



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to MS 39-c Kiowa drawings by
Koba, Etahdleuh, and others, 1875-1878

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 39-c Kiowa drawings by Koba, Etahdleuh, and others
Date:	1875-1878
Identifier:	NAA.MS39C
Creator:	Doanmoe, Etahdleuh, 1856-1888 (Artist) Kobay, (Comanche chief) (Artist)
Extent:	25 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, colored pencil, crayon, ink, and watercolor; laminated) 5 Leaves (graphite and ink on ruled paper; laminated)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): MS 39-c Kiowa drawings by Koba, Etahdleuh, and others

Administrative Information

Provenance

The drawings were collected by Burnet S. Reynolds, who lived in St. Augustine, Florida from 1875 to 1878. He received them from Kiowa prisoners at Fort Marion, whom he tutored. The drawings were donated to the Bureau of American Ethnology by Reynolds' widow, Mrs. Mary B. Reynolds, in August 1945. Related correspondence is in Bureau of American Ethnology records; copies of the correspondence (4 pages) are stored with drawings.

Preferred Citation

MS 39-c Kiowa drawings by Koba, Etahdleuh, and others, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.
Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

Koba (Wild Horse) was born in 1848. During the Red River War he was a member of the Kiowa band that surrendered on February 18, 1875. Following his surrender, he was confined at Fort Sill, Indian Territory. He was accused of stealing horses and mules in Texas and participating in the August 22, 1874 skirmish at the Wichita Agency, one of the opening engagements of the Red River War. He was among the Kiowa prisoners who were incarcerated in Fort

Marion in St. Augustine, Florida following the end of the conflict. He arrived at Fort Marion on May 21, 1875. After his release from Ft. Marion, Koba attended the Hampton Institute in Virginia. He arrived at Hampton on April 14, 1878. In June of 1879, he left Hampton to work on a farm in Lee, Massachusetts. He then enrolled in the Carlisle Institute in Pennsylvania, where he studied to be a tinsmith. He arrived at Carlisle on October 7, 1879. On September 10, 1880, Koba left Carlisle on what was intended to be a brief trip to Indian Territory. Although his health was failing, he was deemed fit to travel. He died of tuberculosis on September 24, 1880, only three days after arriving at his destination.

Biographical Note

Etahdleuh (1856-1888) was also known as Etahdleeuh, Etadeleuh, Etahdleuh Doanmoe, Boy, and Boy Hunting. He was imprisoned at Fort Marion in St. Augustine, Florida from 1875-1878. After his release from Fort Marion, he attended the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in Virginia, arriving in April, 1878. In 1879, he travelled to the Indian Territory to recruit pupils to attend the Carlisle Institute in Pennsylvania, where he would study and work on and off from 1879 to 1887. He made two extended trips back to the reservation during this period and from February to May 1880, he worked at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. He was trained as a Presbyterian missionary and returned to the reservation in January 1888 to serve in this capacity.

Historical Note

Fort Marion, also known as Castillo de San Marco, is a stone fortress in St. Augustine, Florida. Between 1875 and 1878, seventy-two prisoners from the southern plains were incarcerated in the fort. Captain Richard Pratt supervised the prisoners during their incarceration at Fort Marion. The prisoners consisted of 27 Kiowas, 33 Cheyennes, 9 Comanches, 2 Arapahos, and a single Caddo. With the exception of one Cheyenne woman, all the prisoners were men. They had been accused of participating in the recent Red River War, earlier hostilities, or both. With the exception of the wife and daughter of one of the Comanche men, the prisoners families were not allowed to accompany them to Fort Marion.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of twenty-five (25) drawings depicting warfare, courting, hunting, dances, a horse race, and an intertribal meeting. Also included are five (5) pages with pictographs representing various words and the rosters of the Fort Marion prisoners listing the prisoners' names and tribal affiliations. Several drawings are inscribed with the name of Koba, some with the name Etahdleuh. Most were probably drawn by Koba. All drawings have been laminated.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 39C

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Kiowa

Cultures:

Kiowa

Types of Materials:

Drawings
Ledger drawings
Pictographs
Works of art

Names:

Fort Marion artists

Places:

North America

Container Listing

- Box 39C, Folder 1 Battle scene, with a warrior wearing face and body paint and holding a lance and a shield approaching a person inside a wagon
1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, ink, colored pencil on ruled paper; 9.75 x 7.5 inches)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of battle scene, with warrior wearing face and body paint and holding a lance and a shield approaching a person, possibly Mexican, inside a wagon](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 001
 NAA INV 08547601
 OPPS NEG 91-2000
 OPPS NEG 92-11268
 Inscription reads "Zotom." Drawing is executed on page 122 of a ledger book. This drawing appears to be related to the two subsequent drawings, which according to the inscription depicts an attack on a Mexican wagon train.
 Reproduced in:
 Greene, Candace S. *Silver Horn Master Illustrator of the Kiowas*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2001. (plate 2).
- Box 39C, Folder 1 Kiowa and Apache warriors attacking a Mexican wagon train
1 Drawings (visual works) (ink and watercolor on ruled paper; 10 x 8 inches)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of Kiowa and Apache warriors attacking a Mexican wagon train](#)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of Kiowa and Apache warriors attacking a Mexican wagon train](#)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of Kiowa and Apache warriors attacking a Mexican wagon train](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 002
 NAA INV 08547602
 NAA INV 08547603
 OPPS NEG 91-1988
 OPPS NEG 91-1995
 OPPS NEG 92-11257
 One drawing on two leaves. Drawing is executed on pages 123-125 of a ledger book. Inscription on recto of first leaf reads "Koba to his friend Burnet LSadlegyoqkoday." Inscription on recto of second leaf reads "Kiowas & Apaches taking a wagon train (Mexican) Mexicans all afraid run off. One man killed other man wounded in hip, chief kill with spear by knocking him on the head."
- Box 39C, Folder 1 Mounted warrior counting coup on a non-native man seated on the ground

1 Drawings (visual works) (ink and watercolor on ruled paper; 10 x 8 inches)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of mounted warrior counting coup on a Mexican or White man seated on the ground](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 003
NAA INV 08547604
OPPS NEG 91-1981
OPPS NEG 92-11269
NAA MS 39C
Drawing is executed on page 126 of a ledger book.

Box 39C, Folder 1

Dismounted warrior with a firearm striding through bullets toward a man lying on his back

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, ink, watercolor on ruled paper; 9.75 x 8 inches)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of dismounted warrior with firearm striding through bullets toward a Mexican lying on his back](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 004
NAA INV 08547605
OPPS NEG 92-11273
Drawing is executed on page 128 of a ledger book. Inscriptions read "Mexican horseman" and "Kiwos Koba 10 years old."

Box 39C, Folder 1-2

Dismounted warrior preparing to count coup with his bow on a non-native man kneeling on the ground

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, colored pencil, ink on ruled paper; 9.5 x 7.75 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of dismounted warrior preparing to count coup with his bow on a non-native man kneeling on the ground](#)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of dismounted warrior preparing to count coup with his bow on a non-native man kneeling on the ground](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 005
NAA INV 08547606
NAA INV 08547607
OPPS NEG 91-1977
OPPS NEG 91-1979
OPPS NEG 92-11259
One drawing on two leaves. Drawing is executed on pages 130-131 of a ledger book. Depicts tracks leading from the warrior's horse, past a second non-native man lying on the ground, to the warrior.

Box 39C, Folder 2

Mounted warrior wearing face paint and a horned feather headdress and carrying a shield and a firearm riding through bullets

1 Drawings (visual works) (colored pencil and ink on ruled paper; 10 x 7.75 inches)
Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of mounted warrior wearing face paint and a horned feather headdress and carrying a shield and a firearm rides through bullets](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 006

NAA INV 08547608

OPPS NEG 91-1985

OPPS NEG 92-11270

Drawing is executed on page 132 of a ledger book.

Box 39C, Folder 2

Mounted warrior carrying a shield and a firearm pursuing a mounted non-native carrying a pistol

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, ink, watercolor on ruled paper; 9.75 x 7.75 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of mounted warrior carrying a shield and a firearm pursuing a mounted non-native carrying a pistol](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 007

NAA INV 08547609

OPPS NEG 91-1992

OPPS NEG 92-11346

Drawing is executed on page 134 of a ledger book. Drawing depicts a brand on the non-native's horse. The drawing is inscribed "Onkoiday".

Box 39C, Folder 2

Mounted warrior with a shield and coup stick approaching a dismounted non-native man with a gun, who stands beside a tree

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, colored pencil, watercolor on ruled paper; 9.75 x 8 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of mounted warrior with a shield and coup stick approaching a dismounted White man with a gun, who stands beside a tree](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 008

NAA INV 08547610

OPPS NEG 91-1998

OPPS NEG 92-11294

Drawing is executed on page 136 of a ledger book. Drawing depicts a brand on the warrior's horse.

Box 39C, Folder 2

Man with a pistol and a quirt standing over a man seated on the ground, with a horse nearby

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite and watercolor on ruled paper; 10 x 8 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of man with a pistol and a quirt standing over a man seated on the ground, with a horse nearby](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 009

NAA INV 08547611

OPPS NEG 91-2001

OPPS NEG 92-11276

Drawing is executed on page 138 of a ledger book.

Box 39C, Folder 3

Mounted Kiowa warrior attacking Navajos

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, colored pencil, watercolor on ruled paper; 10 x 8 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of mounted Kiowa warrior attacking Navahos](#)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of mounted Kiowa warrior attacking Navahos](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 010
NAA INV 08547612
NAA INV 08547613
OPPS NEG 91-1990
OPPS NEG 91-1997
OPPS NEG 92-11260
OPPS NEG 92-11262

One drawing on two leaves. Drawing is executed on pages 140-141 of a ledger book. Inscriptions read "Navahoe fight Comanche & Kiowa - heap big fight" and "White Horse." Depicts mounted Kiowa warrior with Navaho boy riding behind him striking a Navaho warrior with his lance after riding past a Navaho woman and a bleeding Navaho warrior, who is lying on the ground.

Box 39C, Folder 3

Navajo warriors pursuing Kiowa warrior

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, ink, watercolor on ruled paper; 10 x 8 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of Navaho warriors pursuing Kiowa warrior](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 012
NAA INV 08547614
OPPS NEG 91-1984
OPPS NEG 92-11277
OPPS NEG 77-12

Drawing is inscribed "church". Drawing is executed on page 142 of a ledger book. The pursuing party has been identified as Navajo by their clubbed hair.

Box 39C, Folder 3

Courting scene with one man and two women

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, colored pencil, ink on ruled paper; 9.75 x 7.75 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of courting scene with one man and two women](#)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etadleuh, of courting scene with one man and two women](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 012
NAA INV 08547615
OPPS NEG 91-1994
OPPS NEG 92-11271

Drawing depicts a man and two women next to a tipi and a shield. Verso is inscribed "Koba come to see Sapinta but other woman is there. Sapinta sits down to watch other woman. Koba goes off & sits down to hide, bye & bye other woman goes off and Sepinta comes to Koba & they talk, Sapinta - 'What you want, me you love.' Koba."

Box 39C, Folder 3

Two mounted men with shields carrying firearms

1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, ink, colored pencil on ruled paper; 9.75 x 7.75 inches)

[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of two mounted men with shields carrying firearms](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39B 013

NAA INV 08547616

OPPS NEG 91-1991

OPPS NEG 92-11272

Drawing depicts one man wearing a stuffed bird in his hair and riding a painted horse.

Box 39C, Folder 4

Courting scene with two couples

1 Drawings (visual works) (colored pencil, watercolor, and ink on unruled paper; 7.5 x 5 inches)

[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of courting scene with two couples](#)

Artist: Doanmoe, Etahdleuh, 1856-1888

Notes: NAA MS 39C 014

NAA INV 08547617

OPPS NEG 91-1993

OPPS NEG 92-11266

Creator was identified based on a comparison of this item with other works attributed to Etahdleuh.

Published in:

Merrill, William L. et al., *A Guide to the Kiowa Collections at the Smithsonian Institution*, Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1997. (Fig. 62, p. 200).

Box 39C, Folder 4

Three mounted men

1 Drawings (visual works) (watercolor and ink on blue paper; 7.5 x 5 inches)

[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of three mounted men](#)

[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of three mounted men](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 015

NAA INV 08547618

OPPS NEG 91-1996

OPPS NEG 92-11267

Drawing depicts one man wearing a feathered headdress with a trailer and another wearing a lizard hair ornament. Verso inscribed "Apache medicine men Koba."

Box 39C, Folder 4 Two dismounted men with shields and bows fighting eight mounted Mexican soldiers
1 Drawings (visual works) (watercolor and ink on blue paper; 7.5 x 5 inches)
[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of two dismounted men with shields and bows fighting eight mounted Mexican soldiers](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 016
NAA INV 08547619
OPPS NEG 91-1989
OPPS NEG 92-11351
The identification of the soldiers as Mexican is based on their headgear, tapadero stirrups, and ponchos.

Box 39C, Folder 4 Two mounted men with shields herding four horses
1 Drawings (visual works) (colored pencil, watercolor, and ink on unruled paper; 8 x 5 inches)
[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of two mounted men with shields herding four horses](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 017
NAA INV 08547620
OPPS NEG 91-1982
OPPS NEG 92-11387

Box 39C, Folder 4 Three mounted men with shields
1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, watercolor, and ink on unruled paper; 7.25 x 4.5 inches)
[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of three mounted men with shields](#)
[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of three mounted men with shields](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 018
NAA INV 08547621
OPPS NEG 91-1986
OPPS NEG 92-11350
Inscription on recto reads "Koba, Zotom, Zonekeuk go to Mexico."
Inscriptions on verso read "Going to Mexico for more horses", "Koba", and "no good."

Box 39C, Folder 5 A horse race, with two mounted men with quirts and four spectators
1 Drawings (visual works) (watercolor and ink on ruled paper; 12.5 x 7.75 inches)
[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of a horse race, with two mounted men with quirts and four spectators](#)
Artist: Doanmoe, Etahdleuh, 1856-1888
Notes: NAA MS 39C 019
NAA INV 08547622
OPPS NEG 91-1987

OPPS NEG 92-11258

Identified based on a comparison of this item with other works attributed to Etahdleuh.

Box 39C, Folder 5

Courting scene, with five couples wrapped in blankets

1 Drawings (visual works) (watercolor and ink on ruled paper; 12.5 x 8.25 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of courting scene, with five couples wrapped in blankets](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 020

OPPS NEG 91-1983

OPPS NEG 92-11274

NAA INV 08547623

Inscriptions read "this man Indian Kiowa write me and Koba" and "Koba."

Published in:

Merrill, William L. et al. *A Guide to the Kiowa Collections at the Smithsonian Institution*. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1997. (Fig. 63, p. 201).

Box 39C, Folder 5

Courting scene with five couples

1 Drawings (visual works) (watercolor and ink on ruled paper; 12.5 x 8.25 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of courting scene, with five couples](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 021

NAA INV 08547624

OPPS NEG 91-1978

OPPS NEG 92-11265

NAA MS 39C

Inscriptions read "Koba" and "Very one so good Indian and Kiowa me white man write and Koba."

Box 39C, Folder 5

Courting scene with four couples

1 Drawings (visual works) (watercolor and ink on ruled paper; 12.5 x 7.75 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of courting scene, with four couples](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 022

NAA INV 08547625

OPPS NEG 91-1976

OPPS NEG 92-11275

Inscriptions read "Koba" and "Very one so good Indian and Kiowa me write Koba."

Box 39C, Folder 5

A group of men

1 Drawings (visual works) (watercolor and ink on ruled paper; 12.5 x 7.75 inches)

Image(s): [Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of a group of men](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39C 023
NAA INV 08547626
OPPS NEG 92-10953
OPPS NEG 77-13
Depicts dismounted men, several of whom are carrying lances, standing near a mounted man wearing a war bonnet, possibly representing a warrior society meeting. A painted horse is picketed in the foreground. Inscriptions on recto read "Etahdleuh", "Koba", and "My friend Burnet I gave this the picture." Inscriptions on verso read "From my friend Koba thank him very much."

Folder 39C / 39D2 A meeting between a group of Kiowa and Comanche and a group of Pawnee
1 Drawings (visual works) (colored pencil, watercolor, and ink on ruled paper; 21.5 x 8 inches)
[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba, of a meeting between a group of Kiowa and Comanche and a group of Pawnee](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 024
NAA INV 08624100
Two leaves laminated together. Drawing is inscribed "Koba," "chief," "medicine man," "comanche and Kiowa," and "pawnees."

Folder 39C / 39D2 A dance scene
1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, colored pencil, and watercolor on unruled paper; 19.5 x 12 inches)
[Image\(s\): Kiowa drawing, possibly by Koba or Etahdleuh, of a dance scene](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 025
NAA INV 08624300
Depicts twelve dancers and two mounted men perform before an audience of Whites seated on a long bench; seven men, four of whom are holding drum sticks, sit in a semi-circle, suggesting that they are seated around a drum. Appears to be three leaves taped or laminated together.

Box 39C, Folder 6 Koba pictographs
5 Leaves (graphite and ink on ruled paper)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
Notes: NAA MS 39C 026
NAA INV 08547629-08547635
OPPS NEG 91-1975
OPPS NEG 92-11001

OPPS NEG 92-11449 - 92-11452

OPPS NEG 92-11455 - 92-11456

Contains a list of English words with drawings representing each word with practice letter written in English. Also contains list of prisoners at Fort Marion with name glyphs. Inscription at head of first leaf reads "Kooba's [sic] Picture Words."

Box 39C, Folder 7

Correspondence

Notes:

Contains copies of correspondence between Mary B. Reynolds (the donor), Thomas R. Barcus (Chief of the Exchange and Gift Division of the Library of Congress), and Matthew Stirling (Chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology) relating to the donation of the drawings in August 1945.