Vietnamese American Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: BINH TRUONG

Interviewer: Rachel Mock

Date: Saturday March 3, 2012

Location: Westminster, California

Sub-Collection: Vietnamese American Experience Winter 2012

FIELD NOTES:

The interview was conducted in his home in Westminster California around 11 P.M. on Saturday March 3, 2012. His daughter Christine was present in the next room, but his two dogs that do not get along were in the room with us and we were both initially distracted by the dogs and their growling. The dogs appeared to serve as a type of protection for my narrator, but as the interview went on the dogs dispersed, the interview became more comfortable. We followed protocol and signed all of the consent and release forms prior to the interview. Mr. Truong provided me with some photos of his prior to the interview and was very hesitant at first but at first with doing the interview but was very accommodating during and after the interview.

I made sure that the setting was very comfortable for my narrator. He was initially very hesitant when I started the interview and apologized for his English and kept asking if I understood him. The interview does not follow a chronological order necessarily but the information that he gave me was exceptionally informative. I was originally supposed to interview his wife Minh, but she was out of town and insisted that Binh had a better story than she did.

It is recommended Minh also be interviewed because she was willing to participate in the Vietnamese American Oral History Project interview process. If possible, I would recommend a follow up interview with Binh because I feel that he was just starting to open up and has only just scratched the surface of his extensive life story.