

14.

Euegbe

Heno Aḍiḍi magbe tɔkɔ nugbe mayi o.
Haxelawo Aḍiḍi hɛɛ
Heno Gawonɔ, aḍiḍi magbe tɔkɔ nugbe o
Haxelawo Aḍiḍi hɛɛ
 Gawonɔ, aḍiḍi magbe tɔkɔ nugbe mayi o
 Aḍiḍi magbe tɔkɔ nugbe o.

Word-for-Word

Leader	aḍiḍi	magbe	tɔkɔ	nugbe	mayi	o.
	ant	won't refuse	river side	place	I will go	(neg.)
Group	aḍiḍi	hɛɛ				
	ant	yes				
Leader	gawonɔ	aḍiḍi	magbe	tɔkɔ	nugbe	o
	person	ant	cannot refuse	river side	place	(neg.)

Translation

Leader Gunpowder cannot refuse to go to war.
Group Gunpowder, yes.
Leader My friend, gunpowder cannot refuse war.
Group Gunpowder, yes.
 My friend, gunpowder cannot refuse to go to war.
 Gunpowder cannot refuse war.

Poetic Translations

1. Alowoyie-Locke--Gunpowder Cannot Refuse To Go To War

(same as above)

2. James Burns--Gunpowder Cannot Refuse To Go To War

Leader Gunpowder cannot refuse to go to war.

Group Gunpowder.

Leader My friend, gunpowder cannot refuse to go to war.

Group Gunpowder.

My friend, gunpowder cannot refuse to go to war.

Gunpowder cannot refuse to go to war.

3. Alorwoyie-Dewornu-- Complacency In War Is Costly

There is no way for you as a warrior to go to war without gun powder for your guns

4. Klevor Abo--The Ant (Gunpowder)

The ant shies not from battle,

The ant.

Annotation

- The term 'tɔkɔ' literally means the riverside, but it is an allusion for a place of battle, danger, or action, as in 'tɔkɔ atɔlia' the fifth river side, which was a classical phrase for a capital punishment in Anlo reserved for serious lawbreakers, where they were buried up to their necks in the sand, or sometimes were beaten with metal bars. (James Burns)