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Title: Paul Satoh Interview
Narrator: Paul Satoh
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
Location: East Lansing, Michigan
Date: August 23, 2015
Densho ID: ddr-densho-1021-9-6

[Mr. Satoh's son Gordon Satoh was present at the interview, and when he speaks, he is denoted as GS]

<Begin Segment 6>

NW: And you, yourself, remind me again, didn't really have a particular memory of the—the moment of the explosion?

PS: No, a real big sound, you know.

NW: Yeah.

PS: Big noise.

NW: But do you remember reacting to it?

PS: I didn't think I really reacted to that. Because we were eating breakfast and breakfast was more important for . . . escaping it . . . My mother said well, let's go out and see. She was—the city's burning so, ok, that's why—the reason why I didn't really react immediately but since there's no reason to go back to the town . . . at that point we were thinking of going back to my grandmother's farm. Uh, so . . . it looked like there was really no way then to react to that. And besides, we don't want it to burden my relatives anymore. We had been there for at least a week before something like this, so . . . Uh, we just said, you know, we will go back to the uh, grandmother's farm.

NW: How about your family member? I remember in a brief two page summary of your memory of the bomb that you supplied me with earlier. There are some family members who were injured and affected?

PS: Yes. That, uh . . . the um . . . I think I mentioned my grandmother's—the *hiba*—he had three wives. [Laughs]

NW: Oh, yes?

PS: The . . . Well, my father was the—from the first marriage. And then the second one is—he married the first woman graduate of the University of Hiroshima. And the third one, there's a bomb aid somehow. But anyhow, the second grandmother—all three women lived in the same city. They knew each other. And um, my grandfather—he must be kind of—anyhow, the ladies' man. But um . . . he . . . so for that reason we had this uh, kind of complex relatives living in

there. One of the relatives was uncle Masaru. And the other one was uh . . . the uncle Yoshinori and uh, they would act—the Yoshinori and, I forgot the second one, but uh . . . Chieko is the girl from the second marriage of my grandmother—grandfather, and um . . . she was a nurse. A licensed nurse. And she used to work in uh, the uh, Teshin-byōin, the communication hospitals. And uh, the uh . . . Hakushima . . . Hakushima is in the north of the epicenter. And uh . . . so she . . . we knew that she was working there and she decided—she decided to go back to the work that day and won't still go Sunday. But she wasn't really physically hurt from our house. And so, she stayed there for, I don't know how many weeks, but she worked in the hospital helping but it came to a point that she started feeling weak, and still occasionally she started vomiting blood and started having nose bleeding so she actually came—by that time, that was mid-September of 1945. Um . . . some kind of transportations there I think because she came to see us at the grandmother's farm. Um . . . and then my mother knew that she was really thin. Um . . . she was kind of heavy-set. We used to call her Buta-chan.

NW: [Chuckles]

PS: But she's no longer Buta-chan anymore, she's emaciated. Really skin and bone. And uh . . . her gums are purple. And she used to have more frequent nose bleedings—things like that. So, we took care of her, and then I think she died in mid-October because of the severe radiation sickness. By that time, there weren't—radiation sickness was actually called atom bomb—atomic bomb sickness. Genbaku-byō. And so, um, we lost the uh, aunt that way.

NW: Right.

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