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Title: Kikuno Goi - Mitsuo Goi Interview
Narrators: Kikuno Goi, Mitsuo Goi
Interviewer: Anna Takada
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<Begin Segment 4>

- AT: 14:19 So that, that second place you named, was that an assembly center? Did you, did you go to an assembly center?
- KG: 14:27 Was, yeah, in February, May that's the assembly center. Yeah. Camp. That's the largest camp. Yeah, Tule Lake, the called it Tule Lake used to be a lake I think.
- MG: 14:46 You know what, they segregate some loyal to this country, some loyal to Japan. Some went to Japan some sent back to Japan. Some loyal and stayed.
- KG: 15:03 Yeah, that's how it was, you know, Tule Lake is by the thing. So anybody who aren't loyal to America, they gotta go back. So I know some people went back, they said, uh, I said, oh, I wanted to go back to Japan cause you know, I just came here a few months ago. But they said no. The social workers said no, because my brother up there and only, I have my, you know, American citizen, so uh.
- AT: 15:30 So how, how did they know about loyalty?
- KG: 15:37 Oh, they had a big things. Yeah.
- AT: 15:41 So what, what things, how did?
- KG: 15:44 Oh, they had a like you know, like, uh, office, you, uh, uh, your, you want to, you know, you want to choose America or either Japan. That's when they segregated and they Japan, they just shipped them back. And uh, Ameri, you know, even though this, uh, young men's born in, um, born in America and was citizen, because they were Japanese American, they don't trust them. Yeah. That's why they have to, I know I got the movie, you know, you, when, they had to go through all this so many times, young men, throw the American citizenship. Said I'm going to,

you know, even though they are American citizen, they didn't trust the Nisei, so they have to, you know, pledge that I'm going to, yeah. That's the way it was.

MG2: 16:45 Move your hat. We can't see your eyes.

KG: 16:45 Oh, sorry. Yeah.

MG: 16:45 She and I met, 61 years we've been married.

AT: 16:58 Wow, congratulations.

MG: 16:58 Can you imagine that?

KG: 17:01 Can you imagine that? Yeah.

MG: 17:05 After, I met her after I came back from service. My roommate was her brother was, you know, in the same building, you know apartment.

KG: 17:25 Gave me a hard time.

MG: 17:25 Only three years a difference. What was it? 80?

KG: 17:31 I'm 88.

MG: 17:32 I'm an 92. This is my son. My daughter's over there too. This uh, I got two. Mitsuo doing okay. I got two kids.

KG: 17:45 Yeah. You know

MG: 17:46 They speak perfect English like my English is all jumbo mumbo. Good thing I had three years in the camp. Otherwise I would be completely washing dishes.

MG2: 18:02 But we don't speak Japanese. We know, benjo wa dokodesu, where's the toilet?

KG: 18:05 Yeah.

MG2: 18:05 That's the only thing I know in Japanese. Take move, move your hat so I can see your face.

MG: 18:11 Luckily though.

KG: 18:11 You know, it's uh.

MG: 18:12 I'm amazed myself. I'm able to live this long. my family no one live over 90. Youngest live to 86 or something around there, you know. And we have to, 92. We now in Japan, 12 years total, at 12 years. But when I was in grammar school. When I was younger, I was sick, sick every year, Japan, you know. But after I get, get, 12 years old. I don't get sick no more, after that, after now. Japan, Japan 12 years.

MG2: 19:00 Lean, lean this way. Lean closer to dad.

KG: 19:03 Yeah.

MG2: 19:03 Lean that way.

KG: 19:05 You know, uh, Michael was telling me how the Japanese soldiers, Nisei, Nisei: Go For Broke and uh, that's really tell you what's, really happened. You know, don't sign up.

MG: 19:22 She, she's about 17 parents, no, you know. Her parents died young. My father's, lived to 65. My mother was 86. Died in Japan.

KG: 19:42 So

MG: 19:42 Yeah, it's a long life you know.

AT: 19:45 And so you left Tule Lake for Amache?

MG: 19:49 Huh?

AT: 19:50 You left Tule Lake and went to Amache?

KG: 19:53 No, Amache to Tule Lake.

MG: 19:56 Amache

KG: 19:56 He was in Amache.

MG: 19:57 Amache is, Amache is in Colorado. When they segregate, loyal and disloyal. Loyal and disloyal. Loyal to this country. Most dis, loyal to Japan, sent back to Japan.

KG: 20:14 I don't know how many people went back to Japan, but I know, I know a couple of girls, she said they were going back. I said, oh, I want to go back, because I just came a few months ago. But I was very unhappy. I didn't know anybody. So what they ask is, you know, social worker. So at that time, they, uh, they moved

me to the, this minister's place, and I stayed at there, they're separate, you know, there was this one, you know. So I was moved to Idaho.

AT: 20:47 Minidoka.

KG: 20:47 Idaho, Minidoka, yeah. And then my, uh, Episcopal priest became my guardian again. So, you know, I was still on edge. Oh you know, you need a tonsil. I had a real bad tonsil, tonsil, you know. So I said okay. So I had a tonsil surgery there. So, you know, I had so many and everything.

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