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Title: Yuriko Furubayashi Interview
Narrator: Yuriko Furubayashi
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
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<Begin Segment 12>

NW: So, what were you doing on August 6th?

YF: The middle of the, where they dropped it, was behind me, I just went on the street car, there was a street car that passed right there by the bridge and the streetcar goes across the bridge. I went through that place, maybe twenty or thirty minutes before and went to the mountains, Koi, that's the end of the, what you call, street car, and then I start walking, so I must have walked twenty minutes or fifteen. I just reached the factory and that's when the bomb struck.

NW: What happened to you?

YF: Nothing happened. Imagine it? We thought we'd, that, what you call, um, *totan* roof went [makes noise] but, you know, I was right next to this big machine, you know, this office in there. After the whole office, I cannot remember if I went to the office first or I was going to the office, you know, they have the roll call, you gotta sign in or I don't know what we did, but I reach there, and I was going to my . . . where I work. I must have passed one, I told you the machines are big, right? I was close to the machine because the roof went [makes roof screeching noise] and for some reason, they had some glasses, you know, windows, or glass windows, because I cannot remember her name, but this girl got a glass. Oooh, the blood was dripping so much, you know, on the arm. So the glass had just shattered and hit her. But I was so safe, I mean, I didn't hide or anything, I was just going to my, you know.

NW: You were in between heavy duty machinery so you were protected by them. I see.

YF: Right, you know how after I'm talking to my friends, you know, and I said, you know, you can be really lucky. You can be right next to the window or right next to something that fall on you. I'm right by the machine and I'm like, what's happened to this roof, look! You know. Everything's going down, and here the machinery, so the roof is hanging there, you know. And I was right there. I didn't purposely go there, I was just walking.

NW: Just happened to be there. So, what did you do next?

YF: So, we had to go into the shelter, you know, we all ran and said, "Oh, god, this, what a heavy duty, what you call, bomb we got." We didn't know it was atomic bomb.

NW: Right. Were there many people injured?

YF: Yeah, well, the students. I would say, you know, there's cuts and bruises and stuff, nobody got killed, I think.

NW: How far was it from the hypocenter? The center of the explosion?

YF: Uh, so many kilos, but I cannot remember it. It's, you cannot walk, it's from here, you're standing, you got to look, well where, the beach is, kinda far, yeah. Well, I would say distance from here to beach is three miles maybe or five miles.

NW: I see, okay. So nobody was burned severely or anything like that, you were, they were just sort of lightly injured. Okay. So tell me a little more about, then next.

YF: And then we went into the shelter, you know, and waited, you know, we didn't know what was going on, it was in the morning, I think, early morning because I just arrived there. So we have to stay half a day, I don't know what we ate, but whole day, because you know the factory's like that, you know. And they had some [?] too, but we don't, we didn't attend to that, we just stayed. And then I don't know if we ate or what, but we're just sitting there, and wondering, what's gonna happen next, where's the next bomb gonna be, you know. Because it was really close. We figured it's really close because the factory went [makes some sound] down like that, you know?

NW: You didn't know if it's a new bomb that's so massive.

YF: Yeah. The thing is, we been bombed for weeks, nighttime, I'm at my auntie's house and lot of time, you know, neighbor's house is burning and we got to go and help, you know, pass the water. And we all trained to help each other, you know. Anyway, those things happened, and she has a small shelter and we go in there, you know, when we hear the siren in the middle of the night, sometimes. Daytime is a little bit easier because you know, what's going on, you know. Anyway. And some houses were burninig. The city was in, already in uh, bomb, you know.

NW: Yeah.

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