Vietnamese Oral History Project, UC Irvine.

Narrator Kylam Doan

Interviewer: James Ferrel

Date: February 26, 2010

Location: Laguna Niguel, California

Sub-collection Vietnamese American Experience winter 2012-03-06 Length of interview

Time Log

00:00:00 introduction and consent
00:00:42 Kylam Doan states name and place of birth
00:01:12 Kylam talks about his father and mother and childhood in Saigon
00:01:44 Kylam describes how his parents met
00:02:30 He talks about how his father taught French and then became an engineer
00:11:09 He talks about favorite food
00:13:17 Kylam’s War memories as a young child.
00:15:55 Kylam talks about interaction with U.S. Troops as a young boy
00:16:47 Kylam’s views as a teenage/young adult about the war.
00:17:39 Kylam talks about family members in the war.
00:23:43 Kylam talks about the final days of South Vietnam
00:26:18 The last Americans to leave Vietnam
00:31:12 Kylam and family’s life right after the fall of Saigon
00:36:05 Kylam does mesh well under need communist government.
00:38:09: kylam assumes Chinese identity and his plot to escape Vietnam
00:40:09 Kylam and his boat land in Malaysia
00:41:01 Life in Malaysia and the camp
00:44:20 Kylam’s sister is his sponsor and his experiences in coming to America

00:47:04 Kylam expresses desire to go to France Vs. The united States but ultimately is glad he went to U.S.

00:51:59 Race and identity in the United States

00:54:06 learning English and meeting his wife

00:55:22 numerous jobs held

00:56:45 Kylam and family moves to Laguna Niguel

00:57:01 Kylam involvement in the Vietnamese community and his thoughts about little Saigon.

01:00:55 visits Vietnam for first time and several visits after

01:02:20 Kylam’s current opinion on Vietnam today

01:05:04 The future of the Vietnamese American and their Vietnamese culture

01:06:00 Final words/end