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Naoko Wake Collection of Oral Histories of US Survivors of the Atomic Bombs Collection

Title: Paul Satoh Interview
Narrator: Paul Satoh
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
Location: East Lansing, Michigan
Date: August 23, 2015

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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 22>

NW: Speaking of that, this is probably something that I should have, or could have asked you earlier, but when you were still in Japan and living life years after the war was over, did you have any contact with the ABCC?

PS: No. Uh, the ABCC, usually—how they did was, um, they have those people's names—the list of names from hospitals and social workers in a town. They preferentially picked those people who went to the hospitals so that, you know, for that reason . . .

NW: You were not picked up.

PS: I was not physically um, damaged. Um, and uh, you know, I was not in the—real close to the epicenters or burnt. Probably I had been exposed to the radiation, but it was very difficult for them to assess it anyhow. So, for that reason I was not chosen. But, yeah, many of my—the uh, friends in the school were chosen to go to Hijiyama and to be in the uh, studied and be in particular . . .

NW: Is there a car that came to your school to pick up your friends?

PS: Yeah, some Jeep used to come. And uh, you know, they [?]—actually this happened in late elementary school and also that uh, the uh, junior high. But, you know, the Noborimachi [?] is where they have, Sadako's, you know, monument is there. And Sadako was one of the graduates from that same school.

NW: I see.

PS: So, you know, that's one of the things people look at it, and uh, but student didn't particularly like it so much. Um... yes because, you know, the ironical, because when I went to St. Paul's, I was the—the uh, first or second year students that was able to handle radioactive elements. And how to use this. And I would've thought, gee, this is very, kind of ironic because—and I'm glad I did, because, I learned lots of techniques there. So . . .

NW: Now, you've already told me a lot. But also, at the same time, I feel like, whatever—however much of what I make I can get to hear only a very small part of people's experiences. But I do appreciate that you made time to tell me what you told me. But, is there—I'm

wondering if there is anything that you hope to say to me. Uh, I ask my questions and you tell me your stories, but again, that interaction doesn't capture everything.

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