

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Ut Ha

Part of the Illinois Public Media ([WILL radio.tv.online](http://WILL.radio.tv.online))
Central Illinois Vietnam War Stories project

Interview # VRV-V-D-2015-069

Ut Ha, who was a survivor of the Vietnam War from South Vietnam, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Illinois Public Media – WILL AM-FM-TV Central Illinois Vietnam War Stories project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: April 29, 2015 Location: WILL-TV Studio X, Campbell Hall, Urbana, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Kimberlie Kranich, Illinois Public Media Content Manager

Technical Support (videographers): WILL Staff

Transcription by: Illinois Public Media staff

Edited by: Illinois Public Media staff

Total Pages: 35 pgs. Total Time: 1:14 / 1.23 hrs.

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The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Ut Ha, *Veterans Remember*, VRV-V-D-2015-069

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Ut Ha was born August 28, 1954 and grew up in Da Lat, South Vietnam as one of eight children. Her parents had moved to South Vietnam in 1952 shortly before she was born to escape the Communist regime in North Vietnam. In 1963 when President Ngô Đình Diệm was assassinated, she remembers having to stay home from school for weeks. She remembers troops surrounding her city during the Tet Offensive of 1968. Her mother later relocated the family first to Na Chang and later to Saigon in an attempt to avoid the Viet Cong. When Saigon fell to the Communists in 1975 and the South Vietnamese military no longer existed to protect them, her mother moved the family back to Da Lat. She recalls how her brother, who was a soldier in the South Vietnamese Army, spent several years in a re-education camp run by the communists. Ha and her sister tried multiple times to escape Vietnam by boat. Her sister finally succeeded in 1987, eventually making her way all the way to France. Ha met her husband, Bon Bui, in 1986 and was able to move to the United States in 1990 because he had been a prisoner of war. Ut Ha and her husband chose to settle in Urbana, Illinois by Bui's brother.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Vietnam War; war refugee; Da Lat, South Vietnam; Saigon, South Vietnam; Na Chang, South Vietnam; Viet Cong; Tet Offensive; Communism in Vietnam; Ut Ha; Buddhist religion; assassination of Ngô Đình Diệm; U.S. soldiers; South Vietnamese re-education camp; prisoner of war; Urbana, Illinois

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