

[Page 1]

TRANSLATION OF TAPE MADE BY DAYUMA. SEPTEMBER 25, 1958 (The day she came back.)

Questions by Betty Elliot. Answers by Dayuma, with conversation in Quichua.

DAYUMA SPEAKING: Do you remember how the tree was cut down on Palm Beach? (The one where the tree-house was, later found felled across the beach.) Dabu, an Auca man, said to me, "I cut that down. I thought to myself, more foreigners will come and they will be killed in the same way. So I won't let their airplanes land. Ever since they killed those nice foreigners I have lived by myself with just women. I cried. I said to them why did you do that? (kill the 5) You should have spoken to me about it first." This is what he told me. He was kind to me. He said, "If Gikari (Betty) comes, I will tell her everything. I would like to see her."

QUESTION: Leaving here on Wednesday, where did you spend the night?

ANSWER: At the Oglan. On Thursday at Anangu. On Friday at the foot of a hill we slept. On Saturday at the Lahuano. On Sunday morning in a pouring rain Mankamu went on ahead, because my feet hurt. She went to where their houses were before and found no one. Finally she found Nimonga's house. "Where is my brother, where are my children?" she said. "Way down the river," he told her. So she sent some kids to look for them. Soon Kimo and his wife and mother arrived. Meantime we thought to ourselves, "Mankamu must have died. Perhaps she has been bitten by a snake." So we prayed to God, "Please don't let anything happen to her." I said, "What will we do if she has not come back by morning?" Mintaka said, "We will go back to Arajuno." "No," I said, "We are going on, even if I have to crawl." I said, "Even if they kill me I am going down and find out how things are." In late afternoon, Mankamu and the others arrived. I began to teach them right away. I said, "Why do you kill? Why do you live like dogs? Don't you know we are all of the same family?" When I spoke thus, two of them cried. Two of the men built us a house and we talked far into the night. My mother brought some fish for us to eat. The next morning I made them chop down trees. I said, "Make a nice big place so the plane can come low. Can't you see that if you leave these trees up, the plane is going to bump into them?"

QUESTION: What did they say about Maruja? (Quichua girl who was carried away from the settlement on the Curaray after her husband was speared to death) Was she happy to see you?

ANSWER: She was very happy, poor little thing. We spoke together in Quichua. She knows the language now. (Auca language) She sings. She says, "If the Senora (Betty) comes here to live, I will come back with her."

QUESTION: Now do you want to live down there, too?

ANSWER: Yes, I told them I would come to stay, but if they got mad at me I would run back to the foreigners. I would like to put my son in school and then go down there to live. But first I will take him to see my mother.

QUESTION: Did Mankamu and Mintaka tell their people that foreigners do not eat people?

ANSWER: Yes, they said, "What in the world did you think they would eat anyone for? They think YOU are the people-eaters!" "Okay," they said, "We will believe you now, we won't be afraid."

QUESTION: And were these new girls not afraid to come here?

ANSWER: Of course not. They came shouting with glee. As soon as we got to the Curaray, they tore around visiting every house. They talked to the women there, thinking they understood. I came up and the Quichua women said to me, "What are they saying. We don't hear." So I translated and then I told my people, "They don't hear you." But they said, "Oh, yes they do. They hear everything." And they went right on talking.

Later, when we went to the house to sleep, the Quichuas said we had better set some guards because they might run away in the night. I said, "Why will they run away? They came with me. They will stay with me." Then when a dog barked, they said that more Aucas had followed us. "They are coming to kill us." They didn't want to believe me. So I sat down and talked for a long, long time explaining to them that they must not be afraid. "Just go to sleep and don't be afraid." "Okay," they said and they went. I said, "I am not lying. All but two are sick and they are not going to come running up here." They must have caught the sickness from us. I had two bottles of medicine with me. My mother was afraid to take it. She said I was trying to kill her with it. She said, "If Gikari comes, she will show us. We will believe her. We will take the medicine. But you, you are just talking through your hat." So Mankamu told them, "This is the same kind of medicine Gikari gave us. Take it and you will get well."

I said to them that their stomachs are probably full of worms. I taught them about worms. "All right," they said, "From now on, we won't eat anything dirty." "We won't let anyone build his house upriver, because then he would dirty the water. Don't use the rivers for a toilet, we'll tell them."

QUESTION: So you said that they killed Jim and the others because George told your people that the foreigners were going to eat them?

ANSWER: Partly that, but he just made up things for nothing.

QUESTION: And how do you suppose they managed to kill them?

ANSWER: The foreigners were just standing in the river and they speared them.

QUESTION: But didn't they fight on the beach?

ANSWER: That is all they told me... they just said they speared them. So then I talked to them about the nice foreigners. They said, "Now we understand. Now we see that we did that for nothing. It was only because George lied."

QUESTION: So they didn't throw the bodies into the water? They were standing there in the first place?

ANSWER: That's right, they said there were five.

QUESTION: Did they watch the burial of the five?

ANSWER: They said they didn't see anything.

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I told them about the trail to Arajuno and about Dr. Tidmarsh's house. I said if the down-river people come to kill you, you can run there. They said if they had known there were any foreigners there, they would have gone to see them long ago.

QUESTION: So they did not understand the gestures from the airplane which tried to tell them where the foreigners lived?

ANSWER: Yes, they understood, and they followed them as far as the Curaray. But they said, "The airplane still goes farther away. It goes beyond where the hills look blue. We will never be able to reach there." So they turned around and went home. Two men climbed hills and trees, trying to see where it went. "No," they said, "It goes too far away into the blue."

QUESTION: So they have never seen the settlement at Arajuno?

ANSWER: No, it was only Muipa and his crowd who had been there in the time of the Shell Co. And they were all dead now.

QUESTION: Do you think they killed Honorio because he had received Mintaka and Mankamu?

ANSWER: No. That, too, was because of a lie. Dawa (the third woman who came with Mintaka and Mankamu and later returned, told them that she expected the two women to be eaten. The men who killed him had no idea which one he was.

Maraju told me this story. "We were going down river in a canoe and the dog started to bark. I said to my husband, 'Now we are going to die. It was because you wouldn't listen to me that you brought us down here.' The Aucas threw a spear from the beach and made Honorio fall. I grabbed the fish spear and jumped to the bow of the canoe. But then I said to myself, 'No, I will just die with my husband. Then a man named Nimonga caught me in the back of the knee with a spear. The others began throwing rocks at me. So then I fell and they caught me. They led me as far as a stream where they washed the blood from my knee, tied it up and then led me on the trail[l]. When I got tired, they took my hands and helped me up the hills. When I couldn't walk, they carried me. When I got to the house, the women heated water and meat and soup. Then when I came to life again a little bit, they said they had better cut my hair. But they didn't cut it for a long time. Then one day when I got sick, they said if they didn't cut my hair I wouldn't get well. So I said, 'All right, go ahead.'"

So she came to her home with us when we came out. The clothes she had were rotten so I gave her new ones. Now she is at her mother-in-law's house.

QUESTION: Was her mother-in-law happy to see her?

ANSWER: She didn't know her. She just thought to herself that she was another Auca. When Maraju said, "How are you, Mother?" Looking at her, she began to cry, "My daughter-in-law!"