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Naoko Wake Collection of Oral Histories of US Survivors of the Atomic Bombs Collection

Title: Junji Sarashina Interview Narrator: Junji Sarashina Interviewer: Naoko Wake Location: San Jose, California Date: June 6, 2012

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## <Begin Segment 25>

NW: How do you feel about, I mean this is kind of big, broad question, so if you don't have immediate answer, please, don't worry about it, but how do you feel about the impact that the bomb made on your career, on your life experiences, on your, um, well, activism, obviously must have been related to it, but how would you describe the meaning of it?

JS: Okay. Not the bomb itself, but one thing I can say, I survive that bomb because either one second or one second earlier or one second later, there would have been a different story. And I have seen the, the human waste, human life being wasted, even though United States won the war, it will, if you start using the atomic bomb or hydrogen bomb, it will destroy the human being. And it will destroy the earth. The radiation effect is so deep and so wide, and we don't know much about it. My case, I am healthy now, but what is going to happen to my personal family? My son, or my granddaughters, or their siblings. Nobody knows. It's in the future. Like things happening in Fukushima right now. They don't know anything yet, and it's been more than a year and three, two months or so. And still they are trying to find out what kind of effect they're gonna have. Nobody knows. It's going to affect a lot of human life. Now they have a hydrogen bomb, the United States, it's 1,000 times stronger than . . .

NW: The bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, yeah.

JS: So maybe atomic weapons are not the solution, and the solution might be, without the war, peace, it's the only solution right now. But the United States is, it's gotta defend themselves at the beginning of whatever is happening, so therefore they are studying, you know, they are making a lot of new bombs. Russia is making it. But I'm strictly anti-nuclear war. It's, it is not the solution. But personally, this is way and above my thinking, but I don't know when it's going to be resolved because we are involved with the emotion, the human feeling, and strength of the country. So it's going to continue forever. But somewhere, sometime, all of those strong countries must learn the lesson. They are never going to learn the lesson, as long as we have ego, you know. That's a broad picture, you know.

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