

DOCUMENT NAME/INFORMANT: JOE MORAN
INFORMANT'S ADDRESS: 969 WINNIPEG
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN
INTERVIEW LOCATION: 969 WINNIPEG
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN
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INTERVIEWER: SHARON GADDIE
INTERPRETER:
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GENERAL COMMENTS: Very nice man though wanted to know who
considers him a Metis Elder! Wife watching T.V. in background
so there is lots of interfrance.

Sharon: Mr. Moran, do you remember your grandparents?

Joe: A little bit not too much.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well, one of my grandfathers was named Joe Moran. I
forget his wife's name. They came from around Willowbunch or
St. Victor. They moved to Regina Beach from there to Fort
Qu'Appelle, close to the reserve of the, I don't know what you
call it, Sioux Bridge. Close to the Sioux Bridge in Fort
Qu'Appelle.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah, they were Metis yeah.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well they mostly worked for farmers around there, farmers around that district.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: No, that was ten miles out of town.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: No, we had our own land.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah. Wherever they could find work, what they call road allowance eh what they call road allowance, they build their house there.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well not, not that I know of. I had some relations who had land in the States. I was supposed to be contacted, my dad never got to me yet (laughs) about that. And I don't know whatever happened there, there was a mixup there someplace. There was some land in the States.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: I hink that's where they came from (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Far as I know anyway.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: My parents? John and Philomene.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well, for awhile we live in that district Sioux Bridge, but most of the years our best years we lived in Lebret, Saskatchewan. That's where I grew up, school for a few years. We had church there. There was quite a few Metis people around there it's like a settlement in Lebret.

Sharon: What year were you born?

Joe: 1928.

Sharon: Where?

Joe: In Lebret. May 5, 1928.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: I think there was fourteen and one passed away.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yes we had our own house.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: No, it was about a mile out of town.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: He rented a place I think. We moved, see he joined the war in 1939, yeah second world war, and he was in there for a few years. See we done a lot of moving, you know, from Regina to the (?) here, and then when they did come back from war we moved a few places here and there try to settle down in one place. And we did land back in Lebret (inaudible). He did buy some land and he wanted me to farm, but I (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: I don't know what. I came on my own that time.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: It was a log house eh, but on a cement foundation and they fixed the inside of it.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: It was lumber inside.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah, well he hired another man to help him build it.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: (inaudible)?

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah it was lumber inside, finished lumber inside the house. It was sort of insulated too.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: No they were bought furniture.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: He worked construction mostly for a man in Lebret, he worked there that part of his life. And he did get a pension

from the army, and he kept getting worse and worse finally he had to quit working and (inaudible) in the army. Then he moved to Regina in 1955 and he lived there. He lived there till he passed away that time.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: He done a little bit of trapping in Fort Qu'Appelle years ago after he came back from the war. (inaudible) fishing in the winter time, trout fish, lake fish.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah. She used to can fish. And she used to pressure cook them with tomato soup. Then put them in jars and it goes like salmon.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Chicken.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: I don't know much about it. (laughs)

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well, I wouldn't say we were really poor, just making a go eh.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Pretty well the same as we had, you know, fishing, fur trapping (inaudible). There's some other kids used to trap more than me. (inaudible). And they'd sell wood, some would sell wood in the winter time. I went to make a living.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well at that time my father was away (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: I didn't like school (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah, I did (inaudible). Few of us didn't make it (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: My mother had some education, my dad had fair education.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well I think, I really didn't pay too much attention to that. I know my grandmother used to tell me stories about the past, but I didn't pay much attention to it eh. (inaudible) not that I remember, I always try to remember. I wasn't interested in it. I remember her sometimes (inaudible). One of my grandfathers, my dad's dad (inaudible) that's my dad's dad.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: (inaudible) and she used to make rugs, make rugs day after day. She makes 300, 400 rugs and comes to Regina trade them for clothes, or anything she could get hold of. Money. If she got clothes she would them down to Fort Qu'Appelle and sell them down here. Nobody seemed to bother her, the police told her to be careful lot of times in Regina here for doing that, because she had, there was no income, her husband was blind.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah, the police.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well, I don't know there was some complaints I suppose eh. She was making a little bit of money and then...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah. But lot of times the dectectives would actually wait for her in Regina, you know, because she'd been doing it for years. Lot of times she'd have to come in and sneak around. But she had good customers, private customers like, people that wnedted rugs eh. They'd (?) for her or (inaudible) they wanted the rugs bad, you see, (inaudible). But the police didn't like that. (inaudible) war borke out and then she slowed down. (inaudible). Well Id on't know what happened there, she got no help for that, nothing at all. She got away hat she was doing, but the police didn't like her going into (inaudible), she had to be careful how she moved around, she had to walk around, she had nothing she'd walk. Even some people put her up, and she'd talke all her stuff to the station (inaudible). The people from the reserve didn't like that they didn't have to (inaudible), they buy clothes off her like.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah. See, well her rugs (inaudible). It was quite a load for her, quite a job.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Just a train. Yeah the train would (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Between Yorkton and Regina. Well, at night, actually (inaudible) transportation the old people (inaudible) twice a day (inaudible). (telephone rings) Living standards and...

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well, lot of them had a job (inaudible) help after. (inaudible) and got it. (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah, some of them had horses eh and they make them haul gravel in the summertime. I remember them talking about (inaudible) little bit of work all summer, it was always summer (inaudible).

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah. (inaudible). Some come back, some lost their homes down there, made a mess of their families. Left them brokenhearted, they had no choice but to go and had a heck of a time coming back.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: No, they didn't want to go but they were kind of forced, if they didn't go they got no help.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Well, Cree and English most of the time. My dad spoke French and my mother, but they didn't teach it to us children.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah they taught French too. Yeah, you could take French at school if you wanted to.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Dances.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Mostly square dance at different homes.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Not too much in the summer, but usually in the fall and winter.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: New Year's was the biggest day.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: They started celebrating early in the morning until late in the night.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: They had meals from house to house and then a dance.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: At Christmas everyone stayed home.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: We tried to somehow buy some little present for the kids.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah, we went to midnight mass.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: Yeah we had weddings back then, but not \$1,000. weddings like today.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: They wore a white dress.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: A lot of people had it rough them days.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: The church knew what the town was doing.

Sharon: (inaudible)?

Joe: The church would try to help the Metis out with food, etc.

(END OF SIDE A)

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