

TRIBAL LOANS

(Is this a meeting of the whole tribal business committee?)

Yeah, a K-C-A meeting. Tribal meeting. Came in with this problem. So we sat there and we listen. But he give us the whole highlights. Everything. Set up the situation he was in, you know. He wanted to see if he could be qualified to borrow this money. Tribal loan. To pay out that note over there. At the same time his mother got land over there just this side of Lake Lawtonka--it was pending--for sale. She was trying to sell it in order to help her son. Now, this boy come to us. We was kind of divided on that. I had a little say-so, because we help boys out of situations--I won't call it a situation, but we help a boy out when he was in need of help. Like that Assotion and this tribal loan. And this big loan, we got. And we talked there and finally we had it approved through our Committee and it went to the Loan Board. The Loan Board sent him back to us.

(Now is the Loan Board part of the Agency?)

No, it's part of our branch from us.

(Oh, it's a tribal loan board?)

Yeah, a tribal board. We picked them. They're our Tribal Loan Board. After they heard him the approval came back to us and we approved it. The Area Office got it and they approved it. They bought out his loan. If I ain't mistaken I believe he's still in that business.

(Who is it?)

Harry Tonemah. I don't know if he's still in that business or not. But he's a pretty good fellow.

(Did very many Apaches get loans?)

Oh, yeah. There's Houston (Klinekole), and Frankie (Redbone) and oh, there's several of them.

(What size loans would they get?)

Houston--I don't know just what size his loan was, but he had a little land right there where he lived, you know. You know where Boone schoolhouse is right on the hill? You know where Louise's house is? It's right across the road. That's a hundred and forty acres--there's twenty acres that's been sold.