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INTERVIEWER: RAY MARNOCH  
INTERPRETER: VIOLET HERMAN  
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HIGHLIGHTS:

- The material in this document is disconnected and frequently incoherent.

SUMMARY:

When Andre came to Turnor Lake from La Loche in 1938, there were not 10 houses. Because he trapped hard at Frobisher Lake, one man took him north. Andre was poor at that time so the man gave him traps, clothes and food. There was no family allowance so everyone hunted moose to get good meat. A man could feed his children on the \$12 he got for a moosehide. If those people had today's money they would have thought they were millionaires.

Parents brought supplies back from La Loche for the children in packs tied to the backs of their dogs. It was a long walking trail through muskeg.

People were poor. There were not many matches so they were used sparingly. Everyone shared them and kept fires in stoves going. Neighbors borrowed a flaming stick to start fire in own place. Today it's not like that. People misuse what they have.

There was no school in Turnor then, only in Ile-a-la-Crosse and Beauval.

In 1938, there were no schools in La Loche, Descharme, Garson, Buffalo Narrows. Now there's schools every place.

Now the kids just run around after school until bedtime. The kids run all over like they own the town because the parents aren't strong with their kids. When treaty days came in June everyone left Turnor and dog cries were all you could hear.

For treaty time everyone went to Cree (Clear?) Lake Reserve by canoe. When the highway was built the people moved from Cree (Clear?) Lake to Turnor Lake where new houses were built. Andre had a trapline at Careen Lake which he got to by canoe in summer up the Clearwater River. When young, hunting, trapping and fishing were good there. In fall took the dog team over dry ground with canoe in sled.

(Andre tells of hunting moose, preparation of meat and tanning of hide.)

(Andre tells how fish nets were made.) String for nets was given out at treaty day.

At that time people worked hard for themselves. After Christmas, Andre was sent to the Big Point to get fish from the fish houses. People had lots of fish put up row over row. Fish and potatoes is what the people lived on and because they were poor, they worked hard.

(Andre tells how stick fish were hung in the fall.) Only small fish now because too many killed for fish buyers. Len Waite came from Buffalo Narrows by boat in summer and by snowbug in winter to buy fish. Made winter roads to Careen and Descharme Lakes. He first bought fish at 8 fish for 4 .

The poor lived off the prosperous. When Andre got married, he hunted with his father-in-law. He took his blanket to people's houses until could afford his own tent. Because the closest store was Buffalo Narrows, things were hard to get even if you had money. Only 3 of original men left in Turnor. Tobie Montgrand, Joe Bag, and Gilbert Archie. The men used to go trapping in fall and leave women at home. The women had to

pack firewood on their backs, snare rabbits, fish with nets and care for children while men were away. The priest from La Loche walked to Turnor in winter because he had no dogs then.

Father Ducharme would walk from La Loche through the muskeg if someone was sick in Turnor. Church was important then. Andre's dad, Jim Montgrand, trapped at Descharme Lake. (Andre tells of hunting and trapping before there were licences.) It was better then. Andre trapped at Lloyd Lake and went north to McFarlane Lake and followed that river to near Athabasca Lake.

Andre usually went hunting beaver after Easter at Brustad Lake. The old men never went south only north before. Women used to

cut meat from along moose backbone and made it into thin line like string to make moccasins with.

They used that moose sinew to sew moccasins and mitts to sell. There's lots in the store now but not then; no mosquito nets or Raid. Cattle dung was number one.

Cow dung was collected and burnt in a pail by the door of the house to repel the mosquitos.

When Fr. Ducharme had mass in La Loche, people walked from Turnor, Garson Lake, Deschorme Lake. It was really important then. In the hot weather mass lasted 3 weeks. What priest said was law. People obeyed him and the children obeyed their parents. Times were happy then. Today when older people remember that, their hearts are broken.

When Andre was young, his mother died and father remarried. His stepmother didn't like him so he left home. Being very poor he slept in his coat. When went north trapping with Edward Park he was given everything he needed. He would go in front of the dog team and test the ice with a stick.

(Andre tells how they used to make 'Dead Fall' traps.)

(Andre tells how they speared beaver through their houses in winter.)

(Andre tells how they stretched the beaver by tying them onto willow branches.)

\*TRANSCRIBED FROM TAPE

Ray: An interview with Andre Montgrand, on May 31, 1980, in Turnor Lake, Saskatchewan.

Andre: (\*Talks in Chipewyan for first part of the tape.\*) Long time before. 1938. Turnor Lake. \$12.

Ray: Twelve dollars.

Andre: Twelve dollars one moose hide, big one.

Ray: When was that?

Andre: I made it back to Hudson's Bay. They give you Hudson's Bay hide. That's good. It's good hide. They sell them here. You know, the long way to La Loche from here in the forest and walking, lots of muskeg.

Ray: From here to La Loche?

Andre: Yeah and across the forest.

Ray: Yeah, up to Clearwater?

Andre: No, just here, just here. (inaudible) and across the road that's (?) road. I walk on the road. Yeah the dog here the (?) is stuffed and dog is tied.

Ray: Yeah, yeah. Dog team, eh?

Andre: Yeah. No, no team.

Ray: No, oh pack.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Put a pack on?

Andre: Yeah. On that one. (\*Talks in Chipewyan.\*) No school from here this place.

Ray: No.

Andre: Turnor Lake -- no school. La Loche -- no school. Descharme -- no school. Garson Lake -- no school. Ile-a-la-Crosse -- one place school, Beauval too.

Ray: You used to go there?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: (\*Talks in Chipewyan.) 1938 they say that. Every place no school. (Chipewyan) Just come from home. Nowhere's a boy, and girls too. Go outside and play, I guess that's how they made it, is after come back is home in the night. I guess that's all that's needed. (Chipewyan) Three, three-thirty I think. (Chipewyan) It was after night, about ten o'clock, nine o'clock, ten o'clock. (Chipewyan) Mine, I drink it, I crazy -- my wife too. I drink it, I crazy. My wife and me, I fight, fight, fight. Yeah, that's how... (Chipewyan) This month, June. (Chipewyan) Just dog cry, that's all, nobody here.

Ray: In June?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Where is everybody...?

Andre: When some guy, treaty day, Cree Lake.

Ray: To the old place? Clear Lake, eh?

Andre: Yeah, Cree Lake.

Ray: When did the people used to live there?

Andre: Treaty.

Ray: That was the first place, eh?

Andre: Yeah. On treaty day, Cree Lake, that's at Cree Lake.

Ray: Clear Lake?

Andre: Yeah, just one guy went, this guy here go and get it. That's when paddle, you know.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: No engine. Just paddle.

Ray: At that time did everybody used to live there?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Nobody here at that time?

Andre: Somebody did, lived with the guy here.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: And stay here.

Ray: But most people live over there?

Andre: Yeah, over there.

Ray: And that's the treaty people live there?

Andre: Yeah. Yeah.

Ray: And the non-treaty here, eh?

Andre: Yeah. No. Some got here, this place.

Ray: Who was the first one here, do you remember that?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Who was the first man?

Andre: First man, treaty, priest this side.

Ray: Yeah. And treaty there, eh?

Andre: Yeah, treaty days.

Ray: Who was the first man to build a house in Turnor Lake?

Andre: Yeah well, maybe anybody, guy, maybe Joe Bag.

Ray: Joe Bag he was the first one?

Andre: Yeah, to buy his own I guess.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Well Gilbert too, Gilbert Archie.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: That's two here. I think they're (?) that time. He had no nose, that guy? Yeah, no nose.

Ray: It got frozen off?

Andre: Rotten, I guess. Just sick, I think. Find some guy.

Ray: When did the, when did everyone move from Clear Lake to here?

Andre: Yeah one time there, this one here, the highway.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: Yeah as the highway come, when they made highway to this place, come from everybody, Clearwater...

Ray: Then they came over here, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Just come from here.

Ray: Did they bring their houses here?

Andre: Yeah. No they made them houses.

Ray: Or just make new ones, eh?

Andre: Yeah, new ones, new one house.

Ray: When was that about 1960?

Andre: I don't know.

Ray: 1963? Don't know, eh.

Andre: I don't know. I don't know might be sixty something, I guess. I didn't know everybody.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: This place.

Ray: How old are you now?

Andre: Me?

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Sixty-five and a half, I guess.

Ray: Sixty-five?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: So you were born 19...

Andre: 1915. Yeah.

Ray: And you live here all of your life?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: When you were a little boy where did you live at that time?

Andre: First time we come from La Loche.

Ray: You live in La Loche first?

Andre: Yeah, from La Loche. Just come from 1938, summer.

Ray: You came here.

Andre: Yeah, come from up there. I stayed here whole time, I go in here north and trapping.

Ray: Yeah. Where was your trap line?

Andre: Oh near Careen.

Ray: Careen Lake?

Andre: Yes, Careen Lake. A long way it was. Low too. Long time before in trapping.

Ray: Who made that winter road there? Somebody make it?

Andre: Yeah, the man, before long time.

Ray: And does the (?) clerk?

Andre: No.

Ray: No?

Andre: No.

Ray: Not John Pigeon?

Andre: It was a man, other man.

Ray: You don't know his name, eh?

Andre: Yeah, I did know. My dad came here at Joe Bag, I guess.

Ray: Joe Bag made that road, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Maybe he made it, Joe Bag, old Joe Bag. And made the road.

Ray: Yeah, up to Careen Lake, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: A winter road. So sometimes you went up there in the wintertime, by dog team?

Andre: In the wintertime just, that's only wintertime that one, the road.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: And in the December...

Ray: In December you went Long Lake, and then Pipe Lake, and then to Careen River, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Clearwater River.

Ray: And then up to Careen?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Careen Lake. Did you have a cabin up there, Careen Lake?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Yeah. So you stayed there every year, eh?

Andre: This place here, one place right here, I think, that's our place.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Our tourist camp.

Ray: Here, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Andre: Oh, that one here I didn't know, no (?) from here just place.

Ray: Up at the north part?

Andre: Virginia, Virginia River. Virginia River.

Ray: Virginia River?

Andre: Yeah. And stay here at my place. And trapped in the shack.

Ray: So you trapped all around there?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: So you had a big trap line?

Andre: Yeah. Boy, lots of place for it.

Ray: Yeah. A long way?

Andre: Yeah, lots of place. Yeah, nobody stay there trapping.

Ray: No?

Andre: Yeah, me alone, I tried it. It was before here a long time. Well, month and a half I stayed here. That's good, that's good hunting. Moose and hide would be, of course hide may be good.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Boy, these times were hard.

Ray: Not as many animals now, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Us old men. First time I was a young boy it was all right. Very good.

Ray: Yeah. You go fishing too on Careen Lake? You do some fishing?

Andre: Eh?

Ray: Did you fish on Careen Lake?

Andre: Yeah, sure, sure. Boy, lots of fish.

Ray: In the fall time you fished?

Andre: Yeah. In the fall time of year there's lots. As the winter, January, February, no fish.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: Go down.

Ray: Yeah. So you used to go up this way in the fall time, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: And you take your motor, and everything in the canoe?

Andre: Yeah, just bring pack it.

Ray: Do you take your dog team?

Andre: Yeah, the dog team's all right.

Ray: In the fall?

Andre: Yeah, in the fall.

Ray: Even when there's no snow?

Andre: No snow is all right.

Ray: They still pull it?

Andre: Yeah, six dogs is good. Six dog and (?) maybe.

Ray: And you put your canoe on the sleigh?

Andre: Yeah. Put the canoe on the sleigh, put a long stick, you know, long stick. Had to put in the canoe, none broken.

Ray: Yeah. No.

Andre: Yeah, canvas not broken. Yeah.

Ray: And the motor in there too?

Andre: Yeah, (inaudible) two engines, I think, four stick too. Up this side, for two, two this side -- none broken, nothing, no place. Motor put in our boat, (inaudible).

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Got two, it was all right.

Ray: It must be heavy for the dogs, eh?

Andre: Oh, it was all right with the dogs.

Ray: And they just pull it on the dry ground, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Put in the sticks someplace -- muskeg. Put in lots of sticks from here and across; that's easy.

Ray: So they run over the sticks?

Andre: Yeah. Easy.

Ray: You stay there all winter?

Andre: No. Before, first time, yeah. That old winter everyone stay here at this place.

Ray: Everyone did?

Andre: Yeah. Every month.

Ray: Oh every month.

Andre: Yeah, for me, my work from here. Because all the time around, around, around mine.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah. Yeah.

Ray: So your wife stayed here and you were up there, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Oh. She didn't go with you up there?

Andre: Sometimes yes, stay here at Careen, my wife too. Last time, there one time there winter, Careen, fishing.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: And fish in Careen here about two months, I think. Just fish that's all. They're hungry for me.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: My wife too, they're hungry, just alone fish. It was all right and stuff in the store, and the fishing. And that there month, first day here there is a hunting for moose, for me for winter.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Maybe February I think. We went there all day, I didn't see nothing, walking. Another day, another morning, boy, the morning high, lots of snow come. Be foot and a half, I guess, of snow had come at night. And the morning I'd go again. I came here after dinner, I see one moose, cow moose. I shoot. You shoot here three times. I kill a moose. Boy, lots of fat; that's good fat. A big moose, I eat good. My wife too.

Ray: That's good, eh?

Andre: Yeah, I eat good. I make it dry meat for my wife. I had good meat.

Ray: How do you make a dry meat? You cut it thin?

Andre: Yeah, cut, no hide. Not much hide. I put that down here and dried it.

Ray: And smoked?

Andre: Yeah, no, yeah as a can, you know. You know the can? And I put in this house on the stove, that's hot day, hot house. Yeah. I dried, easy dried.

Ray: Yeah. So it lasts a long while?

Andre: Oh I (inaudible) moose hide. Yeah, outside. And go in the side one, one, one place in the fire. This place too. Two place in the fire.

Ray: Two fires, eh?

Andre: Yeah, two fire. And make it moose hide dried. Go into bone here, I take that meat, you know, clean it. After the other side I make a four place in the fire.

Ray: Four?

Andre: Yeah, four place. This here, that's four place in the fire, make it right every time. Have to clean again the other side.

Ray: What kind of wood do you burn for the fire?  
Green wood?

Andre: No. Dry wood.

Ray: Just dry wood, eh?

Andre: Yeah dry wood.

Ray: And it smokes the hide, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Make it smoke, eh?

Andre: Yeah, smoke is all right. It's after smoke, just all dried, just cleans hide. You don't put any. There's one here grease, you know. This grease, that's mess. You put in this stick here, a hide, smoked from here, green.

Ray: Green, green wood?

Andre: Yeah. Last make it.

Ray: Yeah, last time, eh?

Andre: Yeah, last time. I make it good here the other side too. And put it in the water.

Ray: Put it in the water?

Andre: Yeah, put it in the water. It's wet here, the shank

is wet. Yeah. You put aside (?), you know.

Ray: You rub it?

Andre: Yeah. It was wet, that's good wet. Yeah, every make it. That's after here, tight.

Ray: How do you do that?

Andre: Put in the stick here. This one here is lined, the moose hide. Put another one, lot long stick. Put it here. Pull it tight, tight, tight, tight, tight.

Ray: You wring it out, eh?

Andre: Yeah, and it goes in the water.

Ray: Water goes out, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Because you going from here and the stick, that one put in hide tight. That one put it in just to here, just right, good. Yeah. See that's like a stock.

Ray: And you make clothes out of this?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Shirt, pants too?

Andre: Yeah, sure.

Ray: It's good and warm, eh?

Andre: Yeah, it's good.

Ray: And how did you, you remember in the old times when they used to fish?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Before they had nets?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: And you make a net?

Andre: Yeah. I make it for my wife.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: First net, yeah.

Ray: Can make it?

Andre: Yeah, they're tight, they're thick. That one here. Inch, you know, that one an inch. Yeah, three inch that side, I don't know might be four, five inch I think. Five inch. I

make it for my wife, tight. Make a net.

Ray: That's with string?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: He(?) to hang it up on a small string, net string.

Ray: You get that from the Bay?

Andre: Yeah. Stick here this high, five inch high stick, flat. Flat stick just pull it tight, make it tight. Match maybe ten, fifteen match, twenty match are medicated. Make long, long.

Ray: Do you remember a long time ago old people used to make the nets before, before they had string? Do you remember if they used to make it?

Andre: Well, some treaty, the treaty guy, they give you string.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: Treaty day, they'll give you string.

Ray: To make the nets with.

Andre: Yeah, some guy he'll give you a little bit, every guy. One family, one place, that guy he'll give you a little bit. He'll let half a net, he'll give you, cut it. About half a net long. You know here I see a first time come from here lots of fish in this lake.

Ray: This lake, Turnor Lake, eh?

Andre: Yeah, Turnor Lake. (inaudible) (\*Speaks in Chipewyan.) You know here the old time they'll pull whole kind of fish, eh. Yeah. Kill them, you know, put in here.

Ray: Stick fish, eh?

Andre: Yeah, they stick fish. Maybe ten, one stick.

Ray: Yeah, ten on one stick.

Andre: You know, I stay here, before the (inaudible), 1938 he'll come from La Loche. And at Christmas maybe, Christmas I go here, I get here and I fish. Some guy here, one guy who told me to go and get it for you, the fish, that blanket, they'll give you twenty fish. Twenty fish a blanket for me. Maybe a hundred, something I guess (inaudible). I've bring here twenty fish. In a day I get there. Boy, lots of fish, whole place high. Yeah. One place in La Loche I think it was

bought two thousand fish. Yeah, all in winter.

Ray: In the shed, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Inside the shack, eh?

Andre: Little shack. Little shack, and door too, small door. Boy, lots of fish. Good fish.

Ray: That's whitefish?

Andre: Only whitefish. Boy, good fish.

Ray: Good, eh?

Andre: Yeah. This time, no fish.

Ray: No?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Not now, eh?

Andre: Yeah, all gone.

Ray: I wonder why.

Andre: Fishing.

Ray: Too much fishing, eh?

Andre: Yeah, too much fishing.

Ray: That's commercial fishing, eh?

Andre: Yeah. The first fish that come up, I think, everything. No fish.

Ray: They took it all before, eh?

Andre: Yeah. There's no fish. Small fish this time, I guess that's all. Boy, at this time we had lots of catfish.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Lots of catfish.

Ray: Who used to buy the fish here?

Andre: Waite, Waite, Waite. First time Waite buys them.

Ray: He used to come up here in the cat-train to take the fish out?

Andre: Well they don't wrap it. They come from Buffalo with a boat.

Ray: Up there, eh? With a boat?

Andre: He had a boat in the summer. And at wintertime he comes snowbug. He had tractor too. Tractor had big sides, you know, buy some fish and put in here in the shaft, long shaft. (inaudible) dog they have horses, ten. Horses ten.

Ray: With the sled, eh? A big sled?

Andre: Yeah, and put in the caboose. Yeah, well buy some fish and put in here.

Ray: Lots of fish, eh?

Andre: Yeah, lots of fish.

Ray: He took it all out, eh?

Andre: Yeah. By snowbug, tractor around here.

Ray: Was that north of here too, Wasekamio too?

Andre: No, snowbug.

Ray: Snowbug, up to Wasekamio, eh?

Andre: Yeah, going around in the lake.

Ray: And north of there too?

Andre: Yeah, and north here, snowbug make a road.

Ray: Oh yeah, from here?

Andre: Yeah, Careen here to Descharme.

Ray: Up to Careen and Descharme?

Andre: Yeah, Careen had two road.

Ray: Two roads?

Andre: Yeah. This lake here Wasekamio to Descharme. One snowbug road can make it.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: To this place here, across. That one winter road, snowbug road.

Ray: Yeah. He made that road do you think? That Waite?

Andre: No.

Ray: No?

Andre: Yeah, it was Waite, I guess.

Ray: This one he went up to Descharme?

Andre: No, no, no.

Ray: Not to Descharme that way, eh?

Andre: Not here, maybe this way someplace, I guess.

Ray: Here, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Somewhere here?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: And he went up to Clearwater?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Oh yeah maybe here, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Up to this lake.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: And then up this way, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: And to Descharme that way?

Andre: Yeah, yeah.

Ray: Oh yeah. And then he had one road over here too, eh?  
This way?

Andre: No, it goes the other, the snowbug that one.

Ray: That one, eh?

Andre: Yeah, that one here. Snowbug.

Ray: Snowbug road up here, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: To Careen Lake?

Andre: Yeah, to the Careen Lake.

Ray: That was Waite? Waite fishing, eh?

Andre: Yeah, Waite. That one here Waite. Last time here Midgic.

Ray: Yeah, Johnny Midgic, eh?

Andre: Yeah, John Midgic. Best place in the winter, there's warm winter those days.

Ray: How much money did they pay you to do the fish?

Andre: Four cents.

Ray: Four cents?

Andre: Yeah, four cents.

Ray: Four cents a fish?

Andre: Eight fish, four cent.

Ray: Eight fish?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Four cents?

Andre: Yeah, four cents, four, goes by the weight.

Ray: Holy smokers!

Andre: Yeah, that's good money, eh?

Ray: Not much money, eh?

Andre: Good (?) weight, eh.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah. (laughs)

Ray: Four cents!

Andre: That big (?), four cents.

Ray: For eight fish?

Andre: Yeah, eight fish. Government, eh?

Ray: Yeah. Lots of people used to go out fishing for him?

Andre: Not much.

Ray: No.

Andre: Some guy here at Garson Lake, first time fishing.  
Guy, he had no net, no fishing -- trapping

(END OF SIDE A)

Andre: (\*Speaks in Chipewyan.) One time on La Loche before,  
this here priest from La Loche.

Ray: Father Ducharme?

Andre: No, La Loche.

Ray: Father Ducharme?

Andre: Yeah, Father Ducharme, and stay around La Loche.  
This come from (inaudible). Summertime, walking, the priest.

Ray: Walking? In the muskeg, everything?

Andre: Yeah, muskeg, everything, wherever, in the bush. Or  
sometime hot, he comes from the walking. No bullshit for me.

Ray: No.

Andre: Yeah. Yeah, I know I looked. Well somebody got here,  
sick here. Some guy he went and get it, the priest from La  
Loche. Just come by walking. And night and day the same time.

Ray: Is that right?

Andre: Yeah, that's right, just come from here.

Ray: In one day he walks from there?

Andre: Maybe two days.

Ray: He has to sleep, eh?

Andre: Yeah, that's crooked route here, big muskeg, lots of  
water, lots of mosquitoes too. Yeah, comes from priest.  
Strong chair, eh, before.(?)

Ray: Did he have a tent to sleep in, or just sleep  
outside?

Andre: I don't know, maybe no tent I think. No maybe  
mosquitoes bad.

Ray: Yeah, really. You grow up in La Loche when you were  
little boy, eh?

Andre: Who me?

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: You were in La Loche, eh?

Andre: From La Loche.

Ray: Who was your father? What's your father's name?

Andre: Jim Montgrand.

Ray: Jim Montgrand, eh?

Andre: Jim Montgrand, from La Loche, Descharme.

Ray: Yeah. Descharme, eh?

Andre: Yeah, Descharme. Just 1938 he just come from, first treaty, first days.

Ray: Why did you come here?

Andre: Eh?

Ray: Why did you come over here? Why did you come and live here? Why don't you live in La Loche?

Andre: From La Loche, yeah, my dad.

Ray: Did he come here?

Andre: No. Alone.

Ray: You came alone, eh?

Andre: Might come from alone, find it someplace, good place. I find it.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Just come alone. This good place. There's lots of fish here. I got here lots of, kill a moose. I eat good, I find good.

Ray: So you like this place, eh?

Andre: Yeah, I like a good place. I find this place. And I stay here.

Ray: Your dad, he used to trap in Descharme?

Andre: Not much. The first time 19 something, I guess, Descharme trapping my dad.

Ray: Yeah. All around there, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Up to Lloyd Lake too, maybe?

Andre: Maybe, maybe I don't know. Me, I trap in the Lloyd Lake.

Ray: You did?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Yeah. When was that, when you were young?

Andre: Yeah, young. Young guy too.

Ray: Who was with you at that time?

Andre: Well, 24 years get married from here.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Just 24, maybe some before long time here six, or ten years and (?). It was all right, maybe got no licence, no trapping licence. Everybody no licence before. 19, 19 -- I don't know a 19 -- buy some licence anybody. First time, first time here no licence.

Ray: For marriage, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Free, free selling furs. Buy to Hudson's Bay, buy some to Revillon, same thing. Got no licence. No payment in moose before.

Ray: Oh yeah. You just kill anything, eh?

Andre: Yeah. You can kill anything.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Duck too.

Ray: Any time, eh?

Andre: Yeah. No payment.

Ray: Springtime or anything, eh?

Andre: Yeah, anytime. As wintertime, summertime.

Ray: When was the first time they had to get a licence?

Andre: I don't know. I don't know.

Ray: You don't remember, eh?

Andre: I don't know when it was.

Ray: But it was good at that time?

Andre: Yeah, it was good. It was good.

Ray: Better like that, eh?

Andre: Yeah, it's better. This time here, this one the bull moose has good meat, fat, a little fat. Cow moose the same thing, skinny too, as a bull moose has a good meat. Yeah. Has a little bit of fat.

Ray: When you were trapping in Lloyd Lake, how do you get there?

Andre: You know here Bernard Clarke?

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: From La Loche?

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Along there Park, last summer die, eh, Edward Park.

Ray: Yeah, Edward Park.

Andre: Edward Park is long time here at Lloyd Lake and go in and trapping for me too.

Ray: At Lloyd Lake?

Andre: Yeah, Lloyd Lake. (inaudible).

Ray: You went this way? Up here?

Andre: That one, that's the Long Lake.

Ray: Long Lake and then Pipe Lake to Clearwater, and then you go up, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: How did you go up that way? Up to Clearwater?

Andre: Well, Clearwater...

Ray: Up the Descharme River?

Andre: Yeah, I took Descharme, Descharme River. This one. And oh we started from here. Up there now. Boy, a lot far here.

Ray: You went up to Lloyd Lake, eh?

Andre: Oh yeah. McFarlane Lake.

Ray: McFarlane Lake?

Andre: Yeah. McFarlane Lake.

Ray: You went there?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: That was with...

Andre: We come from this place here, alone he don't trap in McFarlane Lake.

Ray: Yeah?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: All the way?

Andre: Yeah. We went here and then Careen is straight now in the road, as the winter road, dog road, yeah.

Ray: From Careen up to where?

Andre: Yeah. Up along McFarlane Lake. You know here, McFarlane Lake that, now here another lake, Big Lake.

Ray: Yeah. Careen Lake, and...

Andre: McFarlane Lake.

Ray: Where's McFarlane Lake? There's Cree Lake, eh. You didn't go Cree Lake?

Andre: Cree Lake, eh.

Ray: Yeah. You went from Careen Lake up to, which was the next lake?

Andre: Dicks Lake.

Ray: Careen Lake to Dicks Lake?

Andre: Yeah, Dicks Lake.

Ray: Yeah. And then from Dicks Lake you went...

Andre: From Dicks Lake and then Brustad Lake.

Ray: Brustad Lake?

Andre: Brustad Lake, yeah. And then McFarlane Lake.

Ray: Up to McFarlane Lake?

Andre: Yeah. Go down north here, river. Go down north river.

Ray: You went there in the fall time?

Andre: Yeah, yeah.

Ray: All by the rivers, eh?

Andre: Yeah. And the winter before Christmas, going trapping before.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: We catch only trapping before, because that's all.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: We had no, nobody no job. No work, nothing.

Ray: Just trapping, eh?

Andre: Just trapping. Summer, fishing. That's all.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: No welfare, nothing. No income, nothing. No job.

Ray: So you have to work hard, eh?

Andre: Yeah, no job.

Ray: You went up to McFarlane Lake by dog team?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Or with a canoe?

Andre: Yeah, yeah.

Ray: With the canoe?

Andre: Yeah. (Inaudible) River too, go...

Ray: Pigeon River?

Andre: Paddle. Just come down here lots of time make it from...

Ray: How long did it take you to get from there?

Andre: Oh well, a long time. Sometimes nearly two months.

Ray: Two months to come down, eh?

Andre: No. No. I'm going here after Easter, I'm going here Noah.(?)

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Just come down here (?) River. Brustad Lake. And put a boat here and stay here. Put in boat here, me going a walking, hunting for beaver. Lots of place here you go now, that hunting fine. Just come from the boat, go in the (?) River. Come from here, river. And the Careen. Careen here, Clearwater River.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: From here.

Ray: Did lots of people go up that way?

Andre: Yeah. Yeah, last time. Last time lots of people. Boy lots of people.

Ray: Edward Park?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Jonas Clarke?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Other people too?

Andre: Yeah, more people. Boy, lots of place I know for me.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: I see lots of place. No way to Deschorme up there, place to...

Ray: Forrest Lake?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Patterson Lake?

Andre: From here over, all the places to north.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: No south, nothing.

Ray: Don't go south of here. Always north, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Always go north, the pole.

Ray: Yeah. That's the best place, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Yeah. (\*Talks in Chipewyan.) You know here before moose meat, that one along here, was the meat.

Ray: On the side?

Andre: Yeah. This track(?) has a woman.

Ray: A woman?

Andre: Yeah, the women make it track. They make it here. As a moose hide, making moccasins. Make a line that one here. Because a moose, long one here, just string, you know.

Ray: String?

Andre: Yeah, this string and make a track.

Ray: With the backbone, eh?

Andre: Yeah. The bone here a little bit they put the line.

Ray: And make it into string?

Andre: Yeah. That's right. My wife a long time before made it.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah.

Andre: (\*Talks in Chipewyan.) The last time here before, you know, here bull shit.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah, as the bull shit dried that smoked the house.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah, mosquitoes smells, you know.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: To make the mosquitoes go away, eh?

Andre: Yeah, and go outside, mosquitoes.

Ray: That's smart, eh.

Andre: Yeah. That's bull, bull shit. Cow shit, cow shit dried. You find it dried here. That smoke the house, this place before long time, eh.

Ray: There used to be cows here?

Andre: Yeah, yeah.

Ray: Bulls here?

Andre: Yeah. That's good, that's good medicine.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah. Mosquitoes medicine.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah sure, no bull shit. (both laughing) Sure.

Ray: That's good, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: How do you burn it, in the stove?

Andre: No, no, no -- frying pans.

Ray: Frying pan?

Andre: Yeah. Some plate too.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah, big smoke here. They would go up.

Ray: Make the mosquitoes go up?

Andre: Yeah. (inaudible)

Ray: That's really good. (inaudible)?

Andre: Yeah. Good. (\*Talks in Chipewyan.) Too much time, church. (Chipewyan) Yeah, that's the last time before church. Everybody would come from the priest to Ducharme, Father Ducharme stayed here. Through his time, all in church, everybody.

Ray: Everybody come, eh?

Andre: Yeah, everybody come. Wears a hat, (inaudible).

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah. And a wagon. The dog here tied too, on here.

Ray: Dog pack, eh?

Andre: Yeah. His guide too. Yeah. Today you go back?

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah. Yeah. (\*Speaks in Chipewyan.) I got no blanket before for me.

Ray: Yeah?

Andre: You know, her long coat, eh? My blanket.

Ray: That's your blanket?

Andre: Yeah, that my blanket.

Ray: You sleep with that, eh?

Andre: (Inaudible) another jacket (inaudible), mosquitoes bad. Yeah, it was a hard time before.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Where do you get the blanket from?

Andre: No blanket.

Ray: No.

Andre: Yeah, just like a dog for me before. First times for me.

Ray: You were poor, eh?

Andre: Yeah, tough.

Ray: Tough life, eh?

Andre: Yeah, tough. Hay, hay bale, like that.

Ray: Like a stack.

Andre: They make it stack, they were four. One night I sleep here for me. Put in hay, you know.

Ray: Put hay all over you, eh?

Andre: All over, hay.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah, I sleep. My daddy, my mother, step-mother, you know. My mother died, died. Dad is married again. My mother go throw outside, for me, mother.

Ray: Really?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: She didn't like you?

Andre: Yeah, daddy I didn't get it. Going to find me something here, I find the hay. When put in here that hay, all over.

Ray: And you sleep in the hay, eh?

Andre: Yeah, all over the place, I slept. Mom, mom's all right, I'm hungry.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Boy, and in the morning I go my home for me. I'm scared, boy.

Ray: Your step-mother didn't like you, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: No. She's too jealous, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Oh boy.

Andre: Well, those times hard, boy. Hard man last time, got no heart (inaudible).

Ray: Just didn't care, eh?

Andre: Anybody, some guy big heart, you know, no small heart last time. (laughs).

Ray: When you used to go up north, did you have a tent, or you sleep outside?

Andre: Yeah, an old Park is good. (?) here we got a tent, you know, stove, big blanket that (?) me. One place had good home. Pants, shirt, underwear, parka. That's good.

Ray: When you were young you used to go?

Andre: Young. Maybe eleven, thirteen, I think.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah, right. A leader, dog leader for me. Dog here, for me walking leader.

Ray: You used to walk in front of the dogs?

Andre: No, dog this side, me a leader.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: Boy, lots of time.

Ray: He used to pull the dogs?

Andre: No.

Ray: Or walk in front?

Andre: Walking.

Ray: You cut the trail, eh?

Andre: Yeah. The stick cutting from here and making the trail.

Ray: You would make the trail.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: It's hard work walking that far, eh?

Andre: Yeah. A lake here around strong. No ice, not strong, ice, around here.

Ray: You have to go around it, eh?

Andre: Yeah, around.

Ray: You feel it with a stick?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: To see if it's thick?

Andre: With a stick, yeah. Ice get cut here about six inch it was all right, good, good ice, six inch.

Ray: Did you used to have steel traps at that time?

Andre: Eh?

Ray: Did you have steel traps that time?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: What about long time before?

Andre: Before long time they trap, stick trap, you know.

Ray: Stick trap?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: How did you make that?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: How did you make a stick trap?

Andre: Well, stick trap I know, I made it.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Can you tell me how?

Andre: Aren't you here before you stay here, no?

Ray: No, not here, La Loche.

Andre: La Loche and Descharme, eh?

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: One teacher, one make it in the bush for me, stick trap.

Ray: It's like this?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: With sticks?

Andre: And make like that. Stick straight going to (?) in the bush.

Ray: Around the...

Andre: Yeah, around here.

Ray: A circle, eh?

Andre: Yeah, there's a door here for them. That one here, good here put in here, in the bush. This one here too. That one is not, not long stick here, but put in here.

Ray: You put it across, eh?

Andre: Yeah, good tight, good put in here.

Ray: On the ground?

Andre: Yeah, on the ground.

Ray: One across on the ground, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Yeah, around here and the stick again.

Ray: But that's above that, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: About a foot above it, eh?

Andre: Yeah. That high here. It's a marten trap.

Ray: A marten trap?

Andre: Yeah. A long stick here. You put it here. Another one make a shaft, that one up there, that here. Not long here, stick here, I put it here. Long that one. Put it tight here on the side and hide, and the house is inside.

Ray: Yeah, inside, eh?

Andre: Yeah, inside.

Ray: But stick it across, eh?

Andre: Yeah, maybe some meat, dog, fish meat, as a meat I put in here. That one lasted there that one, tight. Here marten come from here, put in house.

Ray: He goes underneath?

Andre: Yeah, from here, and stick here -- other side down, put it down tight.

Ray: He comes in, and then he eats the fish, eh?

Andre: Yeah, same thing is all right.

Ray: And what makes it go down? There's a string on, on the meat?

Andre: No, no, no string. No string, no nails.

Ray: He eats the meat?

Andre: Yeah, he eats the meat.

Ray: And it knocks the stick?

Andre: Yeah, the stick here this side. Stick here this side goes down here. This side, stick.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah, I put that down, long stick down.

Ray: It knocks it down, eh?

Andre: Yeah, down. Tight. This here, this here, this here food. Yeah, tight. Died.

Ray: Yeah, they'd get stuck there, eh?

Andre: Yeah, get stuck in the winter, cold and died.

Ray: Yeah, that's a good trap that one, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Same kind of trap for lynx too?

Andre: Yeah. Weasel too.

Ray: Even weasel, even bear too, eh?

Andre: Yeah, bear too. Big trap you got bear, big stick.

Ray: Yeah. And for the beaver, how did you hunt a beaver?

Andre: I don't know about that, I don't know.

Ray: You don't remember, eh?

Andre: Yeah. Sometimes winter it was cool, winter, all the place here, beaver place.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: All in froze from here, just house a long house here. Yeah, the house broken everything, everything broken here. You go through here -- there's a beaver, no place. No place around here. They're scared.

Ray: No beaver around here, eh?

Andre: Yeah, no place, beaver place. Just come from the house.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Just no here, maybe, maybe I don't know, something...

Ray: Break the houses?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: With the chisel maybe.

Andre: Yeah, maybe chisel, maybe I put in bag here. Bone I think, bone. Moose bone this size here, long, you know.

Ray: You use the moose bone eh?

Andre: Yeah, that one.

Ray: The leg bone?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: To break it?

Andre: Yeah. Just like he shoot.

Ray: And they break the house and catch the beaver in...

Andre: No, no the beaver, there's a beaver, no house, there's a beaver. House in axe, you know. Cut it with an axe. Yeah, house broke, everything.

Ray: And then there's a beaver inside, you stick it with the bone?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: It's a sharp one on the end?

Andre: Yeah. Yeah, sure.

Ray: Yeah, it's got a hook on?

Andre: No.

Ray: No. Just straight, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: And it's got a long stick on it?

Andre: Yeah, a stick. Yeah long stick here put it here. Die eh, the beaver. Died, I take the beaver.

Ray: Yeah. So the bone is about this long, eh?

Andre: Yeah, long.

Ray: And then you tie it onto a stick?

Andre: Yeah, yeah.

Ray: With a hide?

Andre: No, that one here, on the stick. The bone from here. Cut in here, stick put in bone, just tied.

Ray: Bone on the bottom, tie it around, yeah.

Andre: Yeah, that's all.

Ray: So then stick it in the beaver, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Pull them out, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Throw them on the ice?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: Sometimes he's alive still?

Andre: Yeah, the hands there, died, I take his hands.

Ray: Oh yeah.

Andre: My boy here one, this one, I kill two beaver.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah, there's a house broke it.

Ray: Yeah.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: He did this?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: He killed it. That's good, eh?

Andre: Yeah. I sell them \$50. One beaver \$30, another one \$20. Fifty dollars.

Ray: And in the old days, how did you used to dry the beaver?

Andre: On a hot day, one day, I got plywood. Go and put it in there, you know.

Ray: Plywood, yeah.

Andre: Yeah, put in there. Before here, stick stretcher, you know. Ball Stretcher, long stick.

Ray: Yeah, that's a willow?

Andre: Yeah. Put in ball.

Ray: A circle, yeah.

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: And you tie it?

Andre: Yeah, tied moose.

Ray: With the moose hide?

Andre: Yeah. No beaver hide.

Ray: Beaver hide? And you tie it with a string, eh?

Andre: Yeah.

Ray: All the way around the circle?

Andre: Yeah, the ball.

Ray: And you hang it up in the, outside?

Andre: Yeah, until it dries. Everything, this hide dried, turn it over. Fast dried. Plywood -- no fast dried. Just one side here is (?)...

(END OF SIDE B)

(END OF TAPE)

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