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Title: Tonko Doi Interview
Narrator: Tonko Doi
Interviewer: Anna Takada
Location: Chicago, Illinois
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<Begin Segment 4>

Speaker 4: 00:11:49 Okay. Um, so just to, I guess moving forward, um, kind of chronologically. Um, so you, you were born the day before Pearl Harbor.

TD: 00:12:09 Correct.

AT: 00:12:09 Was attacked. Um, and from, it sounds like you've, you've had some conversations with, with your family and, or you have a good sense of your family's background.

TD: 00:12:24 Yes.

AT: 00:12:24 Um, so was there any kind of storytelling in your family or stories that you've heard about, um, the bombing of Pearl Harbor or kind of what happened within your family? Your parents when that happens?

TD: 00:12:39 Because, um, the date of my birth, December 6th was before the day before Pearl Harbor and I was in a hospital in Boyle Heights, White Memorial Hospital. And when my Auntie, my father's sister and my father wanted to come to visit us in the hospital, uh, on the way home there was a blackout. Uh, so they were stranded. Everything had to stop, no headlights on the cars. It was nighttime. So my father said he and my auntie stayed in the car all night until it was daylight and they were able to drive again. Um, now when my, when they, the notice came up, um, December, uh, February 19th of 1944 and President Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. Uh, my father and us, his family, my father's brother who lived in Venice, California, moved to Stanton to live with another brother. Now, how they knew that to do that, maybe they wanted to be together. You know, they did. Maybe they didn't know that you would be evacuated together. But as a, because of that move, we all went to the same two camps. We went to

Santa Anita in May and then we left for Rohwer, Arkansas in October of 1942.

- AT: 00:14:24 Um, and, um, going back, I, so I'm curious, um, because I would imagine your mother was probably still in the hospital the day that Pearl Harbor was attacked.
- TD: 00:14:42 Yes.
- AT: 00:14:43 Um, did she ever say anything about, um, maybe her own reactions or changes that might've taken place after the bombing?
- TD: 00:14:53 I think that in the hospital maybe she really didn't know, you know, what was going on until maybe a couple of days later. Um, but you know, there were a lot of Japanese people in that hospital, nurses, doctors, patients because it was in Boyle heights, which is a Japanese community. And, uh, I'm sure there was fear, but she never expressed fear herself.

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