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Title: Kathy Yamaguchi Interview
Narrator: Kathy Yamaguchi
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
Location: San Francisco, California
Date: June 15, 2011
Densho ID: ddr-densho-1021-1-5

<Begin Segment 5>

NW: Well, speaking of Japanese doctors though, do you think then, I was actually asking, I was present at the press conference this morning and I heard Dr. . . .?

KY: Yanagida [phonetic]

NW: Yanagida spoke about the history of his involvement, and I was thinking, looking around the room, and I noticed, there are middle-aged doctors, Japanese doctors from Hiroshima but younger doctors as well. I was wondering what motivates them to choose to come.

KY: Well, from what I gather, they're always told, whenever you ask them, they, they're told they . . . usually the doctors is a bunch of younger ones. There's usually two or three older ones and the rest are really young.

NW: Right

KY: You say "why are you here?" and they says "my boss told me to come."

NW: Oh.

KY: So, I, I have the feeling that in Japan, you know, who's ever the professor, who's ever the medical professor . . .

NW: Right.

KY: . . . tells whoever he wants 'You're going on this trip.'

NW: Well, so then, the, what about the senior professors' motivation to . . .

KY: They, it that may be their area of interest. Plus, it's a great trip; they get to go shopping!

NW: [laughs]

KY: I mean . . .

NW: It's San Francisco! That's after all, that's one of their destinations.

KY: Absolutely! I mean, they, they've, yeah, yeah, they've, they, they, when they're not working, and they work really hard when they're working. They, they're going shopping!

NW: They do.

KY: They're shop-ping! And . . .

NW: I haven't thought about it, but I'm sure they do.

KY: They work really hard, but . . .

NW: Now, do they come with their own family members or do they just come?

KY: Nope! So, so, so, you know, initially, they used to come for four weeks. One team would do all four cities.

NW: Right, four locations, right.

KY: But then and that was extremely tiring and I think extremely stressful on the families.

NW: Right, right.

KY: So then they split it into two, they made it into two weeks.

NW: Do you know anything about how Hiroshima and Nagasaki Prefectures' Medical Associations might do different kinds of work. I know . . . at this time.

KY: I don't know.

NW: Do you mostly work with Hiroshima team then?

KY: They're most, they're mostly from Hiroshima.

NW: Right.

KY: Yeah

NW: right, right. But I heard that actually Yanagida was saying that, well, there was – there is medical association who sends out team of doctors to South Korea. And he was also in North Korea for twice.

KY: Well, there's one, there's a group that goes to South America.

NW: Right. That's right, yeah. And that it started out, yeah . . .

KY: So another group. Another group.

NW: So, it looks like there are numerous groups that are . . .

KY: Yeah, there's . . .

NW: . . . working outside the Japanese government.

KY: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

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