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Title: Jun Dairiki Interview
Narrator: Jun Dairiki
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
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<Begin Segment 2>

NW: So you were born seven years before 1941.

JD: I was born in '34. I was born in September of '34. So, 1941 in December, I was, I had just turned seven a few months before that. And then, of course when the war came along, we were interned. We went to Tanforan first. In fact a lot of Bay Area people were housed in Tanforan. A few months later, we were sent to Topaz, Utah. So, from the age of seven till the war ended in 1945, I was, I had just turned eleven when the war sort of ended. We did not come back to San Francisco because there was no Japanese export-import company that my dad could come back to. He had really no other skills. And my mom was a domestic, but, you know, I don't know, she didn't know if that would really work out. So, we had some friends who were up in Idaho, and he said you know, there's is a lot of work to be held but it's all farming. It's all agricultural.

NW: Different kind of world. Yeah.

JD: Like I said, I had two of my older sisters who lived in Chicago, but we did not go to Chicago because, again, there was nothing that my dad could do. And so we decided, "Okay, we'll just go up to Idaho." So here they were in their 50s, and they knew nothing about farming. So they had to learn all over. A new life style, a new line of work. Something they had to learn, like . . . it would have been easier if they were younger. But, they weren't. So they were up in Idaho, I was in Idaho from 1945, and the war ended in 1945, until I graduated in 1952. So, '45 to '52, is what, seven years? So I lived there for those seven years, and when I graduated from highschool in 1952, I went to Chicago because that's where my two older sisters were.

NW: Right, right. What were they doing there in Chicago.

JD: Well, both of my sisters were working.

NW: But in what line of business?

JD: You know, I don't really know. I don't know what work they were working or anything like that.

NW: But were they near downtown Chicago?

JD: No. They lived in an apartment. I don't know where the apartment was, come to think of it. At that point, my older sister was married, while my other sister wasn't. But, so we roomed and boarded with my oldest sister and her husband.

NW: So remind me, she, older sister, the oldest sister was twelve years older than you are?

JD: She was thirteen years older. And she actually was, at the time the war started in 1941, she was a junior at the University of California. And my other sister, that was between the two of us, she was a junior in high school.

NW: So they had to . . . their education was . . .

JD: So their education was interrupted.

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