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Title: Junji Sarashina Interview  
Narrator: Junji Sarashina  
Interviewer: Naoko Wake  
Location: San Jose, California  
Date: June 6, 2012  
Densho ID: ddr-densho-1021-5-21

**<Begin Segment 21>**

NW: Why do you keep on being so active for this organization for American survivors? I mean, I understand what prompted you first, but then you kept on going, and not everybody does it. What would be the interest that kept you going?

JS: I think it's the family tradition, being a son of a church, I am the youngest one there, but. The people of the village, they were so kind to you, you know. They like you so much, they treat you as, you're a part of their family. Because their grandparents, and their grandfather, and grandmother, and all, everybody was together with the church, for many, many generations. And then, they think that oh, it's a family. So, I was raised, with the surrounded with the people that's so nice to me, all my life, from Hawai'i to Hiroshima. And they always bring in *matsutake* or things like that, oh, they bring, we got beautiful *kabocha*, so they bring . . .

NW: Are you talking about survivors? Or are you talking about people in the Buddhist church?

JS: In the Buddhist church.

NW: I'm asking you about the reason why you kept your interest in survivors group?

JS: Okay, that's how I was raised, when I was young.

NW: Okay, sorry.

JS: And, that's how I was raised, and then I found out about this A-bomb survivors' group, and I got involved. I say, they needed a little bit more help, given what's going on now. Financial reasons, the way [it was] set up, that's not the proper way to run the organization.

NW: Oh yeah, you looked at their finances and they did not look good. [laugh]

JS: Look at that, immediately you know. I had my some, my personal business, here and there too, besides working for Northrop, but.

NW: Did you do that then, accounting type of work?

JS: No.

NW: What kind of work did you do in your company?

JS: Oh, I was an engineer.

NW: Engineering, okay, sorry.

JS: And we had a lot of people from Mitsubishi. And what do you call this, *jiei-tai, jiei-tai*. It all came to Northrop, you know, defense contract.

NW: Oh I see. Defense contract, yeah.

JS: So when they come over, first thing what they are going to do is, “Oi, Junji!” So I was involved with them quite a bit. It was, it was a phone call and then, you know. That’s how I got, kept myself busy, I retired about, 19 . . . well, I forgot the year but, about 25 years ago.

NW: Okay.

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