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Title: Ryoko Kobayashi Interview
Narrator: Ryoko Kobayashi
Interviewer: Anna Takada
Location:
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<Begin Segment 5>

- AT: 00:23:30 And you're so your father left before your family?
- RK: 00:23:35 Yeah.
- AT: 00:23:35 And found the, the job and the apartment. Um, what job did he find?
- RK: 00:23:42 He was working for a school supply. I can't remember the name, but uh, in all the school or tablets and books, I think whatever school supply the furnished. And uh, my mother was at home yet, but then she got a job working for auto lamp I think was the name. They all with the Issei women, they form a little group. And my older brother was in the army that time and my younger brother going to, uh, school yet. And, uh
- AT: 00:24:26 Which school did he go to?
- RK: 00:24:29 Let's see, what was it? I can't remember the name now. High School. Um, he would go then he got a scholarship. And he went to art institute, but I can't remember the name of the high school.
- AT: 00:24:46 And your older brother, um, so was he drafted or?
- RK: 00:24:55 Yes, uh huh, he was, uh, going to go to Europe and uh, the war was still going on. It wouldn't, they shipped him to go to uh, ready to go on board to go Europe. The war ended. So he was then he said, then we're going to ship you to Japan. So when he was going to go to Japan, same thing happened. The war ended. So they sent him, how to say, they sent him to MIS School to be a translator and to learn more Japanese and talk to right and speak. And then that's how he went to Japan as a translator. And, I don't know how long he was there. Maybe two years or so.

AT: 00:25:44 And, do you remember your, your feelings or reactions to him joining?

RK: 00:25:54 Him joining? No, because, uh, I feel he's drafted so he can't do anything, but I felt kind of proud that he had an American uniform on. And, uh, he met, he met all our relatives, and he was able to help them with food and cigarettes and whatever they need. So, um, I, I said that you know, somebody is there from us, our family, it is good because they could help out and uh, whatever comes up, he could go to the army headquarters somewhere, help, help the people out. And um, both my cousin, the first cousin, second cousin, they, they kind of went for him because he was, he was kind of good looking, you know, how it is with uniform. So when I went to Japan, she said, gee, your brother was good looking, I said, but uh.

AT: 00:26:56 And did he come back to Chicago?

RK: 00:26:58 Yes, he came, came back to Chicago. For a while he worked, I don't know where he worked but uh, he got married. So he and his wife with one child, the first child they went to California and now I think Los Angeles. And then they moved to Orange County, then they went to Oceanside. And, mmm, that's where they both passed away. And so, uh, both my brothers gone. I'm the only, and my parents are gone. So I'm the only one left of the Kobayashi family. And I see 91 years old and oh gosh. My father was 99 and a half. He was waiting to be a hundred, but he didn't make it. But uh.

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