Interviewee: Hideo Takahashi
Interviewer: Lisa Uyeda
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*Unidentified speakers are interviewee's daughters.
*Note that this interview contains outdated terminology regarding Asian and Indigenous people and a reference to an incident of sexual assault.

[Interview Start]

[Conversation redacted from 0:00 to 0:21]
LU: Looks handsome. Yeah. Wonderful. So, we'll get started here. And today's December 17th, 2010, and this is an interview with Hideo. And would you like to start off by telling us where you were born and when you were born?
HT: Well, I was born in, well, my parents came from Japan to a mining town, copper mining town in British Columbia. It's just north of Vancouver, this British town. They—both of my parents were immigrants, so, they don't speak English. And so, they had to, you know, study and everything. And my father, I got a job as a—lemme say in—oh, he—I can't remember what it was, but it was a mining town. And the provincial government has a law that says, "Oriental will not work underground." So, my father had to find a job elsewhere. No. So, he found a job at—
[?] Brittania Beach.
HT: No, no. Clerk at a grocery store. And Brittania Beach, B.C [British Columbia]. And without knowing English, he didn't have too much of a problem because all those working in that boarding—no, the store, they were all Europeans, Russians, Germans, French, everything. So, my father picked up all those different languages.
LU: Oh.
HT: Yeah. Very few English people there. So, it was—I don't think—he said it wasn't much of a problem, you know, using a hand and things like that. And my mother came with my father, and she got a job in a boarding house, you know, where all the miners were sleeping. And she didn't have much of a problem because she hired the Chinese cook. So, she just ordered what she wanted. Yeah. And lemme see, where was I? Oh, yeah. She was very cooperative with everybody, because everybody knew everybody there. And I remember going to that Brittania—during my vacation. So, because all the accommodations are not there, we had to have someplace to sleep. So, what my father did was go through the boarding house, look at the list of names—were itemized, names of the miners, who are on night shift. So, we go into the list and found the night shift, use their bed, you see. [chuckles]
LU: Oh.
HT: I was afraid. But my, my father then—because if you're in the underground, you don't come up until the shift is over. So, I slept there and my father take me to halfway up the mountain where the houses are. And people are friendly and they

say—saw my father and me walking on that single street, they'll yell, like, “Come on in,” you know, “Let's have dinner,” you know.

[00:05]

HT: They're all very friendly. But my father didn't care. So, he knew a bit of English. And so did my mother, too. My mother used to tell me to go to the store where father working, but don't talk to him, talk to other people, you know, practice, practice on my, you know, not English, but French and Germans and everything. Oh, my father didn't care. He was a, you know, and never, ever, he is never afraid to talk to people too. And one day, it's a lonely place, so my father shot a bear, and killed it in the backyard.
LU: A bear?!
HT: Bear, big bear.
LU: Oh, my goodness.
HT: So, he took it, took the bear indoors, you know, skinned it, and then dried a skin, a fur outside on the fence. And when it dried up, I took it in the house and put it on the floor. And within a couple days, what do you think happened? The bear’s fur and me started to rot.
LU: Oh, no.
HT: Smell. Smell of the house. So, I had to bury it, you see. But then then they hired—what was it? Well, I want say, when I was born, my parents hired a big dog, you know, so the dog can watch over me and the yard, you see. So, I wasn't scared of dog, dog was a good companion.
LU: What kind of dog was it?
HT: It was a German Shepherd, I think it was. Yeah. Big dog. Yeah. And then, when I was nearing my six year, I had to go to school. They had a lot of small kids there, too. So, in Grade Six? No, what is the grade? First—first grade. Anyway, I was afraid to go to school.
LU: Why?
HT: Because I'm small. And when I went into the school room, I discovered all the kids, nobody spoke English. So, I said, oh my God, everybody is like me. What am I afraid of?
[Conversation redacted from 8:11 to 8:53]
But then I had to go to the Van, my family moved to Vancouver.
LU: Oh, when was that?
HT: Because there were more schools in Vancouver. In Brittania, there's only one school. So, we moved to Vancouver, and I enrolled in the public school, Grade One. And then—
LU: What public school was it?
HT: It was—let me see now. Public school—God, I forgot the name. Yeah.
LU: Do you remember?
?: Dad, you forgot to say your year of birth. Your Birthday.
LU: When is your birthday?
HT: November 15.

?: Year.
LU: What year?
HT: 1919.
LU: Wow.
HT: Anyway, I enrolled in a public school, Strathcona.
LU: Oh, Strathcona.
HT: Vancouver.
LU: Mm-hm.

[00:10]

HT: And it was called a model school. But I enjoyed going to school because at that time, you know, the Orientals were discriminated and we were always fighting, you know. But there were two girls in Grade One, Edna Buck and Edith Fee, and they both liked me. And when Valentine Day came, they all—both of them always gave me Valentine card, right through the end of grade eight. Yeah. But I never found out where—which high school they went. There're a lot of high schools in Vancouver. So, I— everybody who graduated the model school, or any other school, in order to go to university, they had to go to a certain high school, King Edward High School. So it was a competition, whether we could—a person could go to King Edward by passing a grade. So, I did okay in high school. I liked algebra and geometry.
LU: Oh, wow.
HT: That was my favorite course. And one—at the final grade, Dr. Allardyce, he said, "No, I'm going to give you the final exam." In order to go to King Edward High School, you had to pass this exam. So, he said, "This was not in the course, do it sometime at home." So, I took that question. It's a long, long questions with algebra and geometry in there. And took me about four days at home to find the answer. And then the following day, I gave the doctor, "Here's your answer."
LU: Ah.
HT: You know what he said? He got angry.
LU: Oh, no.
HT: Yeah, yeah. "I've been given this question to the passing grade every year. Nobody solves it." I did it in three or four days at night, at home.
LU: Wow.
HT: And so, he said, "Now what am I gonna give the future grades? You, you solve my answer." Yeah. So, I said—I told him, "Doctor, right here in the middle, there's a little algebra in there. Just take the question out and you could find another answer. So, he was really happy that I solved the question, and then I was ready for university. So, summertime, there was a job in the Japanese consulate, you know, so, I applied for the job, and I got that job at the Japanese consulate. And so, it was a pretty hard job. But then it was pretty good. You can visit the—some families and tell the parents, "Why don't you write your parents in Japan? They think you're dead." You know, things like that, you know, the public service here. So, I was enjoying that, the job at the Japanese consulate. And what happened was, Pearl Harbor was bombed by Japan. And Mountie came the following day, saw me working. He sat beside my desk

and said, “Do you have your ID with you?” I said, “Oh, yeah.” It's my birth certificate, I carry them all the time, you know. I had to. So, the regulation—so, the Mountie came and sat beside me as a “let's see your ID,” you know, I said, “Here’s my ID”. He said, “Do you have citizenship in Japan?” I said, “I don't think so.”

[00:15]

HT: So, anyway, he said, “Do you have a Canadian birth citizen?” “Yeah, I got it right here.” And he said, “Are you registered with Ottawa to work in Canada?” I said, “No, I'm not having no problem because I never went to Japan.” So, he said, “Okay,” and he took me to the Mounted Police jail in Toron— Vancouver and put me in the jail there. Mounted Police. I say I was in that jail for most of the day, waiting. I knew what I was waiting for, because I think Mountie was checking the Ottawa record to see if I had a permit to work in Canada. Found out that I don't have anything. And so, I was sent to the immigration building in Vancouver and put in there with the other Japanese who were arrested. Finally, the Mountie said, “I have to put—I have to go to the prisoner of war camp.” I said, “What for?” “Because you have no permit.” [chuckles] Permit to work in a Japanese consulate. Yeah. So that's how I got into the POW [Prisoner of War].
LU: Wow.
ST: It was Petawawa. Yeah. And then—I think you read what—my diary there, what happened there, because, one day, the guards in the POW camp, they were all first year—not the—veteran, veteran of the first war. And they all carry heavy rifle. And, one day, I think if you could read my diary of that first year in there, because I think there were about 3 - 400 people there
LU: Wow.
ST: With the Germans and Italians. And beside us, they were prisoners too. And one day, we were all awakened by the shooting in the camp. We all—I jumped over the bed. I was on the upper bed, and just—I fell to the floor and the shooting kept—continued through the hut. The bullets were coming in. So, I got up and I walked along the hallway, you know, dodging the bullets. I thought—I thought the bullets were too close to my ear, because I don't know what's going on. So, finally, they stopped shooting, and we were afraid that there'll be shootings again. And sure enough, when I was walking, the bullets started coming in again. All I did was doing this. [pretends to dodge bullets] The bullets were coming over my head, you know. And everybody was lying on the floor. And finally, the bullets stopped, and—I think I should read that, the diary there. Could you give me the diary of the shooting?
?: Tell Lisa what your position was in the camp.
LU: What was your position in the camp?
HT: Oh, nothing.
?: You should—
HT: Nobody had any position like that.
?: No, what did you do in the camp?
LU: What did you do in the camp?

HT: I was like—we had a spokesman, elected a man to, you know, lead us, eh? So, this is a good friend of mine. And he asked me to help him in the office. So, I decided to help him.
?: You were the English Secretary.

[00:20]

?: You were the English clerk.
LU: English clerk?
[Conversation redacted from 20:03 to 20:14]
Yeah. Anyway, I said, I wonder what happened. So, July 1st, 1942, I was awakened in the wee hours of the morning, by the sound of rushing feet, somebody's rushing around. Akira, my brother, louped past my hut, fully closed. Suddenly, long gunfire, seven or eight shots. The bullets came crashing through the walls of my hut. All of us jumped out of our bed, some falling off with a loud thud. Pandemonium broke loose, and we were bumping into each other in the dark. I must have felt the bullet whistling over my head, because I remember ducking my head a few times. We didn't know what the shooting was all about. I got a further shock when I opened the back door to see an officer standing just outside the barbed wire with a pistol pointing towards my face. I instinctively slammed the door shut and hit the floor. The guards in the tower were still shooting. Through a window, I could see searchlights sweeping the camp from one end to the other. The shooting finally stopped. Miraculously, none of us was hit. By now, we were angry, as well as excited. Some of the boys boldly walked out of their huts, shouting defiantly at the guards and daring them to shoot. The Germans and Italians, now awake, encouraged us through the windows of their huts. “Toujou! Toujou!”, they yelled. You know who Toujou was? At that time, it was the Prime Minister of Japan (Toujou Hideki). They were yelling, “Toujou!” and kept yelling. I guess they thought we were very brave or something. The tension kept us awake, and we were on constant alert for more shooting. “I get it now,” I said. Somehow, word got out that through me—through me, a small group of nisei Japanese made applications to Ottawa for release to work on sugar beet farm. Some other internees tried to persuade my friends to change their mind, gave them a beating of their lives. I guess one guy who was hit must have staggered against the back door of a hut, flinging it open. The guards naturally thought we were attempting an escape and began shooting at us again with the submachine guns. This morning, we discovered two bullets had penetrated my hut, dangerously close, one I'll say about a foot. We didn't have any breakfast. How could we? All the pots and pans were riddled by bullets. And officers accompanied by heavily armed guards were around for roll call. But we refused to line up until the military—until the authorities parade us with an explanation for the shooting. The officer retreated after threatening, saying that it would not be to our advantage to adopt such an attitude. It was then that we spontaneously decided to go on a hunger strike.

[00:25]

LU: Wow.
HT: Yeah. So, this is the most exciting spot. Now, they were—the soldiers were threatening us, yeah. We were all outside then. And, Mr. Tanaka, our spokesman was standing beside me, you know, and on the steps leading into the hut. And I noticed that some guards were shivering. They were afraid. They got the guns in their hands. I said, "Wow," I thought. And then Mr. Tanaka was standing beside me, and he was facing the other way. And Mr. Tanaka said, "Takahashi, son," he said, "What do you think?" I said—I looked at his eyes and I said, "Look behind me, sir." [chuckles] He looked behind, saw the shivering guard. He said, "Oh, I see." That was a climax, you know. "That was funny," I thought after. But we were really good actors. So, I said, "Mr. Takahashi, what do you think? Look behind me, sir." [chuckles] And he said, "Oh, I see." And he jumped out and faced the—our people, and then told the people that, "All of you, follow me." You know, Mr. Tanaka, and going like this, like a German soldier, you know [swings arms]. And people were all following him, you know. It reminds me—and, you know, I thought that was a good acting on our part. You know, like, I was singing, you know, walking behind Mr. Tanaka. "Over there." [chuckles] and we looked at the commandant there. And everybody was following me and Mr. Tanaka, you know, like an army soldier, you know? And then Mr. Tanaka stared at the commandant, you know, with a grin and tears running out of the eyes and following-telling everybody to follow me to the parade ground. And I said—I looked at Mr. Tanaka, "My God, that guy is really a great man." Mr. Tanaka. And you know what happened? After the war, number of years later, I was watching the movie "The Bridge on the River Kwai". Do you remember? It was running in Toronto for several times. That reminded me of the River Kwai. That's where the Japanese had a prisoner of war camp for British soldiers. You know, there were orders—order to build a bridge over the River Kwai during the war. But they refused to build it, you know, the British soldiers. So, the commandant there, the Japanese general of the camp there, and he ordered a British captain, "You people better go over there and build the bridge, or we'll kill every one of you". I said, "Wow. Looks like our experience has happened again." You know, reverse, reverse some of our—actually, order given to us was to go parade, or we'll kill you all.

[00:30]

HT: So, somebody must have saw that movie and that Japanese, commandant counted, "One, two, three. If you are not going out, we'll kill you all." That's exactly what the Japanese did. And, you know, the British commandant looked at the Japanese commandant with tears running down. And marched, everybody followed him. Exactly the same attitude that British commandant did. Boy, and I went to see that movie several times after that. Yeah, too bad you didn't see that. Oh boy.
LU: So, when you were an Angler, tell me a little bit about roll call.
HT: Oh, roll call. That's when the thing happened. We refused to do the roll call, and we were on strike, eh? And then the commander of the Canadian soldiers that came from Petawawa to our camp [?]. And so, he was the one that gave us the order to go

to roll call, or we shoot you all, you know. So, we—I waited, and the thing was over then. But then, later on, August 24, 1942.
?: Tell me what to read.
LU: This part?
HT: Oh, yeah, that's right.
?: ?: Just read the entries.
HT: I've been requested by our camp leader and spokesman, POW Tokikazu Tanaka, to assist them in the office. For every roll call, we are obliged to line up on the parade playground, army style, with a cap in hand. We must stand stiffly at attention. You know, we're all line up on a roll call without talking until the scout guards had finished counting and lift the camp's enclosure. We found this routine to be quite tedious. Then someone came out with a bright idea. When we're lined up, he said, "Aren't we facing east? Let's play a game. As soon as the commandant had come through the gates of the enclosure for a roll call, let's have our drill master yell aloud "*Saikeirei*!" You know, stand at attention, Japanese. "*Saikeirei*" —bow, means bow. We were then altogether bow towards the land of the rising sun. We all agreed. What took us by surprise was that the commandant returned our bow, bow with a smart military salute [chuckles]. We're pretending that the—we're bowing towards the rising sun. Then the commandant get the wrong idea [chuckles]. Oh, we had a big laugh over that for—all the time. Yeah. So, oh, yeah, the movie. Oh, well, let's see. There was—oh, yeah, that's right. You know, whatever we did, we did something to irritate the commandant, you know. But we were sort of playing a game against each other, and a dangerous game, too. Let's see [sighs]. There was something that I—memory isn't so good lately [chuckles].

[00:35]

?: How about the blueberry picking.
HT: Oh, yeah, yeah. We heard from a guy that over a couple miles away in a big field, there were huge blueberries. He showed me the blueberries. God, I never saw a blueberry that big. So, I said—I asked the commandant to have a couple of us go for blueberry picking. So, the commandant said, "Okay, but"—we could have six people to go and pick berries, but "we'll give you a couple of pails. For every pail picked, you gotta pick another pail for us commandants," you know?
LU: Wow.
HT: Yeah. They were—it was a conditional thing, but we wanted the blueberries. So, the next day, we had two guards take six of us to pick berries. So, we were walking towards the field, a huge field in northern Ontario. So, well, so, let's pick the berries. But we, we ate more than we picked because they were so big. And so me and my friend had a pail. Everybody had a pail, and they shared the pail. And then, I looked back and I thought we were far behind. My friends were all far away. The two guards were smoking cigarettes. They didn't miss us. So, I said to my friend, "See that big rock over there? Let's run over, hide behind the rock." So, we dropped the pail and ran to the big rock, and then looked behind from the rock, and nobody noticed us. [Looks at his diaries] And while we were all picking berries, and [?] and I managed

to elude the guards. We crawled and then ran over to the distant hill until we reached the edge of a high cliff. Oh, not this one [points at the diaries]. No. Anyway, we ran behind the rock and looked behind, and then we—I told my friend that, "See that big forest over there? Let's run to the forest." And we looked back and nobody noticed us. We ran into the forest, and we looked back again. Nobody noticed us. So, I said, "Well, we're north of Lake Superior now, which way is south?" "How do you know which way is south?" So, I said, "See the sun over there? Sun is coming." So, I took a branch and stuck it in the dirt. Look at the shadow. How is the shadow moving? Oh, that's sun—south to the lake. So, we dashed into the forest—no, through the forest. And I said, "Okay, well, there's a big lake there that must be Lake Superior." So, we just ran and walked towards the lake. Nobody noticed that. So, we noticed that we were on a high cliff. So, we just laid on our stomach and watched the water, you know, coming in and out. And then I said, "Well," My friend said, "Hey, there's a rowboat there." "Oh, we must be able to go down to the rowboat." So, we just—we noticed that we were on a high cliff. We looked down, it was so peaceful watching the water. And then my friend said, "There's a rowboat there, so, there must be a way to go down." So, we were just looking around, and all of a sudden, I felt something cold on my neck. Then I looked. There's a guy, he had his gun on my neck. So, we surrendered. Us.
LU: Oh, my goodness.
HT: Yeah. And then we turned around and walked back to the forest and other people, nobody noticed us.
LU: Who were you with? Who was the person that you were with?
HT: Yeah, so, the person that—well, after we were—as we were being taken out—taken to our huts, he said, "What do you think will happen to us? You know, we escaped. They caught us, and they're supposed to do something." And I said to him, "Oh, forget it. If they told the commandant about our story, who do you think will get blamed for that? The two guards," I said, "Those two guards will be court-martialed." You know, they take the stripes off and the pay is cut and everything. And, and then my friend didn't believe that would happen. But for sure nothing happened, you know. We were led into our camp, and the guard said, "You guys better keep quiet." [chuckles] Because the commandant would go after the guards, eh, court-martial. So, we went back to the camp, and my friends, he—my friend was bragging about it to his friends. And then he said, "We got in a rowboat. We rowed to the middle of the lake." And the friends were saying, "Yah? Yeah." [chuckles]
LU: What was your friend's name?
HT: Oh, I don't know.
LU: You don't remember who it was?
HT: I can't remember. So, that was a good adventure for us. And the guards are sure enough didn't say anything. But there was another event. We were at Angler, and near the railroad track. And one of the guards said, "See the big building there? That's a hotel there." And it's only about six miles away. And then there—in that place, there's a big hotel and only one woman working the register, man [chuckles]. So, I said, "Well, shall we go to the hotel?" And my friend said, "Okay." So, I asked the

commandant to take us for a walk on the railroad track towards Port Credit. Yeah. And the guard said—
?: Okay, stop, stop, stop. No, he was—it's not Port Credit. You're going to Marathon, and you asked the guard. You asked the guard to take us there. They're not the commandant. Commandant would never allow that.
HT: No, no. They have to get a permit from the commandant to take us.
?: Oh, okay.
HT: But we just told the commandant that we wanted to go for a walk on the railroad track towards Marathon. So, next day, a couple of guards took us, I think it was about half of [?]—took us for a walk to the track, and we were walking on the tracks and Marathon looked close, you know. So,—but before that, we had to pay the guards a Flat Fifties, that's a carton with 50 cigarettes in there. The guards demanded that we buy the Flat Fifties and give it to the guards. And so, we all bought Flat Fifties and gave it to the guard, and he took us to the tracks towards Marathon. And then we were walking on the tracks, and the hotel seemed so close.

[00:45]

HT: And finally, the guard said, "About turn." [chuckles]
LU: No. Oh, no.
HT: Yeah, "About turn." [chuckles] Oh boy. We had to turn; we don't get our cigarettes back. And my friends said—my friends were mad at me because it took us our goose chase and we didn't even meet anybody. So, we just turned around, walked back. And my friends never spoke to me for a week after.
LU: Oh, no.
HT: Oh, they all lost, you know, Flat Fifties. That was expensive.
LU: How much was it?
HT: Huh?
LU: Do you remember how much?
HT: No, I think it was two or three bucks or so.
LU: Wow.
HT: Expensive at that place, you know? Oh, yeah. A lot of—
LU: And where was it that you bought them?
HT: Oh, at the camp. Camp army store. Yeah.
LU: What else was in the camp army store?
HT: Oh, just fruits and—fruits and candies and nothing much, you know. They were expensive to us, yeah. Anyway.
LU: Where did the money come from?
HT: Oh, our own private source. They confiscated our money, and they kept record. My man was, you know, responsible for everybody's money.
LU: Oh.
HT: There was no mistake, you see. So, where else did I go after that? Oh, boy. Well, we liked those adventures, you know? Not boring there. Yeah.
LU: What else would you do when you were in Angler?

HT: Well, we played cards and—oh, yeah, we had an orchestra there. I got a picture. You got people, one of the staff's brother, he had a trumpet, so—oh, yeah, that's a picture of our orchestra [shows picture].
LU: Oh, wow.
HT: We got it from—instruments from the YMCA [Young Men's Christian Association] in Toronto. So- but Dick Uchida there is a brother of one of the volunteers there. He had his own trumpet. And the rest were—rest were musical instruments that were donated by the YMCA in Toronto. I got good—I got a good connection in Toronto, YMCA. I wanted a piano. I told this YMCA when that was the first instrument that the YMCA donated to it.
LU: A piano?
HT: Oh, yeah. Up upright. Yeah.
LU: Oh, my goodness.
HT: Yeah. I knew how to play piano. I was a—[chuckles]
LU: When did you learn how to play the piano?
HT: Oh, that's another question. In Vancouver, during peace time, we wanted to play jazz piano. So, I used to go to Hastings Park in Vancouver. I got friendly with a pianist there. And he used to show me how to play piano, like the runs and the things, eh? So, I used to sit beside him and watch him play in a real dance night. And he taught me how to play. And I used to play—buy some piano book and learn in Vancouver before the war. So, I knew how to play dance music. Well, other people, I organized it with that trumpet player. We ordered a music sheet from Toronto, and they had a sheet for trumpet, a sheet for saxophone.

[00:50]

ST: And those, all those instruments were donated by the YMCA in Toronto. Yeah. So, we played dance music and the camp guards, they liked the way we played. And instead of what, looking around for problems, the guard was sitting in the hall and listening to our music. Yeah. And then there's one particular guard, his name was—I forgot his name, but he was a Canadian Indian. Yeah. So, he was very friendly with Japanese. You know why? He was a Canadian Indian, wife is Indian.
LU: Oh. Stone Fish?
HT: Stone Fish. Yeah.
LU: Stone Fish, that's the guard.
HT: Yeah. He's still in Toronto, I think.
LU: Oh, wow.
HT: Yeah, he's a guard. He was a guard, but he didn't like the Canadian guards. [Conversation redacted from 51:06 to 51:20]
He hated them. So, he's nice to us. He gave us his daughter's music sheets. [chuckles] Oh, yeah. He used to come and listen to us. And I used to, you know, at night, I'm in bed, upper bed, he used to be the guard to patrol the hut, you know, to make sure we're in bed. So, when he passed my bed, I used to give him cigarettes. [chuckles] Yeah, he was really nice. Stone Fish. Yeah.
LU: Mm-hm.

?: Tell us about your father.
HT: Huh?
LU: What about your father?
?: And how he passed away? He was arrested.
HT: Oh, my father. Yeah. When Mounties closed the Canadian Japanese consulate office, I managed to run away from Mounties for a short while. And I told my brother when I was—escaped and didn't go to the Mounties, I told my brother, "I think we better use the back door to go to work and come home." So, we used the back door, and sure enough, there was a Mountie in front of the house. I didn't know that, you know, I just kept on using the back door. My brother, too. And then I got caught one time, one day, and taken to the immigration building. And then what happened was—
?: Your father was sick; grandpa was sick for a long time.
LU: Your father was sick?
HT: Oh, yeah. He was sick. Yeah.
?: And you didn't tell him about the front door back door.
HT: No. So,-so, my—
?: He went to look for you.
HT: I didn't go home at one time. I was caught, caught by the Mounties and taken to the immigration building. And what happened was I was in there and they brought him, my father, he's sick, into the immigration building. So, I—so, I got, well, afraid. What would happen to my father because he is sick.
LU: Why did they bring your father in?
HT: I don't know. No, because, it was a cirrhosis of the liver, let's say.
LU: No, why did they bring him into the immigration center?
HT: Because they—my house was being watched. He saw—the Mountie saw my father going out.
LU: Of the front door?
HT: Yeah.
LU: Oh.
HT: Because he was worried about me.

[00:55]

?: They thought grandpa was you.
HT: Yeah, the Mounties actually thought my father was me and arrested my father, brought him to the immigration where I was already caught [chuckles]. Yeah. So, the—Mounties thought that they caught me and took me to the POW camp. But I tried to explain that—to that—to the Mount—the authority, but they don't listen. They said, "He's a Takahashi, and we were looking for Takahashi," and caught him. If it wasn't for that, father then get—come out, they'd be okay. But they, they don't know what my father looked like. They thought it was me. So, actually they got—they put me in the train, and my father too. And my father got worse and worse in the train. And finally, he was put out at Winnipeg to—and put in a jail there. And he collapsed. And I was in- I was in the POW. I didn't know where my father was. And I

found out later that my father was taken from one hospital to the other. Nobody want—nobody wanted my father, because technically he is an enemy alien, and they don't wanna touch a sick enemy. So, they, they couldn't put him anywhere. So, they put him on a train, and I'm already there. And he got sick at Winnipeg, on the train. So, they put him out and put him in the hospital, and he passed away. And I didn't know that.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: My brother was caught. And he was with my father to look after him. But then, I—my father got sick and taken to the hospital in Winnipeg. My brother couldn't, couldn't do that. So, then when my brother came to me, I told him about it, and—they couldn't do anything about my father. So, he finally died in Winnipeg. And my mother telegraphed me and said that father died, we're having a funeral in there, Vancouver. But then, I couldn't attend the funeral. Ottawa said, there's a lot of young people fighting in Europe, if a father dies, they can't go home. They're fighting.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: Yeah. So, it is a similar situation, they said, so, I can't go home. So, all we could do was service—get a minister to service our—well, funeral service in the camp. Yeah. So, he was the first Japanese to pay for being Japanese.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: They wouldn't do anything because it's all red tape, eh?
LU: So, your brother was with you in Angler?
HT: Yeah. So, he accompanied my father, and he would get to Angler. Yeah.
LU: Did you stay in the same hut together?
HT: Hm?
LU: Were you in the same hut together?
HT: No.
LU: NO? What hut was he in?
HT: Well, all we could do was just read the telegram from my mother and nothing else.
LU: Do you remember what hut you were in?
HT: A what?
LU: What hut number or letter it was. Weren't the huts all labeled A, B, C?
HT: Oh, yeah. I was in a 4B, and my brother was in a 3A or something. Yeah, so all we were told was that—my mother—

[01:00]

HT: My mother was told that father died, but my mother wanted to have a funeral service in Vancouver. But they—our authorities won't pay for the return fare. So, they told my mother, you have to pay so X dollars to send them back.
[Conversation redacted from 1:00:24 to 1:00:39]
LU: Wow. That's expensive.
HT: Expensive. Yeah.
[Conversation redacted from 1:00:42 to 1:00:51]

LU: Was your mother alone, or did you have other siblings that were in Vancouver with her?
HT: Yeah. My sisters and my—another brother.
?: How many kids in the family? Where are you in the family?
HT: Seven.
LU: Seven?
HT: I think it was seven. Yeah.
LU: So, how many?
?: There are eight kids. The first one died as a baby, in 1919, with the—
?: 18, what was it called?
?: 1918.
HT: Yeah. 1918.
?: Spanish Influenza.
HT: Oh, yeah. German—
?: Spanish influenza.
HT: Spanish.
?: The eldest one was a baby died of Spanish influenza. And therefore, you ended up being, as the next child, the eldest.
HT: Yeah.
LU: We're just gonna stop for one moment, okay? [pause] Okay. So, you are, I guess, technically the eldest of the family then?
HT: Yeah.
LU: Mm-hm. And your brother, who was with you in Angler, where does he fall down in the line? What number is he?
HT: Well, he was a fourth, eh?
LU: The fourth?
HT: Yeah. But we got along, well, pretty good. Yeah. Because we all had to earn some money. Yeah. Big family.
?: And you met your future brother-in-law.
LU: You met your future brother-in-law?
HT: Yeah, on the train, going to the camp. And it was passing through a small town. I recognized my future brother-in-law. Yeah. Tosh Bando, yeah. And—oh, where's Tom Tsubouchi?
?: Yeah, in the camp.
?: He was in the camp.
?: Another future brother-in-law in the camp.
HT: Another brother-in-law [chuckles]. Oh, yeah. He was a really active boy. He loved sports.
?: What's his name?
HT: He loved sports so much that we met him, a sports manager at the camp.
LU: Oh. What was his name?
HT: Tom Tsubouchi. He lived a few blocks from here. Yeah.
?: Who is his firstborn son?
LU: His first-born son?
HT: It was an NP [National Party] member, parliament and—

?: Ontario
HT: A province. Tom Tsubouchi—David Tsubouchi. David is a MP [Member of Parliament] here.
LU: Oh, wow. Of Ontario?
HT: Yeah. He married my sister, because we were together in the camp, and we were friends together. And so—and then, he moved a few blocks from here. And then, funny thing, he married my sister, and then my sister died of sickness. And then, sometime later, we found out that he was killed by a drunken driver.

[01:05]

LU: No.
HT: Yeah. He was killed near his home, Agincourt, yeah. He was a really nice man, but funny way to die. Runaway car. They couldn't find the car that ran over him. Yeah. So, I lost two people. Who else now? Oh, I lost my—another sister. Who was—
?: Kazuko.
LU: Kazuko?
?: Auntie Kazuko. Auntie Kazuko in Vancouver.
HT: Oh, no. I'm thinking about Bando.
?: You already mentioned Uncle Tosh, you already mentioned him.
HT: Oh, I did?
?: How about after the war? Where did you work?
HT: After? Oh, yeah. Oh boy, oh boy. After the war, I—and the war was over, so I got released to Toronto for Port Credit.
LU: Weaver Brothers?
HT: So, I got released to Toronto mushroom farm, and Port Credit mushroom farm. But then I—when I got released, I went to the civil service office on Yonge Street. I went there and I said, "I want a job with the civil service." And she said—they said that to me—I gave them my resume, so, they said, "Okay, which office would you like to work? Income tax or unemployment insurance?" which was new there. I didn't like income tax, too much figures, but then this—let's say, unemployment insurance, it was—yeah, Canada Employment, immigration. That's unemployment. It was a new program, you know? So, I said, "Oh, I'd like to have unemployment insurance." They said—the civil servant said, "Okay, we'll give you that job, but you have to serve one year in a mushroom farm."
LU: Oh my goodness.
HT: I said, "Oh my God. Yeah, one year. Okay, that's better than nothing." So, I got my name in there and they said go to Leaver mushroom farm in Port Credit. And I worked there one year.
LU: What was it like working there?
HT: Well, the job is growing mushroom. Ever seen mushroom grow? What they do is they pick up horse manure in the racetrack and baker and other places, pick up horse manure, fresh one, and bring it to the mushroom farm and dump it up there. And then when that horse manure matured, you'd put 'em in an indoor basement.

You know, let it—and then mix it with chemical and mushroom would come up. That's how you eat your mushroom [laughs].
LU: Good thing I don't eat mushrooms [laughs].
?: How did you get a job? How did you get a job with the Canadian government since you were deemed an enemy during World War II?
HT: They knew that, but it was a manpower shortage at that time.
?: But wasn't it difficult to get a job with the Canadian government?
HT: No, because I worked with a Japanese government before.
LU: 35 years?
HT: With the federal government, yeah, Ottawa. So, as soon as—I was driving a truck, big truck for the mushroom farm.

[01:10]

HT: Because I didn't like picking mushroom. So, I had to get up in the morning at four o'clock and drive to the various bakery and dairy and racetrack and pick up the horse manure. They got lots of horse manure here all over the city. Yeah. So—it's pretty heavy too. It's a three-ton truck. So, I had a helper. My helper would load the thing. Anyway, pick up a mushroom, go to the mushroom farm and dump the manure, and then pick up a—I used the manure, take it to the Niagara Falls, and dumped it on a lawn on Niagara Falls, and then come back. You know, that—I've been driving it for—no one year. Anyway, when my one year was over, I said, "I quit."
LU: Were you living on the farm?
HT: Yeah.
[Conversation redacted from 1:11:12 to 1:11:16]
LU: Wow.
HT: Yeah, that wasn't much. He'd ride me a truck every day. Oh. Anyway, I said I quit, and I came—well, while I was working near the end of one year, I bought a house in Toronto, and everybody, brothers and sisters, everybody paid their share of money to buy a house, small house. Anyway, I got a job right away anyway, because my year was up. So, I went to the unemployment insurance, and I said I want a job. And I had a letter from the office, and they gave me a job right away. At first it was a filing job, you know. "Do you file?" I said, "Okay." That's it. No problem. It's easy job. So, when a vacancy occurred, I tried for the job, and I got the job. And then one day, I did—no, I was in charge of the whole files in the office. And then I got tired of that, and I looked around, there's a bunch of about 30 girls working on the machine, adding machine, you know, a big machine. Anyway, everybody sent the mail to the unemployment. So, I—the girls would pick it up and bang, bang, bang, bang, adding a total for the year, you know, and then bang, total. I said, "What kind of a job is that?" So, I said, "Look at that. They're just adding up something from the record and then totaling it." I said, "That's not the way to work," you know, I got an easier job. I said, "Why can't they just add the figures, putting in the machine? Bang, it's gone. What they're doing is that every week they bang, bang, bang. How many weeks? They're talking easy job. Instead of just counting every week, why can't they just add the total?" So, I gave—made up a table to put in a total. Fast, bang, bang bang, bam! You know, such, you

see, that's why—about 20% faster. Yeah. So, I showed the boss, and the boss was impressed.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: Yeah. 20% faster. So, they got the Ottawa to do it, and then Ottawa liked it. And they made it across Canada, my new system. So, they were impressed by that, the system. So, they gave me promotion. I kept on getting promotion until there was about 10 unemployment offices in Metro. I was in charge of all [chuckles].

[01:15]

LU: Oh my goodness.
HT: Yeah. In Brampton, Newmarket, everywhere, instructing how to add fast. So, they all—the government saved a lot of money there. So, they gave me more promotion. My last promotion was in charge of Metro 10 office. So, all I do is check everybody's work in the office.
[Conversation redacted from 1:15:30 to 1:16:01]
I fired a lot of people, Metro Toronto. Nobody complained.
?: Were you involved with the social—were you involved in starting the social insurance numbers?
HT: Oh, yeah, I did. Yeah.
LU: What happened? Tell me about that.
HT: Well, you see, social insurance number came in, eh? Nine numbers. So, everybody had to have a social insurance number to work. So—we were one of the teams to implement in Ontario, to get the application, and—I said, I was one of those that started the initial phase. And because my name is Takahashi, they said, "Okay, your name is Tak, T-A-K, so you start the tachometer [chuckles]. So, I started the tach and make sure it goes through the different way. And then, you know, put in the cards. And the way I did it was really faster than any other regions in Canada.
LU: Wow.
HT: Yeah. So, they applied my system. So, everybody in Canada is about 50%—I say more effective by my tachometer. So, finally, I was a chief inspector at [?] office. I had to teach the head of the company and bring 'em all together, you know, get lectures. It was interesting. Nobody else could do it. So, finally, after I retired, they did away with my job. Oh, yeah. Because nobody else wanted that. Yeah.
?: At your retirement party, were you presented with a special certificate?
HT: I think I did.
?: Talk about Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister, and the certificate you were presented with at your retirement party, hanging on the wall.
HT: Oh, yeah. Yeah. Brian Mulroney was a Prime Minister, right? I met him at—one of the office manager—no, no, no.
?: Okay, stop. No.
?: He can't hear you with the plugin. You have to talk into the microphone.
?: No. When you retired, the Manpower head guy made a certificate and sent it—did it by hand and sent it to Ottawa to get the Prime Minister to sign it. And that Prime Minister happened to be Brian Mulroney, and he did sign it. And then on your 89th

birthday, Brian Mulroney was in Toronto, so, therefore, you asked him if he would drop by to help you celebrate your birthday. And he did with his wife Mila. And they—he remembered signing the certificate that you had on the wall, and you had a very nice visit.
HT: Oh, yeah.
?: Now repeat that.
HT: Mulroney came last November. I invited him—
LU: Two years ago.
HT: Two years ago to my birthday party here. So, what surprised me was his head office is in Montreal, Brian Mulroney, still active. So, Brian Mulroney said—office said he'll be glad to attend my birthday party here. And what happened was he brought his wife Mila with him and came here.
[Conversation redacted from 1:20:47 to 1:22:05]
LU: What year did you retire?
HT: What year?
?: 65.
HT: What year? My birthday—
?: '84.
LU: '84. 1984. 1984, you retired?
HT: Hm?
LU: You retired in 1984?
HT: Oh, that's right, yeah.
[Conversation redacted from 1:23:25 to 1:24:47]
There's a lot of reference material. Judgment. Judge has said that in case like this, it should be case resulted in this. So, I memorized and made notes, what all the judgment made from way back. So, I knew if a person voluntarily leaves his job, he'll get six weeks of penalty. You know, things like that. Judgment made a certain thing. So, I used to instruct everybody about the precedent.
?: How to make—
HT: And because I take notes of what has been done in different cases.
?: You were in charge of how much unemployment each person, each case got, and under what circumstances and any penalties.
HT: Oh, that's too involved.
?: That's what you did.
HT: Yeah, I know that's what I did. But because I found that out by experience, what that man is doing and what that man is doing, you know, they were good teachers. So, I made lots of notes, you see. So, my retirement, the manager from, I think it was five offices, came to my party in an Italian restaurant. Oh, yeah.
[Conversation redacted from 1:26:30 to 1:26:42]
Oh yeah. They paid that. I don't know how much, maybe $35 each to go to that Italian restaurant. And they gave me a big tool, you know, what kinda tool is that?
?: It was a workbench.
LU: A workbench.
?: Black & Decker workbench.
HT: So, they all paid money to come to my party.

LU: Wow.
[Conversation redacted from 1:27:15 to 1:27:29]
LU: So, right after you left Angler, do you remember when—what the date was when you left Angler?
HT: I left Angler?
LU: When did you leave Angler?
HT: I—that's right after the war, anyway. Well, we knew that the job was going, I left Angler with the Sumiya brothers, mid-April 4th, 1946. Me and the Sumiya brothers, and—that's it.
LU: That's it? Just three people?
HT: Yeah. Because I didn't know the civil service office was there, but when I went to Toronto, I saw some address on a certain place. It was unemployment office—civil service office. They handle all of the civil service job. And I had my thing recorded that I would be getting my job in the government after one year, mushroom farm.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: My brother went to Grimsby. He went to Grimsby? Yeah. What was he doing in Grimsby?
HT: Yeah. Well, the basket factory, he went there. Well, it's okay. It's a big job. I enjoyed my job, so—you know, so everybody respected my judgment. And so when there was a court in Toronto involving one of the claimants, I used to go to the court myself and listen to the way the civil servant presented a case.

[01:30]

[Conversation redacted from 1:29:58 to 1:30:26]
So, every case in Toronto involving a certain office, I would attend it, you know, make notes. One time I had a room full of judges, so, that was really interesting, you know, judge, you know. And I remember their names, you know. It wasn't bad. Yeah.
LU: What happened to the other people who were in Angler? Where else did they go? The other people who were in Angler with you, do you know where other individuals went to after they left?
HT: Oh, yeah, I know where they—each one went. Yeah. I kept the record at Angler. Yeah.
LU: What kind of jobs would they do?
HT: They were given labouring jobs, but mostly farms and—I don't know.
LU: Logging? Would they do logging?
HT: Oh, yeah. After, yeah. That's way back. I used to—yeah, I lost my job with a Japanese [?]. But I found a job, one year job within a year in the sawmill. You know, with a long hook on the end, you know, a pole, pushing along on the river. And I used to fall in the water, Fraser River, once a day, you know [chuckles]. With a long pole, I used to push along into the sawmill. That was interesting. But they can't afford me falling in the water, so, oh yeah.
?: That was your job after the Japanese consulate was shut down by the Mounties, and just before you went to Angler.
?: He can't hear you.

LU: So, that job was before you went to Angler?
HT: Yeah.
LU: And when the—
HT: Oh, yeah. Yeah, that's right.
[Conversation redacted from 1:32:48 to 1:33:12]
?: I don't know what he's talking about.
HT: But I enjoyed that somehow. Yeah.
LU: And so, when you're on the train going to Angler, how many people were on the train with you?
HT: Let's see, that population of immigration building, I forgot. Couple of hundreds anyway.
LU: Wow.
HT: Yeah.
LU: And what was it like sitting in the train? Was it—
HT: Well, it was a train with my friends, so—one, two, three, four, five, five people maximum was sitting in a double seat, you know, three people. Anyway, we can't just sit like ordinary people, you know? We had to have two people sit, one in the middle. So, I said, "I'll sit in the middle," you know, lie down in the middle. And that, that was a mistake. Those two people never washed their socks [chuckles]. So, I just sat up and—oh, yeah. It was a big crowd. Yeah.
LU: Now, were you tied down or were you free to move around?
HT: No, no, we were not tied down. Oh, yeah, blind [chuckles]. We had to have the blinds down.
LU: Oh, so, you couldn't see outside the train where you were going?
HT: No, they told me—they told us when we're passing a city or town, "Pull that blind down."

[01:35]

HT: It doesn't prevent me from peeping. Yeah. Oh, yeah. Very strict with the guards [?].
LU: Why did you have to put the blinds down?
HT: So, that we can't see in, or other people can't see in. But that's how I saw my future brother-in-law. Yeah. I knew a lot of people and—because I used to practice martial arts, and before the war, we used to visit different centers, and they have their sports competition.
LU: Oh, like a tournament.
HT: Yeah. So, I got involved in *judo*. Yeah. Yeah. So, it was interesting.
LU: How old were you when you started *judo*?
HT: *Judo*. About a teenager? Yeah. Young, yeah.
LU: And what belt did you get to?
HT: Brown?
LU: Oh.
HT: No, no, actually, I was a—I was in the Black system, but I didn't have time to do it in front of the judges.

LU: Mm-hm.
HT: I was on the Brown, that's all. But I used to beat the Black one. That's what the judges were looking for. Yeah.
LU: What other activities did you do before the war?
HT: Before the war, and in school, well, baseball actually. I used to go to different places and play baseball. And I got my picture of the team in my room. Yeah. But then—
LU: What team were you on? Do you remember the name of the team?
HT: Mikado.
LU: Oh. And how old were you?
HT: Huh?
LU: Do you remember how old you were?
HT: Oh, yeah. I don't know.
LU: 17, 18?
HT: Yeah, something like that. Yeah. Yeah, I enjoyed it. Mikado. People are known by how good the [?] sports are. Yeah.
LU: Did you ever get to watch the Asahi play baseball in Vancouver? The Asahi, did you ever see them play baseball?
HT: No, no, Asahi, no. Because they're our—they were our competitors. If you're good enough, they'll take you. Yeah. But then, I knew those Asahi players socially. [shows picture]
LU: Oh.
HT: Yeah. What's in the back there? [looks at the back of the picture]
LU: It says, "High school, early working days. Left-hander. Outfielder."
HT: Outfielder.
LU: Outfielder.
HT: That's my title. Oh, always outfield [chuckles]. Oh, yeah. That's where you're—that's where they [?], yeah.
LU: Mm-hm. And do you remember where your house was in Vancouver?
HT: My house?
LU: Mm-hm. Where were you living in Vancouver?
HT: What do mean?
LU: Do you remember the address of the house?
HT: Yeah, 25 West Fifth Avenue. Oh, yeah. That's the last house we had. Yeah.
LU: And was that the house that you were living in when you first moved to Vancouver?
HT: Yeah, that's my house, yeah [shows picture].
LU: Oh, wow, big house.
HT: And that's when—that's me there. I graduated.
LU: And how big was the house? How many rooms did it have?
HT: Oh, they had about five rooms or something that accommodate everybody. Yeah.
LU: Did you have to share a bedroom?
HT: Hm?
LU: Did you share a bedroom?
HT: No, I didn't share with anybody. No.

LU: You had a bedroom to yourself?
HT: Yeah.

[01:40]

[Conversation redacted from 1:39:39 to 1:40:20]
Yeah. But then, we had enough money, all of us, to buy a bigger house, you see? And so, we had a big house, and my married sister built a flat on the third floor.
LU: Where was this house? Is this the Toronto house?
HT: Yeah, the last house we had there, 11 Playter Crescent. Yeah.
LU: And how many people lived in that house?
HT: [chuckles] Well, we had about three families. Yeah.
LU: Oh, wow.
HT: Yeah.
LU: Were there other Japanese people in the area?
HT: Oh, yeah, there were a couple. Yeah. Three.
LU: Three?
HT: That's the biggest house we ever had. Yeah. And last November—no, the last star in the real estate, there was that article on Playter Crescent. That's—yeah, really expensive place, yeah. The article was shown last year, over million dollars.
LU: Wow.
HT: So, too many. Yeah [chuckles].
LU: Wow.
HT: Oh, yeah. Yeah.
LU: And what was it like living in Toronto after the war? What were the people like in Toronto?
HT: I think they were wonderful. Yeah. Any house is okay. Yeah.
LU: You didn't have any problems with discrimination or racism?
HT: Oh, oh, yeah. Well, that was during my teenage in Vancouver. I remember public school. We had a sports event, and one of the events was running around the school ground once, and I was pretty good at running. I ran about halfway and looked behind me. The other people were way behind me. And then what happened to disappoint me was all the people watching me, they were cheering the other people, you know, not me. I'm way ahead, but they didn't cheer me, so, I just slowed down, let them win. And everybody was cheering and—oh, yeah. That part of discrimination. Yeah. Oh, yeah, because when I was small, I had my friend, Tadao—no, Tadao—somebody Japanese. I used to go to school with him, and an Italian boy, Bruno something, Italian. Italian guy was a big one. So, the three of them, we went to school together, walking. And I noticed that this Italian boy picks on me. I'm small, he's big, but Tadao, my friend, he'll get after that Italian boy. Oh, yeah. But only on—you know, jokingly. But the thing is, there, at that time, all the kids were fighting Japanese—fighting on Japanese.
LU: Why?
HT: Because their parents were telling them to. They're no good. So, what the three, Italian boy and Tadao and me, we were all friends, good friends, and nothing

happened. But I still remember Tad- Tanaka, yeah, and he was my friend, and he died a couple of years ago, but—the Italian boy was good too, but—jokingly, you know, he'll get absolutely— [chuckles].

[01:45]

HT: See, that's the kind of people have—some of them, they gang around and beat up Japanese people.
[Conversation redacted from 1:45:10 to 1:45:14]
Finally, we—one of them has a BB gun. He used a BB gun to hit the people. Oh yeah, at that time, no, we were chasing each other. I used to deliver newspapers for the province. Yeah. And the people would try to steal my money. Yeah. The discrimination.
LU: Did they ever call you any names?
HT: No. No, I don't—didn't have any other name. No.
LU: Did you ever have a nickname when you were growing up? Other than Tak?
HT: No.
LU: How many Japanese families were in your area when you were growing up in Vancouver?
HT: Oh, God, I don't know.
LU: Did it seem like there was a lot of Japanese people?
HT: Oh, yeah. Yeah. A lot of them. Yeah. Some sawmill had a sign up, “Help wanted, no Japanese.” Public [chuckles].
LU: Wow. Was that right before the war?
HT: Before the war, yeah. Yeah. No Japanese, yeah, I still remember that. Yeah.
LU: Did you see signs like that anywhere else?
HT: Mm-hm?
LU: Oh, do you want to put it back in?
[One of the daughters put in hearing aids for Hideo]
LU: Did you see signs like that anywhere else that said, “No Japanese”? Any discrimination signs?
HT: Oh, yeah. Other, some people—even in Toronto, too. Yeah. No Japanese. In Vancouver, it's all over, all over the city.
LU: Would it be by restaurants or buildings?
HT: Oh, no.
LU: Where would you see them?
HT: Mostly fishing. I remember most Japanese school only get a job in the sawmill. That's where the first generation worked. Well, employment is really bad. Then, not now.
LU: And your father, he was a clerk for grocery store, but was he working anywhere else after that?
HT: Yeah, in Britannia Beach, when he first came to Canada, got a job as a clerk at a store. Yeah. Nobody else wanted the job anyway.
LU: What about when he was in Vancouver? Where was he working?
HT: My father was working as a gardener.

LU: Oh, a gardener?
HT: For rich people. I used to go and help them. Rich people have fruit trees and things that they—you could pick and eat. I used to help them and eat some apple.
[Conversation redacted from 1:49:00 to 1:49:36]
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: Oh, yeah.
LU: And where else did your father work? Or was he just a—
HT: Oh, yeah, he opened a shoe store there, a shop in downtown Vancouver. Oh, yeah. Shoe store.
LU: Where was the shop?
HT: At the middle of the city.

[01:50]

LU: Do you remember the address or what street?
HT: No. Hell no. Yeah, Hastings. Yeah, because I used to go into my father's store to get my shoe fixed. Yeah.
LU: Would you put the metal brackets on the shoes? On the bottom of the shoes?
HT: No. No.
LU: How long did your father have the shoe repair store?
HT: Oh, about a little over a year. Yeah. Short time. Yeah.
LU: Do you remember what year that was?
HT: Hm?
LU: Do you remember what year that was?
HT: No. After the shoe store, he got a job with a Japanese shoe repair shop in another area, in Vancouver, yeah.
LU: Mm-hm. What about the Depression years in the thirties? Do you remember that?
HT: Yeah. Remember. Yeah. I had to go to work, but then, you can't get a permanent job and that—so, younger years, you know, big depression. I said, all I could do was get a job with my father, helping him garden.
LU: Mm-hm. And what about your mother? Would she stay home and take care of the house?
HT: Oh, yeah.
LU: Did you have a garden in the back of your house?
HT: Hm?
LU: Did you have a garden at your house?
HT: Yeah, always. Yeah.
LU: What kind of crops would you grow there?
HT: Oh, yeah. All kinds of vegetables and—like a big thing, like melons and things, yeah. They're really good garden. And I remember my father, he had a chicken coop in the backyard. Whenever he wanted to eat chicken, he would catch it, but he won't kill it. He would let Chinese, you know, selling vegetables with a truck kill my chicken. Yeah. He didn't wanna chop its head off. Yeah, I remember that. Yeah.

LU: Mm-hm. And would you go out and buy Japanese food from a Japanese grocery store? Or how would you get miso and rice?
HT: Well, at that time, when I was small, the Japanese had their own vegetable truck. Like the Chinese, you know, they travel all over and sell vegetable. Yeah, we had a grocery store. It was nothing but Japanese food. And he used to sell mostly tofu. Yeah. You just have to walk a block and buy some tofu. Yeah.
LU: Do you remember the name of the grocery store?
HT: No, that was Marubashi. That's all I know, Marubashi. Yeah.
LU: Did you have a car in your family? Did your dad use a car to drive around to the different—
HT: No. No. All the driving was done by this Marubashi. He had a truck, so, we traveled different area, baseball team—like, yeah. Oh yeah. He was pretty good. Well, I learned to drive when I was a kid, anyway. A friend of mine had a car, and it was, you know, gear shift. He let me drive around the block. Yeah. I was young then, but I learned to drive.
[Conversation redacted from 1:54:21 to 1:54:55]

[01:55]

LU: What about for driving a car? Did you need a license to drive the car?
HT: Yeah. And at Port Credit, to drive a truck, the owner of that mushroom farm drove me to the licence in Port Credit. So, I had a truck, company truck, and I drove it. And he said, "You see that red garage door? I want you to drive back—backwards." I didn't know anything about it. I drove backwards into the red door. That was a fire hall [chuckles]. You don't drive into the fire hall. Yeah. But he said, "That's okay. I told you so, you remember." So, he got me a licence right away.
LU: And what about in Vancouver? Did you need a license in Vancouver at that time?
HT: No. You had to, I guess, but I didn't. Yeah. Yeah. I liked it. I liked driving trucks, you know?
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: You know, you drive on Queen Elizabeth and see a lot of trucks parked in a lot of garages. You know why they're all there. Young waitresses [chuckles]. Yeah. So, if there's no waitress, it's not a good place to park [chuckles].
LU: I'm just gonna switch the tape [switches tape]
?: I don't know if any of this is going be—
LU: Oh, yeah. It's actually the pre-war days that we don't have a lot of information about. So, that seems to be the hardest to capture.
?: It's just that if—like, because last year we—
HT: If you have a look at the photographs that I have, it shows that I drive all over the place.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: Yeah. Niagara Falls.
?: That was after the war.
?: He can't hear you.
?: I'm not talking to him.

?: No, it's just that I can tell dad's—like, he used to be really super sharp, and I can tell from this interview.
?: When you talked about girlfriend at his retirement party, he just meant coworker.
?: He's just talking a female coworker. Because his wife is there, our mother's there. He said, "girl friend." That should be two separate words.
LU: So, during the beginning of the war when Pearl Harbour happened, where were you when you heard about that?
HT: Well, I was working in Vancouver, Japanese Legation. And I—and that was weekend here. And then I realized that, on the radio, I heard that Pearl Harbour—I said, I wanna—if I should go to work. So, I wasn't sure. So, I walked downtown to the office. I noticed somebody behind me, but I opened the door and sat down and closed the door, sat in my office. This guy here was following me. I noticed that he, he told me he was a Mountie [chuckles].
LU: Oh.
HT: Yeah. So, that's how I got arrested.
LU: What was your reaction to hearing about Pearl Harbour? How did you feel?
HT: Oh, mixed up, yeah. It's Pearl Harbour, so far away, I thought. But I didn't realize that all the Japanese were suspects.

[02:00]

[Conversation redacted from 1:59:17 to 2:00:23]
LU: What happened to the Consul?
HT: Consul? Well, he had a permit to work, so, all he could do was wait for him to be deported. Yeah. Can't stay here.
LU: Mm-hm. Did you ever think that you would end up in Angler, in a prisoner of war camp?
HT: No. No. That—my fate just proceeded towards it. I didn't, I didn't really worry about that. Because I feel worried about something, something will happen. Yeah. Yeah, I remember going to the Concul's office party. He had an office party every Saturday in Japanese town in Vancouver, where it's open for weekends to the Consul's people, men and women. So, I enjoyed that Saturday party. Yeah. So-
LU: And what happened to your mother and your other siblings?
HT: I don't know.
?: Lemon Creek.
LU: They went to Lemon Creek?
HT: Oh yeah, that's right. Ghost town, they went to ghost town. Yeah.
LU: Did they go to Hastings Park first?
HT: No. Privately, they applied for ghost town, but they didn't have to go to Hastings Park, yeah.
?: Because they'd lived in Vancouver.
LU: So, they moved from Vancouver from 25 West Fifth Avenue—
HT: Yeah, 25, yeah.
LU: To Slocan, B.C [British Columbia] on October 28, 1942.
HT: Moved to—that's the ghost town, Popoff.

LU: Cousin Koharu?
HT: Yeah, Koharu Sano. That's a relative. Yeah, they had a farm, so—
?: No, they joined—your family joined Koharu at Popoff for—
?: Microphone [hands over microphone].
?: Grandma, your mother and your brother and sisters moved in with cousin Koharu Sano at Popoff for two weeks. And then they all moved to Lemon Creek, 38 Dogwood Avenue—
HT: Yeah, that's a ghost town, yeah.
?: Where they stayed for the duration of the war.
HT: Yeah. Well, they were—everybody was [?] good. [coughs] Excuse me, because, I was helpless, and the other people managed to do better.
LU: Do you want a glass of water or anything, or?
HT: No, no.
?: His myopathy is neck muscles.
LU: Mm. So, were you able to correspond with your family when you're in the camps?
HT: Oh, yeah. We were allowed to use one postcard per month and one letter per month.
LU: Wow, very strict.
HT: Oh, yeah. So, people started to, you know, "Would you gimme your postcard? I got mine out." So, this month, you know, they trade cards or letters, and they get arrested [chuckles].
LU: They would get arrested?
HT: Oh, yeah.
?: They put into detention.
LU: Into detention?
HT: Yeah.
LU: And tell me a little bit about detention. What would they do?
HT: Who?
LU: What would the RCMP do with detention?

[02:05]

HT: Oh, I don't—they'd take you to some—Hastings Park.
?: No, in Angler, when you went into—when a person goes into detention, it's bread and water for a certain amount of time. Weeks.
HT: Oh, yeah.
?: Can you repeat that?
HT: Well, you get put in—given a penalty for using other people's cards or letters. So, that's the sort of penalty—but they still do it anyway.
LU: And what would happen when you went into detention? Did you ever go into detention?
HT: No.
LU: No? How long would people be in detention for?
HT: Oh, well, depend on the type of thing, but usually two or three weeks.

LU: Wow, that's a long time.
HT: Yeah. The detention, yeah.
LU: And would they give them certain types of foods, or was it just bread and water? Were they allowed to eat anything else?
HT: Yeah, bread and water, yeah. And they make you scrub the floors and things like that. So—
LU: Did you have to sleep in a separate place?
HT: No.
LU: No? You still slept in your bunk?
HT: Mm-hm.
LU: How many people would be in the hut with you?
HT: Oh, about 80, I guess. 80 people.
LU: And did you have a cook and a mess hall where you would eat? Or would you do it inside the hut?
HT: No, we have a cook just doing cooking. They have to get up in the morning around three o'clock or something and go home early. You know, we had a good system. Professionals, yeah.
LU: Do you remember what kind of food you were eating?
HT: No. Just the ordinary, toast and butter, coffee, jam, you know, ordinary things.
LU: What about for dinner time?
HT: Hm?
LU: What about for dinner? What would you eat for dinner?
HT: Oh, not much of a change. No.
LU: So, you would still eat toast and jam for dinner?
HT: Mm-hm. Yeah. Our cook is experienced in cooking, so—oh, yeah, mutton, yeah.
LU: What's mutton?
HT: Mutton, sheep, yeah. Sheep.
LU: Oh, sheep? You would eat sheep? Would you eat it with vegetables, like carrots and potatoes, or?
HT: Oh, yeah. We get it—otherwise, we'll be writing complaints to the Red Cross and everything. So, they're careful about that.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: Yeah.
LU: What about during the wintertime? Was it difficult to get food supplies to the camp?
HT: Yeah, it was, yeah, a lot of the time. In the summer, too, yeah. They loaded the supplies to the wagon. Sometimes you see green meat. They complained about that. Yeah. Oh, yeah. We're very careful. Yeah, like, most of the time, we don't have enough to eat anyway. And so, my brother was there too, eh? When he came to me and he said, “I want a job in the kitchen.” I said, “What kind of a job do you wanna do?” And he said, “Whatever job they give me in the kitchen.” So, I said, “Are you crazy?” No, then I realized that he was smarter than I am. He could help the kitchen [eating hand gesture]. Oh, yeah, he had enough to eat, yeah. Smart, yeah.
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: Well, I don't care. I had a good job in the camp, anyway. Yeah, I could give orders.

LU: What kind of orders would you give?

[02:10]

HT: Oh, well, I—certain people would ask to do this kinda work or whatever they could do, yeah. But then—oh, yeah, well, they may get private things from the family from out of town, yeah.
LU: Were you allowed to receive presents?
HT: Oh, yeah.
LU: Did you ever receive any?
HT: No. Not money, no.
LU: What about other items? Like clothes, or?
HT: I don't know. They make their own arrangements or whatever they want, yeah. They may wanna some pair of shoes or something. They can get it from their family, or we will allow them to go to our canteen and buy something.
LU: And what about when you're in Angler and the clothing you had to wear? Did you have to wear the uniforms?
HT: Yeah, that's right. Warm clothing, yeah [chuckles].
LU: What about the big red circle on the back of the uniforms that you had to wear?
HT: [?] They'd be given a set of new uniform if they could prove that it's torn or whatever it is. We have a tailor in there. Because our tailor is good, I used to find soldiers bringing their things to our tailor and then paying the tailor. But then, that, I stopped on that one. You don't wanna give the soldiers anything.
LU: So, what did your uniforms look like?
?: [shows picture] Is the uniform still green?
?: Mm-mm.
HT: Oh, that's our new home.
?: No, start here.
HT: The Japanese internee's clothing has a large red circular on the back. We thought it was a red flag, you know?
LU: Oh, the Rising Sun.
HT: Yeah, yeah. Then we saw the Germans and they got it, same thing. Yeah, yeah. That's the target, yeah. Yeah. Well, we had no problem there.
LU: And did you have targets anywhere else on the uniforms? So, you had a big circle on the back, and did you have anything on your hats?
HT: No, I think the Germans did, but we didn't have any problem.
LU: What about on your pants? Did you have the big red stripe on your pants?
HT: Yeah. Side. Yeah.
LU: Down the side?
HT: Yeah.
[Conversation redacted from 2:13:21 to 2:14:13]
LU: So, how many uniforms would you get to wear a week? And who would do the laundry?
HT: Yeah, so, two pairs, yeah.
LU: Two pairs for one week?

HT: Well, more than that, maybe.
?: No.
HT: Because we changed the uniforms all the time. They could prove that they're working clothing or just dirty or, you know, things.
LU: And who would do the laundry?
HT: Well, we do our own our laundry, yeah.
LU: And what other activities would you do when you're an Angler?

[02:15]

LU: You said you played cards and talked to everyone, but—
HT: Yeah, well, we like music, people with instruments.
LU: *Kendo.* Did you practice *kendo* when you were in the camps, or in Angler?
HT: No, just *judo*, yeah.
?: His brother.
LU: Oh. And how many people would do *kendo*? Was it a big group?
HT: It's a big group, yeah. *Kendo, judo.*
?: Football.
HT: Not much.
LU: Football?
HT: Huh?
LU: Football?
HT: Football, baseball.
?: Skating.
LU: Would you go skating in the winter?
HT: Yeah.
LU: Where would the skates come from?
HT: YMCA. We have to pay half price. Yeah.
LU: So, would everyone share the skates?
HT: No. A lot of people don't like it, yeah. Too cold, yeah.
LU: And what else would you do in the winter?
HT: Well, play cards and—yeah, play cards.
LU: Were you able to go outside a lot?
HT: Hm?
LU: Were you able to go outside of the hut in the winter?
HT: Oh, yeah. Walk around the premises. As long as they stay within the wire, yeah.
LU: Were you allowed to go close to the wire and go close to the fences, or would they get angry?
HT: Oh, they get angry. Warning, actually. Warning, you know, they'd bring their guns out. I remember, I remember physical exam [chuckles].
LU: How often did they do a physical exam?
HT: Well, whenever they wanted to do it. We have to strip naked, lined up.
LU: Everyone?
HT: No, the officer in charge, they always carry a short stick, eh? Officer. You see a picture with an officer with a stick. What do they use a stick for? [chuckles]

LU: Really?
HT: Yeah. I didn't know that. But then we have to—were stripped, so, officer would lift up my penis— [chuckles]
LU: Just to check?
HT: Yeah. And then a cuff. You know, cuff. Everybody was sort of, you know, we complained it to the Red Cross, you know, but they can't do anything. It's in the regulation. Yeah. And I remember we're lining up stripped to the officer. One guy behind me saw—opened a door—I mean, window, ran over naked and out, jumped out the window. But then the thing is, he was a tall man, but the window was taller than he is, so, we had to pull him up. So, I told him, you know, I said, "Why did you do that for?" You know, he said, "I don't know. I saw open window." Oh, yeah, he—I was gonna put his name in my diary, but I didn't put his name on.
[Conversation redacted from 2:18:59 to 2:19:10]
Yeah. I told—I asked him, "Can I put your name in the diary?" He said, "No." [chuckles] Oh, yeah.
LU: So, what was it like when you had to wake up in the morning? Would they come and wake everyone up at the same time, or were you allowed to wake up whenever you wanted to, or?
HT: No, you had to wake up at a certain time so you could line up to a kitchen for food. So, if I oversleep, somebody will wake you up. Yeah.
LU: And would the guards have to go around and count heads to make sure everyone's there?
HT: Yeah. Oh, well, we go outside our hut and line up, eh?

[02:20]

HT: And officer—Canadian officer would come in with his bodyguards and count noses.
LU: Oh.
HT: Yeah [chuckles]. That's what the camp—our leader will do. Come in with the officer and officer would watch the officer count the head. But then one day, a friend of mine said, "Hey, we're facing East, aren't we?" He said. I said, "Yeah," "Well, let's play a game. When the officer, Canadian officer comes in, let's bow to him." So, we were bowing. So, one day this guy said, "We're East, so, let's bow to the emperor of Japan." So, we had our legitimate sergeant, you know, Japanese. He agreed. And when Mr. Tanaka brought his—the Canadian officer through the gate, this sergeant, the Japanese sergeant would say, "*Ki wo tsuke*!" you know, "Attention!" and then, "*Saikeirei*!" "And bow!" in Japanese. We all obeyed this guy, sergeant. So, we would stand there and bow. That was okay, but what did the Canadian soldier do? He looks at us bowing, and he would do this [gestures tipping hat]. He thought we were bowing at him.
LU: He didn't know.
HT: No idea. We thought we were bowing to Japan. And then the Canadian citizen, he thought we were bowing at him.
LU: Now, everyone who was in Angler, did they mostly speak Japanese?

HT: Yeah.
LU: Or did most of them speak English?
HT: Oh, Japanese, yeah.
LU: Mm-hm. So, would the guards be able to understand what you're saying in Japanese?
HT: No [chuckles]. Oh, yeah, that was funny, though. Well, we have a nickname for all the officers, you know, like, let's say, oh yeah, like "Shorty", you know, we would say, "Shorty." And the officer won't know what we meant. "Authority" or "crazy people," "crazy crazy."
LU: Would they be nicknames in Japanese or in English?
HT: In Japanese.
LU: In Japanese.
HT: Yeah. "Crazy," like—you know there was a guard, big man, Russian, you know. And he was a little stupid. So, we would say—not "Dumb" but "Dumbo" or something.
LU: Dumbo?
?: "*Donko*" (stupid kid).
LU: "*Donko*"?
HT: Yeah, "*Donko*" means stupid. We said "Hey, *Donko*" (another way of saying stupid kid)
LU: Big Dan?
HT: Oh, Big Dan, yeah. He was stupid. Yeah. Big man but stupid. So, one night, he had a midnight duty, walking into the dark hut, make sure people are sleeping. So, one day, on the upper bed, a guy shouted, "*Donko*, come!" and grabbed the hat from the shoulder, and then threw it away in the dark. And the guy guard said, "Oh, come on, gimme back my hat." You know, nobody would give it to him. They'll pass it around in the dark, you know? So—oh, he was a sergeant, yeah. So, next morning, we saw him again, and this guy had a stripe torn off, made him a corporal.

[02:25]

LU: Oh.
HT: Instead of sergeant. So, *Donko* said to everybody, "Hey, look!" So, we said—so, I said, I told the guy, "Oh, give *Donko* his hat back." He had been doing it for fun, you know? So, nobody answered. Next day, he said, "Hey, look at me!" He got his sergeant back [chuckles]. He got—we were sorry for him. Oh, *Donko,* we were so sorry for him. People were dumping—I mean, dumping on the shoulder, you know, the big mess. Oh yeah. Yeah, that was funny. Yeah. "*Donko,*" "Stupid," we call him.
LU: And would you do a roll call before you had to go to bed at night?
HT: Yeah, there's a roll call for meals, first thing in the morning before meal, and last thing is midnight check. Yeah.
LU: Did anyone ever try to think about escaping like the Germans did when they dug a hole?
HT: Yeah, no.
LU: No?

HT: Yeah, Germans were, well, they had to do that for their fatherland, eh? Escaping. Yeah, they're really rough, Germans.
LU: And did you go to Petawawa as well?
HT: Yeah.
LU: When were you in Petawawa? When?
HT: Petawawa, yeah, that's the earlier part of the war, yeah.
LU: So, did you go to Petawawa first and then you went to Angler?
HT: Yeah, after the riot, yeah. [looks at picture] Resident number nine. Oh, yeah. Yeah. April. So, July, Petawawa, and then Angler, and then Ontario, Port Credit. Yeah.
LU: So, in 1942 from April until July, you were in Petawawa?
HT: Petawawa, yeah.
LU: And what was it like in Petawawa? How was it different from Angler?
HT: Not much of a difference, no.
LU: Was it still had the huts and the wires around?
HT: Oh, yeah.
LU: And how many people were in the huts? Were they the same size?
HTL About the same size, yeah. About 80, 80 and a half, yeah.
LU: And what happened in Petawawa with the riot?
HT: Oh, that was when the shooting started, eh? That's Petawawa.
LU: Oh, that was Petawawa?
HT: Yeah.
LU: And then when did you—or why did you move to Angler?
HT: Because after the riot, we were a bad example for the Germans, so, commandant recommend that we move to Angler, join every Japanese there.
LU: So, did all the Japanese people who were in Petawawa move to Angler?
HT: Yeah. But then they were, you know, we were different people in Angler, different people in Petawawa. They had their own ideas of how we should act. Well, I was—I wasn't even, I wasn't for the riots or move or something, because we had a couple of factions in the camp. Some, you know, like mass evacuation, or more strict people, like, don't be too, you know, lackadaisy or anything. And me, official, obey the law [chuckles]. Oh, yeah. That was the one thing, and people liked me, because I worked for the Japanese government, they know that.

[02:30]

HT: So, they know that I should know better, so, they obey me. Yeah. Oh, I told you about that riot, eh?
LU: Mm-hm.
HT: Yeah. That was a—you know, the most exciting thing I did there.
LU: Pretty scary though.
HT: Hm?
LU: Pretty scary.
HT: Yeah. But then Mr. Tanaka was a really nice leader, so, we always obeyed him. And Mr. Tanaka had a university education in the States, so, he's pretty—well, when I first met Mr. Tanaka, he asked me, "Have you ever read the League of Nations?" I

said, “Yes, I did, but I forgot most of it. All I remember is that prisoner of war shall be treated humanely.” So, Mr. Tanaka said, “Yes, I read that League of Nations, but I forgot everything, too.” So, both of us read it, you know. But—yeah, I studied that at the consulate office, you know. That's one thing we have to study, study it. But Japan did not sign it. They know Japan didn't sign it, so, they could do anything they want. Oh, yeah. That's one thing I really studied, League of Nations, because Consul of Japan is very strict that they obey international law. Even though their action is not, but on the—for the law, you have to obey the law, yeah.
LU: What about when you're in Angler, in Petawawa, were you able to read books? Were there books available to use?
HT: Oh yeah.
LU: And where would they come from?
HT: The Toronto office.
?; Japanese and Canadian Red Cross.
HT: Huh?
LU: The Japanese and Canadian Red Cross?
HT: No, no, no. What's that? The Young—
?: YMCA.
LU: The YMCA?
HT: YMCA, yeah. They got everything.
LU: They would provide books for you?
HT: Yeah, if you ask for it, yeah.
LU: What kind of books would you—would be requested?
HT: Well, some, like me, I personally like music books. Others were studying for the matriculation, education book. Everybody had a different ideas of what they want. All I wanted was a musical instrument [chuckles]. Yeah.
LU: Did you have to pay for the books, or were they donated?
HT: Donated, yeah. Music books, too. Yeah. And I got to know the officials of the YMCA. Yeah. And they're pretty nice.
LU: Mm-hm. Anything else that you remember about Angler, or Petawawa? Any other stories?
HT: No, that's in my diary one. No, I don't think I have any more stories. Oh, wait a minute. God, I forgot now.
LU: So, when you left Angler, how did you feel when you're able to leave? Were you pretty happy?
HT: Yeah, really happy. Yeah. Because now I have freedom to find jobs and everything, yeah.
LU: Did everyone leave around the same time? Or were you one of the last people to leave or one of the first people to leave?
HT: No, about mid—middle, maybe. About 400 or 500 still left there, yeah.

[02:35]

So, my brother, I told my brother, “I'm going to Port Credit, and you could follow me if you want.” But he wanted to go to Grimsby. Yeah, the basket factory. Yeah.

LU: Why did he wanna go to Grimsby?
HT: To be close to Toronto. My brother didn't care where I went.
LU: Did your brother come and live with you in Toronto afterwards, once you got the house?
HT: Mm-hm, yeah.
LU: And what about your wife? Where did you meet your wife?
HT: In Toronto. Toronto, yeah.
LU: And how did you meet her?
HT: Well, my friends—my wife at first—it was a camp leader, married camp leader's daughter. And he wanted me to marry her daughter. I said, "No, I don't think so." But then I met somebody else. And then, not quite [chuckles]. I wasn't too anxious. But when I got my job at civil service, okay, now I will [chuckles]. With a steady job, yeah. Oh no, I didn't worry about it.
LU: So, you met her through friends?
HT: Hm?
LU: You met your wife through friends?
HT: Yeah, friends, yeah.
LU: And was it at a dinner party or did you go to one of the Toronto dances?
HT: No, it just—
?: Go-between.
LU: A go-between?
HT: Just meeting somebody and going places, yeah.
LU: And when did you get married?
HT: When did I get married? Mm-hm, God.
?: April 17, 1954.
LU: April 17, 1954?
HT: Something, yeah. Because— [showing his wedding photo]
LU: Oh.
HT: Yeah.
LU: And what was your wife's name?
HT: Fumiko.
LU: And what was her maiden last name?
HT: Miyazaki.
LU: Miyazaki?
HT: Miyazaki. Yeah.
LU: And was Fumiko working when you met her?
HT: Oh, yeah. She was working as a dress maker?
?: Furrier. Sable Bay Furrier.
LU: Sable Bay Furrier?
HT: Mm-hm.
LU: What was Sable Bay Furrier?
?: They make fur coats.
LU: Oh, fur coats?
?: Before that, she was working for the Anglican Church House.
LU: Oh.

HT: Oh, yeah. Then I married, nearly married that camp leader's daughter. But I wasn't quite ready. Had to have a good job, eh? Yeah, once I got my good job, and so— [chuckles].
LU: And how many children did you have?
HT: Two.
LU: Two girls?
HT: Mm-hm.
LU: And they were born in the Toronto house or?
HT: Yeah, Toronto.
LU: In Toronto? In the hospital?
?: St. Michael's.
HT: Yeah, they passed the EFT [Emotional Freedom Technique]. Both of them had a—what do you call that license?
?: Bachelor of Science.
LU: Bachelor of Science?
HT: Yeah. And they both had good jobs, so, yeah, I don't know [chuckles]. I don't know if they're happy or not [chuckles].
?: I don't know if he has anything else to say.
LU: Mm-hm. Do you have any other stories that you can think of that he might talk about or post-war or?
?: I really don't think so 'cause, everything will be in his supposed book when it gets published next year, so—his memory's really bad. I don't know if you have enough to do a footage.
LU: Mm-hm, yep. We have quite a bit.
?: But I have a lot of pictures that you could take that might sort of bring it all together. Some of the things he did say are incorrect.
LU: That's okay. We can make changes.
?: It's not that important enough to make a big stink about. Okay.
LU: Well, we're all set. Thank you very much.
?: Oops, sorry [removes hearing aids for Hideo]. Okay.

[Interview End]