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Title: Joe Takehara Interview
Narrator: Joe Takehara
Interviewer: Anna Takada
Location:
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<Begin Segment 17>

- AT: 01:15:45 And when did you start getting involved in Aikido?
- JT: 01:15:48 I got involved in Aikido in '62, '60, I really don't know. There was a different date on it.
- JT: 01:15:49 But after high school?
- AT: 01:15:49 After high school. A story about, I tell you a story about my friends on the West Side, you know, I used to hang out with them. We used to go to Maxwell Street, and they used to, they used to have things to sell. But I was never with them when they got ahold of these things, you might say. Yeah we used to go [inaudible] Come on man, you want a bike? And I says, no. I knew where the bike was going to come from. And he had a bike with a motor on it. It was unusual. He had that once, so he had all these kind of things, he'd somehow picked up. But then the story when I was in college, he got in trouble. Anyway he ended up in jail. I don't know if it was him or his friend, I think was another guy, but I knew, well I didn't care for. He's, I thought he was very bad guy anyway. So anyway, he ended up in prison because he killed somebody. It was a long story, but he was a guy that used to protect me. And I remember when I was young in high school, he'd come be in a car and dad's car or something. He showed me a gun, he said look at this Joe and stuff like that. So you can see the type of people that befriended me. But uh, I felt close with him all the time because they're the one that really only, you know, were my friends, like the Mexican guy that I worked for at the Bismarck Hotel, he got me a job and we used to hang out with him. We used to go to 12th Street Beach and that time it was about early, the street car that it was called 12th Street Beach, up there, we used to go swimming off the aquarium on that side. That's if they were never paid, was a hanging on the edge of the street car until a conductor would see us and we'd get off and go on to the next

one. But that's one of the things we did. We used to go swimming there.

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