

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY: RICHARD FUNAI, retired school teacher

Richard Funai, Japanese, was born in Kailua, March 20, 1909. His parents immigrated to Hawaii from Kumamoto, Japan.

Richard completed Waialua Elementary School, went to McKinley and Mid-Pacific Institute and attended six universities. He married during World War II; he and his wife were evacuated to Puyallup, Washington and then sent to a relocation camp in Twin Falls, Idaho.

He held a variety of jobs over the years including foreman in California's celery fields, owning his own amusement machines business, and a pineapple field summer luna position. From 1945 until 1974 he taught at Waialua High School.

Richard helped organize the Lion's Club and was active in the Y Men's Club, the Haleiwa Community Association, and the Waialua Athletic Association. The Funais live today in Waialua.

Tape No. 1-5-1-76
ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

with

Richard T. Funai (RF)

July 31, 1976

Waialua, Hawaii

BY: Dale Hayashi (DH)

DH: This is an interview with Richard Funai on July 31st, 1976.
At 9:45 a.m. Will you please tell me a little bit about when
and where you were born?

RF: I was born in Kailua. That's near Haleiwa. March 20, 1909.

DH: Have you lived here all your life?

RF: I lived here practically all my life. I finished the eighth
grade here and then went to McKinley, and then to Mid-Pac. And
then I stayed in the Mainland for about 10 years.

DH: Why did your parents come to Hawaii?

RF: When?

DH: Why?

RF: For the same reason as the other Japanese. They wanted to make
money, and as soon as they were able to make enough money, they
wanted to go back to Japan.

DH: Did they ever return?

RF: They went to visit in about 1939 or 1938. I think they went
twice.

DH: But they decided to stay?

RF: They wanted to stay, of course, with the children, I guess.

DH: How much schooling have you had?

RF: Finished high school and went to John Brown University in Arkansas,
Northwest Christian College, Eugene. Went to Butler University,
Indiana. Law school in the University of Washington, and did some
extra work at University of Hawaii and Brigham Young University
at Laie.

DH: As a child in the elementary school, can you describe a typical

school day? What you used to do?

RF: Mostly I went to school trying to learn the English language because when I first went to elementary school, I couldn't speak English. Nor could I write. We were speaking quite a bit in Japanese at that time. But a great deal of our time was spent in English, math, geography, and lots of gardening. We had no cafeteria work, because at that time we had no cafeteria.

(DH chuckles)

DH: What did you do for your lunch then?

RF: At Kawaiiloa, I used to go home to eat my lunch. But when I went to Haleiwa Elementary School, I had to bring my own lunch. Rice ball and cooked fish or ume in the rice ball. And nothing to drink except pipe water.

DH: What kind of clothes did you wear?

RF: Usually denim pants and denim shirt. Tough ones. Of course, at that time, parents couldn't afford nice shirts and nice pants. In fact, in all my years until I finished the elementary school, I went barefeet.

DH: How well did you get along with other children of, like, other ethnic backgrounds?

RF: At that time in Kawaiiloa, we had different camps. Japanese camp, Filipino camp, and Portuguese camp, Spanish camp. We got along fine sometimes. Sometimes we would gang up and fight the Portuguese. That was one of the recreations.

DH: (Laughs) Do you remember what kind of disciplines were administered in school?

RF: When I was in the elementary school, I was pretty bad. So I received a lot of punishment. I used to get whacked on my leg, my hands. Black and blue. I know I wasn't treated badly by any of the teachers, but I know a certain student was told to hold soap in the mouth. And that was pretty bad. But most of all, students received corporal punishment.

DH: As you got older and entered intermediate and high school, like that, did your daily routines change any?

RF: In high school--we had no intermediate at that time. Finish eighth grade, you go directly to high school. And you have to pass your grades or else they'll kick you out of school. There's no such thing as they're going to give you a break. And there was no counseling in the school at that time. McKinley had no counselors. You have to pass certain number of subjects or else you'll be kicked out. And as long as you were passing, it was all right. So I was passing. Many times I'd sneak out from school and go downtown to see movies.

(DH laughs)

RF: Country boy.

DH: How did you travel to school?

RF: At McKinley, I rode the streetcar.

DH: All the way from Kawaihoa?

RF: No, I mean, high school I'd ride a streetcar, but from Kawaihoa to Haleiwa Elementary School, we walked. And that's a little over two miles.

DH: Then when you were going to high school, you were staying in town?

RF: I was staying in town. There was no way to travel back and forth.

DH: Was it a boarding house or something?

RF: No, I stayed with my friends. My parents' friends.

DH: You know anything about any kind of dorms over there?

RF: At that time there were no dorms, except that the Japanese school had dormitory. But no other schools. Mid-Pac had a dormitory.

DH: The Japanese school dorm, was that connected with McKinley High School?

RF: No.

DH: Separate?

RF: Separate Japanese school.

DH: What kind of clothes did you wear in high school?

RF: Well, sailor moku. Most of the time, sailor moku pants and ordinary shirt.

DH: What kind?

RF: We call it sailor moku pants. Just like a sailor's pants, you know. Made of denim. Bell bottom pants and we used to wear those big belts.

DH: Wear shoes?

RF: Yeah, we had to wear shoes. We had to.

DH: At McKinley, how well did you get along with children of other races?

RF: I got along fine. Most of the students were Japanese, Hawaiian and Chinese. There were very, very few Caucasians. I mean, haoles.

DH: Now that you're much older, was discipline administered differently?

RF: At where?

DH: McKinley.

RF: Discipline?

DH: Or Mid-Pac.

RF: At McKinley, I was never punished, so I don't know. All I know is that they'll kick you out of the school. But then, at Mid-Pac, they were strict about certain rules like smoking, carrying guns.

(DH laughs)

RF: Even....oh, anything that's---oh, let me see. Weapons.

DH: What were your first reactions when you went to the Mainland?

RF: My first reaction was that I was so impressed with so many haoles in the Mainland. And the impression I got the first time was that in the Mainland, the haole people were working out in the field. Laborers, you know. Here in Hawaii, at that time, you don't see haole people doing menial jobs. But in the Mainland, I saw these haole people doing the kind of work that the Japanese were doing over here. So I was surprised. Really surprised.

DH: What made you decide to go to the Mainland?

RF: A friend of mine at McKinley; we saw an article where poor guys like us have a chance to go to college, work our way, and we found the John Brown College in Siloam Springs, Arkansas offered that opportunity, so I decided to go.

DH: Can you describe a typical college school day?

RF: Study. And try to make at least a fairly decent and passing grade, because of the pressure from my parents. Being away from home, they expect us to perform well. And another one was interesting social life. I never did think it possible that Japanese can date a haole girl, so that was one of the things that I tried to find out. It was possible to make dates.

DH: So, like, through your college years you worked---you worked your way through college mostly?

RF: All my college days. Several years.

DH: Your parents helped you out any?

RF: They helped, but, you know, they were making small pay. So they couldn't afford too much.

DH: So you used to take part time jobs and stuff?

RF: Oh, yes.

DH: During the summer, what?

RF: During the school days at John Brown, we were required to work. Put in about four hours a day. Then when I went to Northwest Christian, I did odd jobs in the city of Eugene. And when I went to Butler, I worked on the school campus as yardboy and also as custodian of the buildings. And now and then watchman of the school building. When I went to school in Washington, Seattle, I worked in the restaurants. While I was going to law school, I was working in a restaurant. So all through my school days, I worked.

DH: You were attending, like, summer sessions and stuff?

RF: At that time? No. Only at Butler University, I used to attend summer school because I had a job on the campus. But at the other schools, summer vacations, I would go to Lodi, California and work for this S.H. Gerard Company which is a big outfit in farm produce.

DH: How did your parents feel about your going to college and being away from home like that?

RF: First they expected me to go to work as soon as I finished my elementary school days, because most of the students didn't go to high school. And when I went to high school, they expected me to work after graduation. But I didn't tell my parents that I had decided during my freshman year to go to college. Because if I did, they would insist that I go to work. So on my own initiative, (Chuckles) I contacted the college and was accepted. I didn't tell my folks until the last week before I left Honolulu that I was going to school on the Mainland.

DH: How do you compare your education with your children's education?

RF: The children have better education now. They know more than what I learned in the olden days. They have better facilities. I guess, better teachers, too. So I think they're better off than I was when I was going to school.

DH: Looking back over your school years and everything, was there anyone that has been, like, an outstanding teacher? Someone that taught you a lot about something?

RF: Yes. In the elementary school days, Mr. James Awai who passed away recently. He made me what I am, I guess. And when I went to Mid-Pac, there was a teacher by the name of Mr. Miller. He inspired me, too. I wanted to be like him. When I went to college, a Japanese professor at Butler impressed me a lot. If he could be a professor, perhaps I could be a professor also. So I did study pretty hard.

DH: How did Mr. Awai influence you?

RF: He was a Hawaiian and he was a teacher. And he had his education--- in the olden days, you know, very few people went to high school or to Normal School. Here was a teacher who went to school and became a principal. And he was a real gentleman. He knew what was right and wrong. He punished kids who did wrong. And I admired him very much. I figured that education had something. There's something in education that will make a man. So it made a difference. Of course, he whacked me a lot of times, but, still, it was all right because I was a bad kid.

DH: You had lot of jobs, yeah. Can you tell me what your first major job was?

RF: I was working for a California church, a mission church in Lodi. Working among the Japanese. Then in the summertime, after I finished working with the church, I worked on the farm as a foreman in the celery field. Then when I came back here, I became a school teacher at Waialua High School. And after many years of summer school and after studying at the University (of Hawaii)--every summer since 1964, I've been working with the Del Monte Corporation as field supervisor.

DH: What were conditions like in the celery field? Celery fields? What did you have to do?

RF: At that time, there was no union. And looking back, at that time, it was all right. Supervising Mexicans and Filipinos and Japanese. Planting celery and cultivating celery. Also, preparation for seed planting.

DH: Wasn't it kind of unusual for a young man like you getting a job like that? Supervisor?

RF: At that time, I was about 21, 22. You see, I....wait. 21. Not 21. 23. Yeah, 23. Because I finished high school when I was twenty years old. I finished Haleiwa Elementary School when I was 16. And I think at that time that was the average age. 15, 16, 17. Not like today where you finish your high school at 17 or 18.

DH: Were there other students that had supervisory jobs like that?

RF: At that place where I was around, I didn't see any young men like myself supervising older people out in the field.

DH: How did you get the job?

RF: I just wanted a job in California, so I traveled from Oregon down to California, and happened to stop at Stockton. Then they (church people) told me there was a celery farm in Lodi area. And I got information that a S.H. Gerard Company was hiring people. I happened to be interviewed by the general foreman who was a Japanese from Hawaii. And immediately, he put me in as a supervisor.

(DH laughs)

RF: I don't know. I guess he just like me. (Laughs)

DH: You had a amusement machine business, eh?

RF: Just prior to this War, after I dropped out from University of Washington Law School, for a part time job I was connected with a man who was running amusement machines. Pinball, digger, and like.... digger. Crane. Digging machine. Pick up things. And nickelodeons, phonographs. Then I took over the business from this man. And that was my business until the wartime. Until the wartime, and then, came evacuation. Then I lost all my business.

DH: In the pineapple fields, has there been any change in the machinery used from the time you started to....like, has there been a lot of progress?

RF: No, machinery, no, there hasn't been much progress with the machinery. But with the chemicals. Especially, the spraying of ethrol. Etholene. To ripen the fruits. They are now able to control the ripening of the fruits or forcing the plant to flower. So instead of working five, six, or seven days a week, we've been working only four days. The company is cutting down on the expenses. Instead of harvesting in a field, for instance, going into a field for six, seven times with the harvesting machine, now they go in twice. The second one, they put in the ethro. And the whole block or blocks of pineapple plants, all ripen. So they don't spray all the field, the whole field at once because---a field is maybe two hundred acres or hundred fifty acres. They won't be able to harvest it at one time if they sprayed all the field with ethro at one crack. They spray this ethro section by section.

DH: You started teaching what year?

RF: 1945.

DH: 1945. And your first assignment was in Waialua? Lot of other teachers, didn't they start other islands, like that?

RF: Prior to that, they did. But that was wartime. I had come back from the relocation camp to visit my mother because my younger brother was killed in Italy and Mother was getting kind of sick. So I came back, and when I visited the school, the teachers asked me to help out the school. The principal came right over and said he needed help. At that time, I wasn't a qualified teacher and I said I have no experience in teaching except in church work. But they put me on. I intended to help out the school just for a few months. But somehow, I stayed on.

DH: What was teaching like in those days?

RF: Teaching was easier, I think, at that time, because....Hawaii was territory and most of the people, especially the Orientals, respected the teachers a great deal. If the teacher punished a student, there wouldn't be any trouble from the parents. But with the influx of the haoles over here, the young boys and girls became

more liberal, more outward. They aren't afraid to express what and how they feel. And so, the teachers have a harder time today. At that time, the students were required to address the teacher as Mr. So and So, Miss So and So. But nowadays, the young kids have not much respect for the teachers. In fact, I heard that one of the young teachers told his class to call him by his first name. That way, you're getting too familiar with the kids. As we say, familiarity breeds contempt. There should be a certain degree of familiarity with the kids, but to certain degree you have to be aloof and have a bit of respectability. After all, as a teacher, you are a counselor, you're in charge of the students in your classroom. If anything goes wrong among the kids, you should be the first to intervene or to help. So there should be a little bit of aloofness. Shouldn't get overly familiar with kids.

DH: When you first started, what were you teaching?

RF: I was teaching English and science.

DH: What you taught, did it change as the years went by?

RF: Oh, yes. Especially science. Since 1945, science, you know, has changed a lot. Especially in the field of biology. Did you study the yellow version or the blue version?

DH: I forget. Was it blue, I think.

RF: Biological science, molecular science, biology and all the cellular biology. Not too many years ago, the change in biology was very great. More investigative, you know. Instead of just learning facts. Problem-solving.

DH: Were you free to do what you wanted or did someone, like, have a say as to what you had to teach?

RF: The principal assigned you to the subjects. But somehow, I was able to teach subjects that I wanted to teach. For instance, modern biology and botany and zoology. I proposed that in fact. And got it. I thought biology wasn't enough. To get a broader scope, you need not only biology, but you need to study botany and zoology. After biology, they were able to go into botany or into zoology.

DH: So you did pretty much what you wanted to do?

RF: Oh, yes. You know, all my life over here, I had men principals. And usually, a man principal is more understanding. They give and take. So if you have a good point to express to the principal, naturally, he's going to say, "It's all right. Go ahead. We try it out." Fortunately, I didn't have any women principals....you know, women are very conservative and strict.

DH: (Laughs) During your high school years, did you go on any dates?

RF: When I was going high school? Oh, yes. I guess I was pretty much

of a rascal. I had two girls in two different localities, and....

(DH laughs)

RF: They didn't know each other. Of course, in those days, on dates, you just walk around, go down to the beach. That's about all. We don't even hold hands. Not like today. In those days, you say, she's my date, so you go to picnic. I had two girls---three girls. But not three at a time. Two at a time. But, you know, no such thing as kissing or hugging. Entirely different from today. The Japanese culture was different. No kissing, no holding hand or hugging. This was....1925, 1926. When I look back, I think I did the right thing. Of course, if was today, it would be something else, right? You can't just go to picnic, sit down and just eat your picnic lunch. Don't even hold hands. Pretty soon, the girl thinks you are queer. (Laughs)

DH: So your dates were more or less like outings. And you didn't go, like, movies, stuff like that?

RF: I went to movies. But no such thing as holding hands in the theatre. Just like platonic love. (Laughs)

DH: How did you meet your wife?

RF: At that time, I was still going to law school, I think. I was working in a restaurant part time. A friend was from the same prefecture in Japan as my dad and mom told me that there's a girl whose father is running a restaurant. This girl is also from the same prefecture as my parents were. So I said, "Well, that's interesting." So we said, "Let's go and see her." We did go. Yeah, she looked cute. And that's how it was.

DH: Did you date at all?

RF: Yeah, I dated her. About three times. Then she got sick. And for two years, I used to visit her in the hospital every Thursday, every Sunday. In Seattle. She was in Firland Sanitorium for tuberculosis. Two years, because at that time, they had none of these streptomycin or anything of those drugs. So it was just a matter of rest cure or surgery. Have to eat good food and rest. That's about all.

DH: When did you get married?

RF: Well, the War started nineteen....1942?

DH: '41.

RF: '41? December 7th. We got married December 7th.

DH: Was it after your relocation?

RF: No, that was before relocation, because relocation came in March of the following year.

DH: Can you tell me little bit about your wedding?

RF: I was broke, you know. I had no money. And I couldn't go through a big ceremony, and I just went up to the father and said, "I want to marry your daughter." He said, "Okay." Actually, it wasn't all that simple, but because of the War, things were not the same--standards changed--everything was rushed.

So, I bought her a corsage that cost me a buck and a half. I got a ring from a fellow who was selling down the street. You know how it is. He must have stolen or something like that. I got 'em cheap. Then I took a streetcar, met her at a minister's home. That cost me ten cents, the streetcar. Then I gave the minister five dollars for performing the marriage. At that time, Seattle had wartime blackout, so couldn't go anyplace. We were planning to go to Tacoma for our honeymoon. We couldn't go too far because we were broke. Anyway, we got married. And that night, we chaperoned the young boys and girls. Her brother was giving a party. That was New Year's Eve, you know. So we chaperoned it. We had a nice apartment, I was running a business of pinball and digger machine, phonograph. That kept us going until evacuation to Puyallup, Washington. This was the assembly center for all evacuated Japanese. Since the wife was not healthy--still under the doctor's care--we decided to go to the assembly center. We had an option to go to the central states on our own voluntarily. I didn't dare to because of her condition.

DH: So you got married after the two years that she was in the hospital? So you didn't have a honeymoon, too?

RF: No, no honeymoon.

DH: Your first home, was it the apartment that you talked about?

RF: Yeah.

DH: How much did you have to pay for it?

RF: I don't know how much. (To wife) Eiko! How much did we pay for our apartment? At Seattle? You know, up in Seattle, when we got married?

EF (Eiko Funai): My gosh! (Laughs) That was a long time ago.

RF: About twenty dollars?

EF: I guess so.

RF: Maybe thirty dollars, I think. Something like that.

EF: Maybe, about thirty. I remember paying something like that.

RF: I was making good money with my business. So we stayed in a nice apartment.

DH: That was a one bedroom?

RF: One bedroom.

EF: No, it was a....about this large. With a tiny kitchen, just enough for two people to go in. No table. And a closet. That's all. The bed, we had one of those pull-out beds, studio couches, you know. It's a couch. Bed and a table, and that's all. Just one room. With a tiny, tiny kitchen. Just enough to put a stove in there, and a cupboard, that's all. Real, real small.

RF: I said it was nice because I had lived in a junky place, you know. I used to live in small hotels.

EF: But people those days couldn't afford anything.

RF: Sure.

EF: It's---the Depression was real, a really bad time; so it was just lucky that we had a place like that. It was nice. It was in a residential district in Seattle. And the district was nice. Nothing wrong with it. It's just that there was nothing classy about it. It was comfortable. But we didn't have our own bathroom, though.

RF: We didn't?

EF: There was no toilet. We had to use the one in the hall and the bathtub. The toilet was next door to us, I think. That's about the way most young people lived anyway when they first got married. Nobody had money. Lots of money, anyway. We're going all the way back to ancient history.

DH: What was your second home like?

RF: My second home? Our second home was in the assembly center. With the soldiers on guard. With a barbed wire fence all around our center.

EF: That was the relocation camp.

RF: No, that was the assembly center in Tacoma immediately following evacuation.

EF: Assembly center, yeah, that was horrible.

RF: We lived in barracks. No privacy. You go to the toilet...

EF: I didn't know that they....Dale, in class, did they talk about those things? In school?

DH: Maybe. (Laughs)

RF: The toilet was....there was no privacy in the toilets.

EF: Oh, that was awful!

RF: And then to get our food we had to stand in line. Then our third home was in Twin Falls, Idaho. That's the relocation camp. A little bit more privacy. But....soldiers with guns all around, surrounding us. Then, our third home....that was the first, second, third. Fourth home was in Utah. Ogden, Utah where I was connected with the running of the eating place for cannery workers for the Utah Cannery Association. It was just ordinary camp life. Then the last one was Hawaii. It got better and better. And finally, we're living here now.

DH: So every other place was rented and....

RF: Yeah, except....here.

DH: Is this the same house?

RF: In Kawaiiloa we lived in a plantation house. Everything was free. Here, of course....we bought this place in 1960. Was it 1960?

EF: Hm?

RF: 1960 we moved here. This house?

EF: Over here? 1961.

RF: Was it '61? We got here in '61.

EF: We were in Kawaiiloa from 1945 to 1961.

DH: You bought this home, what? Through the plantation?

RF: Yeah.

DH: That was because your parents....

RF: Because my parents in the past was connected with the plantation.

DH: You remember about how much this home cost?

RF: Well, the actual price was ten thousand five hundred dollars. That was cheap.

EF: By the time we paid interest, it went up to quite a bit.

RF: It went up to about thirteen thousand.

EF: You can't buy a house like that now.

DH: Oh, yeah.

RF: So when we had a little extra money, we just paid it all. Paid them up. Because you keep on paying interest for thirty years, well....

the house will cost a hell of a lot. And talk about tax deductionsyou're lucky if you get one third, you know, for every dollar.

DH: How did you come to buy the house? Did you have to apply or something?

RF: I had to apply with the plantation through my mother's name. You see, my father passed away long time ago. We used my mother's name. And we got it.

DH: Did they go, like, on a priority list?

RF: That's right. Priority list.

DH: By what? Seniority?

RF: Seniority. That's right.

DH: When you were a child, who did the chores?

RF: I did lots of chores. We were using wood stoves at first, so I had to saw the wood, chop the wood, carry the wood into the house. And then, when things got a little bit better, we started to use a kerosene stove. I think when we came back from the Mainland, we used the kerosene stove. So when I left Hawaii in 1929, they were still using wood in the house.

EF: With kerosene stove. In fact, we used it until we finally got a stove. Over a good ten years, I think, we used kerosene stove and then we bought a range, electric range at Kailua.

RF: As a young boy, I had to clean the lamps, you know. And wash the lamps. Put in kerosene. No electric lights. That was my job in the house. And, of course, help dig the garden and all that. And gather eggs. We did lot of wood work. Saw the wood, chop the wood. I guess that's the reason why my arm used to be big, you know. Strong. No kidding.

(DH chuckles)

DH: What was that house like? The floors, like, the floors?

RF: Oh, you know, it's plantation house. It's like this lumber here. Floor. All the walls are one by twelve. Rough cut. No complaint. Because it was all free.

EF: We could see daylight through the cracks in the wall.

RF: (Laughs) Yeah.

DH: Had pukas in the wall?

RF: No, no, no hole. The holes were in the assembly center up in....

EF: That was worse.

RF: Oh, yeah. Shucks.

EF: Not fit for a horse.

DH: Yeah?

EF: Well, lot of it was stable, too, you know. Stable grounds. Because they took the state fair grounds. There's a permanent place, whenever they have a state fair, all the cattle and animals are put there. Then they put them out and we went in. (Laughs) Oh, horrors. The ones that we went in were....see, in this big area. They had so many thousands of people that they had to put them all over. One part was in the fair grounds. Then the place where we were in, they built temporary shelters. Real temporary. Big knot holes in the wall. One big barrack. And then, they divided up the barracks into partitions with partitions for six families so that we had a space, not much bigger than about this. Just enough room for two cots. That's all. So they put us in two cots. With grass growing in the floor, you know.

(Laughter)

RF: That's right.

EF: And then they gave us a mattress. When we first got there, they gave us a mattress, and we had to fill up the mattress with hay. It's lumpy, you know. And put that on the cot. And we've got to sleep on it.

END OF SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO

DH: When you were a child, you had assigned chores?

RF: You asked me that already.

DH: Oh, yeah, I did. Where was the laundry done?

RF: At our home. Out in the yard.

DH: How did you do that?

RF: Well, you see....we had a fireplace. And then we have this kerosene can. Put the clothes inside the kerosene can with a hard, great, big, rough soap. And they boil the clothes. As I told you, I used to wear this denim pants and shirts. No such thing as fancy shirts, you know. They can take all the beating from the soap. And they take it out in the sink. Wooden sink. Oh, it was outside. And my mother used to rub the clothes on this washboard.

DH: As a child, what kinds of food did you eat?

RF: Well, main one is rice and lot of eggs. Lot of boiled eggs. Not too much fried. Boiled and scrambled. Or mixed with meat.

Beef hekka. We had quite a bit of beef. And lot of fish.

DH: Did your diet change as you grew older?

RF: Oh, yes. When I was a small boy still going to elementary school, I came down with beri-beri. You see, there was not enough variety of food. Enough food, you know. Lot of rice. Those days you were supposed to eat three, four bowls, five bowls of rice. Not like today. Rice was the main one, see. And as I told you, while going to elementary school, I used to bring a rice ball with ume or with iriko inside. And I really came down with beri-beri. But when I went to school in Honolulu, then I begin to eat different foods like chow fun, and hamburger. So the food changed, really.

EF: Did you get more meat, too?

RF: But not too much. Yeah, meat loaf. At Mid-Pac. So there was quite a bit of difference in our food. But the main staple is rice. But no such thing as tsukemono like that in Mid-Pac. Lot of hamburger. Not hamburger patties, you know. You crumble it up and cook it with vegetables, so it spreads out quite a bit.

DH: Did your diet change a lot when you went to the Mainland?

RF: Oh, yeah. Especially in Arkansas. Pancake with sorghum syrup, and all the butter. And hominy, pork. Roast pork, corn bread, and all. No rice. When they had rice, they make rice pudding. With a cream sauce on it.

(EF laughs)

RF: You know, when you're eating haole food, they have something sweet. Make into like a dessert. But here, if you're going to eat rice like that, you say, "Ooo! Gooley rice."

DH: Are there any foods that you no longer find in stores today that you used to eat?

RF: Guess we find everything that I was eating when I was a young boy. More varieties now.

DH: Was there anything that you folks used to make at home?

RF: Yeah. You know this---Japanese call it katsuobushi. Dried tuna. You slice it, put soyu sauce in it and you eat it. Right then and there or you put 'em in the rice ball and take it for lunch. We used to eat that quite a bit. Also, what do you call it? Dangojuri. Dangojuri. We used to eat that quite a bit, you know. And then zenzai. See, you don't eat that any more. Zenzai with the red beans from Japan.

DH: What is zenzai?

RF: Zenzai. Like a big, fat noodles, you know. About an inch wide.

About three-eighths of an inch thick. And about five inches long. Cooked with beans with all sugar inside. I used to enjoy that.

EF: Now days, you have a terrific variety of foods, you know. Cheese, Mexican food.

RF: So you don't eat any more Japanese food only because you have so many varieties.

DH: That's the one...

RF: But those days that was something really good to eat, you know.

DH: Zenzai?

RF: Dangojuri. (To wife) What was the composition of dangojuri?

EF: Dangojuri?

RF: Yeah.

EF: Gee, I don't know. I really don't know. But it's strips of noodles. Dough.

RF: Mhm. Yeah. That's right.

EF: Cutting the strips like kind of like dumpling, I guess, excepting it's not round dumpling. Because I saw that they were just strips of dough like big noodles and dumped into the hot soup.

RF: The soup is the good part.

EF: I can't say I enjoyed it. A couple of times that I ate it, I didn't like it.

RF: No, if you were eating only Japanese food, only Japanese food, those things taste good, you know. Because dangojuri and zenzai, I used to really enjoy them.

EF: Zenzai, you mean azuki, don't you?

RF: Yeah, azuki, yeah.

EF: Sweet stuff?

RF: Well, Japanese food, lot of salty stuff in it, so....

EF: In what?

RF: Well, okazu has all salt, shoyu, right? Yet, now and then we had something like a dessert. Especially zenzai.

DH: When you were young, where did your parents get most of the food?

RF: We had a store up in Kawaihoa.

DH: That's the plantation store?

RF: No, it was a private store run by Japanese people. And they had lots of food. Of course, parents never bought vegetables from the market. In fact, the market didn't have any, anyway, in Kawaiioa. All the vegetables were grown in the yard. What we had, we ate.

DH: What kind of things you used to grow?

RF: Well, green onion, burdock, you know, gobo....

EF: Daikon.

RF: Daikon. Quite a bit of daikon. The leaves and the roots. Lots of eggplant. See, those days, they grow nicely, you know. You don't have to spray with insecticides. Long nasubi, eggplant, and potato. Lettuce. What do you call 'em? Na....

EF: Won bok?

RF: Yeah, something like won bok. Oh, we used that one quite a bit. Put it in a soup, make tsukemono, or boil it and put sesame seed, maybe shoyu and lot of rice. And those days, lot of fish at the beach. Oh, yes. You just have a bamboo, just hand, you know. You go down on Sunday and catch a bagful of fish, bring it home. Loads of fish, man! You know, the opukai, they call it. You don't seem them any more. We didn't even bother with opukai. So many other fishes.

DH: That's the poopaa?

RF: Yeah, poopaa. Yeah, that's right. But, you know, with all these people coming in, especially, the other races, like the Filipinos, all the fish is gone because they're going to make bagoong out of that. And the bigger fish need that little one for food. And, of course, these guys, they come in with---catching fish with all that small-eye nets. So the only fish you can catch if you're not able to go out is talapia. In olden days, nobody dives. Nobody dives. They didn't know how to make goggles.....so lobsters were plentiful, you know. (Laughs) Oh, yeah, lobsters, plenty, you know, all over when I was a young boy. Great big aku like this selling for 25¢. 25¢, and my mother used to buy three, four of that big ones. (About two feet long.) And then she cut 'em in fillet and she boil it. Make katsuobushi, eh. We used to put 'em on the roof, you know. Dry 'em up.

DH: You folks used to raise chickens, like that?

RF: Oh, yeah. Every family had chickens. (Laughs) Yeah, every family in the camps had chickens. So, you need meat, just grab the chicken. Just cut off the neck. Save the blood. Yeah, we saved all blood. And slice it--because blood coagulates and so you slice it, you know. And then while you're cooking your hekka, you put the blood, that sliced blood in the hekka. Taste good.

EF: Lot of protein.

RF: My wife doesn't like it, but....

EF: Yech!

RF: But look at the Filipinos. They put the meat in the blood and then they cook. You go to the party, you see black meat. (Laughs)

DH: Anything else you guys used to raise?

RF: Well, that's about all, yeah. Vegetables and chicken.

DH: You remember how much other things used to cost? Other food? Like, maybe beef, like that?

RF: Well, it wasn't too high, though, because we used to have beef hekka quite often. But maybe it's comparable today, I guess, because the wages were small and meat was cheap. But when (Laughs) a train hit a horse, everybody went and sliced up the horse, and horse meat. Oh, yeah.

DH: So what? Like, when the train hit a horse, that was everybody's horse?

RF: Oh, yeah. Sure, they're not going to bury the horse. They're going to slice it up.

(Laughter)

DH: How does horse meat taste?

RF: Good. Good. In fact....well, if you say "horse," you know, it's maybe hard to eat, but if you don't know, it's all right. Tastes something like beef. The same thing with raw horse meat. Last year, when we were in Japan, I ate raw horse meat. It tastes all right. But the idea of the horse makes you kind of think while you're eating. But you say, "sirloin steak," you don't think about it, except it's soft and tastes good. But you say, "horse," and you have a horse sirloin steak, you're not thinking of how tender and soft and how good it tastes. You're thinking of the horse. (Laughs)

DH: When you were starting your family, most of your vegetables and stuff were grown, too, then 'cause you were stay at Kawaihoa, yeah?

RF: No. We were buying vegetables from the market. Fujimura used to come around, right? Up in Kawaihoa. Fujimura Store. They used to come around.

DH: Anyone else used to come around?

RF: That's about all, yeah?

EF: Oh, peddlers. Mr. Goya....

RF: Oh, Goya. I thought Mr. Goya was selling fish.

EF: Fish, fish, yeah. Then we had Mr. Ishimoto. He used to come around you know, with a big van.

RF: Oh, Ishimoto.

EF: So there were about two peddlers coming around. Vegetables, groceries, things like that. Pretty handy.

RF: Yeah, when my father was alive, when we came back from the Mainland, we had quite a few vegetables in the yard. But after he died, you know, the son is not too good in raising vegetables, so....

DH: You remember how much certain foods cost before?

RF: At that time?

EF: Sure. Aku was 69¢ a pound. (Laughs)

RF: That was nineteen....

EF: In the '50s, because we were still up there (Kawailoa), and the fish, 69¢ was about usual, you know.

DH: That's the....already cut?

EF: Yeah, pound of aku or fillet.

RF: Fillet.

EF: And bread....must have been about 23¢ or 25¢ a load. I remember fish well, because Mr. Goya used to come. And when he goes up to 79¢, well, I'll say, "I'll wait until it goes down to 69." It didn't go up to a dollar for a long time. Once it did, then it started to go up fast. Till then it was about sixty....milk.... we used to buy it by the bottle, you know. Cannot remember how much it was. I know milk and everything was really low then. But then, the wages were low, anyway.

RF: But the wages was low.

EF: Sure. (Laughs)

RF: Because when I first begin to teach at Waialua, I was getting a hundred and....about hundred and twenty dollars a month. I didn't care about that money, because just the idea that I was going to fool around teaching just for a few months. And then, we were thinking about going back to the Mainland.

DH: Your mother used to work on the plantation?

RF: No. When I came back, my parents weren't working.

DH: They retired?

RF: Yeah. And my dad was receiving only about....how much?

Pension? About sixty dollars. About sixty. And that was sufficient. House was free, water free. The medical free. Plantation. In fact, our medical was free, too. In fact, Marilyn, our first girl, stayed in Waialua Hospital because my wife was in Leahi. And I had to take care the child. She was in the Waialua Hospital for one month. And they took care of her for me. Then I brought her home, and I begin to take care for two months, because my wife was about ready to come home.

EF: About two months each.

RF: Three months.

DH: So like your expenses weren't very much then, yeah?

RF: No. But, you see, we didn't go out to eat. Can't go out to eat, because....

EF: Had hamburger maybe once. Sea View Inn used to be there. You know, the old Sea View Inn. Where Sands is now. It was just a shacky Sea View Inn. You know, they just start building little by little. We used to go there and pick up hamburger. It was our dinner outside. Never went out to eat.

DH: That was run by Sato?

EF: Mhm. Old man Sato. And then his sons took over.

RF: Gee, at that time, also, when we first went to Haleiwa Theatre, we say, man, was so expensive, the theatre! Fifty cents a head, right? Because in Seattle, at that time, theatre, like that, I used to pay only 15¢ or twenty cents to go and see a show.

EF: Oh, yeah.

RF: That was just prior to the War.

DH: As a child, what did you do in your spare time?

RF: Well, I go around looking for mangos in the neighbor's yard.

(Laughter)

RF: And with the boys, we walk around the camp and see papaya. The other people are working, so we climb over the fence and take the papaya. Orange, mangoes, bananas. And then, well, go swimming in a ditch. And then go to Anahulu Stream and catch this.... they call 'em darters, you know. Opu, right. And Anahulu Stream used to have loads of opus! Not today. Because of the Samoan crabs there. And....well, either that or fight with the Portuguese.

(Laughter)

RF: And shoot lot of marbles, you know. Yeah, I used to have lot of marbles games and spinning tops. And all the time, all the boys carried pocket-knives. You need 'em for cutting sugar cane.

Those days, had nice, good, sweet sugar cane. Soft ones, too, you know. And sharpen our knives. Every boy had a knife. Sharp knife. Not to cut anybody, you see, but....

DH: Do you remember any other games you used to play? Besides marbles?

RF: Well, we used to play softball quite a bit. Volleyball. As a young boy?

DH: Mm.

RF: Oh, yes. What do you call this. Skipping rope.

EF: Jump rope.

RF: Yeah, you know, when I was young boy, was just one rope, right? Then after get a little older, then this one, double, see.

DH: Two?

RF: Yeah. And there was quite a bit of games, you know. Especially in Japanese school.

DH: Any other games?

RF: Nah. That's about all. They had baseball, skip rope, tops, marble. Marble was quite a game, because we bet. You put ten, I put ten, she puts ten. I got to put ten. Rotation. Who can knock out the most. Put 'em in your pocket. Just like gambling, you know. It was an exciting game for us. I was pretty old, then, you know. Was about eight.

DH: When you used to fight with the Portuguese, eh, what kind of things you folks used to do?

RF: Throw rocks.

(Laughter.)

RF: Slingshots. They had these Aljiroga tr---not Aljiro....Pride of India trees, you know. Lot of bullets. So, making slingshots, you see, you got to have nice, good, sharp knife to cut the guava branches to....then you go up the hills and look for this good slingshot wood. Got to have nice, good, sharp knife, see. Cut wood and make....and then cut the rubber with the nice sharp knife. Make 'em nice. But we had big fights. Oh, yeah. Then not only against the Portuguese, but we used to have one camp against another camp. Japanese against Japanese we used to fight. Another one was we used to make bow and arrows and fight. Then in order to make the arrow go, we put nails in. The flat part sticking out. So that the arrow goes. Especially with sugar cane tassel. Good arrow, though. You got a tassel. Whang! Oh, right next me was a Japanese boy. He stuck out his head, like that. Paw! He got hit on the head. Oh! The blood just came out!

EF: You shoot him in the eye, you blind him.

RF: No such thing as sharp side sticking out, you know.

EF: Mm!

RF: The flat side is sticking out. To give weight, right.

DH: Still bleed?

RF: Oh, man! The thing going so fast. You get a big nail and---you see, the tassle is pretty big. You put a nail in front. Just fit just right. If it's too big, it's going to break the tassle. That was a big game. And in order to make the bow, you got to have a fairly good, strong guava. Guava branch. And that thing was traveling fast. The arrow was traveling. Pshoo! You can just imagine the thing when it hit your eye. You'd be blind. That's for sure.

DH: What you folks used to call the Pride of India tree?

RF: Sindan. You go to Kipapa Gulch, they have them. Going down Kipapa Gulch. Purple flowers.

DH: Did your spare time activities change as you grew older?

RF: Well, as I grew older, recreation, well....same as those days. Baseball was the main game. Everybody was crazy about baseball, because if you became a good ball player, you get good jobs, you know. See, all these Japanese fellows, like in plantation office, many of them were good ball players. Like Charlie Taketa, Cooper Tanaka, and up in Del Monte, you find these fellows who played for Asahi and Hawaii Leagues. So baseball was so important. And if you become a good ball player, you'd be working for Honolulu Ironworks, Mutual Telephone, and....Bank of Hawaii, Liberty House. Commercial leagues. So if you became good ball player, you got good jobs. For Japanese people. At that time, that meant something.

DH: Is that because, like, let's say, for the plantation, they wanted to have a good baseball team? So they would kind of try recruit the good players? Give 'em good job.

RF: That's right.

DH: In high school, what? Did you have any kind of organized baseball?

RF: Baseball?

DH: You played, what? With other schools, or....

RF: Yeah. In my days, we had St. Louis, and Punahou, Kamehameha, McKinley. That's about all, see. So when I was playing for McKinley, I had to play against them. When I moved to Mid-Pac, same thing. No such thing as Farrington or Kaimuki, or....like I told you, most of the guys are old. See, when I was a freshman

in high school, I was....16. So when I went to McKinley in my freshman year, I was first string shortstop. Because I played senior league over here. Was ninth grader, but still, I....(Chuckles) And those ballplayers were men, not kids! Twenty, 22 years old.

DH: McKinley was the only public school, yeah?

RF: In town. I think McKinley was, yeah, only school.

DH: The rest were private?

RF: Private schools.

DH: The senior league over here, was it an organized league? Was it a....

RF: Organized, like Waianae, Waialua, Kawaihoa. And then, we used to play against Palama. They come down.

DH: Who organized this?

RF: Private league. Not plantation. Japanese people.

DH: After you were married what did you do in your spare time?

RF: Gee, after I got married, what did I do in spare time? You mean over here?

DH: Yeah.

RF: Oh, lot of fishing. I used to go lot of fishing, and....I did lot of card playing with friends. Rummy, poker. Then I gave up that game for a long time until after I retired. Then, go to Las Vegas, but....for recreation. And then, played quite a bit of golf. So recreation, I would say golf, fishing, swimming. Do quite a bit of swimming.

DH: When you were young, did the whole family do anything together, like go on outings and....

RF: We did, but not too much. I suppose I'm not a going-out type, the family-type of a man. And this is where my wife used to criticize me. I wasn't too good a family man. Ask her.

DH: What about when you were child? Did your father...

RF: There's no such thing.

DH: Oh.

RF: No such thing as family outing. I'm on my own. I guess, that has something to do with it.

EF: Yes, I think so.

(Laughter)

RF: Yeah, I guess so, you know. It makes a lot of difference, you know.

EF: Sure.

RF: Just like....like parents. They never kiss, you know. Say goodbye. Oh, you come home. So even me, with my wife, I'm very, very reluctant to do that in the public. In fact, when I first dated my wife, walking down the street in Seattle, she put her arm in my arm. I felt embarrassed. But, you see, the haoles, you're supposed to do that. But here, I was embarrassed. The people were looking at me, I felt.

EF: Oh, that's because you're from Hawaii.

RF: Well, you know, I guess that's my training. I had never seen my dad holding my mother's hand and walking down the street. I think if he did, I think he's screwy or odd.

(Laughter)

EF: In the first place, they never went around together.

RF: Huh?

EF: They never went around together.

RF: That's right.

DH: Did you belong to any organizations or clubs?

RF: Over here? When I first came back here in Hawaii, oh, yes. I belonged to many, many organizations. I was a member of the Lion's Club.

EF: You organized the Lion's Club. You organized the Lion's Club.

RF: Well, I was one of the charter members, yeah. And then....the Y's Men's Club. Been there for a long time. Then, the Juvenile Committee of the Community Association. Been a member of the Board of Trustees for some time. The Juvenile Committee is the one that I think was instrumental in proposing. And then, of course, we worked with Jan Johnson's project for Koolau boys. Industrial training school for their Christmas program. So I spent lot of my years as a chairman of the Juvenile Committee for Waialua. And then, of course, for the Waialua Athletic Association. I spent lot of years serving as a board member and officer. And PTA's. In Kawaiiloa. PTA in Waialua. Just officer, you know. And, of course, the school. Working on school activities quite a bit.

DH: Of all your clubs and organizations that you were in, which one do you feel is, like, the most important?

RF: Well, I found that the Y's Men's Club was the most inspiring.

DH: That was what? YMCA?

RF: YMCA.

DH: What kind of things did you folks used to do, like that?

RF: Well, we used to send boys to Camp Erdman. And then....of course, later on, the Santa Claus parade. Also, these people who were going through Hawaii from the Orient to the schools in the Mainland who had connection with the YMCA or the Y's Men's club in the southwest, Pacific, Japan, China, Philippines, Thailand. We had a project of helping them out. To meet them in Honolulu. You know, get acquainted. And also, the students in Hawaii who are going to schools in the Mainland, with the Y's Men's local in different cities, we helped them out. That was a good one, too. Of course, YMCA, we used to help out quite a bit. And help to organize more of these young kids club in Haleiwa Elementary School and also at high school. Oh, the team groups, you know.

DH: Is this club still going on?

RF: I don't know now. Oh, you mean, the Y's Men's?

DH: Yeah.

RF: We still have our name going on, but we are not affiliated with the national any more.

DH: As a child, how did you travel?

RF: From where?

DH: Oh, you said you used to walk to school, right?

RF: Walk. Mostly walking.

DH: Mostly walking. What about if you went to, maybe, town, or something like that?

RF: Oh, the only way to go was by railroad. See, that rail used to run--- Oahu Railway used to run from Kahuku all the way around Kaena Point. So when I was small boy, my mother used to take us on the train. Got a little older, then....the service of the train wasn't too much. Inconvenient. You have to go down to the railroad station. You have to wait for the train.

DH: Where was the station?

RF: Kawailoa. You know, by the graveyard?

DH: Yeah.

RF: The pine trees over there? Just turning to Kawailoa? Right over there was the station. But it was more convenient to go on taxi. So we used to go taxi.

DH: How much was the train ride?

RF: Gee, I don't know. I was too young yet.

DH: You remember how much the taxis were? How many taxis had between here and Honolulu?

RF: Well, the taxis were running from Haleiwa, see. Come up to Kawailoa, and pick up the passengers. I don't know how many taxis, no.

DH: Was Enji-san one? Was he one...

RF: I wonder.

EF: What?

RF: Enji. When we first came to Hawaii, Enji, the bald-headed fellow, was he a taxi man?

EF: Taxi? Yeah. It was seven passengers to a car.

RF: Who else was running a taxi?

EF: Driving it? Harry Kinoshita, Aoki, Thomas Shimoda.

RF: They had quite a few. See, this was nineteen what? 1950.

EF: Yeah. 1945, we came. Vicente....

RF: Quite a bit of taxi, yeah, in those days?

EF: Oh yeah, that was the only way we go to town. We'd call in. They made....there must have been about five taxis a day. We call in and say we want to go to town. And about 7:30, they'll come and pick us up. And as soon as a load is ready, they go to town. And we got off at Aala Park, right near Aala Park. And then, by the afternoon, go back there again. And as soon as the load is ready--we have to wait until seven people get in--then they'll come back. And then, they'll take us to each home, you know. It was pretty handy, but they charged plenty. About dollar and a half. 75¢, I think, at first. Then it got to \$1, \$1.50. Then, pretty soon, it got up to \$2.50. By that time, people didn't ride it, because we had our own cars. It was during wartime. When we came back, it was still War, you see, so....that's why they had no transportation. No buses, nothing like that.

DH: How did you travel to the Mainland ?

RF: On a boat. Boat. That's the only way.

DH: How long did it take?

RF: I think, four days. Rode into the City of Los Angeles. The steam ship. Yeah, four days.

DH: You remember how much it cost?

RF: \$105, I think it was.

DH: One way?

RF: One way. Wait a while. Or was it \$35? I forgot how much it was.

DH: On the Mainland, how did you travel?

RF: Altogether, I think, I paid hundred....but I went to first class, you see. I was in steerage. I couldn't stand it. I was so sick, so I transferred. I bought the steerage because I had no money. My folks didn't know about it. After they found out, they gave me money, so, now, I had little extra money, so on the boat, when I couldn't stand it any more, I moved. I think was \$75.

DH: On the Mainland, how did you travel?

RF: From....

DH: Place to place?

RF: Here to....from Los Angeles to Kansas, on the train. And then from Kansas to Arkansas, we rode the Flying Crow train. Segregated train compartments for Negroes and whites.

DH: Where did you go?

RF: I didn't know. First, when I got on the train, I didn't know where to go. I looked at the white man side, I looked at the black man's side. The black man's side looked so dull. I looked at the white man's side, it looked nicer. So I went to the white man's side. They didn't say anything. I sat down.

(Laughter)

EF: One part for a yellow man.

RF: Yeah.

DH: So, mostly train, then, yeah, on the Mainland?

RF: Train, yeah. But when I left Arkansas for Oregon, I travelled on a bus. Greyhound bus.

DH: Remember how much train rides was?

RF: Gee, I forgot. Wasn't too much, you know, because....I paid for it. Los Angeles.

DH: Did you ever own a horse?

RF: Horse? No, my folks owned a horse.. And that was...

DH: They used 'em for traveling?

- RF: And that's how he used to bring the family to Waialua. Had a carriage. Yeah. That was nice traveling. I was a small boy, yet. I must have been about seven, eight, nine years old.
- DH: Horses were expensive in those days?
- RF: I guess not, because, you know, the pay those days was....my dad was making about two dollars a day, and still he owned a horse and a carriage. Ordinary workers were making dollar a day. They work all day on the cane field and one dollar a day. My dad was a foreman, and so....
- DH: You ever owned a bicycle?
- RF: Yeah, we had a bicycle. I don't know how we got the bicycle, but we used to own a bicycle. Somebody must have given to us. I don't know.
- DH: When did you get your first car?
- RF: My first car? Oh, when I first came back here, and got a cheap one.
- EF: Hudson.
- RF: Was it Hudson?
- EF: Yeah, but then, you had a car on the Mainland, didn't you?
- RF: Oh, yeah, when I was working for the church in Lodi. Was a Chevy. Was a good car. 1933 Chevy.
- DH: (Laughs) You remember how much that cost?
- RF: Oh, must have cost about hundred dollars, I guess. Must be about that much. In fact, I drove it all the way to Oregon, boy.
- (DH laughs)
- RF: To think about it, yeah, I drove all the way to Oregon. And after I got to Oregon, it konked out on me. So I had it parked back of our Men's Union International House.
- DH: What happened to the car?
- RF: Well, I didn't know how to fix or anything, so I just left it there.
- (DH laughs)
- RF: Rotted away.
- DH: You remember who had the first car on the plantation or in the community?
- RF: I don't know. I think it was Mr. Hamamoto.

DH: Hamamoto?

RF: I think Hamamoto. See, he had a business of running a tofu shop. Aburage and tofu. And so, he was making extra money. And in order to get the stuff, I guess, he had to have a car to travel to Haleiwa to get the ingredients and things like that. I remember him because, while we were walking down Kawaihoa Road, you know, just by the beach area, he never pick us up, you know. He never pick us up.

EF: Get your own car, huh?

DH: So he was about the only one, then? With the first.....

RF: Yeah, I think so.

DH: The train that....you know, the one you were talking about? Did lot of people use it?

RF: From Kawaihoa, no, not too many. But I think, from Haleiwa, around there, quite a few, because they were close to the station. You see, from Kawaihoa, you have to travel one mile down the road. So maybe, when I was small, younger, maybe, real small, maybe, quite a few people traveled.

DH: Were there a lot of outsiders coming into Haleiwa? Or mostly local people?

RF: Local, yeah. No such thing as renting a home to anybody else, you know. I would say, local people.

DH: Waialua was plantation town, eh, but Haleiwa was what? What kind of a....

RF: Ah, a commercial town. Like, you know....

DH: Small business like?

RF: Business lo...

END OF INTERVIEW

WAIALUA & HALEIWA

**The People
Tell Their Story**

**Volume V
JAPANESE**

ETHNIC STUDIES ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

**ETHNIC STUDIES PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, MANOA**

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