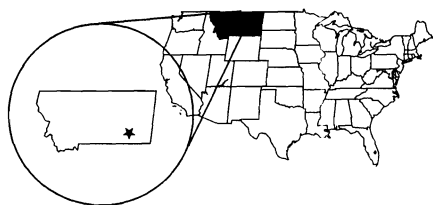


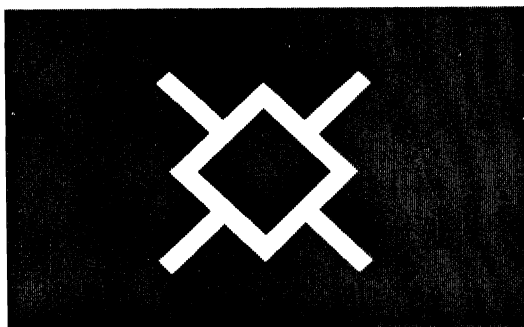
NORTHERN CHEYENNE



Since separating from the Southern Cheyenne (now simply the Cheyenne), in the 1830s, the Northern Cheyenne stayed along the Upper Platte River; it is still the home of the people who call themselves *Tsistsistas* or “beautiful people”.

Their Sioux neighbors named them *Cheyenne*, meaning “red talkers” or “people of a different speech”, because the Cheyenne language is Algonquin-based, while the Lakota Sioux speak a Siouan dialect.

The Northern Cheyenne homeland is a reservation in southeastern Montana, just east of their Crow neighbors. The Northern Cheyenne use a blue flag bearing the Indian glyph *wo’heh’hiv*, “morning star”, in white (FBUS, 260-261). The symbol has been used for ages by the Cheyenne in their art, decoration, and painted on dancers in the religious ceremony known as the Sun Dance. It consists of a square, set on a corner, with lines the length of its sides emanating perpendicularly from the center of each side.



The *wo’heh’hiv* recalls the great Chief Morning Star (also known as “Dull Knife”), who led his people to their current home after their defeat in the Indian wars of the Plains, and thus symbolizes hope and guidance. The flag was designed in 1964 by Hubert Bearchum during the administration of tribal president John Woodenlegs, who also chose “Wo’hih’hev” as his name for himself (e-mail, Eugene D. Little Coyote, 11 May 1997). If the flag were to employ traditional coloration, the background would be a brownish-red while the star would appear in black (ibid.). 🐾