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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 3>

PS: Ok. So my childhood-wise, uh there was—I was in Osaka until say about the early . . . January . . . So about the um, the 1945. Because they had a huge air raid and my house was burned and then we had no place to go. And prior to that we had this uh . . . uh Dempō-chō elementary school, had to evacuate to the countryside. Ikeda. Right now it's not Ikeda, it's a big city now in the . . . However, um . . . I went to the uh, group evacuations and seen that the town—you know, that the entire city of Osaka was burning. And I was really uh . . . scared. Because I thought that maybe my house was burnt. But actually, that particular time, my house was ok. But . . . and then eventually my house was burnt. And uh . . . So the evacuation is very interesting because everybody goes into that—this—the kinda of a . . . the countryside hu—these schools. And then they will sleep on the uh, huge assembly halls all together with the, kind of *futon*. And the food that they have—I still remember, the worst food I had in that—the evacuation. They had soup made out of canned salmon.

NW: Oh.

PS: That's very, very, very salty Miso soup on top of salmon.

NW: [Chuckling]. Uh-huh. That doesn't sound right. [Chuckling].

PS: No, they didn't have a telephone so I can't complain to my mother that way. But uh . . .

NW: So she stayed in Osaka, but you came . . .?

PS: She stayed in Osaka but then she came to . . . You know, in Osaka there are lots of uh . . . the air raid exercises. We had this, and uh, when it was once a week and sometimes twice a week. They—they uh—we had to go down to the bomb shelters. The bomb shelters, they're actually made in, uh, every third or you know, fourth house. We had these communal bomb shelters, so that people were down there. I really didn't like it because I have a phobia about spiders. Anytime I go down there, I can see the huge spiders there, so. But then I have to go down because there's always a huge cases of people dying with the air raids. They used to have the incendiary bombs. But the film, when they explode, the film comes off. And I remember in one instance that one of my friends said hey, let's go—there's a guy who's standing but the head is gone. So let's go see it. So I went to see it. It was indeed—there was a man—dead man

standing, but the head is blown off because the . . . the shrapnel chopped his head off completely. And that type of experience in Osaka, so . . . After my house is burned . . . uh, we decided to go back to Hiroshima. Uh, originally we—we didn't really have much of an idea of what to do, but in Hiroshima is another uh . . . family's members so they are having a confectionary stores near Koi . . . um the train station—like a tram station. And uh, so we decided well, after everything burns there's nothing for me to carry around. Um . . . I wanted to take that um, wooden elephant toy, which is my favorite toy. Um, but my parent's said you don't have any space for that, so . . . unfortunately I did not take that.

NW: That is too bad.

PS: [Laughs]. Yeah, I still remember that. I have a poor pictures of this, uh . . . Somehow the pictures survive. So my kids are looking at—oh there's the elephant there.

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