

MILTON TOYEBO: ORIGIN OF GOURD CLAN

Mr. Milton Toyebo: --(not clear) rattle, you know.

(I'm going to let Mr. Toyebo, Mr. Milton Toyebo, full-blood Kiowa, tell about something of the Gourd Clan and its background. Won't you tell me now about what you did awhile ago when they started off on that type the--telling about the story earlier.)

Mr. Toyebo: Well, that was the original name of that war--war--war party War organization just like any other. Like the Black Feet or--they have--they have about thirteen of them, ten soldiers, ten companies. They were all organization all in the Kiowas. (In the Kiowas.)

Mr. Toyebo: Yeah.

(Like a bunch of warriors, soldier's society.)

Mr. Toyebo: So, it happened that (Kiowa word) later known as the Gourd--Gourd Brothers were organized then too, but they were prominent.

(What they call them? What did they call them?)

Mr. Toyebo: Well, they call them (Ka tinpi) when I was a boy. (What does it mean?)

Mr. Toyebo: Well, if I tell you, it means "a little berry". Like those (Kiowa word) nowadays, you would call it skunk berry. It has something to do with in the war or in the rain or somewhere, one of the--somebody, you get in a berry patch or something like that. So and probably, he got saved that way or some sore of super-life like good luck so they said (Kiowa word). They call it (Kiowa word). He maybe hid on the brushes. The Skunk Berry, they got--they were bushes, you know.

(They were high, mmm-hmmmm.)

Mr. Toyebo: And hid under there some--looking like that, but in my days, way back yonder they called it straight (Kiowa word). Later on, they began to call Gourd Rattlers. (Gourd Rattlers.)

Mr. Toyebo: Real Gourd Dancers

(And I wonder how they got--picked up the Gourd. Do you know what--why they did it?)

Mr. Toyebo: Yeah, they had to have those little rattlers, you know, rattlers like that. The gourd grows somewhere in some part of the country, you know.