

Dance.

(Is this that Gourd Dance or their Blackfeet Dance?)

Well, both. Gourd Dance and Blackfoot--and then these Chéyenne Gourd Dancers--I tell you, they make me sleepy.

ARAPAHO GOURD DANCE (STARHAWK DANCE) AND TOMAHAWK DANCE

(Did they used to have those Gourd Dancers back when you were young-- did they have the same thing?)

They had this Gourd Dance, but they didn't use it that way. They didn't make a show out of it. Arapaho had to make a pledge to dance that. And it took all the things for them to dance. You know, in groups, companies, like. That--not just anybody. Not even little kids. And women wasn't allowed to go in there and dance. If they want to dance they have to dance behind their relation. That's the way it was. And here they're just making a show out of it. Arapahoes is crazy enough to join it.

(You remember--I wasn't there for this celebration--but I've seen some of those dances. And someone was telling me that this Kiowa-Apache Blackfoot group dance--that's the one where they have these four staffs--two of them are crooked--)

Well, Arapahoes used to have that kind. They did. But it wasn't, you know, just any time. Somebody had to make a pledge--if they had a sick kid or one of their relation's sick, they used to say; "I'm going to put up this dance so they can get well that way." It was a religious dance, but now it's just play dance.

(That's what I was wondering--if the Arapahoes had it--)

They used to have it.

(What did they call theirs?)

Well, Gourd Dance. And then the other one was the Tomahawk Dance.