17. Item # MANZ 2239 (replica of boat)

Art & Tom Williams [AW] [TW], MANZ 1042, interviewed by Richard Potashin [RP] Tape 3, Side A, Excerpts Only (CD), Track 1, 0:05 – 2:43

RP: Tom, you mentioned about respect. And, you know, I think that's best expressed by the story about the boat. If one of you two could relate that story—we just mentioned the boat in passing, but if we could get that story on tape...

AW: Well, I don't exactly know what the relationship was between Zacky (Jazzy) and my Dad. Other than for him to make that boat with nothing more than a pocket knife and file with the materials that were on hand. He must have liked somebody fairly well to give him that. And I remember the story my Dad told that when he brought this in he just brought the back of this plywood box—and it just said Zacky Hayashi on it—to Loren Williams. And my Dad said he had no idea of what it was, and when he turned the box around and showed it to him, he was floored. So that's my recollection of what my Dad's first impression was when he saw the boat. I don't know that the Japanese family even knew that boat exists...the ones that are alive. That's why we want to have—we want to have them brought into the picture.

TW: And not embarrassed by it because it wasn't for political gain, and that's going to be a hard thing for some people to perhaps understand. That was not the intent of it. There was a real relationship, an understanding, perhaps some sort of an intellectual understanding. The boat was a replica of his own boat. RP: Okay.

AW: Yeah, he owned a tuna boat just like that.

TW: I mean this thing was capable of going off the coast of Peru. It was a long range, big fishing boat. And there had to be a lot of heartbreak in that because it was something he worked for obviously all of his life to obtain it...and then have somebody take that away from him.

AW: Well they didn't take it Tom. What happened is a guy was supposed to have leased it but never made any payments to him all the time he was in the camp. We don't know what happened to the boat afterwards. How he got the boat back.