

Well, the Arapahoes had lot of Indian ways that were attractive. Just like this what you call the Gourd Dance, and the Tomahawk Dance (referring to dances of certain military societies). And the singing. And they had good buckskin costumes, and eagle feathers. See, the Arapahoes were Plains Indians but the Pawnees claimed they named the Arapahoes "traders," which is a Arapaho word, but we don't have no "r" sound in Arapaho. That's foreign to us. So the Pawnees must have named us. Arapahoes have no "r" sound in their language. And then the Crows up in Montana claimed they named the Arapahoes "Arapaho." Well, we don't know who's credited with naming us, but our name for ourselves is "Blue Sky People," "Blue Sky Painters" -- hin'w.nw'h'w'wei -- on account of blue spots on our chest. hin'w.nw' means "cloud." h'w'wei means "paint." That means "cloud painters," "blue cloud." And then the French named us in early days--when we branched away. See, we were part of the Blackfoot--Piegan--of Montana. And we came west. And we branched away from them, and the French named the Arapaho. We weren't known as "Arapaho," then, but the French named us "gens de vache", which means "buffalo people." (Jess. pronounces this French term as "gen de vous"--jj) "Men of the buffalo." "gens" means "man." "gens de vache" means "people of the buffalo." That's what the French named us. And then some years after that, the times got hard with the Arapahoes and other tribes up in the north on account of severe winters, you know. And so a portion of the Arapahoes got away and said they was gonna look for a place where there's a tribe that had plenty of game. So a portion of the Arapahoes left. And they came on to a tribe further northwest, far as Montana, a tribe that's Sioux Indians, but they go by another name. (Pause to think) Anyhow, they're Sioux but they have another name. Part of the Arapaho tribe affiliated themselves with them because they had lot of elk, and deer at the mountains, toward the glacier. Assinibouines--Assiniboine tribe. They're Sioux, but they're called Assiniboine. (Assinibouins speak a Siouan language--jj) Well, part of these Arapahoes stayed with them, and they're with them today. They help them through.