Densho Digital Repository Naoko Wake Collection of Oral Histories of US Survivors of the Atomic Bombs Collection Title: Yuriko Furubayashi Interview Narrator: Yuriko Furubayashi Interviewer: Naoko Wake Location: Kailua, Hawai'i Date: June 21, 2013 Densho ID: ddr-densho-1021-7-23

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NW: Earlier you mentioned how, given the whole context at the end of World War II, you know, maybe it was necessary for America to use the bomb because Japan wouldn't have stopped the war otherweise. Do you think if a similar situation happens now, America, or any other country, should have an ability to use the bomb?

YF: I don't think they should use it but, I have a feeling, you know, not like anything else, you have nothing to lose, that's when, you know, sometimes human being, well, I wouldn't say, in that kind of national level, but you know, like human beings, you get cornered in one area and you become too desparate, you know, you do anything, you get nothing to lose. Well, this country, I wouldn't say, you know, the leaders are that way, but you get, to me, there's a lot of leaders now, Syria, or whatever country, they're killing their own people, you know, the leaders, I just think "Gee, what are they gonna do if they kill their own people?" And then you, if they become desparate, they can drop a bomb.

NW: If they have ability to have a bomb, yeah.

YF: Yeah, some of them have. Not only that, some countries would give them.

NW: Uh-huh. So, do you worry about that?

YF: I, yeah, I am very concerned. It's not the first world, I mean, you know, it's not the big countries that's gonna do it. It's those little ones, that, you know, when worst comes to worst, they can do anything. Killing is nothing for them.

NW: Now, I've been asking a lot of your time and I'm sure you are getting tired by now, but this is a record that I like to . . .

YF: Just one second, let's have a sip of something. You know, the funny thing is, when I came back from Japan, I was young then, you know. I had some similar kind of interview with this girl in the University of Hawai'i, write about it. I was working for my sisters's bakery, so I gave her all the story and everything and she also, oh, and the newspaper man too, also asked me at that time, you know, 1950. No, not 1950, 1940 something, you think anyone will drop atomic bomb? And I said, well, you know, you never know. This, it's not gonna be America or Russia, not even Russia or I mean, England, those kind of countries. But, those small countries, that's there, that's kind of country, like they have nothing to lose kind of country that you've got to watch. And

then they'll be Vietnam War, right? And then now, the North Korea, right? And those kind of people, you know? Strange kind of leaders you get.

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