Lawrence: Okay. Yeah, the government now, you see, regarding these aboriginal land base, regarding the land base and then compensation settlement of money, you see, cash, cash settlement of money or a land base, you see. Well, this land base will take, I'd say, 50, 60 years. This is going to prolonged for the reason is, it's a simple reason to me, is you have a government now that's just about to be knocked out of power,
see. The government now it will be knocked out. That's what you got to deal with, the federal first before you deal with the provincial government. Provincial government, mind you, has got the last say, I think. Anyway, we got a government now just about to be knocked out of power. They're going to hang on as long as they can, which is another year at least, see, is going to hang on. So that's a year wasted. So then you get a new government, see. Well, that's going to take three or four years before you, before they get around to where they are now, to get to where they are now, you see, with this land base settlement. See, then you got maybe change again. So you got to come to some settlement. And then if they come to a compensation settlement, they could probably settle that in maybe two, three, four years, where this other way I don't think it will ever be settled. I don't think the people will ever get anything. And that will change the whole process. They should change that, because I think before long that it will have to be that way. I think somebody is going to smarten up and they're going to come with... that's the way it will be. They'll come for a compensation settlement of money, whatever they can negotiate, you see. As far as land, I don't know. I mean, if they settle for a land base, say they settle 30 years from now and I'm still with them, I don't want to go up in the backwoods or something there, and I'm sure all the younger generation don't want to go up there. It's the ones that are there now is the ones that want this land base. Why, I don't know, there must be a reason for it.

Judy: So you think it would be best for the Metis people that they just settled their lives here wherever there are now?

Lawrence: I think so. Rather than going in a ghetto they'll be... Surely they can negotiate something with government that will... We had in... that's where Ted Ouellette went, and then, do you remember in Green Lake, eh? We had... there was a bunch of our people went to Green Lake in 1937. They were given a chance for land base. There were three, four of them went.

Wife: From here.

Lawrence: Well from here, yeah, Ted Ouellette and Charlie (inaudible), Pete...

Wife: Well, Uncle Albert and George.

Lawrence: Five of them, I guess.

Wife: And Uncle Harry.

Lawrence: Yeah, that's right, six.

Judy: Then what were they exactly offered up there?

Lawrence: Well they were given, they were given a team of horses, land -- quarter section I think, I think quarter section, eh?
Wife:     I don't know.

Lawrence: Yeah, I think quarter section. They had to prove it, mind you. They were given so much a month for, I think, one year, so much a month, you know, cash or vouchers or something for one year. Well maybe for two years, I don't know. But it was a pittance anyways, it was a pittance amount that they were given. Well, they went out there, that's at Lorenzo. I don't know whether you know that place, settlement up here. I said Green Lake, it's Lorenzo, eh, up in that area just north of Blaine Lake there, maybe 30 miles north, 40 miles north, something like that. There wasn't many of them took advantage of that. The rest of them just said, "No, we don't want up there." But if they would have offered them a settlement, they would have took it -- settle in town, maybe start up a little business or something.

Judy:     Looking back at your life and perhaps the problems that you've had in it, how did you remain strong through all of those difficulties in your life?

Lawrence: Well, it was my faith in God, my family, my wife and children of course, and people that were around me. People around me I had when I was able to get around -- I don't get around too much now, I'm pretty well at home, maybe drive her to the store, I can't see too well, but I had good friends. And her brother was one of them, he's passed away now, God bless him. Oh, I had good friends and had my wife and children, they helped me. And of course God, the Almighty God, I have faith in Him and He'll do a lot for you if you just believe in Him, you know, things that man can't do.

Judy:     Is there anything else that you would like to discuss with me?

Lawrence: Oh, I think that's about it, unless there's something else that you want to ask me. There's things that's in here, you know, things that's in here, but things that I wouldn't, I don't... I want to write that, you see what I mean, I don't... Some things that we like, some things we don't like, you know, about different things and different (inaudible) and procedures, like I said here about this land base and stuff like that, about organization and stuff like that, that maybe if a person don't like but it's -- in a democratic country you can speak your mind, thank God for that, see -- and things like that, but I just as well not put in that there, you know. I'd rather if I have, what I have to say I would bring it out to the people directly, like I talk to you now, you see.

Judy:     Okay then, thank you very much for your cooperation.

Lawrence: Okay. I hope that I didn't hold you up for nothing.

Wife:     Step on anybody's toes. (laughs)

Lawrence: Well, like I just finished off and told her, I don't
want to step on anybody's toes. If I do, I want to tell them to themselves. I want to say... Well, okay, that's it. That's the way I was born. If I got something to say I'll say it, but I'll say it to the people that I want to say it to, see. I'll say it to the people that I want to say it to.

Wife: It's very embarrassing sometimes.

Judy: Okay, thank you very much.

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