

Wisconsin Public Television  
Korean War Stories Project

Transcript of an  
Oral History Interview with  
EUI TAK LEE

South Korean Translator, Technical Liaison Office, 8240<sup>th</sup> Army Unit, Korean War

2004

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**Lee, Eui Tak**, (1932- ). Oral History Interview, 2004.

Video Recording: 2 videorecordings (ca. 54 min.); ½ inch, color.

Transcript: 0.1 linear ft. (1 folder).

**Abstract:**

Eui Tak Lee, a Chungju, South Korea native, describes his experience serving in the 55<sup>th</sup> Military Police and the 8240<sup>th</sup> Army Unit during the Korean War. Lee describes daily life growing up in Seoul (South Korea) under Japanese occupation: living under an assimilation policy, not being allowed to speak Korean in school, and having to switch to a Japanese name, Nyshimura, instead of Lee. He reflects on the Japanese surrender at the end of World War II and the liberation of South Korea. Lee remembers seeing tanks roll down the streets of Seoul during the North Korean invasion and moving to the countryside near Inchon with his family to avoid being conscripted into the North Korean army. He portrays seeing American troops advance towards Seoul, and he recalls the Hungnam evacuation. After joining the Korean Combat Police in Seoul, he touches on training to fight North Korean guerilla fighters. When North Korea again took Seoul, Lee tells of stowing away on a train roof, escaping to Taegu, working for the 55<sup>th</sup> Military Police as a translator, and returning again to Seoul. He speaks about work managing Korean intelligence agents in the United Partisan Force, 8240<sup>th</sup> Army Unit, Technical Liaison Office and being assigned to the U.S. 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Later, he explains he also managed Chinese agents. Lee explains his duty dispatching, retrieving, and debriefing agents and translating their reports. He touches on difficulties the agents faced, including being shot at by Americans while returning to American lines. He states he was disappointed that there was not a unification of North and South Korea and he shares his positive opinion of president Syngman Rhee. Lee analyzes the role of the South Korean Army during the war. He details his impression of American soldiers and America values. He discusses reconstruction, attending National Aviation College in Seoul for communications engineering, meeting his wife, and attending graduate school at the University of Oklahoma in 1970.

**Biographical Sketch:**

Lee (b.1932) was born in Chungju (South Korea) and grew up in Seoul (South Korea) during the Japanese occupation. After the Korean War started, he served as a translator in the United States' 55<sup>th</sup> Military Police in Taegu (South Korea) and the Technical Liaison Office, 8240<sup>th</sup> Army Unit in Seoul. Lee married a native of Wonju (South Korea) and moved to the United States in 1970 to attend graduate school at the University of Oklahoma. He eventually settled in Madison (Wisconsin).

**Citation Note:**

Cite as: Eui Tak Lee, Interview, conducted October 13, 2004 at Studio C, Wisconsin Public Television, Madison, Wisconsin by Mik Derks, Wisconsin Korean War Stories, for Wisconsin Public Television.

**Context Note:**

Raw footage interview filmed by Wisconsin Public Television for its documentary series, "Wisconsin Korean War Stories." Original WPT videocassette numbers were WCKOR075 and WCKOR076.

**Related Materials Note:**

Photographs of this narrator's military service can be found in Wisconsin Public Television. Wisconsin Korean War Stories records (VWM Mss 1389).

Interviewed by Mik Derks, October 13, 2004.

Transcribed by Wisconsin Public Television staff, n.d.

Transcript reformatted and edited by Wisconsin Veterans Museum staff, 2010.

Abstract written by Susan Krueger, 2010.

**Transcribed Interview:**

- Mik: What was it like growing up as a teenager under the Japanese occupation?
- Lee: Well, I was born in 1932, under the Japanese rule. And Japan had, I mean, Japan has a policy toward the Korea, Korean assimilation. So I was in a primary school and every morning, all the students gather in the school ground and always bow towards the imperial palace in Tokyo. Then they banned the Korean language, they only allowed us to use Japanese and learn Japanese. Also they had a policy about changing the Korean names into Japanese. Like my name is Lee, Eui Tak Lee. I have to change it, our family change it to Nyshimura. So no more Lee. So then Japanese motto was, "Japan and Korea, one body."
- Mik: What was the daily life like?
- Lee: The daily life is pretty routine. The only time I saw anything American was they mobilized us, the student, young students, and they made dig up the pine tree roots. They make oil out of it. We were digging the pine stubs, I saw way up in the sky, I saw plane going across and with white trailer. I think it was, it must have been B-29. So I felt something was changing.
- Mik: Did you speak Korean at home?
- Lee: Yes, I spoke Korean at home, but in school I had to use Japanese. And I still, like a multiplication table, I still do it in Japanese after all these years because I learn it young.
- Mik: Where was this?
- Lee: It was before 1945.
- Mik: Where were you?
- Lee: In Seoul, Seoul Korea.
- Mik: And were there a lot of Japanese around?
- Lee: Yes, Japanese were there in the key government positions. Aside this Japanese assimilation policy of over--over making Koreans Japanese, the individual Japanese people, like the teachers I had, they were good teachers. I remember that.
- Mik: And toward the end of World War II, was there any combat going on in Korea?
- Lee: No there was no combat. There was no combat.
- Mik: So tell me what happened at the end of that war--what was that like?

- Lee: Well, Korea was liberated from Japan when Japan surrendered. I want to thank America for the liberation of Korea. Korea was underneath Japanese rule for thirty-six years. And Japan surrendered.
- Mik: And then did American soldiers appear in Seoul? Do you remember that?
- Lee: Yes, I kinda read about it in the newspaper. Seoul is largest city, so I didn't see too many of American soldiers.
- Mik: How old were you at the end of World War II?
- Lee: I was 1932--1945 so twelve or thirteen, thirteen years old.
- Mik: What did your parents do during that period?
- Lee: My grandfather was village chief and farmland owner in Chungju, where I was born. And my father worked for the railroad. We move to Seoul and I was attending--by the end of WWII, I was attending, I was seventh grade.
- Mik: And how about the period between World War II and the invasion--what was that like?
- Lee: Well, the south, in the south, the president of Korea was established through the free election. In the north, the Russians, they built a North Korean government-- Communist regime. And the Russians, they gave tanks and artilleries, cannons to North Koreans. As you know, the Communists want to make everybody Communist, so North Korea invaded the South. The Korean War started. With all those tanks first.
- Mik: Do you remember the election?
- Lee: I was not in that voting age. And it was democratic and United Nations observers came and they observed and it was really a democratic process.
- Mik: Were there some kind of demonstrations in Seoul during that? Like rallies or something?
- Lee: Yes, at first--I think the United Nations wanted to have Korea under some kind of a trusteeship for a few years, but the Koreans was against it. We wanted it to have election and have a government.
- Mik: What happened to you in school during that period? Were the lessons then in Korean?
- Lee: Yes, of course, after the liberation, everything came back to Korean, Koreans.

- Mik: Did you like that better?
- Lee: Yes, I did, uh huh, of course.
- Mik: But you still did the mathematics in Japanese.
- Lee: The multiplication table, yes.
- Mik: How old were you when the invasion happened.
- Lee: I was seventeen. And I heard a rumbling artillery noise and flashing skies. This was second day when the war broke out. The next morning, on the third day, the North Korean tanks rolled into Seoul. I saw, I went out to the big streets and I saw them passing by the columns of tanks towards the South, towards the Han River. But there were no welcoming crowds or anything like that. They just zip by.
- Mik: Was there any fighting in Seoul?
- Lee: At that time, I didn't see--no fight.
- Mik: What did you think about that?
- Lee: Well, I was shocked and I couldn't tell what was going on.
- Mik: Were you frightened at all?
- Lee: Well, I was kind of--don't know what to think.
- Mik: You just knew it was another change.
- Lee: Yes, I was too young to comprehend what was going on.
- Mik: Did you just come out of Japanese occupation? You get a taste of democracy and now here comes the North. Were people afraid that they were going to come?
- Lee: No, there was no indication of anything, anything about the North wanted to all out attack. But after the invasion, we were keenly aware over their intentions and their aggression, yes.
- Mik: Now during this period, did your father still work for the railroad?
- Lee: During the North Korean occupation?
- Mik: Right, and before that, was he still working for the railroad?

- Lee: He was working before the war, but after the war, we had to move away from Seoul into countryside, which near Inchon. And because the food--something to eat was so--getting away from the North Korean Communist oppression. They, they started rounding up, rounding up like government employees and professors and clergy and pastors and also they rounding up young people and put them into North Korean Army. So away from those oppression, we went to the countryside.
- Mik: So you would've been just the right age for them to pull into the Army, weren't you?
- Lee: Very young age, but they could've taken me in. And at that time, the American bomb us, bomb us. The airplanes started bombing like the railroad stations, like that already. So I knew the American was helping us. And I want to thank President Truman for his difficult decision to stop the aggression and I admire him for that.
- Mik: When you went into the countryside, did you go back to the village where your grandfather had been chief?
- Lee: No I couldn't, we couldn't make it the trip. We stayed in the nearby Seoul, near Inchon
- Mik: Where was that original village?
- Lee: The original village is about seventy miles south of Seoul. Then, called the Chungju.
- Mik: And you couldn't get that far?
- Lee: No, I couldn't get that far. No transportation.
- Mik: How did you decide where to go?
- Lee: There was a relative living in the countryside near Inchon.
- Mik: What did you do while you were there in the countryside?
- Lee: Mostly hiding.
- Mik: Where did you hide?
- Lee: In the house, farmhouse or sometimes went up the mountain.
- Mik: What was the countryside like there?
- Lee: It's farming country with some hills and it's away from the main--main road.
- Mik: What kind of things were they growing?

Lee: Rice, barley, and corns, and some beans.

Mik: So the rice is in flooded rice patties?

Lee: Yes.

Mik: And the rest are just fields?

Lee: That's right.

Mik: And then what happened?

Lee: Then about three months time, I heard a loud rumbling noise over, a bombardment and artillery fire. Then the American forces landed in Inchon. And they were advancing towards Seoul. And I went up to the hill and I look down, the American troops were, were in columns on both sides of the roads advancing toward Seoul. And I, I know that the Communist was running away and we got the--our country back. Thanks to General MacArthur.

Mik: Did you see any fighting? Or just troops advancing?

Lee: Just troops advancing.

Mik: And then what?

Lee: Then we came back--our family came back to Seoul and I joined the Korean combat police and we did train to fight against guerillas, the remnants of North Korean guerillas. And at that time, the United Nations forces was advancing towards the North. And they reached Chosan and Hyesanjin which is right at the border of Korea and Manchuria. And I thought, "Finally we got the unification." But it was short lived. The Chinese Communist troops intervened, so United Nations, the American forces and ROK forces has to retreat, withdraw from North Korea. At that time, the Hungnam is a--Hungnam evacuation was a very--event that Korean people never forget because--the tens of thousands of North Korean refugees was evacuated to the safety the South. By the help of American ships. And we are very grateful for that. There's even a popular song about the Hungnam evacuation.

Mik: How does that go?

Lee: It's a [speaking in Korean]. Through the flurry of snow, it starts like that. We came South, but the singer lost his sister, they got separated. So he was singing about that. That's the song, that's the line.

Mik: When you got back to Seoul after being in the countryside, did Seoul look any different?



Lee: Ah--yes, Seoul was some destroyed but Seoul was still livable. Our house was still there, but Seoul was taken over by the Communist for second time. It was December '50. The UN forces retreated south of Seoul. Seoul was, was once again occupied by the Communist, for second time. And I walk across the Han River, which is a big river south of Seoul. It was frozen, so I walked across that and I went to railroad station. There was a train, a freight train leaving to our south. So I climb up on the rooftop of that. There were many other people on the rooftop. That came as, as south towards the Taegu. In Taegu, I work for the 55th MP, Military Police, as translator. Then the Allied Forces pushed the Communists back, back to the 38th Parallel once more. So we, we came back to Seoul again. Then I joined the 8240<sup>th</sup> Army Unit. It's an intelligence outfit called TLO, Technical Liaison Office. And we were, I was assigned to the 25th U.S. Division. So that, our job was to send in the agents, the Korean agents, into the enemy line and give the information what enemy was doing and bring back the information and come back. Like enemy supply lines or what they are up to. The agents had a very dangerous time. Passing through our line passed through the mine fields, no man's land, then they have to sneak behind enemy lines to observe this, discover this. The Korean agents, some came back, some never came back, some got wounded and come back. They found towards--sometimes they found like the mule trains, the mule caravan carrying the supplies and ammunition up the hill. And one time they found, the enemy was not a North Korean anymore, they replaced the troops with the Chinese troops. So in radar, we also got some Chinese agents for this intelligence. Sort of an early version of Special Forces. And those things helped the Korea. Also helped the American GIs on the trench lines.

Mik: When you translated, did you translate from Korean into English?

Lee: Yes, I developed, my job was dispatch, retrieve them, and debrief the agents from Korean into English. And my counterpart was written--and he make the reports.

Mik: Where did you learn to speak English?

Lee: Oh, English was my favorite subject in our high school and I was able to read and comprehend like a Reader's Digest, Time, in high school.

Mik: What does that mean when you say your job was to dispatch and retrieve?

Lee: Dispatch means we send in like two agents as a team and we drive them up to the trench lines. And we send them down, we go down--this usually is a hill, so we send them down the hill towards the enemy. And retrieving is--they have to come back in a day or two. So we dispatch them in the night and like next day they come back. Next morning they come back. And the retrieving them was not an easy task either because they shout like a "TLO! TLO!" like that. So our troops know that it's our agents, but many times they still get shot at.

- Mik: By friendly troops?
- Lee: By friendly troops. Yes, even they, they the information was transmitted to the sentries, but sometimes they get shot at. Not all the time, but sometimes.
- Mik: Going back to the Americans coming back into Seoul, and you said you joined the military police, the Korean military police?
- Lee: Yes, Korean, Korean Combat Police, combat police.
- Mik: What kind of training did you get there?
- Lee: I was just, it was a very short period. And I was getting the basic training. Not much--not extended training, but basic training with a marching and taking orders like that.
- Mik: Did you have weapons?
- Lee: We had, we had the old, old weapons. Like what's it called, rifle.
- Mik: WWII rifle?
- Lee: World War II rifle, that's, I would say World War II rifle.
- Mik: Then you said you were searching for guerillas, North Korean guerillas?
- Lee: That was the purpose of this combat police, but they didn't get to that yet. Because the retreat was so quick, so I had to get on to the train and head south.
- Mik: What was that train ride like?
- Lee: Oh, it was cold, it was cold, but I hang on to the roof. I arrive safely to Taegu.
- Mik: You were glad to get there?
- Lee: I was glad to get there, yes.
- Mik: How did you get attached to the military police as an interpreter?
- Lee: Oh, one of the--my police senior had the contact with the military police and they needed someone speak English, so I go work for them.
- Mik: What kind of work was that?
- Lee: It was translating. Mostly some documents for--and also when there's a, when Korean ah-- interpreting it's needed. Interpreting for the military police, yes.

Mik: And was it from that job that you became an interpreter for the 25th?

Lee: Yeah, mostly the military police kind of translation, but interpreting was in the 8245th unit intelligence office, I was in the intelligence office. The interpret--I became--after I became interpreter, I learned that my interpreting is very important because, just for the, the information we obtained, also to use the information correctly and thoroughly. I admire the courage of the Korean agents who dedicated their lives for this worthy cause.

Mik: Did you say that those agents were dressed in North Korean uniforms?

Lee: Yes, they, they were disguised in North Korean uniforms. Otherwise it's easier for them to get through the enemy line.

Mik: Do you know what percentage came back? Was it half of them or more than half?

Lee: Out of three, two came back. Three teams were dispatched, two came back.

Mik: That was general either way?

Lee: Yes, yes, that's right.

Mik: By the time you were interpreting, was it 1951?

Lee: 1952, '52 and '53.

Mik: So you did that right up to the end of the war?

Lee: Yes.

Mik: How did you feel about that? **[End of Tape WCKOR075]** It was 1952—1953. How did you feel when the armistice was signed?

Lee: The armistice was signed and ah--it was the end of the war, fighting war. And the sort of peace came back, so I went and I took assimilation to go into the college after the armistice.

Mik: How did you feel about that? Did you feel bad that there wasn't unification?

Lee: Well, no, not bad, but sort of ah--disappointed that we didn't get the unification. But apparently, the Chinese thought they didn't wanna have a neighbor who is--which is democratic country right on the border. I think that's why they join, they enter the Korean War under the name volunteer Army. They didn't wanna fight all the United Nations, so they used the voluntary, voluntary Army as a easy title. That's sort of what I think.

- Mik: What did you think of President Syngman Rhee?
- Lee: The president, Syngman Rhee was--is a patriot and he's a--he was great politician. The first president of the Republic of Korea. Of course his policy ah--may have some--some people don't agree, but overall, he was a great president of the Republic of Korea, the first president.
- Mik: Did you support him through all of those negotiations? Did you think he was doing the right thing? Were you aware of the negotiations that were going on, or were you just focused on your job?
- Lee: Oh, I was just focusing on my job. You're talking about the armistice?
- Mik: Yeah, leading up to that. There were negotiations on and off, they thought it was gonna be a truce and then there would be more fighting and--
- Lee: No, we want-- yes of course, we wanted the war to be ended. And President Syngman Rhee, he was a--he released some of the North Korean prisoners of war who didn't wanna go back to North Korea after the armistice. So he released thousands of them from the POW Camp. On his own death, I think that effected some of the ah--armistice talks, but eventually, the communist knew they could not win the war and it's to their interest--ah they accepted and they agreed to the armistice
- Mik: Were the North Koreans happy when he released the POWs?
- Lee: Well, of course they weren't that happy, but I think ah--President Rhee did right thing because he, he's anticommunist and he wanted to have, keep freedom to this prisoners who didn't wanna go back to the communist rule again.
- Mik: So they just joined the South Korean society?
- Lee: They become South Korean citizens and many of them joined the South Korean Army.
- Mik: Tell me about the South Korean Army.
- Lee: Well, ah--South Korean Army, the U.S. forces--after establishing the South Korean government, they withdrew. They left only some advisors. And South Korean Army before the war, was equipped with only lightly, no tanks, no armored vehicle and no heavy artilleries. And ah--the North Koreans was in huge armored divisions and they were well trained. And South Korea troops were still with their patch work zeal, they fought back--with rifles.
- Mik: How did that change once the Americans came back in?

Lee: The Americans came back in and still make, in the beginning, still making the ah--making the retreat towards the Pusan--Taegu area. But that, that owned some closure time for the ah--the United Nations forces to get reinforced and held the ah--the Pusan perimeter and ah--saved the nation there. And held the communist assault the last push who held off, thank God, and we pushed them back.

Mik: Then did the South Korean Army get stronger after that?

Lee: Yes, that's right, the South Korean Army got stronger and got better equipped. And better fighting spirit. Actually they reached Chosin, which is a border town, Manchuria. And we saw them in the picture and we, we are very happy.

Mik: But they didn't stay.

Lee: They couldn't stay longer, no.

Mik: When you became an interpreter, you spent more time with American military people. Was that your first experience of dealing with Americans?

Lee: That's right. Ah--the 55th MP and TLO, the intelligence, that was the experience with the American people. We had a small, a few tents on the hillside for our outfit. And ah--in the morning, all the agents and we get up very early and did running and get ourselves in physical fitness. Then there were about, about ah--fifteen to twenty agents in, in our office. An American lieutenant and a sergeant and a PFC. And myself and agents. Those are the team over that intelligence outfit.

Mik: This is kind of a loaded question but, what did you think of the Americans? You had never met them before and now you are working with them. Do you remember at all what you thought?

Lee: Well, the Americans, my impression was a friendly. And I wanted to be a part of the ah--democratic also the Christian ah--culture. Civilization and America stands for--the American civilization stands for, stands for freedom, equality, and justice and that's the aspiration of the people all over the world. That was mine too. Ah--the most respected person in America for me was President Lincoln. And when I was in high school, the teacher taught us about the Gettysburg Address, "Of the people, by people, and for the people." That's democracy, and I admire and I always like that. I also, during the war, ah--I ah--read about the America GI's, they visited orphanages and helped the children, bring them food and toys and I like that. That, that's a humanitarian attitude. And generally, the Americans, America stand for the, the civilization which the world, all over the world has, has respect and admiration. Not only the humanitarianism was the key point. So, of course I like the Americans.

Mik: And you enjoyed working with them?

Lee: Yes, I enjoyed working with them.

Mik: And they treated you well?

Lee: Of course they did.

Mik: What happened to your family during the course of the war?

Lee: During the ah--the second, second retreat away from Seoul, my, my family went back to Chungju, where our grandparents were. And the--the North Korean communist, they made a oppression, and it was, it was hard for our families live under them. And my grandfather became ill and he never recovered.

Mik: But your parents came through it ok?

Lee: The other families, they are ok.

Mik: Where did you go to school when you entered college?

Lee: I went to school in Seoul.

Mik: Tell me about that school.

Lee: Well, it is called the ah--Aviation College. And ah--I majored in communications engineering.

Mik: Was it a campus? Just describe it.

Lee: The school was a national school. It was called a National Aviation College. And ah--it, in ah-- small building, but later on it became, it became big, but at the time I was attend, it was a small college.

Mik: And it was focused on aviation?

Lee: Yes, there was three departments, one is the ah-- flight operations, the second was the mechanical engineering, and third was communications engineering.

Mik: That's the one you were in?

Lee: That's right.

Mik: What did you do after graduating from college?

Lee: When I graduate from college, I was a, appointed as assistant to the college and I was helping professors.

Mik: Was this to get the aviation industry up and running in South Korea? Is that what it was focused on?

Lee: It was very always stage of the aviation in Korea, but the Korean people has a, has a tendency of--or a aspiration for the education even though the country was poor and it was the big war with the bus station but we still had a, had a strong will to get education to the young people and this courage was established by the government for the future prospect of Korea's need and development, in technology.

Mik: What attracted you to that? What made you decide to attend there?

Lee: That college happen to be near by my home and somehow I just went in there. Not knowing too much about what it is.

Mik: Did life in Seoul change considerably after the armistice?

Lee: Yes, of course. The thing we started reconstruction. And industries like that. And it just was restored and created and we'd be lots of economic aid from the allied countries. Korea was rebuilding and getting back to its own feet.

Mik: During the war, did you have any contact with other countries of the United Nations other than the Americans?

Lee: No, I didn't but I knew the British and like ah--Swedish to send ah--hospital ships and Australian, Canadians, and Turkey. Those people send troops and they fight along side with the South Korean troops. And I ah--thankful for them, those help. United Nations help, yes.

Mik: When did you leave Korea?

Lee: Oh, I left Korea to come to United States. I left Korea in sixty--oh--1970. And I came to United States to get more education--in 1970.

Mik: Tell me about that.

Lee: Well ah--in 1970 I was accepted as a graduate student in the University of Oklahoma and I attended there--in Norman, Oklahoma. A great college, great university. Oklahoma Sooners, yeah, great football team.

Mik: Did you go to the football games?

Lee: Yes, I watch them. They're still strong.

Mik: They're very strong this year. How did you get to Wisconsin?

- Lee: Oh, my, I have a daughter who has a job in Madison. She still single so, myself and my wife thought that we come with our daughters. So that's why I came to ah--that's how I came to Madison, Wisconsin. And ah--before that I was in California, but I'm glad I came to Madison, because there's four distinct, distinctable seasons, snow and beautiful autumn leaves. I'm enjoying my stay in Madison area.
- Mik: People have said that the weather in Wisconsin is a lot like the weather in Korea.
- Lee: Ah that's true. Lot's of snow, and winter is rather cold. Especially the ah--the winter of 1950 when the war broke out. It was one of the coldest winter and I know our troops suffered from the weather very much too.
- Mik: And you had to ride on top of a train.
- Lee: That's right.
- Mik: When did you married? How did you meet your wife?
- Lee: Oh, I met my wife through the family introduction and arrangements and I met her in ah--I liked her, apparently, she liked me too. So we got married.
- Mik: Was that in Seoul?
- Lee: In Wonju is her--her home is in Wonju; which is about sixty miles south of Seoul.
- Mik: Is that close to where your village is?
- Lee: Yes, near there, yes. Near Chungju.
- Mik: When did that happen?
- Lee: I was married in, in ah--1961. I hope it's right [laughs].
- Mik: [Laughs] Uh oh--maybe we shouldn't give you the tape [Laughs]. What was your wedding like? Traditional Korean wedding? Is it different from American weddings?
- Lee: Ah-- it's not a traditional, the traditional usually means wear the, all the Korean costumes and the Korean costume for women like that ah--no, it was not. I wore suit and my wife wore the gowns like that. So it's a more, more modern wedding.
- Mik: What was her experience during the war? Do you know?
- Lee: My wife's experience?
- Mik: Yeah.



Lee: She was just in refuge and hiding.

Mik: It was difficult time to live through, wasn't it?

Lee: It was difficult, yes.

Mik: But you're happy with the way it turned out? It turned out the best for you?

Lee: It turned out best for us, yes.

Mik: Thank you!

**[End of Interview]**