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Title: Jun Dairiki Interview
Narrator: Jun Dairiki
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
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<Begin Segment 11>

JD: I don't know how it came about that he told me about the fact that he was in Hiroshima and experienced the war, but I know one of the things, I remember, when the medical team came over the first time, and my mother was still alive, and we were taking *Nichi Bei Times* for her. So I remember reading about it in the *Nichi Bei Times*, and I said, you know, Jack, I think it might be good if you went for the medical checkup. He wasn't really keen about it. He didn't think he needed to go, but I said I really think that you ought to go. And so he did, and from then on he has been going every time.

NW: So was it like late 1970s when you looked at the newspaper article?

JD: See, they just finished the eighteenth biannual, so if you add, eighteen and eighteen is thirty-six, say thirty-six years ago. From 2011 it would be 1975, right? So I guess it was about that time then.

NW: So, from the beginning, you encouraged him. Yeah.

JD: I thought, when I saw that article, I said, "I think you really ought to go and get yourself examined," and so he did that, and he's been going to it ever since.

NW: But when you got married with him, you knew about his Hiroshima experience. And he knew about your camp experience. Now, this is very striking to me as a historian because, you know, many historians still publish books on the experience of internment camps and historians publish books about A-bombs and their experiences of being survivors and I'm really curious to know how you talk to each other about your own past, and also, you know, the past of your own communities, right.

JD: Don't forget that he had family in the camp.

NW: Right, right. So he has both ends.

JD: He was exposed to it, from talking to his sisters or whatever, you know. And of course, I had my own experience, but. So he knew about the camp. Interesting thing about him is that he had a brother who died in camp. Maybe he told you about this already.

NW: Well, yeah.

JD: His brother died, and he got the message in Japan from Red Cross that his brother died, and they were in camp. and his father said what camp, they're supposed to be in Sacramento, and that was the first he knew all the Japanese Americans, all the Japanese were in internment camp, you know. So when he came home, I think his sister told him something about it. So he knew something about camp when I met him.

NW: Yeah, so, it must have helped you to talk to him about your experience because he has some, yeah, exposure to that as well. What did you think about, you know, if you are getting to know her soon as your partner, you are curious about this person, and he has a very unique experience of being the second generation American and then also a survivor of Hiroshima. What do you think that you were thinking when you are trying to get to know him? I mean, of course, you are trying to know him in every aspect possible, so it's not just about the bomb.

JD: Yeah, and see, that part never really entered into the conversation, I think it was basically what our interests, what we like to do, what don't we like to do, what turns us off and what turns us on, and I don't know that we really talked about our camp life or his Hiroshima life. Certainly not in serious terms. We might have mentioned it in past conversation, but it was nothing that we pursued at.

NW: What would be those passing things you might mention, I just want to get the sense of what you talk to each other, it doesn't have to be, you know, I'm going to sit down right now and have a conversation of two hours. Yeah.

JD: You know, I don't really remember; I don't recall. I don't know what we talked about, or how we talked about it, or how it even came about to talking about it. I don't remember that. When we were dating, I don't remember any of that. Yeah. I don't remember. [laugh] I'm sorry I don't really recall.

NW: That's alright, but you mentioned how from the beginning of the system of medical checkup by Japanese doctors, you really wanted him to go, right? So that's probably one example, in which it probably came up.

JD: Yeah, you know, at that point, of course, I knew about his background, but when this newspaper article came out, I was like, "Well, it's free, he doesn't have to pay for it, so why doesn't he go and get get examined." So he did.

NW: Yeah.

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