

**7. Item # MANZ 4079 (any medical-related artifacts)**

**Paul Takagi [PT], MANZ 1164, interviewed by Richard Potashin [RP]**

**Tape 2, Side B (CD), Track 6, 1:30 – Track 7, 1:16**

*PT: I told you I was assigned to the children's quarters except for this one time I was assigned to this guy Jim. The common disease, there were two, and one was the five-day measles and the other was a nasty disease called impetigo. Impetigo is caused by unsanitary conditions. You can understand that if you are in the first barrack in the middle of the night, there is no hot or cold water anywhere near this housing, and she would have to get up in the middle of the night and walk over to the latrine and get water or soap or whatever. So she would probably anticipate this and have some moist material like a towel and then the kid, well you wipe your hands, but that doesn't really wash it away, and kids when they are one or two years old, I mean they \_\_\_\_\_ the diapers and so forth. So you can readily understand how the child could pick up impetigo and it was really under unsanitary conditions that we lived. We have to have water and soap and hot water in camp and we didn't have it. So we had all these impetigo cases and they were hospitalized for fifteen days before they were well enough to be released. So these kids, some of them, are very dependent, and they don't know, hadn't learned how to eat, so I would teach them. "Come on, come on, open your mouth, come on," and so pretty soon before they get out of the hospital they are eating by themselves. So it was kind of fun in that sense. And the nurses were incredible, especially Munimori. No, they were all great nurses. Gohata was kind of uptight, but the other two nurses were great. And the nurses' aides, they were great. I was not on \_\_\_\_\_ crew, the nurses did that. My job simply was to run for supplies, equipment, and also the feeding time, to feed them, clean them up, and this kind of stuff, you know. I loved it. I really loved it, but it did not motivate me into going into medicine. That was never an objective for me.*