

20.

GFA: This is also about war leaders. Ewe warriors have taken off for a fight. They have traveled for a distance to *Kundo's* palace in Dahomey because his men already have killed the Anlo leader in a battle. He and his men were killed without one gunshot, killed secretly. But, you know, back home our old people have powers that reveal things about what happens in the world. They got the information that some of their people from home had been secretly killed in battle with *Kundo*. The warriors had been advised to go and attack in revenge. That is what they had gone to do. Maybe *Kundo's* army battled the Anlo and took off the leader's head, and secretly kept it. Using Afa divination, the Anlos found out that *Kundo's* people had done that. The Anlo warriors with their leaders went to Dahomey to attack with the spiritual power to get *Kundo* himself; they didn't want to tackle anybody else apart for *Kundo*, the war leader. True, they caught *Kundo*. That is why the song says, "*Wula Kundo*," "When they caught *Kundo*, he had nothing to say." When he is caught, the war leader has nothing to say.

This story is about the rhythm, too: "The warriors take off, by all means." The reason I put it together is what had happened with the one that *Kundo* killed secretly, thinking the other opponents will not know. But they got to know. How did they know? You know that our war leaders have "*age*," which they send to see what is happening on the field. If somebody is missing, they will find out that. This spiritual power is going to tell them, "Your people have been caught," that is the only information they will get. Where are they? Maybe they are in Boston or in Medford. They will get their own information and then, all of a sudden, they will come for a surprise attack on you. When his people secretly killed the Anlo fighters, where was *Kundo*? In Dahomey. So, they went to Dahomey and caught *Kundo* unprepared. That is why the song says that when they caught *Kundo*, he had nothing to say. If he knew that the Anlo would be coming, he would have been in his full defensive manner, right? He was taken by surprise in the same way he took the Anlo people earlier. That is retaliation. It is like what happened to *Kotoka*.¹ *Kotoka* didn't know; he was just outside the house when soldiers came in and asked him to walk. If he had known that something was going to happen, he would have been in war mode; they couldn't even enter the house.

¹ An Ewe soldier who lead a coup in 1966 and was himself killed in a counter-coup in 1967.

Kundo thought he was done with. He was taken unawares. He should have realized that our own people, too, have a way of doing *zidi*; they have many ways to get a person. Maybe one of the Anlo men went with powers and grabbed him. When he is caught, he is caught, that's it. He is powerless. That is why the song says that when they caught him, he has nothing to say. After all, when *Kundo's* men caught the Ewe war leader, he had nothing to say because he knew he already was in hands.

DL: Is it correct to say that since *Kundo* attacked them, they said, "If you do this to our people, we are going to retaliate by going to go directly to you."

GFA: Yes, that is what happened. They didn't go to the town. They wanted *Kundo* himself. That is why the song says, "*Wula Kundo, wula avadada.*" He was their war leader. They got him and he has nothing to say.