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Title: Jun Dairiki Interview
Narrator: Jun Dairiki
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
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<Begin Segment 17>

NW: Okay, well, I know you must be getting tired, because I've been asking you, I've been grilling you with many, many questions.

JD: No, that's okay.

NW: But, is there anything you felt you wanted to talk a little more about, or probably you were thinking that Naoko is going to ask you some, ask me some questions but she didn't. Because I'm obviously not you, so I can't really think of good questions in a perfect way.

JD: Yeah, because in camp, you know, I was there from seven to eleven. So all we did was that we went to school, we had a summer vacation, but what I remember about camp was the snowstorm that we had, the sandstorm that we had. The sand trickling in through the windows, and we had to always clean up the floor, sweep up the floor. Because the floor was full of sand after a sandstorm. I remember the sand getting into my nose and ears, the first time that it ever happened to me. Because living here in San Francisco, you never experience that.

NW: You don't see that. Hm.

JD: So I remember that, and having a communal bathroom.

NW: So, it was new to you; you didn't have that at home.

JD: Yeah, it was new to all of us because you had to share the bathroom with everyone else in the same camp, in the same block as us, you know. When you had to go to the bathroom at night time, you had to leave your unit, to go to the communal. It was kind of scary at times. I remember we had, you know, this main mass hall, and to this day I don't like apple butter jelly. We had so much of it, we had it everyday in camp. And I hated it. Oh I do not eat it, I will not touch it, you tell me about it and I'd go absolutely berzerk.

NW: [laugh] You've had enough share of it, so to speak.

JD: I don't like egg fu-yung for the same reason, I don't like pork and beans for the same reason. That's memories from camp, and I don't like any of that. But he likes pork and beans because he did not enough of it when he was there, so we have it, but he's the only one who eats it.

NW: That's funny, it's kind of criss-cross. Yeah. After you were out of camp, um, you must have been eating something entirely different, then.

JD: Because then we were able to go out and buy food. We didn't have much money, though, you know, and my mom and dad didn't have much money until way after I left high school.

NW: Well, because they were deprived of that during the camp.

JD: Well, yeah, not only that but now they were making the time to make a living on the farm, and they never had farm experience, it was hard for them to catch up, to make a living. They worked very hard for what they got. Yeah, so we were eating but we weren't eating very heavily because we didn't have money. So we had a lot of hotdogs and hamburgers, cheap hamburgers, every so often we might have a piece of different kind of meat, every so often, if we had the money, my mom would make a leg of lamb, and we would have that, but we sure didn't have it often.

NW: Uh-huh. Yeah. But she knew how to cook it very well. Leg of lamb must have been one of your favorite because you've been saying it many times. [laugh]

JD: Yeah, we did like lamb in our house, in fact we went to the butcher one time and, I don't know how many times she had gone in there to buy lamb at this point, but, over through a period of years, she would go into this butcher shop and order lamb, and the butcher said you must be from California, because most people in Idaho did not eat lamb.

NW: [laugh] . . . didn't eat lamb.

JD: They are mostly beef people.

NW: Oh, but the butcher knew there was a connection between California and lamb.

JD: Because all the Californians do like lamb. Lot of Californians do like lamb, so that's why he said, you must be from California.

NW: And he was right!

JD: Oh, yeah, he was absolutely right on target.

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