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Naoko Wake Collection of Oral Histories of US Survivors of the Atomic Bombs Collection
Title: Matsuko Hayashi Interview
Narrator: Matsuko Hayashi
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
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<Begin Segment 26>

NW: Is there anything that you hope to see? Is there anything that you feel frustrated or anything that you think needs to be improved?

MH: I'm 91.

NW: Mhm.

MH: Years old.

NW: Mhm.

MH: I'm just through it. Everything. [chuckles]

NW: Yeah.

MH: Just day-by-day.

NW: Yeah. Mm. So you don't necessarily have any strong feelings about anything?

MH: No.

NW: Mhm.

MH: I'd like to see the young people . . . Well, to help the people.

NW: Mhm.

MH: Everybody in this . . .

NW: Mhm ... Now speaking of helping young people, you mentioned earlier how . . .

MH: Yeah.

NW: —you're—you, wanted your child to go to the health check-up, right?

MH: Yeah, the—they're, everybody worry about themselves.

NW: Uh-huh.

MH: You don't have to worry. They do that.

NW: Oh, but don't you think that—Okay, so you want them to have this opportunity to see Hiroshima doctors, right? You'd like that?

MH: Well their language, she, ah . . . They don't—they speak Japanese and, it's hard for them to comprehend anything.

NW: Uh-huh. So . . .

MH: They're, they're . . .

NW: . . . they don't go anymore. You're children don't go see . . .

MH: No.

NW: Hiroshima doctors . . .

MH: No.

NW: . . . hmm. But they once did? Just one time? Your child?

MH: My—my daughter.

NW: Your daughter.

MH: Yeah. And she went one—the first time.

NW: Yeah.

MH: Cause they . . . They are the second generation.

NW: Yeah, right. But she didn't come back?

MH: No.

NW: Again?

MH: Well, she's . . . She was busy raising family.

NW: Mhm.

MH: So.

NW: Mhm. Does she have outside work as well? Oh, the—the minister.

MH: The . . .

NW: Oh, that's right.

MH: Minster.

NW: Right, right. Yeah . . . So . . .

MH: She was, she was a lawyer and then housewife and now . . . The . . .

NW: Right.

MH: Kids are all working, so.

NW: Mhm. Mhm. So, do you have any hopes for the kids' generation? Future generation? Things that you hope . . .

MH: I just want them to be happy. That's all.

NW: Mhm.

MH: Happy and comfortable.

NW: Mhm. Now, you talk to people about your experience as a survivor, and . . .

MH: Unless they ask, I—I don't . . .

NW: Yeah, right. Right. But, um, you know, one thing that many survivors nowadays worry is that people forgetting about the bomb. Or, people are, uh, not thinking about, uh, survivors, because . . . Well first, to begin with, to bring Hiroshima doctors to have them do the medical health check-up for American . . .

MH: Uh-huh.

NW: . . . survivors. Many people really work hard to make that happen.

MH: Oh, yeah.

NW: Right? So . . .

MH: That's all extra work.

NW: Right.

MH: Mhm.

NW: But—but then, I think the problem is that because the number of survivor, it's—survivors itself is going down . . .

MH: Yeah, really . . .

NW: . . . because . . .

MH: . . . going down.

NW: Right. Yeah. So how do you feel about that? I mean . . .

MH: Mm, nothing . . .

NW: . . . there might not be, there might not be medical check-up anymore, or . . .

MH: Yeah.

NW: There may not—people might not even know anything about the bomb.

MH: Yeah.

NW: How do—do you worry about that?

MH: No, that's beyond my . . .

NW: Do you think people . . . Yeah?

MH: That's beyond my thing.

NW: Mm.

MH: I got too much worry . . . To worry about those things.

NW: Mm. You got too much worries to worry about those things?

MH: No, everyday life's trying to make a living, and . . .

NW: Mhm.

MH: They've got enough worries instead of making more.

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