

My Viet Nam War: Oral History Project, UC Irvine

Narrator: Hải Nguyễn

Interviewer: Andrew Finney, Kevin Liu

Date: November 17, 2021

Location: Irvine, California

Sub-collection: Viet Nam War Oral History Course, Fall 2021

Length of interview: 01:44:42

Time Log

- 00:01:07 Hải Nguyễn discusses his early childhood in Saigon through some of his fondest childhood.
- 00:04:10 Hải Nguyễn begins talking about the Tet Offensive, focusing on how he was told to take shelter at home, where they watched their TV for news and rationed their food from the Tet holiday.
- 00:11:52 Hải Nguyễn talks about his education in Lasalle Taberd and some effects of the war on his educational experience both inside and outside of school.
- 00:18:44 Hải Nguyễn talks about his family during the Tet Offensive, namely his brothers and family's whereabouts and their struggle to survive.
- 00:32:04 Hải Nguyễn talks about the return to normalcy after the Tet Offensive and his civilian interactions during wartime, especially those relevant to his educational activities.
- 00:42:21 Hải Nguyễn discusses how he got interested in economics.
- 00:49:27 Hải Nguyễn discusses his growing freedom in his teenage years with a bike, then a moped, and finally a scooter.
- 00:57:14 Hải Nguyễn talks a bit about his mother, father, and sister and their interactions with each other.
- 01:01:00 Hải Nguyễn talks about his educational plans to move abroad and how he arrived to attend a university in Paris.

- 01:09:12 Hải Nguyễn talks about viewing the war from an outside perspective and keeping in contact with family.
- 01:17:23 Hải Nguyễn discusses the process of discovering his family again after he fell out of contact with them in the chaos of the war's end.
- 01:22:17 Hải Nguyễn discusses student life while attending university in Paris and notes the mood of his fellow Vietnamese students, especially during holidays.
- 01:31:24 Hải Nguyễn discusses how he arrived in the United States and his reunification with his family.
- 01:39:28 Hải Nguyễn discusses living in America and how he learned English.