

Willie Kirk, Kickapoo,

J. Jordan

(Well, just tell what you heard)

Well, once some Kickapoo had a camp, that time. Somewhere they got a camp. Same time they're way out there, some of that Osage, some different tribe go look around, I guess. They find some kind of track. All the Indians, he can tell what kind of moccasin he's got. That Osage, he can tell what kind of moccasin Kickapoo's got. Maybe different tribe--he knows what kind. That's the way with that Osage when he seen that track in there, "That's a Kickapoo." But I always hear, they say the Kickapoos are pretty good when they're fighting like that. So everybody got afraid of 'em. So that Osage when he sees that track there, he's gone. And anyway, about way afterward, I guess, I don't know how long--them met together, Osage and Kickapoo, and fighting. They use some kind of hatchet and some kind of tomahawk like that. Well, they're fighting till oh, about noon, they say, and people are hollering they said, the Osages, and the shief said, "Come on, the war's over. Let's quit now." That's what I heard, but I don't know.

(And the Osages just quit?)

Yeah, just quit. He's afraid to fight some more cause it's Kickapoo. But he can fight somebody else but he afraid of the Kickapoos.

(Were the Kickapoos pretty good fighters?)

I guess so. That's what they say. And same way with--what's that people's name?--the Apaches. I heard that same thing, there, like that. That people find where there was a camp of Kickapoos, but he move out--he move from there. He camped down someplace else, I guess. But that people that come up there, the Apaches, he found that place where they used to live, that Kickapoos. He noticed that, he knowed it was Kickapoos. (Interruption) Well, that Kickapoo had a camp around there. But he moved. Maybe next day, the Apache, he come up there. He went by there, I guess, and just see where there used to be camp there. And he noticed some places they got a little fire yet. And he knowed that it was Kickapoos.