

Vietnamese American Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: JOHN DO
 Interviewer: Bob Nguyen
 Date: January 1, 2017
 Location: Westminster, California
 Sub-collection: Vietnamese American Experience Course, Spring 2017
 Length of interview: 01:45:50

ABSTRACT

An oral history with Mr. John Do, born in 1930 in Saigon, Vietnam. He was an officer in the South Vietnam military and served his country from 1950-1975. After the collapse of South Vietnam, he was imprisoned for 10 years in various reeducation camps and was released in 1985. He discussed his memories of South Vietnam before 1975 and his experiences in reeducation camp. He also discussed how his family left Vietnam through the Orderly Departure Program in 1992 due to his time in reeducation camp. After coming to the United States, he became a machinist in an oil refinery and retired at the age of 70. He has 5 children and lives in Westminster, California with his wife.

ABSTRACT (another sample)

Oral history of Mr. Nguyen Dinh Cuong (or Cuong Dinh Nguyen, western-style) who was born in Hanoi in 1942. His family migrated to Dalat after the Geneva Conference partitioned Vietnam into north and south. Most of his education was attained in Dalat. He became a teacher and met his wife, also a teacher, at a school where he taught. They had a son in 1975 and fled Vietnam by boat in 1977, arriving in a make-shift refugee camp in Taman Muara, Malaysia. They were resettled to Los Angeles County, California where he had a brother already there. He continued his schooling and became a civil engineer, added one more child (daughter) to the family, and settled in Cerritos, California. At the time of interview he is retired and remains active in the Buddhist community as well as alumni associations and hosts a show on Vietnamese radio.

ABSTRACTS SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Name with title (Mr., Ms., Dr., etc.)
- Place of birth
- Date or Decade of birth
- Immigration route
- Education background
- Previous and current occupations
- Events in life:
 - + Significant accomplishments
 - + Organization involvement
- Family situation
 - + Relationship status
 - + # of children, grandchildren, etc.
- Current residency (city and state)

OPTIONAL TO INCLUDE:

- Religion
- Hobbies

KEYWORDS

(If you come up with new keywords, highlight it in yellow so that we can add it to this list.)

Subjects:

1972 Paris Peace Accords
 Acculturation
 Activism
 Activist
 Actor or actress
 Adoptee
 Adoption
 Agent Orange
 Air Force (VN)
 Amerasian
 Ancestor
 Anticommunism
 Anticommunist
 Architect
 Art
 Arts and Entertainment
 Artist
 Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN)
 Asian American Studies
 Assimilation
 Banker
 Biology
 Boat People
 Buddhist
 Bui doi
 Business
 Business owner
 Cancer
 Catholic
 Childcare provider
 Children
 China
 Chinatown
 Chinese and ethnic Chinese
 Citizenship
 Civil rights
 College or university
 Colonialism
 Communism
 Communist
 Community service
 Computer scientist
 Construction worker
 Crime
 Criminal
 Death
 Demonstration
 Dentist
 Detainee
 Detention camp
 Diaspora
 Director
 Discrimination
 Dissident
 Domestic violence
 Education
 Elderly
 Emigration
 Employment
 Engineer
 Entertainment
 Entrepreneur
 Escape
 English as a second language (ESL)
 Ethnicity
 Exile
 Expatriate
 Factory worker
 Family
 Family reunification
 Farming
 Festival
 Filmmaker
 Firefighter
 Fisherman
 France
 Freedom of religion
 Freedom of speech
 French Military
 Gangs
 Gardener
 Garment worker
 Geneva Conference
 Greek fraternity
 Hair salon

Handyman
 Health
 Healthcare
 High school
 Higher education
 Ho Chi Minh
 Homemaker
 Human rights
 Human trafficking
 Humanitarian Operation (HO)
 Humanitarian organization
 Hurricane Katrina
 Identity
 Immigrant
 Information Technology (I.T.)
 Insurance agent
 Integration
 Intergenerational gap
 Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM)
 Interracial relationship
 International student
 Journalist
 Land refugee
 Language barrier
 Language schools
 Lawyer
 Legal issues
 Literature
 Maid or domestic helper
 Manicurist or nail technician
 Marketing
 Marriage
 Mechanic
 Media
 Medical professional
 Mental health
 Mixed race
 Moon Festival
 Musician
 Mutual Assistance Association
 My Lai Massacre
 Nail salons
 Napalm
 Naturalization
 Navy (VN)
 Newspaper or magazine
 Nongovernmental Organization (NGO)
 Normalization
 Nurse
 Office of Refugee Resettlement
 Operation Babylift
 Orderly Departure Program (ODP)
 Orphan
 Paris by Night
 Pharmacist
 Physician
 Plastic surgery
 Police
 Police officer
 Politics
 Poverty
 Prisoner
 Producer
 Professor
 Protests
 Public health
 Race relations
 Racism
 Radio
 Rape
 Real estate agent or broker
 Reeducation
 Reeducation camp
 Refugee camp
 Refugee camp (Hong Kong)
 Refugee camp (Indonesia)
 Refugee camp (Malaysia)
 Refugee camp (Philippines)
 Refugee camp (Thailand)
 Religion
 Remittances
 Research
 Resettlement
 Restaurants
 Sales person
 Scouts or scouting
 Sex trafficking
 Singer
 Social worker
 Soldier
 Spirit

Sports
 Sponsors or sponsorship
 Stereotypes
 Student
 Tan Son Nhut Airport
 Teacher
 Technician
 Television
 Tet Festival
 Tet Offensive-1968
 Thai Pirates
 Tradition or custom
 Traditional medicine
 Tourism
 Unemployment
 United Nations
 United States Catholic Charities (U.S.C.C.)
 Union
 Union organizer
 USAID
 Veteran
 Viet Cong
 Viet Minh
 Viet Kieu
 Vietnam War
 Vietnamese Student Association (VSA)
 Waiter or waitress
 War bride
 Welfare
 Writer
 Youth

Colleges/Universities:

California State Polytechnic University,
 Pomona
 California State University, Dominguez
 Hills
 California State University, Fullerton
 California State University, Long Beach
 California State University, Los Angeles
 California State University, Northridge
 San Diego State University
 San Francisco State University
 San Jose State University
 University of California, Berkeley
 University of California, Davis

University of California, Irvine (UCI)
 University of California, Los Angeles
 University of California, Merced
 University of California, Riverside
 University of California, San Diego
 University of California, San Francisco
 University of California, Santa Barbara
 University of California, Santa Cruz

Place names:

Anaheim, California
 Bangkok, Thailand
 Cambodia
 Camp Pendleton, California
 Clark Air Base, Philippines
 Eglin Air Base, Florida
 Fountain Valley, California
 Fort Chaffee, Arkansas
 Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania
 Garden Grove, California
 Gardena, California
 Germany
 Guam
 Huntington Beach, California
 Irvine, California
 Laos
 Little Saigon (Orange County, California)
 Little Saigon (San Jose, California)
 Los Angeles, California
 Los Angeles County, California
 Louisiana
 Marine Corps Air Station El Toro,
 California
 Monterey Park, California
 Orange, California
 Orange County, California
 Phanat Nikhom Refugee Camp, Thailand
 Pulau Bidong Refugee Camp, Malaysia
 Riverside County, California
 San Bernardino County, California
 San Diego County, California
 San Jose, California
 San Francisco, California
 Santa Ana, California
 Songkhla Refugee Camp, Thailand
 Taiwan

Torrance, California
 Tustin, California
 Westminster, California
 Wichita, Kansas
 Virginia (United States)

Locations in Vietnam:

Vietnam, Central
 Vietnam, Northern
 Vietnam, Southern
 Bà Rịa (Vietnam)
 Bạc Liêu (Vietnam)
 Bắc Ninh (Vietnam)
 Ban Mê Thuộc (Vietnam)
 Biên Hòa (Vietnam)
 Bình Dương (Vietnam)
 Bình Thủy (Vietnam)
 Cà Mau (Vietnam)
 Cần Thơ (Vietnam)
 Cao Bằng (Vietnam)
 Cho Lon (Vietnam)
 Đà Lạt (Vietnam)
 Đà Nẵng (Vietnam)
 Đồng Tháp (Vietnam)
 Hà Đông (Vietnam)
 Hà Nội (Vietnam)
 Hà Tiên (Vietnam)
 Hà Tĩnh (Vietnam)
 Hải Dương (Vietnam)
 Hải Phòng (Vietnam)
 Hải Phòng (Vietnam)
 Hồ Nai (Vietnam)
 Hội An (Vietnam)
 Huế (Vietnam)
 Kum Tum (Vietnam)
 Lạng Sơn (Vietnam)
 Long An (Vietnam)
 Long Xuyên (Vietnam)
 Mekong Delta (Vietnam)
 Mỹ Lai (Vietnam)
 Mỹ Tho (Vietnam)
 Nghệ An (Vietnam)
 Nha Trang (Vietnam)
 Nha Trang (Vietnam)
 Phan Rang (Vietnam)
 Phan Thiết (Vietnam)

Phước Tỉnh (Vietnam)
 Pleiku (Vietnam)
 Quảng Bình (Vietnam)
 Quảng Nam (Vietnam)
 Quảng Ngãi (Vietnam)
 Quảng Trị (Vietnam)
 Qui Nhơn (Vietnam)
 Rạch Giá (Vietnam)
 Saigon (Vietnam)
 Sóc Trăng (Vietnam)
 Sơn Tây (Vietnam)
 Tây Ninh (Vietnam)
 Thái Bình (Vietnam)
 Trà Vinh (Vietnam)
 Vinh (Nam Định) (Vietnam)
 Vĩnh Long (Vietnam)
 Vũng Tàu (Vietnam)