

Willie Kirk, Kickapoo

J. Jordan

there to that town, name of Chihuahua. Big town--that's where he got the check. That's where he go to get that money, rent money. There's some of 'em that's got land around here, and some of 'em that ain't.

CROSSING THE BORDER

(I've heard that Kickapoos can cross the border without a passport.)

No, they don't have to. They don't have nothing, no passport.

(How do you get across the border?)

Well, you just tell 'em who you are. Sometime he knows it. But Mexicans, or white people, they got to have a passport, but Indians, they don't have to have it. You can say you're Indian, but they find out for sure if you're Indian.

(Do you have to show them anything?)

Sometime we had a paper. Like me, I had papers all the time I got from Agent. Agency. When I go somewhere, like when I been to Canada, cross that line, you know, I always showed my paper. He look at it, says, "Well, you're Indian, Oklahoma Indian--go ahead." Just like that. (You can do that in Canada, too?) Yeah, Canada. You have to have a passport in there when you're crossing from United States. Same way with Mexico.

(What town do you cross at in Mexico?)

Eagle Pass. And another one there east, call 'em Laredo. And another one west of there they call it Del City, and another one, back farther, that's El Paso.

LIFE IN MEXICO

(Have you ever been to Chihuahua?)

Yeah. I was there for a while. Big town.

(What did you do there?)

Oh, do nothing, just with my mother sell moccasins, like that, and other things. And we make little baskets, anything like that. Just go with my mother when we sell things.