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Title: Paul Satoh Interview
Narrator: Paul Satoh
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
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[Mr. Satoh's son Gordon Satoh was present at the interview, and when he speaks, he is denoted as GS]

<Begin Segment 11>

NW: So, this—this sort of, you know, what happened after World War II is very interesting, but I guess I'm also interested in how you might have had as an image of America when you were little? Before you came here, or before the war even.

PS: You know . . . When I was little, I wanted to become a Navy man. So, the—definitely the image of the United States is not really good. You know, the—brainwashed by the cartoons whenever you go to a movie theater. And the first, uh the, five minutes to ten minutes is a cartoons. That—actually the cartoon actually is the propaganda type. And also they have a news, because we don't really have a way to hear the news except the radio and the movies. Whenever I go to the movie theaters. And you will see how the Japanese empire is expanding. And the United States is really losing. Uh . . . the Guadalcanal and the Midway warfares—we'll be getting another victorious date. Well, I tell you, those movies were not really true. I heard they—I read about the history of the World War Second. Guadalcanal and Midway . . . uh, Japan lost miserably. At that time they didn't even have a war ship. And I thought it's kind of interesting. However though, when I was a kid, um . . . yeah, I didn't really have much of the ideas about it.

NW: How about through America? Through your aunt and uncle? Because they were there, and . . .

PS: You know, it's interesting. They—they usually don't talk much about how the America is because they only know the West Coast. So they have uh, the kind of—they have nice cars and a house and things like that, but . . . Uncle Masuda and Uncle Masaru, um . . . did not talk much about the American way of life. Um . . .

NW: Mm. Interesting.

PS: Although the—when I went to college, they started saying about . . . You know, as a matter of fact I think we shouldn't have started the war, or something like that. And uh . . . the way—the day I went to um . . . the uh, interview at the Saint Paul's University. Um, they have those—the entrance exam and the interview. That was Saint Patrick's Day. And they said, on the train he asked me, do you know what day it is today? I said yeah, I don't know, it's March 13th or March 17th? Yeah. And he said, it's Saint Patrick's Day. You know who Saint Patrick is? God, yeah, Saint Patrick. And all these things. So much sure you say about Saint Patrick's.

NW: [Laughs]

PS: Lo and behold, I was interviewed by a couple experienced, uh, the, um priests, and do you know what day is it today? I said oh yes. Hallelujah. So I said yes, Saint Patrick's Day. Haha, no problem then. But uh, I thought it was kind of interesting.

NW: [Laughing]. Mm. Do you think that being affected by the bomb but also you saw people who were affected by it in more severe ways and obvious ways than you, even family members?

PS: Psychologically, yeah, I think I have a . . .

NW: What do you think that it might have done to your image of America as a country, if you can say anything about it?

PS: I—I think Americans . . . You know, the more I learn about the, you know marvelous theories of atomic bombs, and I started wondering why did they have to do this? That's one thing I said. And, if these people believed in Christian religion, why do they have to do that? Uh, that's one of the interesting things about it. And I found some of the interesting clue—when I did later on, um, I read the book called *Sun Across the*—Uh, *Sun Across the Bridge* by Gwen Terasaki. That book is a very interesting book. Um . . . but Gwen Terasaki and my Uncle Masaru actually had different part of the world. They were in the United States as um, the um, as the Japanese ended, uh, Mr. Terasaki is American and yet married to a Japanese ambassador. She had a really hard time. She went back to Japan. And they had a really hard time in Japan. Uh, people thought that the American woman marrying a Japanese ambassador should not really be having a good time at all. So, however, though, in her book saying that on the day of the Pearl Harbor—described quite differently. And I recall some—Mr. Terasaki warned the Americans two weeks ahead of time that the fleet of the warships was coming. And also the day when—that was the day before so—the day before the Pearl Harbor day. It was Sunday. He went to the White House and asked to speak to President Roosevelt. He was actually told to get away. The who did was that the chaplain, Mr. Webster, the chaplain at the White House at that time. And she, she wrote this very much in detail how the uh, Ambassador Terasaki was actually chased away from the White House. And uh, so, I started saying, oh, this is a chaplain who is supposed to keep peace and yet it was probably somehow promoted that ideas. So I thought that gee, maybe my idea about the United States when I was a child, may be correct. You know, as the war mongers and uh . . . again, we'd never thought of Japan as being war mongers, trying to control the entire Asia, but . . . That—That was my American idea, so.

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