

that winter, you know. But the Arapahoes in the main band, they made out all right. They got beaver meat, bear meat, and sage hens and all those turkeys. But this portion that left to these Assiniboines, they're still with them somewhere near Ft. Belknap, Hayes--up in Montana. They stay with them. But they still speak Arapaho. But they got a little brogue. We can understand them. My father was a Blackfoot-Gros Ventre. I got relatives up there. But in Arapaho we call them "moochers," because they left the tribe to mooch from other tribes. That's what we call them. That's what we call those Gros Ventres. (Jess is referring to the Atsina, sometimes called Gros Ventres, who are linguistically very close to the Arapahoes. The Hidatsa are also called Gros Ventres but they are a Siouan tribe. One of the Arapaho terms for the Atsina is translated as "beggars."--jj) There's two Gros Ventres tribes. One is from North Dakota, east from there (Hidatsa). We don't understand them. They're just by name. But this Atsina Gros Ventres of Montana, they're part of our people. They speak our language. And this "Gros Ventre" word, this word, "gros ventre," is French, too. It means "ruptured--bag in the stomach." And the sign language for "Gros Ventre is this way (Making a sign which is not described on tape). Why? Because when the French came on these Gros Ventres near the border there was a place where there was a petrified buffalo had sunk in. They dug it out and it had that paunch--bag. So that's what the French named these Gros Ventres because they found that "gros ventre." So the sign language like that is for Gros Ventre. Sign language.

(Somebody told me there was a sign like that for "Arapaho.")

Well, that came on later. All these Northern Indians have a pompadour, you know. You've seen pictures of them--like Chief Joseph. And many of them have side braids here. But when it comes to these Arapahoes--Arapahoes always have that hair parted. Hair parted and fix your hair good. So them others that didn't know this sign language, they call them--(probably demonstrates some sign which is not described here.)