

Haru Kuromiya World War II Oral History Interview

An Interview Conducted July 23, 2011, by Lara Newcomer as part of the *Here and There: Recollections of Texas in World War II* Oral History Training Workshop series. This interview was possible due to the generous support of the Houston Endowment and the Summerlee Foundation.

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ABSTRACT

Haru Kuromiya was born in Riverside, California, in 1927 and grew up on her family's farm. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor took place a month before her 15th birthday and dramatically impacted her family. Within months her father and uncle were held at Tuna Canyon Detention Station in Sunland, and soon after Kuromiya and the rest of her extended family were held at Manzanar War Relocation Center. The whole family was eventually brought to Crystal City (Family) Internment camp in Crystal City, Texas, and held there until January 1946. Upon their release the family was fortunate enough to reclaim their land and return to farming, while Kuromiya went to work at various jobs before marrying.

In her interview Kuromiya discusses her memories of the day Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japan; the detention of her father and uncle in California and New Mexico; the reunification of the family at Crystal City (Family) Internment Camp in Crystal City, Texas; differences between the conditions at Crystal City and at Manzanar War Relocation Center; her father's and uncle's work at the camp; leisure time; the family's post-internment lives; and her current reflections on World War II internment and past and ongoing recognition efforts.

**ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Interviewee: Haru Kuromiya
Date: July 23, 2011
Place: By telephone
Interviewer: Lara Newcomer

[This is a partial transcript from an interview that took place as part of the Texas Historical Commission's Texas in World War II initiative. Interviewee Haru Kuromiya is discussing her experiences at Crystal City (Family) Internment Camp with interviewer Lara Newcomer. This transcript begins with the interview already underway.]

Newcomer: Well, that's okay – I was just thinking that maybe you would recognize some of the names of people in there [referring to a 1945 program for the Federal High School commencement that took place in Crystal City (Family) Internment Camp in 1945.]

Kuromiya: I didn't recognize them [the names] at all.

Newcomer: Okay.

Kuromiya: So, I think it was – hang on, let me get in my email.

Newcomer: Okay.

Kuromiya: There we go. Okay. [unintelligible] No, it was the one before, I think. [looking at photos and program in email] Okay, this is elementary [school].

Newcomer: Right, and so, those were eighth graders.

Kuromiya: The graduating class from [the] Japanese Elementary [School].

Newcomer: Okay. But, then, there is a program in there from the Federal High School, I think.

Kuromiya: Federal Elementary, okay. What, the class roll? You mean that?

Newcomer: Well, I see something that says "Cabinet I, Cabinet II, and Senior Class," and there's a Miss Goldsmith listed as the adviser.

Kuromiya: This is from the Japanese Elementary [School].

Newcomer: Some of the names are Ruth Akata, George Ando, Katherine Ase, Higo Harada....I think the, let's see, the – looks like the valedictorian was George Kasai.

Kuromiya: That doesn't ring a bell.

Newcomer: Okay.

Kuromiya: Let me see, this is the picture. [unintelligible] This is the graduating class after me. I graduated in '44.

Newcomer: Okay. I wasn't sure what year you had graduated.

Kuromiya: I graduated in '44. I have a picture of my class, and....this must be the list for that. How can I turn it around? Do you know? [referring to the email attachment of the scan of the commencement program]

Newcomer: Oh.

Kuromiya: I don't know how to do that.

Newcomer: I've got a – when my picture viewer opens up, it gives me an option to rotate it.

Kuromiya: I can't find it.

Newcomer: Okay. Let me see if maybe I can email it to you again and – with it rotated the right way, because I did save it.

Kuromiya: Even if I knew them, what would you want to know?

Newcomer: Oh, I was just curious if any of the names were familiar to you, or if it, you know, brought back any recollections of school or anything.

Kuromiya: Well, we – when I graduated, I don't even remember having a program like this. Because ours, I believe was the first one.

Newcomer: Oh, uh huh.

Kuromiya: We did have a dance.

Newcomer: Uh huh.

Kuromiya: And our class was smaller than this class. I can't even remember how many of us there were in my class. I have a picture – I could count them, but....

Newcomer: No. [laughs] Well, how about if we go back to the beginning, and I know that when you were talking to the kids at the school you told them where you were born, but I don't recall.

Kuromiya: Oh. I was born in Riverside, California.

Newcomer: And do you mind telling me when?

Kuromiya: January 18th, 1927.

Newcomer: Okay. And, so, what did your parents do in Riverside?

Kuromiya: My dad had a chicken farm, and a truck farm. He grew vegetables.

Newcomer: And your mom stayed home and watched kids?

Kuromiya: Yeah. She was a housewife, and she was pretty busy. She had seven kids. The last one was born after the war started.

Newcomer: So, are you the oldest?

Kuromiya: I'm next to the oldest.

Newcomer: Okay. So, you were born in '27, so do you have memories of, like, the [Great] Depression, and what that was like? Did it really affect your family very much?

Kuromiya: Not as much as some families, because farmers – we always had food. I remember that some people had it worse than us because, for them, you know, they didn't have food. And so, my parents – I don't remember it as a real hardship for us. We were poor anyway, you know.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: With so many siblings and we were all pretty young.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: But, I don't remember any suffering or anything. We were just pretty poor. And, our community helped each other, also.

Newcomer: Was it primarily a Japanese-American community?

Kuromiya: Pretty much. My parents had their friends. Most of us were farmers, and we were a pretty tight community. We had a Japanese Association, and when I was little I went to Japanese school on Saturdays.

Newcomer: Oh, uh huh.

Kuromiya: Yeah.

Newcomer: So, did you speak Japanese at home?

Kuromiya: With my parents, I did. But, among the siblings, we all spoke English.

Newcomer: So, you were a teenager already when the war started.

Kuromiya: Yes. When the war started [for the United States] in December [1941], I was 14, and then when we went to [the internment] camp, I had turned 15 in January [1942].

Newcomer: Do you remember hearing about the attack on Pearl Harbor?

Kuromiya: Oh, yes. I remember it. We were all listening to the radio together, and my dad – I believe – was out of town, and we were a little concerned about him. Well, we – not just a little, we were concerned about him.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: And he did make it home that night. I don't remember where he was. But I remember we were all over – around the radio listening.

Newcomer: And when did your dad – did your dad get picked up first? Was the whole family taken together? How did that come about?

Kuromiya: My father was picked up by the FBI – not immediately. I can't remember when he was picked up, maybe in February. I could look it up.

Newcomer: But some time in early 1942, you think?

Kuromiya: Yes. Because I think we went to Manzanar [War Relocation Center in California] in May.

Newcomer: So, they picked your father up, but left your mother and you and your siblings, and they took your father away – and then what happened?

Kuromiya: He went to – I believe he went to a camp [Tuna Canyon Detention Station] in Sunland in Tujunga Canyon. And we were able to visit him once there, for just a short time. We had to talk to him through a fence, but I remember he asked for some things and we did take them. I remember that. He must have been taken in February because my brother was – my brother was born after he left. And I remember they didn't let him out to be with my mom when she had him.

Newcomer: Oh.

Kuromiya: She did have him in March.

Newcomer: So, when were you and your brothers and sisters and your mom picked up, then?

Kuromiya: We – my father and my uncle were picked up by the FBI together. We decided to go to Los Angeles and stay with some relatives – my uncle’s family and our family. We went to Los Angeles so that we could all evacuate together, and we went to Los Angeles and stayed for a very short time, and then we all went together to Manzanar.

Newcomer: So, was that your choice, to go to Manzanar so you could all be together?

Kuromiya: It was my parents’ choice. My aunt, she had little children – she had three little boys - and then my grandfather and my grandmother, and then my mother. We all – the parents all decided together.

Newcomer: And, so, your whole family was back together when you got to Manzanar?

Kuromiya: Yes, except my dad and my uncle.

Newcomer: Oh. And they were still being held...?

Kuromiya: By the FBI – yes.

Newcomer: Oh, I see. So, when did your family finally get back together with your dad?

Kuromiya: When did we go to Crystal City [(Family) Internment Camp]? My father and my uncle, they went to New Mexico. They were in two different [internment] camps there, and then we...I have it in the book if I can find it. We were in Manzanar, I remember, for a year.

Newcomer: Oh.

Kuromiya: So, it had to be – we went to camp in ’42, we went to Crystal City in ’43. And we joined my uncle’s family and our family. We went together to Crystal City and joined my father in Crystal City.

Newcomer: So, he was in Crystal City when you guys got there?

Kuromiya: Yes.

Newcomer: What was that like – to finally – for all of you to see your dad again after that long?

Kuromiya: Oh, it was wonderful! I adored my dad. I was just so pleased to be with him.

Newcomer: And, so, how did you get from Manzanar to Crystal City? Did you take a train?

Kuromiya: Train. You know you’re asking me questions that happened over sixty years ago. [Newcomer laughs] So, it’s....

Newcomer: I understand that it – that you may not remember everything, and that’s fine.

Kuromiya: And, it’s not necessarily accurate. [laughter]

Newcomer: When you got to Manzanar, the first camp, what was your impression of that camp? What was it like?

Kuromiya: Oh, it was very dusty and the barracks were pretty awful. They gave us sacks for mattresses and we had to go and fill them. And that’s what we slept on.

Newcomer: You filled them with, like, straw?

Kuromiya: Straw, yes. They might have been filled already. You know, people, they talk about filling the mattresses with straw, and – mine might have been filled already because I was just a kid.

Newcomer: Did you go to school at Manzanar?

Kuromiya: Yes. It says here, “Went to Manzanar in ’42 – May ’42.” It says here, “Left June 31 in ’43.”

Newcomer: Okay.

Kuromiya: We were there a little over a year.

Newcomer: And what was your first impression of Crystal City?

Kuromiya: It was – we had a little house, so it was nicer than Manzanar, and it was – I remember there was an orange grove – well, a citrus grove near our house. And that was kind of neat because I grew up in Riverside where there were so many citrus groves.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: And Manzanar was just a desert. We went there and there were no trees. The barracks were black tar. Where[as] in Crystal City there were little cottages – wooden cottages. So, it was nicer, and we had a toilet. It was quite a luxury. Where[as] Manzanar – we had a washroom with – it was a central bathroom, and it was in the middle of the block. We had to walk a ways to get there. So, Crystal City in that way – we were together as a family. My mother cooked. She had a kitchen and a stove, and so she cooked for the family. And that was nice. We had milk delivery. And, we had an ice box. We had ice delivery, too.

Newcomer: So, at Manzanar you didn't have a kitchen to cook in. So there was, like, a mess hall I guess?

Kuromiya: Yes. There was a mess hall for each block and the food was not very good. [laughter] I can't even remember, I just remember it was kind of awful.

Newcomer: So, at Crystal City, did your older sibling – all of your brothers and sisters went together to Crystal City?

Kuromiya: Yes.

Newcomer: And, so, all of you went to school there in Crystal City, I guess?

Kuromiya: Yes, we did.

Newcomer: Did your father work at Crystal City?

Kuromiya: Yes. The men, they all worked. He was sort of a – he fixed little appliances and stuff like that. He had a little – I don't know what you want to call – a little shed where people took their little appliances or whatever and he was very handy, and he fixed them. And, I don't remember, but he might have been a barber. I don't really know. My uncle was a dentist before the war, and he continued. He was the dentist for the camp.

Newcomer: Oh.

Kuromiya: There might have been two dentists. I don't remember. So, that was good for me because he had always fixed my teeth.

Newcomer: Did you enjoy school in Crystal City? Was it just kind of part of life, or....?

Kuromiya: I remember I wasn't a particularly good student. It was, like you say, it was just part of being in camp.

Newcomer: Yeah.

Kuromiya: I don't remember the teachers so much.

Newcomer: Did you make friends with other students? Did you guys do things outside of school?

Kuromiya: Yes. I did make friends. We had a group of friends. It got so hot – well, it was always hot and damp and the weather was awful. But, I remember they made a swimming pool.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: They called it a swimming pool. I didn't realize until much later that it was used to irrigate the citrus grove [unintelligible]. It never occurred to me to wonder – was it chlorinated? I found out later it wasn't. Some children got sick.

Newcomer: Oh, uh huh.

Kuromiya: That was too bad. But, it's a good thing I didn't know about it then [laughter]. I spent so much time in there because it was so hot...

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: ...and humid, and that's the only way you can get away from the heat.

Newcomer: Do you remember the bath houses that were there at the swimming pool?

Kuromiya: You know, I don't. I really don't.

Newcomer: So, going swimming was one of the things that pretty much everybody did?

Kuromiya: Yeah.

Newcomer: Because it was so hot.

Kuromiya: Yes. It was really very hot.

Newcomer: And what other kinds of things did you guys do? Did you play basketball? Baseball?

Kuromiya: I played baseball and basketball and – oh – we played ping pong. That was a big thing.

Newcomer: And did they have, like, the ping pong tables at the school?

Kuromiya: You know, I don't remember where they had them. I don't know if we had a recreation hall. I don't remember if – the basketball and the baseball – baseball was definitely outside. So was the basketball.

Newcomer: And those were school teams?

Kuromiya: I don't remember.

Newcomer: Okay.

Kuromiya: I don't even remember what we did for gym. I think we took something called – oh, what do you call it – I want to say tumbling, but....

Newcomer: Oh, like acrobatics or....

Kuromiya: Yeah, something like that. Yeah, I remember that. And, well, we must have had a gym – some kind of gym. The ping pong was more – not connected to the school, because I remember playing against the Germans and I – we might have played baseball against them. But, I remember enjoying ping pong. That's where I learned to play ping pong.

Newcomer: Did you have very much interaction with the Germans or any Italians that were at Crystal City?

Kuromiya: Not really, because our – we weren't separated by any fence or anything, but just geographically, they were in a different part of the camp. But, I remember going to the Japanese school – Japanese class – maybe Saturday. But, I remember once I graduated, I worked in the store. We had a kind of – I guess you would call it a canteen for a store. And there was a German girl who worked there also. And we became good friends. So, there was some interaction. There was a little interaction. We got along fine. There was no – there was no problem that I know of.

Newcomer: You said after you graduated you worked at this little store. So, you stayed in the camp after you finished high school?

Kuromiya: Yes. There was only one – one student in my class that left the camp to go to university.

Newcomer: Oh.

Kuromiya: I believe she went to Austin – if there's a university....

Newcomer: Oh, yes, the University of Texas [at Austin].

Kuromiya: Yes. She was the only one.

Newcomer: Oh, okay.

Kuromiya: I didn't – it didn't occur to me to even want to leave and go because I was not a particularly good student, and my folks couldn't afford it anyway. But, she – the one that did go – I don't know if she got a scholarship or what, but she was a very, very good student.

Newcomer: So, you graduated in '44, and then how much longer was your family at Crystal City after that?

Kuromiya: We – just a year. I thought we came back the next.....oh, I think we came back in '46.

Newcomer: Oh.

Kuromiya: Somehow that date...hmmm...I think early '46 is when we came back.

Newcomer: And when you went back to California, were – was your dad able to get his farm back, or was there nothing left?

Kuromiya: We got our farm back. We were able to keep it. We had a very, very good friend who was our neighbor. They were a couple, and they took care of our farm. They – I remember they even came to visit us in Manzanar.

Newcomer: Oh, wow.

Kuromiya: So, that was really, really quite – you know.

Newcomer: Yeah. Yeah, that's amazing.

Kuromiya: Yeah.

Newcomer: So, would you say that after the war was over and your family got back to California – did things sort of return to normal? Or was everything different at that point?

Kuromiya: It was pretty different. The house was totally trashed. We had rented it out, and then the people had left. They just totally trashed it.

Newcomer: But your dad went back to raising chickens and truck farming?

Kuromiya: Yes. My grandparents' farm was adjacent to each other, so they both just went right back to work. And I went – the only job I could get was being a maid. And, so I went to work as a maid.

Newcomer: And was that right there in the Riverside area?

Kuromiya: Yes. Here it says, "Left Crystal City January '46."

Newcomer: Left for where?

Kuromiya: Left – we left Crystal City January '46.

Newcomer: Okay.

Kuromiya: So, it was in '46. My sisters – my two sisters, they went to school – and of course my younger brother – the younger ones went to school, also. My sister, I think she went to junior college in Riverside. I went to work as a maid. And, I got room and board, so I could give my dad a little bit of money to help him get started. Yes, uh huh. It wasn't fun, but in those days you did what you had to do.

Newcomer: Right. And how long did you work as a maid?

Kuromiya: Not too long. I came to Los Angeles and I went to a dress making school – maybe in '47.

Newcomer: So, you went to dress making school, and then I assume you got a job as a dress maker?

Kuromiya: In a factory – I came out here to go to dress making school, and I lived with a family as a schoolgirl, and I was, and I worked for my room and board. That's what most of us did – a lot of us did – even the ones that went to school, they would live with a family for their room and board. Everybody was – they wanted us to go back to school, and that's about the only way they could afford – their families couldn't afford it. We were just very, very lucky because we had our farm. We had a house to go back to. And, so, we just all pitched in and made it work.

Newcomer: So, what did you do – you worked at a factory making dresses....

Kuromiya: Making little boys shirts.

Newcomer: Oh! And how long did you do that?

Kuromiya: Not very long, because about that time I got married. Yes. So.....

Newcomer: And after you got married, you didn't work?

Kuromiya: I worked for a little while, and then I got pregnant and we started a family.

Newcomer: And how many kids did you have?

Kuromiya: I have four daughters.

Newcomer: What – looking back on, not just Crystal City, but the whole experience – the FBI coming and taking your father, the time at Manzanar, your time at Crystal City – what – what sort of impressions are you left with? What kinds of feelings are you left with about all of that?

Kuromiya: I feel badly – more for my parents because they worked so hard and then they had come here, they weren't citizens, so they felt – when the war took my dad, he just went quietly because he wasn't a citizen. My mother did what she could. I am – our culture is that you do – you respect authority, and so you accept it. I – today I don't feel bitter. It's just what happened. I can't, I can't waste energy being angry. I did work for the redress – the reparations. I worked with an activist group who worked to get it – the reparations. At that time, a lot of emotions did come to the surface, and – I don't – at this stage of my life I don't, I'm not angry anymore. It's just – that's what happened. When you see all the suffering in the world in so many other countries [unintelligible] we are, we do have freedom and as far as my experience goes, I'm kind of glad that I was old enough to remember.

Newcomer: Yeah.

Kuromiya: That's just what happened.

Newcomer: Well, is there anything that we haven't talked about that you wanted to talk about?

Kuromiya: Well, no. When I was back, two months or three months ago, I really didn't want to go back.

Newcomer: Really? Why not?

Kuromiya: I just – that was – it's over. That was a part of my life that happened how many years ago.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: And I just didn't want to go back. I've never wanted to go back. I had a chance to go back with a group of people I knew quite well in camp. They had organized a trip to go back, and I think that was maybe about five years ago. And, I didn't want to go back then, and I really didn't want to go back this time, but I went back because my niece wanted to go back. And when I was there, I really didn't feel anything because it didn't look like – it didn't look anything like the camp that...

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: ...that I was in. Nothing really triggered any emotion or another. I was just there. I just thought, oh, this is Texas, it's humid, it's hot. [laughs] How can people live here? I would not choose to live there. And, then when we went to the swimming pool, then...then, that really was the swimming pool that was in. I had spent so much time – that, then there were a lot of memories that did come up. But, that was it. I wasn't – it just brought back memories. I wasn't really – oh, I don't know how to put it – wasn't thrilled to be there, or sad about it. Well, I felt a little sad.

Newcomer: Yeah.

Kuromiya: Yes. That was – I had spent so much time there.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: And afterwards I thought, yes, I did spend all those years in camp, you know. What did I miss? [unintelligible] if there were no war, if I had stayed, what would have happened?

Newcomer: Yeah.

Kuromiya: You kind of think about it, but you don't want to think about it too much.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: Because you've done the best with what you...what life has given you.

Newcomer: When we went to visit the home that had the two little buildings from the camp, did seeing those buildings bring back any memories or emotions?

Kuromiya: Not emotions particularly. It did bring back memories. I remember maybe it was – my sister and I shared a bed – and I remember getting up and us being totally soaked. I remember the tiny kitchen, and I remember how small it was. But, it wasn't – those houses seemed terribly small.

Newcomer: Yeah.

Kuromiya: And, for seven of us to be in that house – it just wasn't possible.

Newcomer: Right, right. Yeah, I think after looking at the blueprints that probably you guys must have been in a house that was bigger than those that we saw.

Kuromiya: I'm sure. Yeah, because we had half a bath – half a bathroom.

Newcomer: Well, I – I could spend hours talking to you about it, just because it interests me, but also your attitude about the whole thing is – it's very, very interesting to me that you have really been able to just move on and accept that, you know, this was part of life, this happened, so now we just do what we have to do.

Kuromiya: Yeah. Maybe it's because you see in the news, you see so much suffering and people being – whole races being – what's the word – you know, at my age I can't think of – I want to think of certain words and they don't come to me [laughs].

Newcomer: Persecuted?

Kuromiya: Yeah. And they're just removed from their own country, just on a whim of some dictator or some leader, and it – it's so sad – the children. These people – whole families are killed in wars and, you know, we haven't learned anything. We haven't come very far...

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: ...as a human race. And, what I went through is really minor when you read about what the Chinese have done to Tibet, and they have been trying to erase their whole culture. So much of that is still going on.

Newcomer: Yeah. And as difficult as things were for you and your family and your friends, you were able to go back to the life that you had known before. You were able to preserve your culture.

Kuromiya: We're trying, yeah. And, my family, we were lucky. We did have a home to go back to [unintelligible] or had a worse time of it. I think what happened is wrong. I think it was a terrible thing, and – but, you just, like you say, you just have to move on. But, you certainly don't forget it...

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: ...or dismiss it. It happened, and it's something that you must remember.

Newcomer: Well, and that's why we're doing what we're doing – to make sure that the stories are preserved so that, so that people know what happened, and so that we don't forget.

Kuromiya: Yeah – so it doesn't happen again.

Newcomer: Right. Well, I sure do appreciate your time today. Thank you so, so much.

Kuromiya: Well, it was nice meeting you and your daughter.

Newcomer: I know that we talked last night and Hannah said that she was going to sit down and write you a letter as soon as the show was over because she's been so busy with it.

Kuromiya: Oh! That would be so nice.

Newcomer: She would – as soon as she's a little less busy, I think she'll sit down and write you a little note.

Kuromiya: Uh huh. And did she graduate?

Newcomer: No, no.

Kuromiya: What grade is she in?

Newcomer: She'll be a tenth grader this year.

Kuromiya: Going to be a tenth grader. That's right.

Newcomer: Yes. So – but this – the play she's been in this summer, they rehearse Monday through Thursday for about four hours every night, and she's been doing that all summer long. And, like I said, the show opened last night and they run this weekend and next weekend, and then she's got about three weeks off before school starts.

Kuromiya: Oh my. She doesn't have that much time. Is it a drama group that has nothing to do with her school?

Newcomer: Right, right. Yeah, it's a local theatre company and they – every summer they have a tuition free summer production for kids. And, so, this is her third year to do it. It's kind of a home away from home for her. She really, really loves the people and really enjoys doing the productions there.

Kuromiya: Uh huh. But, it's not a camp...

Newcomer: No.

Kuromiya: Well, that sounds like fun.

Newcomer: I'll have to try to get some pictures of her in her costume and email them to you.
[laughter]

Kuromiya: Okay. Well, it's nice talking to you. Oh, and Olga said – she sent an email and she said she would like to come out next year.

Newcomer: Oh! Wonderful!

Kuromiya: To see her new friends.

Newcomer: Well, thank you again so very, very much, and I will definitely be in touch with you and I will also encourage Hannah to write you.

Kuromiya: Now, have you talked to Toru and Bessie?

Newcomer: I spoke with Toru earlier today and Bessie wasn't home, but I'm going to call her in a little while.

Kuromiya: Toru is a very interesting person.

Newcomer: Yes he is.

Kuromiya: And he wants to visit all the camps.

Newcomer: Oh. I didn't realize that.

Kuromiya: I think. I think he's the one. And he has visited quite a few. I don't feel the way he does. I don't want to. I'd just as soon put it all behind me, because I don't have a whole lot of time. He's a lot younger. So I don't want to give the impression that, you know, oh that whole thing was, that it was [unintelligible] and whatever. It's something that I wouldn't want to go through again.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: So, okay.

Newcomer: Well, thank you again.

Kuromiya: And maybe we'll meet you somewhere.

Newcomer: Oh, that would be so much fun. I would hope so. Well, I know – I think that they're planning – the sort of dedication ceremony of all the new [interpretative] signs out at Crystal City that William [McWhorter of the Texas Historical Commission] has been working on – I think they're going to do that in November along with the Spinach Festival there in Crystal City.

Kuromiya: Oh, really?

Newcomer: I believe so, yeah. So, when I get more information about that I'll email you and let you know.

Kuromiya: Yes. Reiko, my niece, she wants to do a documentary.

Newcomer: Right.

Kuromiya: And she told Olga that she wanted to show it in Crystal City.

Newcomer: Oh! That might be a great opportunity for her to do that.

Kuromiya: We'll see.

Newcomer: But, like I said, as soon as I have more details, I'll be sure to let you know.

Kuromiya: Okay.

Newcomer: Okay. Alright. Well, you have a good rest of the weekend.

Kuromiya: Thank you, you too.

Newcomer: Alrighty. Bye bye.

Kuromiya: Bye bye.

Newcomer: That was Haru Kuromiya, and today is July 23, 2011. I am Lara Newcomer and this is part of the Texas in World War II project of the Texas Historical Commission.

[End of interview]