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Title: Ben Chikaraishi Interview
Narrator: Ben Chikaraishi
Interviewer: Anna Takada
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<Begin Segment 4>

AT: 00:21:16 And- so can you tell me a little bit more about when the evacuation orders went out for, for you and your, your family? Where, what were the instructions and where- what was the process like?

BC: 00:21:35 Well, I guess- we got the same instructions by that Order of 9066 that we had one week to, to take care of your business and everything, try to sell all- as much as you can, although the government would have facilities where was- for a- keeping your- belongings, but nobody believed what the, the government would do because we have no idea. And so most people during that one week they had to sell whatever they could and it would, and, and, and in most cases, people waited until the last day or so, and they bought things like sewing machines, automobiles and- and, and things that you cannot carry. We had orders of what you could bring to the, what they call the assembly centers at that time. And, and, as far as we were concerned, we had a hotel and it was a lease hotel, so we didn't own the building, and we- our property was the furnishings, all the finishings in the hotel and and we were trying to sell it, but then we found a friend that said, they came over and said, I'll take over the lease for you. And he said, "You pay us so much per month," you know. So then we were happy that, that he would be taken care of and resolved. We thought- we thought he was a friend of ours, so to speak that with quotations, we found out. We got, we were in Rohwer? He sent us money for about six months and then all of a sudden it stopped and, and you find out that he would not bring, send any money at all. And there was nothing we could do as far as the government is concerned because they have no facilities or organizations to help you. And so that was that for us. And when the war start, ended, my brother went to- back to the hotel to, to see what's the situation was, it was everything was

in ruins because they hadn't replaced anything. And so, so, so
we just lost everything we had.

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