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Oral History Project Collection
Title: Susumu Mukushina Interview
Narrator: Susumu Mukushina
Interviewer: Anna Takada
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AT: You said that your, your father had some prominence. Do you know why or how he would have

know why of how he would have

SM: 00:29:39 Well, in Japanese culture they don't like to talk about their

accomplishments. They just don't, you know. Um, uh, I remember growing up as a, as a child, as a kid, I knew a lot of people who serve on in 442nd, Go for Broke Regiment. And they were pretty, they were pretty humble guy, Hawaiian non-Hawaiian, you know. And, and I would say things like, well, did you have to shoot someone, you know, how kids talk, they will never talk about it. Naw, I was war and things were kind of messy. And they'll change topics, right away--hey how are the Cubs doing? Something like that, you know. Um, the plaque that I donated to the society there, um, it was given. Oh, um, the back of the uh, the, uh, the plaque, is the name of the person

who donated it, you know,

AT: <u>00:30:34</u> Can you, before we go on, just, can you describe the plaque

you're talking about?

SM: 00:30:37 Yeah, it's, it's a one plaque, I'll say it's about two, two and a half

feet like this, and maybe about eight, 10 inches solid wood software, balsa wood and some personal skills have made a picture of a the camp and Heart Mountain in the background. And he gave it to my father as a gift. He said thank you very much for what you did. And my father would never tell me. I said, what, what did you do? You know how kids are, you know. And my father would say, it was really nothing. It was nothing. Nothing. But it was nothing. If you've seen the plaque it's more than a nothing, more than a nothing. And so, um, uh, so on, back of the, uh, of the plaque, you see the exact date on there and the person who, uh, who donated that, and one days I's like to photograph the back of that plaque when this exhibit is over. But uh in camp. There was no, I don't think, I don't think money

was allowed. So everything was kind of bartered and he was,

my father was given that the plaque in Heart Mountain and it hung on our home for years. So we just took for granted, you know, until later in life I saw the problem and solve that and I saw the wood, began to see cracks in the wood and I was not ah, I wanted the wood to be preserved so that it wouldn't fall apart. Then I, that's when I called Jean, Jean Yashima and um, uh, with great sorrow, I gave it to her, but I knew that she would take care of it.

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