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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 Location: San Jose, California Date: June 3, 2012

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<Begin Segment 5>

NW: So, uh, tell me a little bit about your mother then. Uh, you said that she was also originally born in Japan . . .

MH: Uh-huh.

NW: ... but came to the States as uh, a picture bride.

MH: Picture...

NW: Do, you—yeah, so, um . . .

MH: Yeah, mother used to say, you know, uh, I ask her, how come she's able to come and get married to somebody, that she never met . . .

NW: Met. Right.

MH: And she-she was saying if she didn't like the guy, she was gonna run away.

NW: [laughter]

MH: [laughter]. She, she was kinda tom-boy, too, you know.

NW: Yeah, yeah.

MH: But he was so good—good to her, and . . .

NW: Mm.

MH: ... really took good ... Family was always first for him.

NW: Yeah, yeah. Yeah. So, um, when your father came to the States at the age of 16 . . .

MH: Mhm.

NW: ... first, do you think that he planned to stay here for long time, or do you think ...

MH: Well . . .

NW: ... that he planned to go back?

MH: There were brothers, five brothers in Japan.

NW: Uh-huh.

MH: And, and didn't nobody have jobs, so . . .

NW: Oh.

MH: They were just trying to feed themselves and . . .

NW: Mhm.

MH: . . . you know, he just, Hiroshima de ha, having a hard time.

NW: Mhm.

MH: So, I guess all the boys that's able to work—they came to America.

NW: Mm. Okay. Mm, so he just thought that, well, I will try to be successful.

MH: Well, he wanted to go to school, but then the brother made him work, and . . .

NW: Mhm.

MH: ... and they finally were able to make enough money.

NW: Mhm.

MH: And the older brother went back, to, took the family and went back to Japan.

NW: Mm. Mhm. Yeah, yeah . . .

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