

Mike Mercredi, Frank Tomkins, Ron Laliberte
Métis Political Activist Interviews (Jan 24, 25, 2004)

Tape 2

Start Time: 12:29:16.17

(Video Time: 12:29.16.17) Ron Laliberte: How do you, how do you see the, the difference between the politics of say prior to the second, prior to the war period, say from the '30s up to about the '40s and then onto the 1960s? How, when looking back on that kind of, how do you see the differences there? Do, you know, the style of Brady and Norris and, you know, those grassroots movements and then do you see a difference between that type of political movement and then in the '60s in hindsight?

Frank Tomkins: Well during the war when Malcolm joined the Air Force and Brady the Army and then Dad was, of course, he was too old to be joining up in anything. And so, so damn many people joined the Army then, the like, most of the Native people joined the Army because they didn't have the education to join up in anything else. I had a cousin that joined the Navy, two of them as a matter of fact, but one of them after the war. But there was, so many people joined the armed forces that the political movement more or less died. And those of us that were left home there was all kinds of work, more work than, than you can handle. And a lot of them say, "Aw we don't need the organization now. Times are good." And that kind of killed it.

End Time: 12:30:34.07