Vietnamese Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: TUAN ANH LE

Interviewer: Kathy Le

Date: May 15, 2012

Sub-collection: Linda Vo Class Oral Histories, 2012

Location: Duarte, California

Length of Interview: 01:40:02

Field Notes

The interview was conducted at the house of Tuan Anh Le, in his daughter’s room. Present during the interview were the Narrator, Tuan Anh Le, and the interviewer, Kathy Le. All paperwork, consent and release forms, were mailed to him the prior week for him to fill out, and was handed over the day of the interview. Photos were taken of him throughout the day while he was interacting with his pets and outside grilling for Mother’s Day.

Tuan Anh Le wore comfortable clothes to the interview, a dark blue t-shirt that said California on it and khaki shorts. He did the interview laying down on his daughter’s bed, explaining that he could not sit for long periods of time do to his previously injured hip and femur. His English was broken, but still understandable, and he repeated the phrases “you know” and “like” a lot. At time he would struggle to find a word, and would either switch to another way to say it or said something that sounded similar to the word. He also had periods of time where he stammered and paused in order to think about things. He did not go far into the details of some of his stories because he was hoping it would not take long, with him telling me that he wanted to spend time with his wife for Mother’s Day. He also, during the interview, gave reasoning that his old age and medication affected some of his memories. Throughout the interview, when he was discussing the things he saw during the war, or what he experienced, he would close his eyes as he described the memories.

The interview might have gone smoother if we had more time to talk about the questions, and if we did the interview on a day that was not honoring someone in the family.