



**Document Translation**  
**Moakley Archive & Institute**

**Document title:** Coaching book of a Chinese man from Toisan

**Document date:** undated

**Collection:** Harry Hom Dow Papers (MS 111), Box 3, Folder D33(d), Moakley Archive and Institute, Suffolk University

**Translated by:** Zi Jing Teoh

**Transcript (translated from Chinese):**

**Translator's notes:**

1. Does not include transcription of light pencil markings over some sentences.
2. pinyin vs original transliteration found in documents
3. units of measurements, e.g. *sui, li, zhang, chi*. Also, years old vs. *sui*.
4. C.R. and use of lunar calendar (sometimes called old calendar in translation), the Gregorian calendar called new calendar or Western calendar.
5. Recycle transliteration for the sake of consistency.
6. "Shee" as a long-standing mistranslation (still not sure what to do with this. probably keep intact to allow continuity)<sup>2</sup>

[Translation Begins]

[page 1 begins]

**[Client's Name Redacted]**

Counting from the year of the Chinese Republic [abbreviated C.R.] 41. [i.e. 1952 A.D.]

My name is **[Client's name redacted]**. I am married. I am twenty years old and was born on the 7th of the 1st month, C.R. 22, in Sunning District (i.e. Toisan District), Longwan [pinyin] Village. I lived in Longwan Village from my birth until the end of C.R. 40, when I sailed from the port for the first time. I stayed in Hong Kong for about a month, then I returned to the village until this year, i.e. the 10th month of C.R. 41, after which I departed through a sea port to America. Since this departure, I have not travelled to the village. When I sailed from the port toward the end of C.R. 40, I stayed at [blank], and went to Beihe [pinyin] Street and visited my oldest brother's wife as well as **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** [recorded official names] a few times. When I sailed from the port toward the end of C.R. 40, I obtained a Certificate of Identity at Hong Kong.

I speak the local dialect of Sunning, and would like to request for my lawyer to attend my hearing during the interrogation at the Immigration Office.



I am a U.S. citizen of Chinese race. I am coming to America as a grandchild of a U.S.-born person. Since my paternal grandfather was born in America and thus a U.S. citizen, and as a descendant of a U.S citizen I am also a U.S. citizen, therefore I have a right to come to America.

I began schooling at the Tianluokeng Village school from the age of eight, i.e. the beginning of C.R. 29, till the age of eleven, i.e. the end of C.R. 32, after which I discontinued schooling. So in total I had about four years of schooling. I have never attended school at anywhere else except there.

After finishing school I stayed at home without employment. I have not worked, been a soldier, or accepted government duties.

I have five older brothers without any younger brothers or sisters. Including me there are six of us--me being the sixth-born and youngest.

With the exception of my first and third oldest brothers who have passed away, I do not have other deceased siblings, or any bought siblings. My brothers and I have been well. We have not caught smallpox or other major illnesses.

My oldest brother's name was **[redacted]**, marriage name **[redacted]**. He would have been 36 years old if alive. He was born in Dawan Village, Sunning District, on the 3rd of the 3rd month, C.R. 6.

**[page 1 ends]**

**[page 2 begins]**

My oldest brother left home for the first time in the 7th month of C.R. 21. Since coming to America with my father he had travelled to China once.

My oldest brother arrived at home from the U.S. in the late 5th month, C.R. 24. He stayed at home until the 3rd month, C.R. 27. Then he went back to America (I was six years old then) and never travelled to China.

My oldest brother had been a soldier in the U.S. Army during the Second World War. Later, as he fell ill, he was admitted to a VA hospital until his death on the 12th of the 3rd month, C.R. 35, at the VA Hospital in the Bronx, New York. Now he is buried in America.

My oldest brother had only been married once. He was married on the 4th of the 10th month, C.R. 24, in Longwan Village, Sunning District. New customs were observed. We did not have a banquet (I was only three years old then, so I do not know the details of his wedding.)

My oldest brother's wife **[redacted]**, maiden **[redacted]**, has big feet **[translator's note: this is a literal translation. The mention of foot size alludes to the practice of female foot-binding in**

Chinese society. Here “big feet” indicates that she had not undergone foot-binding.] She is thirty-six years old this year. Originally from Ruifenwei [pinyin] New Village, she now lives in Hong Kong. I do not know where Ruifenwei New Village is; I have not been there.



I learned that my oldest brother's wife does not have any siblings. Her parents have been deceased for a long time. I have never met my oldest brother's wife's parents.

My oldest brother's wife once left port in the 9th month, C.R. 39 together with her two sons, **[redacted]**. Her two sons are already in America; my oldest brother's wife has never returned to the village after she left.

My oldest brother has two sons, no daughters. His first son is named **[redacted]**. He is seventeen years old this year. His second son is named **[redacted]**. He is fifteen years old this year. Both of them were born in Longwan Village. They are currently in America.

Both **[Client's Nephew 1]**, **[Client's Nephew 2]** began schooling at Qianzhi [pinyin] School near my village from the age **[translator's note: traditionally Chinese people began counting their age from 1, thus a newborn would have been 1 “years old”, need further processing.]** of eleven. Both attended school until the end of C.R. 39, after which they discontinued schooling. So in total **[Client's Nephew 1]** had about five years of schooling (I have never attended the same school with him); **[Client's Nephew 2]** had about three years of schooling (I have never attended the same school with him). Except for Qianzhi School, they have never attended school at anywhere else.

**[page 2 ends]**

**[page 3 begins]**

Both **[Client's Nephew 1]** and **[Client's Nephew 2]** left port in the 4th month, C.R. 40, with their mother. They stayed in Hong Kong until the 2nd day, by the old calendar, of the 4th month, C.R. 41, when they took an airplane flight to America. They have not returned to China ever since. I learned through my father's letter that they both arrived at New York safely on the 21st of the 4th month, C.R. 41.

I learned that the documents for **[redacted]**'s and **[redacted]**'s travel to the United States were not prepared concurrently. That was because when my father was preparing for **[redacted]**'s application, he did not plan on bringing **[redacted]** to the United States. However, later he decided to bring **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** together to the United States. That is why the photographs on **[redacted]**'s application were sent to my father in the 5th month, C.R. 39, whereas **[redacted]**'s photographs were sent to my father in the 9th month, C.R. 39.

**[redacted]**, **[redacted]**, my parents, my second oldest brother, and my oldest brother's wife once travelled together from the village to Guangzhou [pinyin, i.e. Canton, the capital of Guangdong/Kwangtung Province] to meet the Consul in C.R. 35. They stayed in Guangzhou for about a month before going back to the village.



My oldest brother's wife, as well as [redacted] and [redacted], once took a photograph at Doushanyuludu [pinyin] photography studio in the 5th month, C.R. 38.

My second oldest brother's name is [redacted] [official recorded name]. He is married. His marriage name is Meng Ju [pinyin]. He is thirty-four years old this year. He was born in Dawan Village, Sunning District, on the 2nd of the 2nd month, C.R. 8. He is currently in America.

My second oldest brother left home for the first time in the early 11th month, C.R. 27, for America. Since then he has travelled to China once.

My second oldest brother arrived at home in China from America with my father at the end of C.R. 35. He stayed until around the fifth or sixth month, C.R. 37. Then he went back to America together with his wife. He has not travelled to China since.

On the day of my second oldest brother and my father's return to China, they arrived at home around two or three o'clock in the afternoon. My family did not greet them at the port; only my father and my second oldest brother entered our house through the main door, each of them carrying a yellow briefcase. They did not hand me any money or items after arriving at home.

After staying at home for about one or two months, my second oldest brother went to Guangzhou. After getting married on the 14th of the 2nd month, C.R. 36, at the U.S. Consulate in Guangzhou, both the husband and wife went back to my house in Longwan Village and stayed for a few days before they went and stayed in Hong Kong until around the 5th or 6th month, C.R. 37, when they went back to America together.

**[page 3 ends]**

**[page 4 begins]**

My second oldest brother's wife is named [redacted] [pinyin]. She is about twenty-two years old this year. Originally from Big New Village [literal translation], Sunning District, she is now in America. I do not know where Big New Village is; I have not been there. I do not know the affairs in my second oldest brother's wife's maiden family.

My second oldest brother's wife came to America with my second brother in the 5th month, C.R. 37. She came to the United States as the wife of a U.S. veteran, as my second oldest brother joined the army in America in the last World War.

My second oldest brother has four daughters. His first daughter is named [redacted], about five years old this year; his second daughter is named [redacted], about four years old this year; his third daughter is [redacted], about three years old this year; his fourth daughter is named [redacted], about two years old this year. [[redacted] is the family name, the given names are pinyin-rendered transliterations.] All of them were born in America, and are currently living in America. **[researcher's note: seem to contradict a letter found in the same file mentioning the four daughters. The letter suggests that they are in Hong Kong.]**



My third oldest brother's name is [redacted] [reported official name]. He was never married, and would have been twenty-eight years old this year if he were alive. He was born in Longwan Village, Sunning District on the 25th of the 2nd month, C.R. 14.

My third oldest brother never went to China again after he came to America for the first time in the 6th month, C.R. 25.

My third oldest brother died on the European front in C.R. 36. That was because in the last World War he had joined the Army in the United States, and was dispatched to the European front.

My fourth oldest brother's name is [redacted] [reported official name], marriage name Meng Hua [pinyin]. He is twenty-seven years old this year. He was born in Longwan Village, Sunning District on the 20th of the 8th month, C.R. 15. He is currently in America.

My fourth oldest brother began schooling at the Tianluokeng Village school from the age of eight, i.e. the beginning of C.R. 22, till he was eighteen years old, i.e. the end of C.R. 32, after which he discontinued schooling. So in total he had about eleven years of schooling. He has never attended school at anywhere else except there (we attended the same school for four years).

**[page 4 ends]**

**[page 5 begins]**

After finishing school my fourth oldest brother first started working on the fields at home until he came to America. Except for working on the fields, he had never been otherwise employed.

My fourth oldest brother left home for the first time in the fourth month, by the Western calendar, **[translator's note: i.e. April]**, C.R. 40 for America. He has not travelled to China since.

My fourth oldest brother got wedded in Longwan Village by new customs on the 15th of the 4th month, C.R. 37, without having a banquet or a tea ceremony.

My fourth oldest brother's wedding day was a good day--no rain. The bride arrived at my house at two to three o'clock in the afternoon on a sedan chair carried by two other women. No relatives from the bride's family came with her. My fourth oldest brother wore a coral-colored long shirt; the bride wore a red-colored blouse without wearing other flower decoration. The ceremony was held in the middle hall of my house; my parents hosted the wedding. The marrying couple bowed once to my parents, and my mother said a few words of blessing to them. That was the wedding. At the time, except for members in my household we did not invite other people to the wedding.



The bride did not bring any dowry. Except for a yellow briefcase kept at the back of the sedan chair, there were no other items brought over.

There was no marriage certificate issued; no exchange of ancestral information from three generations above; no exchange of gold ornaments or jewelry for my fourth oldest brother's wedding.

All expenses for my fourth oldest brother's wedding were paid for by my mother. I do not know how much the expenses were.

My fourth oldest brother's wife's surname is **[redacted]**, maiden name Jinxing [pinyin]. She is about twenty-six years old this year. Originally from Gu Lang Village, Xi Shan County of Sunning District, she now lives in our house. I learned that the village is located on the northeast of my village about ten *li* away; I have not been there.

My fourth oldest brother has a son; no daughters. His son is named **[redacted]** [given name pinyin-rendered transliteration]. He was born this year 1 years old, i.e. on the 7th of the 1st month, C.R. 41. He is currently living in our house in Longwan Village.

Rongchi was born at [blank] o'clock. No doctor was present, just my mother who was delivering. No banquet was held for the full-month birthday.

**[page 5 ends]**

**[page 6 begins]**

My fifth oldest brother's name is **[redacted]** [official recorded name]. He is twenty-two years old this year. He was born in Longwan Village, Sunning District on the 26th of the 7th month, C.R. 20. He is currently in America.

My fifth oldest brother began schooling at the Tianluokeng Village school from the age of eight, i.e. the beginning of C.R. 27, till he was thirteen years old, i.e. the end of C.R. 32, after which he discontinued schooling. So in total he had about six years of schooling. He has never attended school at anywhere else except there (we attended the same school for four years).

My fifth oldest brother came to America for the first time in the fourth month, by the Western calendar, **[translator's note: i.e. April]** of C.R. 40. He has not travelled to China since. (My second oldest brother had prepared for the documents from the United States to bring over my fourth and fifth oldest brothers to America. Later, as the application could not be completed, my fourth and fifth oldest brothers waited at home till C.R. 40 before coming to the United States.)

After my fourth and fifth oldest brothers left port together with my father on the 15th of the 1st month of C.R. 38, they sailed from Hong Kong on the S.S. President Cleveland to the United States in the 4th month, per Western calendar, C.R. 40. I learned that they passed customs **[translator's note: i.e. were admitted]** at San Francisco on the fifth month, by the Western

calendar [i.e. May], C.R. 40.



On the day of my fourth and fifth oldest brothers and my father's departure, after having breakfast, at about six or seven o'clock, they said their parting words at the middle hall with everyone in the house. Nobody accompanied them, just the three of them, each carrying a yellow briefcase as they left the house.

**[page 6 ends]**

**[page 7 begins]**

I myself was borned the sixth and the youngest.

The school I attended is located in Tianluokeng Village. That village is about one *li* [translator's note: a unit of distance] on the northeast of my village. There was a pebble road leading there from my village. There was no bridge, sea, or other villages on the way there.

The backs of the houses in Tianluokeng Village are on the [direction left blank], whereas the fronts of the houses face the [direction left blank]. The front of the village is on the west, the rear on the east. There are some fifty houses arranged in five rows.

The school in Tianluokeng Village is situated on the west side, at the front of the village, the first of the first row of buildings. There is no house at its back. The school does not have a name. It is similar to other houses in layout, i.e. three rooms near the front and two corridors near the back.

The school in Tianluokeng Village was built with black bricks. It was one story tall with no upstairs. The big and small doors are used to enter and leave the building. The big door faces the west, the small door the east. It has a red shingle roof and a cement floor on the interior. The floor on the patio under the skylight is pebbled. There are no windows on the wall, but each room has a small glass-covered skylight. Each skylight is about [blank] long and [blank] wide. The spacious middle hall is for lessons and study. The other two rooms are for sitting [???]; the two corridors are for storing various things.

There were no female students at my school, only male students.

When I was in school the whole school has [blank] students including myself. We were all from Tianluokeng Village and my village.

School hours at my school was from 8 o'clock when I went to school after breakfast till recess at 12 o'clock when I went home for lunch and went back to school from 1 till 5 when school was over and I went home for dinner. I did not went to school after dinner; I went to bed at home.

**[page 7 ends]**





**[page 8 begins]**

Mr. [redacted] [pinyin] teaches at my school. He is about fifty-four years old this year. He is from Tianluokeng Village; has taught there for some twenty years. The schoolmaster does not keep a beard or wear eye glasses.

My school takes a rest day every Sunday, a month of summer break, and a month of new-year break. Summer break lasts from the 1st of the 6th month to the 1st of the 7th month; new-year break lasts from the 15th of the 12th month to the 15th of the 1st month. The school also takes a holiday on Qingming Day [i.e. the holiday characterized by tomb-sweeping.]

Everyone had their own desk space at my school. Everyone sat separately; no one shared their desk. The schoolmaster's seat was outside near the skylight; the students' seats were inside.

The books my school used were bought by the schoolmaster on behalf of the students. My school teaches new studies like Chinese, Geography, History, Arts, Composition, etc. We did not learn English. There was no separation by grades, although some studied deeper books while some studied easier books. There was no blackboard in the school; the schoolmaster taught through lecture.

My mother brought me to school on the first day of school.

The school in Tianluokeng Village remained open as usual during the war. Tuition was twenty Hong Kong Dollars per year per person; it was the same after the war. They had been paid for by my mother to the schoolmaster.

Neither the schoolmaster nor the students wore set uniforms.

There was no school in Longwan, my village. That is why people from my village had to go to Tianluokeng Village for school. The school in that village was the nearest school to my village.

My father's name is [redacted] [official recorded name], marriage name [redacted]; some people call him [redacted] [pinyin]; some people call him [redacted]. He is sixty-three years old this year. He was born in Dawan Village, Sunning District on the 15th of the 1st month of 16th year of Guangxu [i.e. 1891 C.E.]. He can be found at the laundromat at 237 B...n Bridge Street [translator's note: my estimate of the street name] New York.

**[page 8 ends]**

**[page 9 begins]**

I do not know the date of my father's first trip to the United States. I only learn from my mother that my father have made four trips to China since the first time he came to America., though my mother has forgotten the dates of his first two trips to China and back to the United States. She only remembers that on his third trip he travelled home from the United States with my second uncle at the end of C.R. 19 and stayed until the 7th month, C.R. 21 when he left home with my oldest brother for America.





On the fourth trip (i.e. the last trip) he travelled home from the United States with my second oldest brother at the end of C.R. 35 and stayed until around the 9th month, C.R. 38 when he left home for America. He has not travelled to China since.

On the 9th month, C.R. 38 when my father left home for America, at about six or seven o'clock, he said his parting words at the middle hall with everyone in the house. Nobody accompanied him, just my father himself, carrying a yellow briefcase as he left the house. [translator's note: might contradict page 5 about leaving home with 2 sons.]

When my father was at home, he had his meals and spent his night at home every day. He did not sleep over at anywhere else.

When my father was at home, he was carefree at home without otherwise being employed. Neither did he went on excursions with my brothers and I. Only on Qingming Day did he go out and pay respects to deceased family members at their graves with my brothers and I and his other nephews.

My father did not put on Western clothing when he was at home; he only wore Chinese clothes. He did not drink, did not keep a beard or moustache, did not put on eyeglasses.

My father is average built.

My parents were only married once.

My parents got married on the 24th of the 11th month of the 1st year of Xuangtong in Dawan Village, Sunning District.

My mother **[redacted]**, maiden name **[redacted]** [pinyin], has big feet. She is sixty-two years old this year. She was born on the 2nd of the 2nd month, Guangxu 17 in Ruifen Huanzhou [pinyin] Village, Sunning District. She is currently living in our house in Longwan Village.

My mother does not have any siblings.

**[page 9 ends]**

**[page 10 begins]**

My maternal grandfather's name is **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He would have been about eighty-two years old this year if alive. He passed away in Huanzhou Village in C.R. 33.

My maternal grandmother, **[redacted]**, has big feet. I learned that she passed away in Huanzhou Village in C.R. 23.

I have never met my maternal grandparents. Neither of them had visited my village.

I learned that Huanzhou Village is about ten *li* and more on the west of my village; I have not been there.

My father has two younger brothers without any older brother or other sisters. Including my father there are three brothers with my father being the oldest.



**[Translator's note: [redacted]'s father has two younger brothers. As the younger brother was born second and the youngest was born third, [redacted] would likely address and refer to his uncles as the second uncle and third uncle respectively per Chinese kinship terminology.]**

My second uncle's name is **[redacted]** [official recorded name], marriage name **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about sixty-one years old this year. He was born in Dawan Village, Sunning District. He is currently in America.

I learned that my second uncle came to America for the first time in C.R. 10. After that, in so far as I know, he has travelled to China once.

He went back home with my father at the end of C.R. 19. He stayed until the 3rd month, C.R. 23, before leaving home for America. (I was only 2 years old when he left home.)

My second uncle's wife, **[redacted]**, has big feet. She is about sixty-one years old this year. Originally from Changxiu [pinyin] Village, Sunning District, she now lives in Wufu Village, Sunning District. There are acne scars on my second uncle's wife's face. I do not know how far Changxiu Village is from my village; I have not been there. I do not know the affairs in my uncle's wife's maiden family.

My second uncle has four sons, no daughters. His oldest son is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]. He is about thirty-five years old this year. I do not know whether he is married or not. He was born in Dawan Village, Sunning District. I heard that he went to Guangxi along with the second brother, **[redacted]**, [official recorded name], as well as the third and fourth brothers in the first month, C.R. 30; I do not know how they are doing now.

The second-born son of my second uncle is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]; not married; about thirty-three years old this year. He was born in Dawan Village, Sunning District. I heard that he went to Guangxi along with his older brother as well as the third and fourth brothers in the first month, C.R. 30; I do not know how they are doing now.

**[page 10 ends]**  
**[page 11 begins]**

The third-born son of my second uncle is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]; married, and about twenty-two years old this year. He was born in Longwan Village, Sunning District. I heard that he is currently in Hong Kong waiting to come to America with the youngest brother.

The fourth-born son of my second uncle is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]; married, and about twenty years old this year. He was born in Longwan Village, Sunning District. I heard that he is currently in Hong Kong waiting to come to America with his third oldest brother.

I learned that the all four sons of my second uncle went and stayed in Guangxi in the first month, C.R. 31, because of the war. I heard that **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** have already



returned from Guangxi to live in Wufu Village [pinyin], although both **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** are still in Guangxi.

My second uncle's family used to live in Longwan Village, Sunning District. Since the 12th month, C.R. 26, when my second uncle's wife followed by her four sons moved to Wufu Village, Sunning District, they have not been to Longwan Village. Wufu Village is about some more than ten *li* on the east of my village; I have not been there.

I heard that since my third uncle came to America for the first time with my second uncle in C.R. 10, he has travelled to China once.

I heard that my third uncle went back home from the United States in C.R. 15. He stayed until C.R. 19 when he left home for America and has not travelled China. I have never met my third uncle.

My third uncle's wife, **[redacted]**, maiden name **[redacted]**, big feet, is about fifty-nine years old this year. Originally from Ruifenhaitang Village [pinyin], Sunning District, she is currently in America.

My third uncle's wife came to America together with her youngest son, **[redacted]** [official recorded name], in the mid-8th month, C.R. 28. She has never travelled to China since.

My third uncle has five sons and one daughter.

His oldest son is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]. He is about thirty-six years old this year. His second oldest son is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]. He is about thirty-three years old this year. They are both unmarried. Both of them were born in Dawan Village. Both **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** [official recorded name] went to Guangxi during the war, although some people said they went to Nanyang [translator's note: literally "Southern Ocean", a geographical region consisting of Southeast Asia], so I do not know where they currently are.

**[page 11 ends]**

**[page 12 begins]**

My third uncle's third oldest son is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]. He is about twenty-six years old this year. He was born in Longwan Village. He is currently in America. **[redacted]** [official recorded name] came to America for the first time in the 6th month, C.R. 24. He has gone to China once after that. He went back to China from the United States in the 2nd or 3rd month of C.R. 36 to get married in Guangzhou City, then in the same year, i.e. in the 8th or 9th month of C.R. 36, he came to America with his wife through Hong Kong.

**[redacted]**'s [official recorded name] wife's name is **[redacted]** [pinyin]. She is about twenty-three or -four. Originally from Hengjiang [pinyin] Village, Sunning District, she is currently in America. She came to America with her husband in the eighth or ninth month, C.R. 36. She came to America as the wife of a U.S. Army veteran. I learned that they are currently in Hanford, California, though I do not know whether they have any children.

**[redacted]** did not travel to Longwan Village on this trip to China.



My third uncle's fourth oldest son is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name], marriage name **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about twenty-four years old this year. He was born in Longwan Village. He is currently in America. **[redacted]** [official recorded name] left port in the [blank]-th month, C.R. 39. He stayed in Hong Kong until the 12th of the 7th month, C.R. 40 (by the old calendar) before coming to America. He has never travelled to China since. **[redacted]** was wedded in his house in Longwan Village on the 1st of the 12th month, C.R. 37. **[redacted]**'s wife's surname is **[redacted]**, maiden name **[redacted]** [pinyin]. She is about twenty-two years old this year. Originally from Guanbao Village, Sunning District, she is currently living in our village. **[redacted]** has a daughter named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. She is two years old this year. She was born on the 1st of the 10th month, C.R. 40. She is currently living in our village.

My third uncle's youngest son is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]. I learned that he is not married; was born in Longwan Village; is currently in America.

He came to America with his mother in the middle of C.R. 28. He has not travelled to China since.

My third uncle's daughter is named **[redacted]** [official recorded name]. She is thirteen years old this year; was born in New York; is currently living in the United States.

My grandfather's name is **[redacted]** [pinyin]. His marriage name is **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He would have been about eighty-seven or -eight years old this year if he were alive. I learned that he was born in America. He died in Longwan Village in C.R. 13 and is now buried at Houding Hill.

**[page 12 ends]**

**[page 13 begins]**

I learned that after my grandfather's return to China from the United States in C.R. 5, he never travelled to America again.

My grandmother **[redacted]** had bound feet. She would have been about eighty-five years old this year if she were alive. She was from Xishan Village, Sunning District. My grandmother passed away in Longwan Village on the 29th of the 12th month, C.R. 36. She is buried at Houding Hill. (My father and my second oldest brother were at home when grandmother passed away.)

My grandmother died of old age without having suffered from any particular illness. The funeral was held on the day of her passing. For the funeral, we did not hire any music bands or priests apart from the four men my mother hired to carry the coffin. My father was at home at that time. My second uncle's family did not take part in the funeral procession.



My father paid for the expenses of my grandmother's funeral.

I learned that my grandmother had an older brother named Ng Xiang [pinyin]. He had been deceased for a long time; I had never met him.

My grandfather had one younger brother, no older brothers or sisters. Together with my grandfather, there were two of them, my grandfather being the oldest.

My granduncle's [translator's note: i.e. the grandfather's younger brother] name is **[redacted]** [pinyin], marriage name **[Translator's note: could not identify a character ]**. He is more than eighty years old this year. He was also born in America. His wife, Lin [pinyin] Shee, has a son named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is more than forty years old this year. I do not know how he is doing currently.

I have never met my granduncle or his family. I only learned that since his family moved from Dawan Village to the provincial capital in C.R. 3, they have not returned to Longwan Village.

My great-grandfather's name was **[redacted]** [pinyin]; my great-grandmother's name was **[redacted]**. Both of them has passed away in Dawan Village for more than forty years. They are buried at a small, rounded hill. Both of them had been to America.

**[page 13 ends]**

**[page 14 begins]**

My great-grandparents are buried together at a small, rounded hill near Dawan Village. The hill is about twenty *li* from my village; none of my family visits the hill in any year.

My grandparents are buried together at halfway up Houding Hill [pinyin]. It is a grave without a headstone. All my brothers, nephews, and I went tomb-sweeping and paid our respects every year on Qingming Day once we reached eight years old. On every trip we departed at around ten o'clock in the morning and returned at around twelve o'clock noon. I went on three such trips with my father in C.R. 36, 37, and 38. Sometimes my oldest brother's sons joined my brothers and I on Qingming Day for tomb-sweeping; sometimes they went with my oldest brother's wife. Every time we went tomb-sweeping, we brought only a few pairs of candles and nothing else.

Houding Hill is on the northeast of my village, i.e. on the back side of Tianluokeng Village. It is about one *li* away from my village. There is an unpaved road that leads to the hill without bridges or sea water on the way.

I learned that my family used to live in Dawan Village, Sunning District, until the end of C.R. 10. Then they moved along with my second and third uncles' families as well as my grandparents to Longwan Village. They have not visited Dawan Village after that move.



I learned that Dawan Village is about twenty *li* on the north of Longwan Village; I have not been there. (Dawan Village is also named Chongnan Village.) [pinyin]

The village where my family currently lived in is named Longwan Village. It is located in Sunning District (i.e. Toisan or Taishan District). It does not have a tower name.

The backs of the houses in my village are on the north, whereas the fronts of the houses face the south. The front of the village is on the west, the rear on the east. There are thirteen occupied houses and one watchtower. There are about eleven plots of vacant land. Including the vacant land, there are five rows of house and land lots. In between rows are alleys of five *chi* **[unit of measurement]** wide. They are unpaved. Houses in the front are not contiguous with houses behind, i.e. houses are separated by alleys slightly more than one *chi* wide. They are unpaved.

My village is inhabited by people bearing the **[redacted]** surname. No one with other surnames lives here. No new houses were built over the past ten years and more. No bandits pillaged the village; no fires; no floods. No Japanese soldiers came to my village either during the last World War.

**[page 14 ends]**

**[page 15 begins]**

My village has no fish pond; no fence around the village; no trees; no floodgate; no gate tower; no ancestral hall; no school; no temple; no stores. Nearby there are no railway or roads for cars; no river; no sea; no pond.

There is a well more than ten *zhang* [i.e. more than a hundred feet] away from the houses on the east side of my village. My village drinks from this water.

There is a shrine in my village. It is located at about twenty *zhang* [i.e. more than two hundred feet] down the **intersection where the road leading from the well ends. The shrine is built on black bricks and honors a stone statue in the shrine. The shrine does not have a name.**

There is a row of bamboo behind my village, i.e. on the northern side, slightly more than a *zhang* away [i.e. more than three feet away] from the houses. Outside the bamboo row lays the paddy field.

There are two toilets at both the front and rear ends on the back of my village. Both are built on black bricks. Each has a space of about eight square feet. The door of the bigger toilet faces south. The toilet is for the shared use of all villagers.



There is a watchtower in my village. It is located on the second lot in the first row of plots, counting from the front of my village on the west. The front of the watchtower is vacant land without houses. The watchtower is the property of [redacted] [pinyin]. It has a single story; two doors, one facing west, another facing east. The watchtower is built on black bricks. It is about one *zhang* and eight *chi* tall [i.e. about eighteen feet tall]. It has a balcony with a flat rooftop. Each side of the walls in the alley has four windows--the entire watchtower has a total of eight windows. Compared to the residential houses, the watchtower is slightly smaller. I have never entered the watchtower.

My family has a house in Longwan Village.

The house that I am currently living in is located on the fifth lot in the second row of plots, counting from the front of my village on the west. It is built on black bricks. **It has a single story.** It is passed down from my ancestors. In terms of layout, the house has three rooms at the front and two corridors at the back, i.e. two bedrooms, one hall, and two corridors, as well as one patio. It has two doors. The bigger, main door faces west, the smaller door faces east. At each exit, there are two stone steps outside as well as a pair of big and small wood doors respectively.

My house has a red shingle roof and cement floor. The floor on the patio under the skylight is pebbled. The windows in each bedroom open onto the alley--two windows on top, two windows under. There are a total of eight windows in the entire house. Each window is about two feet tall and two feet wide, framed with

**[page 15 ends]**

**[page 16 begins]**

five straight iron poles. Outside, a pair of iron doors enclose the windows; inside the windows is a glass sliding door. Each bedroom has a small glassed skylight, each about [blank measurement] long and [blank measurement] wide. They are covered with glass to get the light in. Each room has its loft, while the middle hall has an altar that holds a wooden spirit tablet honoring the ancestors. There are no red papers glued on the wall. There are no other statues placed on the altar. (Within the house, except for the green spirit tablet, every other colored item is painted in black.) Every loft in the bedrooms and the middle hall has a cement surface. Each bedroom has an immovable cement staircase for getting onto the loft. The middle hall has a wood ladder that can be moved around at any time. For the bedroom located next to the bigger, main door, its staircase is close to the door and near the wall that is adjacent to the alley; as for the bedroom located next to the smaller door, its staircase is close to the door and near the wall that is adjacent to the alley too. In the corridor near the smaller door, there is a brick stove and a brick oven. The oven door faces the room door. My family cooks in the corridor near the smaller door. There are no ovens in the corridor near the bigger, main door. It is used for storage.

At the rear of the oven located in the corridor near the smaller door is a chimney made of black bricks. As it is built within the wall, it is not visible. The chimney extends from the oven rear to the rooftop and further away.





There is one rice urn and one water urn in my house. Both are round, clay urns. Each urn is about two feet tall; the mouth is about one foot wide and comes with a wooden lid for cover. The rice urn is kept in the bedroom next to the bigger door, whereas the water urn is placed next to the patio on the corridor near the smaller door.

There is no American furniture; no Western items; no hanging photographs, calligraphy, or painting in my house. There is a Gold Mountain trunk in my house. It was brought home by my father when he returned to China the time before last. Currently it is placed above the loft in the bedroom next to the smaller door. In the middle hall of my house, upon the wall of the door into the bedroom that is next to the bigger, main door of the house, hangs a half-portrait photograph of my father. He did not wear a hat in the picture. The photograph is enclosed within a wooden photo frame. The wood of the photo frame is painted in black. The photo frame is about one foot and five inches tall, one foot wide. There is a clock made of galvanized iron in my house. Round in shape, it is moved around in the house. Sometimes it is kept in the middle hall, sometimes in the bedrooms.

There is no mortar and pestle; no farming tools in my house.

My family has never kept a servant girl. We have never raised any type of animals either.

**[page 16 ends]**

**[page 17 begins]**

We use kerosene lamps for lighting in my house. There is one hanging lamp in the middle hall, and each bedroom and corridor has a lamp that can either stand or hang.

The hanging lamp is made of glass, although its lamp holder is made of iron and enveloped by a glass tube. The lamp holder and the center of the lamp are fastened together with wire which in turn hangs in the middle hall.

The lamps in the bedrooms and corridors are also made of glass. Each lamp holder is made of iron and enveloped by a glass tube. The lower portion of each lamp is concealed by an external piece of metal. Another piece of metal connected to the former stands upright behind the lamp. A small hole on the upper end of the metal allows the lamp to hang from a nail in a wall.

In the middle hall of my house there is a rectangular, wooden table three square feet big and more than two feet tall. It has four legs, all painted in black. It is used for dining.

In the middle hall of my house there are more than ten square, wooden stools. Also, every bedroom has two or three square, wooden stools. The stools are about one square foot big and slightly more than a foot tall. They have four wooden legs, and none are painted. It is used for sitting.



My whole family has never taken a family portrait photograph together. Only my oldest brother's wife and [redacted] and [redacted] [official recorded name] the three of them took one together in the [blank] month, C.R. [blank] that is currently kept in my oldest brother's wife's room.

Before I came to America there are six people living in my house, myself included. My oldest brother's wife occupied the bedroom next to the main, bigger door. ([redacted] and [redacted] also slept in this room when they were at home.) My fourth oldest brother's wife and [redacted] [pinyin] occupied the room next to the smaller door. (My fourth oldest brother also slept in this room when he was at home.) **My mother slept on the loft in the room next to the smaller door.** I slept on a bamboo bed in the middle hall near the bedroom next to the smaller door. (My fifth oldest brother shared the same bed with me when he was at home.) After I got married we blocked out a small room in the middle hall near the room that is next to the smaller door. Currently my wife is occupying that space. Before my fourth oldest brother got married, my mother, my fourth and fifth oldest brothers, and I slept in the room next to the smaller door. When my fourth oldest brother got married, my fifth oldest brother and I moved to sleep on the loft in the room that is next to the main, bigger door, whereas my mother moved to the loft in the room that is next to the smaller door.

Apart from a house in our village, my family does not own any land or vegetable garden.

**[page 17 ends]**

**[page 18 begins]**

Counting from the front of my village on the west, the first row of lots has two houses and three vacant land plots in total.

The first lot in the first row is vacant land without houses.

The second lot in the first row is the watchtower of [redacted] [pinyin].

The third and fourth lots in the first row is vacant land without houses.

The fifth lot in the first row (i.e. next to the main door of my house) is my third uncle, [redacted]'s [official recorded name] house. This house is currently occupied by [redacted]'s [official recorded name] wife and daughter.

Counting from the front of my village on the west, the second row of lots has three houses and two vacant land plots in total.

The first lot in the second row is vacant land without houses.

The second building in the second row is [redacted]'s [pinyin] house. He and his wife, [redacted] [pinyin], are above seventy years old. Both of them live in the house. They have one son, no daughters.

Their son's name is [redacted] [pinyin]. He has gone overseas for more than twenty years. His wife, [redacted] [pinyin], has big feet. She is more than fifty years old this year and stays at



home. They have one son, no daughters.

Their son's name is **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about thirty years old this year, married, and works on the field at home. He has no children.

The third lot in the second row is vacant land without houses.

The fourth building in the second row (i.e. the house in front of my house) **[redacted]**'s house [pinyin]. He once went overseas, but returned a decade and more ago. His wife, **[redacted]** [pinyin], has big feet. Both of them are about sixty years old and more this year, and currently works on the field at home. They have two sons, no daughters.

His older son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about forty-two years old this year.

His younger son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about thirty eight or nine years old. Both sons are married and working on the field at home.

**[redacted]** has one daughter named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. She is about fifteen or sixteen years old this year and residing in the house.

**[redacted]** is married. He has not had any children.

The fifth building in the second row is the house where I currently reside.

Counting from the front of my village on the west, the third row of lots has four houses and one vacant land plot in total.

**[page 18 ends]**

**[page 19 begins]**

The first building in the third row is **[redacted]** [pinyin]'s house. He is about thirty years old and more this year, unmarried, and works on the field at home. His mother, **[redacted]**, has bound feet. She would have been about eighty years old and more if alive. She died a few years ago.

The second building in the third row **[redacted]**'s [pinyin] house. He is deceased. His wife, **[redacted]** [pinyin], has big feet. Both of them are about seventy years old and more. **[redacted]** resides in the house. She has one daughter, no sons. Her daughter is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. She is about forty years old and more this year. She has been married for more than ten years.

The third building in the third row is **[redacted]**'s [pinyin] house. He has gone overseas for a long time. His wife, **[redacted]**, has big feet. He is about sixty years old and more this year. He has three sons, no daughters.

His oldest son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about forty-one years old this year.

His second oldest son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about forty years old this year.

His third oldest son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about thirty-four or -five years old this year.

**[redacted]** and **[redacted]** are married. They work on the field at home. They have not had any children.

**[redacted]** died a long time ago.

The fourth building of the third row is my second uncle, **[redacted]**'s [official recorded name]



house. This house and mine have the same layout, except it does not have horizontal windows. At present the house is unoccupied.

The fifth lot in the third row (i.e. next to the little door of my house) is vacant land without houses.

Counting from the front of my village on the west, the fourth row of lots has three houses and one vacant land plot in total.

The first building in the fourth row is **[redacted]**'s [pinyin] house. His wife, **[redacted]** [pinyin], has big feet. If alive, both of them would have been about fifty years old and more. They are deceased. They had one son, no daughters.

Their son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about thirty-five or -six years old this year, married, and works on a small business from home. He sells his goods at a market in Dou Hill. He has not had any children. **[redacted]**'s parents have been deceased for a long time.

The second building in the fourth row is **[redacted]**'s [pinyin] house. He has gone overseas. His wife **[redacted]** [pinyin] is about fifty-two years old this year. He has a son and a daughter. His son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about twenty-eight or -nine years old this year. His daughter is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. She is about twenty-two years old this year. **[redacted]** is not married and works on the field at home. **[redacted]** is married.

**[page 19 ends]**

**[page 20 begins]**

The third lot in the fourth row is vacant land without houses.

The fourth building in the fourth row is **[redacted]**'s [pinyin] house. He is about twenty-seven years old this year. He married in the past few years and works on the field at home. His mother, **[redacted]** [pinyin] is about fifty-two years old this year. She has big feet and also resides in this house. **[redacted]**'s father has been deceased for a decade and more.

The fifth lot in the fourth row is vacant land without houses.

Counting from the front of my village on the west, the fifth row of lots has two houses and three vacant land plots in total.

The first lot in the fifth row is vacant land without houses.

The second building in the fifth row is **[redacted]**'s [pinyin] house. Both he and his wife, **[redacted]** [pinyin], are about fifty-five or -six years old. He works on the field at home. He has one son, no daughters.

His son is named **[redacted]** [pinyin]. He is about thirty-two years old this year, married, and works on the field at home.

The third lot in the fifth row is **[redacted]**'s [pinyin] house. Both he and his wife, **[redacted]** [pinyin], are about fifty-five or -six years old. He works on the field at home. He has one



daughter, no sons. His daughter is named [redacted] [pinyin]. She is thirty-two years old this year. She has been married for a long time.

The fourth and fifth lots of the fifth row are both vacant land without houses.

In my village with the exception of the families of [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], and [redacted] none of the other families has cattles for farming.

Every house in my village is the same.

[redacted] is the oldest person in my village. He is the head among the men in our village.

No one in my village is single-eyed, blind, deaf-mute, or lame.

There are three villages near my village.

One is called Hele Village [pinyin]. It is about a mile on the north of my village with twenty houses and more. They are inhabited by people bearing the [redacted] surname. **[Translator's note: alternative translation: The inhabitants bear the Zeng surname.]**

One is called Da'an Village [pinyin]. It is about a mile on the west of my village with twenty houses and more. They are inhabited by people bearing the [redacted] surname.

One is called Tianluokeng Village [pinyin]. It is about a mile on the northeast of my village with twenty houses and more. They are inhabited by people bearing the [redacted] surname.

**[page 20 ends]**

**[page 21 begins]**

People from my village go to the market at Dou Hill to get their supplies. The market is ten *li* on the northeast of my village. To go there from my village one takes a pebble road that leads there directly without crossing any bridges, except one has to cross one Chinchong [pinyin] jetty as he approaches the market. The Dou Hill market has about one hundred stores and more. They are built on black bricks. There is no distinction for the front or the back of the market. Market days are every calendar day that has 2 or 7 for its last digit. My family frequents Bao'aolong Grocery [pinyin] at Dou Hill market. Mr. [redacted] [pinyin] is the store manager.

People from my village take the route . . . to Hong Kong [*sic*, incomplete sentence]

After the last time he returned to the United States, my father has been sending home six hundred dollars per year. They are divided into three remittances of two hundred dollars each, making a total of six hundred dollars sent home per year. Every year there are about three or four letters sent home. I am the named recipient for both letters and remittances. They used to be sent to Mr. [redacted] of Gong'anxiang [pinyin] at Dou Hill Market to be forwarded to my house, but for the past two years they have been forwarded through Mr. [redacted]'s Wan'aolong [translator's note: or "Mon Hing Lung" as printed on envelope found in folder D33(d)] at 139 Wing Lok St., Hong Kong. Mr. [redacted] dispatches someone to bring them to my house. My mother, too, sends three or four letters a year. They are written by other people on my mother's behalf on her request (because she could not read). They are sent to my father at 237 Br..u..n Bridge St., Kuaishi Laundry in New York City through a middleman.

**[Translator's note: the address is Fey's Sanitary. 237 Dekalb Avenue, Brooklyn 5, N.Y.,**



**USA, based on the address on a letter in the folder.]**

My oldest brother also sent money to his wife when he was alive, although I do not know how much. Both letters and remittances were forwarded through Mr. **[redacted]** of Gong'anxiang at Dou Hill Market.

In the 7th month of C.R. 41, on my father's request through his letter, I went to a photography studio on my own and took six pictures of my half-portrait. I sent them to my father at 237 Br..u..n Bridge St., Kuaishi Laundry in New York City through a middleman to be used in the papers for my application to come to America.

On the [blank]-th of [blank] month of this year, i.e. C.R. 41, I received my father's reply from America consisting of two copies of "certificate of birth descendants" [this might be either the affidavits executed by the father or application forms to be signed by the son] for my coming to America, an introduction letter in English, and a letter in Chinese--all naming me as the recipient. They were forwarded to me through Mr. **[redacted]**'s Wan'aolong at 139 Wing Lok St., Hong Kong. Mr. **[redacted]** handled all types of procedures necessary to my coming to America.

**[page 21 ends]**

**[page 22 begins]**

On Qingming Day of C.R. 37 when it was time for tomb-sweeping, my father, my fourth and fifth oldest brothers, **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** [official recorded names], and I, a total of six of us, went to pay respects at our deceased family members' graves. The offering for the occasion were paper money, incense, pork, etc.

The Qingming Day of C.R. 38 was the last time my father went tomb-sweeping while he was still home. At that time my fourth and fifth brothers were already in Hong Kong. Only father and I, as well as **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** [official recorded names], a total of four of us, went. There were also paper money, incense, pork etc. [for offering.]

Since departing from the port with my father on the 15th of the 1st month, C.R. 38, my fourth and fifth oldest brothers have not visited the village. When they came to the United States **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** [official recorded names] were still in the village.

I was wedded on the [blank]-th of the 6th month, C.R. 41 in Longwan Village by new customs without having a banquet or a tea ceremony. (The wedding went similarly as **[redacted]**'s [the fourth oldest brother].)

My wife's surname is [blank], maiden name [blank]. She is [blank] years old this year. She was born on the [blank]-th of the [blank]-th month, C.R. [blank year] in [blank] Village. Now she is living in my house at Longwan Village. [Blank] Village was on the [blank direction] of my village about [blank distance] away; I have never been there.



My father-in-law's name is **[redacted]**.

My mother-in-law's name is **[redacted]**.

I have not had any children.

**[page 22 ends]**

**[prepared testimony ends]**