

The Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training
Foreign Affairs Oral History Project
Labor Series

GEORGE L. P. WEAVER

Interviewer: Harold Davey
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INTERVIEW

Q: Today is May 19, 1993, and I am Harold Davey interviewing George L. P. Weaver for the Labor Diplomacy Oral History Project. Now, this oral history program is targeted

principally to young graduate students, George, not yet very familiar with the operational and political aspects of U.S. diplomacy in the post-World War II period. These stories and examples of how personalities or policy directives work can serve as excellent guidelines, which may encourage the tendency toward the formation of future model approaches. It is not a discussion of what we should have done nor does it tend to stress whether our current policies are right or wrong, rather it is an account of how you felt at the time and how you then saw the situation. So the first question I want to raise with you is your personal interest in labor and foreign affairs and your pre-Foreign Service concerns and involvement. When did you first get interested in labor and the Foreign Service?

WEAVER: Well, I was with the labor movement and served as assistant to Jim Carey, who was Secretary-Treasurer of the CIO. Jim handled [international policy]. Phil Murray used to jokingly introduce Jim sometimes at the CIO Board meetings as his Foreign Minister, because he handled the international aspects, which as you compare them with today were slight in comparison, but very important to us in those days. He handled international affairs for the CIO, and as his assistant I got became involved quite often in providing research for him and backstopping him at meetings and that sort of thing, so I became interested in foreign affairs early on. I went on the staff of the CIO in 1942, and shortly thereafter there was a tin strike and then a massacre of tin workers in Bolivia. That incident received a good deal of publicity here in the United States. The labor movement here picked it up, passed resolutions, and went as far as seeing the President of the United States. The President sent a team down, which included a representative from the CIO. If I remember it correctly -- I would have to check this name -- I think it was Martin Kyne from the Wholesale and Retail Workers [Union]. This team was directed by the President to report to Sumner Wells, who was an Under Secretary of State, and who had very close contact with the President. I think they were in school together, but their friendship and their working together went back many years before Roosevelt became President. Out of that incident and the experience that followed the incident, the Labor Attaché Program developed. It grew out of that program. So my interest goes back to the very beginning of the Labor Attaché Program, and as I say, I was assistant to Jim Carey, and Jim had a very heavy involvement in the foreign affairs of the period, development of the Marshall Plan, and he was involved in the various committees that the President appointed to flesh out and develop the Marshall Plan. As his assistant, I accompanied him to any number of meetings; At some I represented him when he was not able to attend himself. So I had an interest in international affairs which goes back to the 1940's.

Q: Well, so that's the beginning of your interest, and then in the period before you came to the Labor Department in 1961, you had some more involvement in international affairs throughout, I guess.

WEAVER: Well, yes. I really was inducted into the international community in 1950 and 1951, just as we got involved in the Korean War. I was loaned to Stuart Symington, who was at that time Administrator of the NSRB, the National Security and Resources Board. The NSRB was a planning agency of the U.S. Government and a sister agency to what is

now NSA [National Security Agency]. It was created at the same time. Its responsibility was to develop an inventory of our resources and to plan for future wars. I served with Stuart Symington there as one of his assistants. Then in 1951 when the scandals broke in the RFC, President Truman appointed Symington to clean up the RFC. It really was the sum and substance of the charge to him, and I was one of six assistants that Stuart had at the . . . It was the NSRB, the National Resources and Security Board. That's what it was. And I accompanied him and moved over to the R.F.C. During World War II, the R.F.C. was given the responsibility of overseeing our tin purchases. We didn't produce any tin. We purchased all of our tin from overseas, which was sharply affected by World War II. The other commodity was abaca or hemp; we also imported all of it. Well, we started hemp plantations in Central America, and before the war was over, we were fulfilling our supply needs on that. We leaned heavily on the tin that we bought from Bolivia, which was the major source in this hemisphere, and we built a smelter in Texas City, Texas, which at that time was the [world's] most modern smelter, to handle primarily the Bolivian tin, which was of a lower grade than the tin from either Nigeria or Malaysia. We bought tin in Malaysia, in Indonesia and in Thailand.

Q: This would be World War II then?

WEAVER: No, this was the Korean War. When we took over the R.F.C., we were buying tin at that time . . . The tin price had gone up to \$1.70 or \$1.80 a pound, and there was tin reputedly being held out in Europe waiting for a \$4.00 a pound price. There was quite an outcry here, particularly from the steel industry, which was the largest user of tin, used in tin cans. After a series of conversations internally within the Government, it was decided, largely at Stuart Symington's urging, and finally agreed to by George Marshall, who was Secretary of Defense at that time -- and they had charge of the Munitions Board, which tin came under, because during the war it was a vital metal -- that we get out of the tin market and drew down tin from the National Stock Pile. That was the reason you had to have Marshall's agreement, because the Munitions' Board had the jurisdiction over the stock pile. This action caused a virtual revolution in Latin America, in Bolivia particularly and in Asia. Churchill at that time was the [British] Prime Minister, and you could here him squawking all over the world, because at that time Malaysia was in the midst of the guerrilla warfare, and just in the process of moving from colonies into independent territories, then into full independence. A lot of heat developed immediately for us to move away from this boycott, which was literally what it was. We just withdrew from the market. It was really a boycott. But to make a long story short, I was appointed by Symington as a member of the team that had the responsibility of renegotiating our tin contracts, and in that assignment, I traveled to Bolivia two or three times that summer, the summer of 1951. Then around November it was -- because we spent Thanksgiving out there -- we made a swing out to the Far East and that was my introduction to the Far East, a section of the world that I later spent a lot of time in. Subsequently when I left the Government and returned to the labor movement, I was loaned to the ICFTU, and then later as a Government official, I spent a good deal of time in Asia because of the War in Vietnam. So this is how I sort of slid into my interest in labor and foreign affairs.

Q: When you were with the ICFTU, where was your home base?

WEAVER: I was still based here {in Washington}, but I worked out of the Singapore office. I had an apartment out there, but I never left the payroll of the AFL-CIO. I was on the AFL- CIO payroll, and the ICFTU provided expenses.

Q: You had contact, I suppose, with Labor Attachés then?

WEAVER: Oh, yes. I always touched base with Labor Attachés first. Skagen was our Labor Attaché in Tokyo. I went out to Tokyo as head of an ICFTU mission to investigate labor and social conditions in Okinawa, and I was elected Chairman of the mission. Skagen from the Machinists was the Labor Attaché in Tokyo at that time. There wasn't a Labor Attaché in Singapore or Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, but I maintained very close contact with the Consulates General in both Singapore and Malaysia. In those days it was just a Consulate General. It became an Embassy in Malaysia and then subsequently in Singapore after they gained their independence.

Q: I see that around 1955, Irv Lippe became the Labor Attaché in Singapore.

WEAVER: Yes, in Singapore, but then he moved up to Malaysia and worked out of Malaysia. I was out there when Irv came out. That was where I first met Irv. Irv came into the program from the Teamsters, and we had met one another casually when he was with the Teamsters.

Q: So you had a lot of contact through the ICFTU Your base union was the IUE?

WEAVER: Yes, my base union was IUE. Well, my first base union in the labor movement was with the United Transport Workers' Union as a red cap. Then I went on the staff of the CIO, and I got involved in the organization of the IUE when it was chartered in 1949 as result of the expulsion of the UE from the CIO.

Q: The Communists?

WEAVER: Yes, and Jim Carey, of course, who had been the President of the old UE headed up the effort to organize the IUE, and, of course, being one of his assistants, I worked with him. When I left the staff of the AFL-CIO and went back with the IUE, I became the Director of Political Education and the International Program. I was holding those two posts down when I came back into Government as Assistant Secretary of Labor for International Affairs.

Q: Now, you still had a relationship with Senator Symington?

WEAVER: Yes, I maintained a relationship with Senator Symington.

Q: Which had an effect on your appointment, did it not?

WEAVER: No, the appointment came about [as follows:] Arthur Goldberg and I had worked very closely together in the labor movement, in the CIO. One of my functions in the CIO was as Director of the Civil Rights Department, and we had a Civil Rights Committee, which Goldberg served on as Counsel to the Committee and a member of the Committee. My relationship with Goldberg went back to 1948, when he first came to Washington as Counsel for the Steel Workers' Union and the CIO, so when he was appointed by President Kennedy, he asked me to serve with him.

Q: That's how you became Assistant Secretary. Through Goldberg.

WEAVER: Yes. But I maintained a very close contact and friendship with Symington up until the day of his death.

Q: You served under two Presidents, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson.

WEAVER: And Lyndon Johnson.

Q: First with Kennedy, did you have some personal contact with President Kennedy?

WEAVER: Oh, yes.

Q: Were any of those dealing with the Labor Attaché Corps? Or were they just general?

WEAVER: No, each one of the contacts I had with the President, each time I saw him dealt with some aspect of the ILAB [Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor] program. The last time was just a month to the day before his assassination. I took Dave Morse, who was Director General of the ILO, in to see him. Of course I represented the Government on the Governing Body of the ILO and led the delegations to the annual conference. One other time I went in to see the President and spent about 45 minutes with him; I was with George Meany and Arthur Goldberg. It was just before Goldberg was appointed to the Supreme Court. We were working on the Alliance for Progress Program. Part of the program that we worked out that day with the President was for him to receive a group of trade unionists from Latin America, who were involved with the Alliance for Progress.

Q: Yes, we have a picture of that. Joaquin Bazan is in the picture with the Latin American trade unionists and President Kennedy meeting at the White House. It must have been that meeting probably.

WEAVER: Yes, I didn't remember that there were any pictures.

Q: That one [with Joaquin Bazan] I have. I'll have to show it to you. So that was your meetings with Kennedy dealing with the ILO and with the Alliance for Progress. Now, in

your relations with President Lyndon Johnson, did you have anything in your contacts dealing with the Labor Attaché Corps?

WEAVER: Not with the Labor Attaché Corps as such. I knew President Johnson since before he became the Majority Leader in the Senate, and my contacts with him were more political than they were dealing with the labor program.

Q: Well, I know that some of the Secretaries of Labor got directly involved in the Labor Attaché issue.

WEAVER: When I was Assistant Secretary, I involved the Secretaries every opportunity that I had, because quite often problems arose that could be quickly and quietly settled at the Secretary level at Cabinet meetings or by picking up the telephone and calling his colleague. So I kept them closely involved. It was easy to do, because I kept the Secretary and his [immediate staff] involved through his staff meetings. We had two a week, and the Secretary always went around the table, and so you had an opportunity to involve not only the Secretary but the Under Secretary and the Assistant Secretaries.

Q: So both Secretary Goldberg and Secretary Wirtz were involved in the same way..

WEAVER: And we had another program that was of inestimable value, and that was the American-Japanese Cabinet Committee. I represented the Secretary in that operation, and he had an opportunity, particularly going to Japan, to see the Labor Attaché in operation. Our Labor Attaché -- I'm trying to think of his name now. --

Q: Which country?

WEAVER: In Japan in the 1960's.

Q: Herb Ihrig or Lou Silverberg?

WEAVER: Lou Silverberg. Lou made quite an impression on both Goldberg and Wirtz. Any time that the Secretary was going out of the country, I always arranged for him to meet with the Labor Attachés, and generally arranged for the Labor Attachés to meet him and to arrange sessions with them. It was to their [mutual] advantage, I thought, both educating the Secretary as well as developing powerful friends for the program, to keep the Secretary involved as much as possible.

Q: And they were, of course, supportive. Now, Phil Delaney . . . I guess when you first came on board, it wasn't Phil Delaney; it was another man from California from a public sector union who was S/IL, the first S/IL under President Kennedy.

WEAVER: Gordon Chapman. You see Gordon and I had been the two American representatives on the committee in Okinawa. We had been on that mission together, so I knew Gordon well.

Q: Now Gordon came out to Rome for that Labor Attaché Conference as kind of his first official act. So you had good relations with the State Department when Gordon Chapman was S/IL?

WEAVER: Very good relations.

Q: But then he was there for only about a year.

WEAVER: About a year or a year and a half. Yes.

Q: And then Phil Delaney took over S/IL?

WEAVER: That's right. Phil succeeded him.

Q: How were your relations with the State Department through Phil Delaney?

WEAVER: Put it this way, my relations with the State Department remained good. My relationship with S/IL began to deteriorate. In those days, I served on a Foreign Service Board, which was largely made up of Assistant Secretaries. I don't know whether it is still important.

Q: There still is a Board of the Foreign Service.

WEAVER: And I served on it, and it had tremendous influence. In fact, it had responsibility for the development of the Labor Attaché Program. Another aspect of the Labor Attaché Program I looked on with great importance was the Promotion Boards. I saw to it every year that we manned each one of the Boards for each grade, and this brought me in touch with other officers in the Department [of State] all the way up to the Assistant Secretary level. So although my personal relationships with S/IL deteriorated . . . -- Other colleagues in the ILAB were able to maintain relationships. -- . . . my relationships with other parts of the State Department didn't suffer at all.

Q: Well, I guess this relationship with S/IL would impact on things like recruiting of Labor Attachés and their assignments, for example.

WEAVER: Well, it didn't so much on assignments because I still . . . Well, I'll put it this way. There was a large group in the State Department who were sympathetic to the Labor Attaché Program, but resisted and some resented the way that S/IL functioned. The fact that S/IL was looked upon by many in the Department as responsible, as they used to say, to "15th Street" [the AFL-CIO] rather than to the Secretary of State was resented and, of course, many of them also knew my personal relationships, and they took advantage of the situation. I knew the game that they were playing, so this became a part of the daily diet in relation to the dealings with S/IL.

Q: Did the CIO versus AFL origin of these Labor Attachés continue to be a factor in their assignments?

WEAVER: Yes. Yes. Yes. Of course, nobody would admit it!

Q: Since you were from the CIO and Phil was from the AFL . . .

WEAVER: Well, there was something deeper than that. I never talked about this too much, but those who were active at that point, and a good many of the men are still living, knew about it. Phil was a candidate for the job that I got as Assistant Secretary, and they went to great lengths trying to block [my appointment]. Goldberg had invited me to join him and I agreed to it, and he refused to back down, but they went as far as to try to involve Walter Reuther in putting up and supporting another candidate. Phil was one of the candidates for that job, and this also was a factor, I think, in subsequent relationships.

Q: What about McCarthyism, for example? Did you see that in any of the issues involving Labor Attachés, in their assignments or maybe being up for discharge due to alleged Communist connections during the McCarthyism period?

WEAVER: No, remember the McCarthyism period was coming to an end during our [tenure].

Q: It would be more while you were with the CIO.

WEAVER: Yes, that was quite . . . Well, when I was in Government before with Symington, it was at its height. I remember Symington used to call my wife and me each evening during the McCarthy hearings. You'll remember Symington was on that committee. He and McCarthy almost came to blows. We used to talk for hours about it.

Q: The hearings?

WEAVER: Yes, but it did not affect the Labor Attaché Program. First of all, the Labor Attaché Program was not as important and not as influential in the 1950's as it was in the 1960's. The cast of characters in State Department as well as in the White House changed significantly in the 1960's. If you remember, there was vacillation on the part Eisenhower himself and vacillation on the part of Dulles with unfortunate and unfavorable consequences on many of the staff officers. There was no question about where Kennedy stood, nor where Rusk stood.

Q: No, I think you are right that by the time the Administration changed, but I guess there were some Labor Attachés . . .

WEAVER: And the climate of opinion had changed too. You see, the Labor Attaché Program was not a factor. It was during the height of the McCarthy period, which would be in the early 1950's. The Labor Attaché Program was just really getting started.

Q: What about your relations with Ambassadors that you worked with?

WEAVER: My relationship with the ambassadors was uniformly good. One of the routine briefings for ambassadors was a visit to the Labor Department, and we took it very seriously. I always arranged for them to see and spend a few minutes with the Secretary [of Labor], and I would spend all of the time that they had and make available to them any aspect of the program they were interested in. I'd bring our top people in to talk with them. So generally we started out with having made a reasonably favorable impression, and that I would follow up on as soon as I was in the field. Any time I was in the field, I always secured the permission of the Ambassador, if I was coming to his country. I always sounded it out and got a green light from the State Department, before I made travel plans and publicized what country I was going to. The only exception was Geneva, where I was going three or four times a year. This was an aspect of the program that I nursed very carefully, so I never had any difficulty that I can think of off hand. I never had any difficulty with any of the Ambassadors.

Q: Did you have occasion to contact them about say a Labor Attaché assignment? Or any specific problems?

WEAVER: Oh, yes, and when problems would arise.

Q: What sort of problem might arise?

WEAVER: Well, there were a couple . . . I don't remember off hand the names. A couple Labor Attachés we had to get out of the country.

Q: Well, one problem I think you had was the situation in Pakistan with Herb Baker.

WEAVER: Yes, but the way we handled that . . . We thought Herb was right, and we saw to it that he got a better post, because what we were trying to demonstrate to the Corps was that they would not be punished when they were right. In fact, we tried to suddenly reward him and that was known in the State Department. Crockett jumped me about that.

Q: You sent him I believe to Tel Aviv, which was a better post. As I understand it, the difficulty in Pakistan was with a Chinese Communist official at a meeting -- and this of course was 1962 or so -- and Herb Baker did not want to be associated on the platform with this person, and he left the meeting. The Ambassador said, "Well, next time you stay and don't walk off. It creates bad publicity." Herb said, "Put that in writing." And the Ambassador said, "Send him home immediately, because he thinks I will not live up to my word." The Ambassador got rid of him in 24 hours.

WEAVER: Yes, he did. There was one other case too, where the Ambassador . . .

Q: Sent a person out?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Let's see, in what area that might have been?

WEAVER: Oh, that was Abe Kramer in Germany, I think it was.

Q: And why did the Ambassador want him to leave?

WEAVER: It was differences in reporting, and as a result we sent Abe to . . . Abe had had difficulty before. This was before I came on board. And we sent him to Singapore as a Regional [Labor Attaché].

Q: Singapore and he also included Malaysia.

WEAVER: He did extremely well out there. He was grateful to me up to the day he died. I went to see him the day before he died.

Q: So there were a couple of incidents there. In the one case the Ambassador in Pakistan was not too helpful, but there was a problem which had to be resolved, and you resolved it in that way. What about your relations with the Agency for International Development (AID)? I know there are a lot of things that you have done in the AID area?

WEAVER: The relationship was very good with AID, and we worked out -- and this was largely the ground work, which was worked out at my level, and the details were worked out of course with the technicians, and that was the program that Jim Taylor [worked on]. -- the DOLITAC Program. And after the DOLITAC Program was worked out, then we had a formal mechanism, which meant just daily working at it and implementing. Jim did an excellent job. He sort of lived in that DOLITAC [office]. Jim had one habit that I used to chuckle about. I always tried to accept it with a straight face, but Jim could bring you notebooks . . . You asked him a question and you really got the answer and all of the precedents and all of the mousetraps that he could conceive of. I used to laugh about it, because I was fearful of trying to choke it off.

Q: Yet he was giving you more than you wanted.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: When you had these difficulties with S/IL Phil Delaney, what about your relations with the AFL-CIO International Affairs Department or George Meany himself?

WEAVER: I had a peculiar and interesting relationship. George Meany and I differed and differed sharply. I was the first staff person of the AFL-CIO to resign after the merger, and Meany tried to talk me out of it. When he and Jim Carey broke over the Civil Rights Committee . . . See Meany didn't know really what to do with me. When the merger took

place, the only black on his staff of the AFL was the elevator operator. The first three or four years I spent most of my time out of the country, out in Asia on loan to the ICFTU, and I came back and he and Jim got into a shouting match, and Jim resigned as Chairman of the Civil Rights Committee. I resigned the next day, and I told Meany we don't want to talk about it, and I think he understood that my loyalty was with Jim Carey. I grew up under Jim. I owed much to him, and I was sure that he understood. That's the way I left it. Well, we differed strongly, and largely I thought because of Delaney's influence. We differed strongly on the ILO. Delaney had strong, sharp beliefs on how the delegation should be run, what the United States' posture should be, particularly on political issues. I had a different approach and different idea, and I had the responsibility. I was never scared, because Delaney used to scare the hell out of most people by what George Meany thought and what he was going to do, but that never influenced me, and he knew it. Well, we had eight years of sort of armed neutrality.

Q: I guess it was more like six and a half. With Gordon [Chapman]. . . Oh, you and George Meany had that?

WEAVER: No, Delaney and I.

Q: I guess Delaney at first was in ILAB.

WEAVER: Yes, he was in ILAB.

Q: Yes, he was Director of the Office of Foreign Relations, so he was your subordinate.

WEAVER: Yes, but that still didn't make any difference, because he was running back and forth over to [Meany]. Meany and I had respect on both sides, and Meany was very kind. He had very kind words to say when I left the Labor Department and when I left the ILO. You see Meany and Dave Morse fought, and I ended up supporting Dave Morse most of the time. Then when Morse put me on the staff, he did not consult with Meany. He made me Director of the Washington Office, and Meany was furious about that. Here again, I knew what the result was going to be.

Q: Right. Well, if a Labor Attaché assignment came up that was at controversy between you and Phil Delaney, would you get involved with the AFL-CIO about it?

WEAVER: Sometimes. It was according to who the person was and according to how important the post was, and if it was a real important post, I would. For example, the reason that Tom Bowie stayed in Rome for as long as he did was because Phil and I differed on who [would replace him].

Q: Yes, I remember that.

WEAVER: And I agreed we would leave Bowie there. Now I didn't do that through Meany. I did that through Jay Lovestone. You see, I had an interesting relationship with

Jay. There was mutual respect there. Jay and I used to . . . just like what's his name who was in Paris, Irving Brown. Irving and I, we always had a good working relationship and understood one another. Irving used to come to me on the Q.T., when he was labor representative to the ILO, and I was on the ILO staff. He would come to me about working out the relationships about the labor movement coming back. I can't remember and pinpoint an issue where my differences with Meany had a deleterious effect on the [Labor] Attaché Program.

Q: Let's look at some of these Labor Attachés that served while you were in the Labor Department. Now Harold Aisley was in Denmark in 1961, then he came back to ILAB, working on the ILO. Did you have much contact with him in Denmark?

WEAVER: Not in Denmark. After he came back, I did.

Q: But you did, of course, when he worked for you on the ILO?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Any comments on Harold as a Labor Attaché or as a staffer in ILAB?

WEAVER: Oh, he was a good staffer. I didn't know that much about him. Where is he now?

Q: He is in Annapolis. His wife has died and he is living there. Now Herb Baker served, as we talked about, [in Pakistan and] was transferred to Israel suddenly.

WEAVER: Then Herb was in Brazil, and didn't he have another European post?

Q: Yes, he was in Germany and Italy after you were with the ILO. Aside from the method of his assignment to Israel, which we've already talked about, did you have contact with Herb in Israel or any relations with him in the three years he was there?

WEAVER: No, I can't say that I had a relationship with him. I followed his work, and I never had any difficulty [with it].

Q: Now Brazil in 1964. Any contact with him there?

WEAVER: Only the normal contact when he came back. He would touch base over [at the Department of Labor].

Q: Now Joaquin Bazan went out to the Dominican Republic as Labor Attaché in 1965.

WEAVER: I had a very close relationship with Joaquin. He was the Latin American Area Specialist until he went down as Labor Attaché.

Q: Now you mention the fact he was with you in the White House when President Kennedy received this group of Latin American labor leaders.

WEAVER: He used to accompany me to all the conferences in Latin America. You see, he was the Latin American Area Advisor.

Q: As Labor Attaché in the Dominican Republic, did you have any contact with him.

WEAVER: Only the normal contact of reading his despatches. I would get a letter from him every now and then.

Q: I guess this is right after Lyndon Johnson had to send in the troops to restore order there.

WEAVER: Yes. He went down on the task force that Bunker organized, and that's why he was invited down there.

Q: Selected to be Labor Attaché.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Going alphabetically [down the Historical Roster of U.S. Labor Attachés], Paul Bergman was in Zaire in 1962. Did you have any relations with him.

WEAVER: I can't think of any of those Labor Attachés I had relations with ... (End of Side A, Tape 1)

Q: Okay. You were saying that Mike Boggs used to write to you a lot.

WEAVER: Yes, he used to write me a lot, and I would answer, and I would comment on some of his reports.

Q: Now, you mentioned that Tom Bowie stayed in Italy a long time, because of differences over naming his successor. In connection with the Italian labor movement and so on, did you have any occasion to get in touch with Tom or with the Ambassador there?

WEAVER: Oh, yes. I used to see a good deal of Tom, because Tom also used to come to the ILO. He was appointed as the Representative to the ILO. He was close to Geneva. He knew the ILO, and he was one that both Phil and I could agree on.

Q: As I recall one of the reasons he was extended had to do with . . .

WEAVER: His wife was ill.

Q: . . .and then another [reason] was that Lou Silverberg was a candidate to succeed him, and Phil Delaney didn't want Phil Silverberg to go [to Rome].

WEAVER: But this is one that I went to Jay Lovestone [about].

Q: Now you knew Tyler Byrne, who served in Trinidad and in Malaysia. Did you have any dealings with him out there? Or in recruiting him by any chance?

WEAVER: No.

Q: Because I think he was recruited from the labor movement.

WEAVER: He was.

Q: From one of the airline unions.

WEAVER: Yes, but I didn't have any [role in it]..

Q: Speaking of recruitment, perhaps we ought to stop now and go back and talk about those that you helped recruit into the Labor Attaché Program. There were several, I think, from the labor movement or the Labor Department that you were instrumental in nominating for Labor Attaché assignments.

WEAVER: Yes, well the first, before going into the Labor Department, was Harold Snell.

Q: And that was before you got in the Labor Department? Did you help him get into the Labor Attaché work?

WEAVER: Yes, we both were in the same union. He came down and [worked in the] AID program working with John Meskimen, and as a result of his success in the AID program, he was approached about becoming a Labor Attaché, and both John and I pushed him like hell to go ahead and take it. (Interruption)

Q: You were saying that John Meskimen and you helped support [Harold Snell's] getting appointed as a Labor Attaché.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: And that was Beirut?

WEAVER: Yes, Beirut was his first assignment.

Q: So that was before you came [into the Labor Department]?

WEAVER: That was the only post he had as Labor Attaché.

Q: That's true. You were involved with that even before you came with ILAB. Were there any other people you helped recruit for Labor Attaché work before you came to the Labor Department?

WEAVER: I can't think off hand of any. I think there was, but I can't remember off hand who it was.

Q: Now, within ILAB since you . . .

WEAVER: Oh, I'll tell you one I helped recruit and persuade was Bob Kinney. He came out of the CIO. Let me look down this list. It will remind me.

Q: That's only a list of those with five or more assignments. There may be others.

WEAVER: Bob Kinney was one.

Q: He was with the CIO, and you pushed or encouraged him to get into Labor Attaché work.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: And who did you nominate him to at that point?

WEAVER: At that time we went directly to Bob Murphy through Jim Carey. Then I got to know Murphy very well too.

Q: Was this back before the merger of the AFL and the CIO?

WEAVER: Yes, long before the merger.

Q: So it went direct from the CIO to the State Department?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: And then when you were with ILAB, who were some of the people you pushed for lateral entry into the Labor Attaché Program?

WEAVER: Here again I don't remember off hand.

Q: Well, what about Wilbur Wright?

WEAVER: Wilbur Wright? Let me see that list, and I can go over the list.

Q: As I recall, Wilbur Wright was in ILAB, and didn't you nominate him for Labor Attaché somewhere?

WEAVER: Labor Attaché, yes.

Q: What about Howard Robinson? How did he get in?

WEAVER: Howard Robinson is another. Sandman was one.

Q: Lennie Sandman. Yes, Lennie came to the Labor Department from the AFL, as he was recounting at the luncheon the other day [of former Labor Attachés at the 1993 Foreign Service Day].

WEAVER: Bazan. Bazan would be one.

Q: Joaquin Bazan. Yes, he had a tour.

WEAVER: Boggs was one.

Q: Boggs came from the labor movement.

WEAVER: Yes, he came out of the CIO Textile Workers' Union.

Q: So you were very active in getting lateral entry Labor Attachés in those days?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Boggs would be after the merger while you were in ILAB, so you would have worked with Phil Delaney and Jay Lovestone?

WEAVER: Lovestone, yes. I'm looking over these names here.

Q: Well, let's continue with my alphabetical questioning of you and they might come up if you had anything to do with [their entry]. I think I see one down the list here that you did. Your relation with Tom Byrne, who was the Labor Attaché in Ghana and the U.K.?

WEAVER: Yes. I really think that Tom was good.

Q: So you had good relations with Tom Byrne, but he came into the Labor Attaché Program before you were in ILAB. Did you have anything to do with his recruitment?

WEAVER: No, I knew him though, before he came in. No, I didn't have anything to do with his recruitment

Q: Now he was in the U.K. in 1964, in London. Did you have contact with him there?

WEAVER: Yes, I had a good deal of contact with him, and it was all on the favorable side.

Q: And what was the sort of thing that you would deal with him about?

WEAVER: Well, I dealt with him about questions in regard to the British labor movement, and particularly important, I was in and out of London on the way to the ILO. We worked very closely with the British delegate representative on the ILO Governing Body, and he would set up meetings for us and that sort of thing.

Q: Then Seymour Chalfin was already in the Foreign Service when you came to ILAB, but he went on and was assigned to Kenya and the OECD in France. Did you have any work with Sy?

WEAVER: Yes, when he was in France, I used to see him. He used to arrange meetings for us.

Q: You talked about Herman Cohen, who was Labor Attaché in Southern Rhodesia and Zaire back in the 1960's.

WEAVER: No, but I didn't have any particular dealings with him [then]. I had more dealings with him after he became Ambassador, and I was with the ILO.

Q: John Condon served in Tunisia and Algeria and Vietnam and Lebanon while you were there.

WEAVER: Yes, I had a lot of contact with him. He served in France.

Q: Yes, that was after you were in ILAB, but you were still working with the ILO then. Yes, he was Labor Attaché in France in 1970. Vietnam, that must have been a tough period. Did you have any particular programs with him in Vietnam?

WEAVER: Not when he was in Vietnam, no I didn't.

Q: Now he was in Lebanon in 1968.

WEAVER: Yes. He succeeded Harold [Snell], I think, in Lebanon.

Q: Yes, I believe he did. There were four Labor Attachés there, Jim Mattson and he and Dick Searing.

WEAVER: Yes, but I think he succeeded Harold.

Q: Yes, we have it right here in our list. Lebanon. Condon succeeded Snell, and he was succeeded by Searing, and he was succeeded by Mattson. Of course Harold continued to serve there for quite a few years after his initial appointment. It was about nine years, I

think, Harold was Labor Attaché there. He was one of the longest serving Labor Attachés anywhere.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Do you recall John De Ornellas in Sri Lanka or Honduras by chance?

WEAVER: No, I don't.

Q: But you mentioned John Doherty, who was an Assistant Labor Attaché in Mexico, and then went on to Peru.

WEAVER: We had difficulty finding a post for John because of housing. Remember the housing needs.

Q: Yes, he had about nine children.

WEAVER: Yes, eight or nine children at one point.

Q: So, I guess these were posts that could take him.

WEAVER: You know the problem was that the big house were for grades higher than he was. You know, for the Counselor of Embassy or the D.C.M..

Q: They get the big houses. I think his first job was as Assistant Labor Attaché. Now, jumping ahead to one of his bosses, Irving Salert. Do you recall any relations that you had with Irving Salert.

WEAVER: Sure, Irving. I had a lot of relations with Irving. I was trying to think where Irving was serving.

Q: Well, Mexico was one [place].

WEAVER: Irving came out of the labor movement. He came out of the America (?) side. He was also with the Community Services Committee.

Q: I recall hearing about one incident involving John Doherty and Salert, and another one involving I think Ed Sylvester and Salert.

WEAVER: What? I don't remember what it was.

Q: As I recall, you sent Ed down to be your representative at one of these USIA trade fair things, and Salert didn't give him the time of day, because who was Ed Sylvester? Some junior person, he thought. And I think he kind of snubbed him.

WEAVER: That's like Salert. That's the wrong person to snub, and I bet Ed made him pay for it.

Q: Well, I have the impression that on the next couple of Selection Boards he didn't do too well, but also speaking of Salert, there were three Assistant Labor Attachés there in a row that he gave a very rough time to, one was Tyler Byrne, John Doherty, and the other I think was [James Creagan]. He wrote very bad efficiency reports on all of them.

WEAVER: He was no good. What ever happened to him?

Q: I don't know. I don't know about him. Now, Jim Engle was Labor Attaché in Germany in 1961. Did you have any contact with him?

WEAVER: No. Not [really].

Q: I know Jim Taylor used to have a lot of problem with that, because he was an FSO and this was a job that we had always had labor people in. Now Cliff Finch was in Spain and Vietnam and other places.

WEAVER: I knew Cliff very well.

Q: And he was in Bolivia before you came into ILAB.

WEAVER: He was in Vietnam when I was going back and forth to Vietnam.

Q: Okay. What were your relations with him?

WEAVER: Very good. My relations with Cliff were very good.

Q: What was he able to do for you there at the Mission?

WEAVER: Oh, he arranged meetings, and he was an excellent briefer. Cliff was a very good reporter. Now his judgment at times left a lot to be desired, but he was an excellent reporter.

Q: Judgment about what issues?

WEAVER: On things he reported on. I mean the conclusions that he would draw, but he was an excellent reporter in terms of getting the facts. But I soon learned how to handle and what to do with him. And I liked him very well.

Q: Now, John Fishburn was in Geneva, and you dealt with him there in 1966.

WEAVER: Yes, I dealt with him extensively.

Q: Actually he had been in Brazil before then, and he was already assigned . . .

WEAVER: Where is he now?

Q: I think he is maybe out in Virginia somewhere. I think he is retired.

WEAVER: Yes, I know he is retired. I was wondering where.

Q: I remember I think an incident about him in Brazil while I was in ILAB with you, -- I don't know if you heard -- where in writing the annual labor report, the Embassy did not accept what he wrote, and he sort of sent it in as a dissent message.

WEAVER: That's like him.

Q: . . . as not cleared by the Embassy, but this was his view. Then later on he got assigned to Geneva. Now young Tony Freeman was in Bolivia in 1967. Did you remember him in that assignment.

WEAVER: No, didn't.

Q: Or Roger Gamble in Argentina?

WEAVER: No, I didn't know him either.

Q: He has had some very top jobs in the State Department in Latin America since then. Let's see, Dale Good we talked about. He was in Israel, in Austria, then in Germany right at the end of your tour. Did you have much contact with Dale?

WEAVER: I had a good deal of contact with Dale. Dale succeeded Phil [Delaney as S/IL], didn't he?

Q: Yes, he was S/IL, but by that time . . .

WEAVER: What had happened to Dale? Where did Dale go?

Q: Well, he did succeed Phil. I think Dan Horowitz succeeded Phil more directly, didn't he? Thinking back to what is the chronology of that.

WEAVER: He was before Phil, wasn't he? No, no, Dan was after.

Q: There was Dan Gcott, who was, of course, earlier. And Dale Good . . .

WEAVER: I was trying to think where Dale fitted in. Or [maybe] Dale was Assistant to Phil.

Q: I thought Tom Byrne was over there.

WEAVER: Tom was at one time.

Q: He was the Deputy, and he was in line to get it, when Horowitz was brought in to be S/IL, and that may have been a little later period though.

WEAVER: When did Byrne become Ambassador?

Q: I don't have that here [in my papers]. Let's see. I know he was Ambassador in Norway when . . .

WEAVER: Was it Norway or . . .

Q: Norway, and then Czechoslovakia. I think it was Norway, because he received the Nobel Prize for Kissinger. When Kissinger got the Nobel Prize, Byrne was the American Ambassador to Norway. There's a picture of him in a tuxedo receiving this award on behalf of Kissinger, so that would have been some time after Vietnam. Well, in any event, Dale Good would be more after your period in ILAB that he was in S/IL. He was a counterpart to Howard Samuel, and Howard Samuel was Deputy Under Secretary or the equivalent to your job under the Carter Administration, which would be 1977 to 1980. So that was when Dale Good was S/IL, about that period. A little later.

Now, Dan Goott was out in France in 1962.

WEAVER: Yes, that was sort of his swan song.

Q: His only Labor Attaché tour. Well, he did come back and serve in the European Bureau as Area Advisor again for a while.

WEAVER: Oh, he did?

Q: Yes, he did. Did you have any contact with him in France?

WEAVER: No. I had a couple meals with him when I was over there, but not any contact really.

Q: Now Henry Hammond later on was your Area Advisor for Latin America. He was Labor Attaché in Argentina in 1962. He was in Cuba in 1959.

WEAVER: In Argentina is where I met him. I went down to Argentina to an ILO meeting. George Lodge and I [went together].

Q: And how did Hammond [impress you]?

WEAVER: Oh, I was struck with him right off the bat, by his knowledge and the way he handled himself.

Q: Then you brought him into ILAB when Bazan was detailed to the Labor Attaché Program. He was Latin American Area Advisor for a while.

WEAVER: Yes, but before that he was the Latin American person in the State Department.

Q: Yes, he had that job too.

WEAVER: And I used to take him and Bazan with me to all the meetings I had in Latin America.

Q: Now here is another person who might have been a lateral entry, Charles Hanson. Did you get to know him? He went into Trinidad.

WEAVER: I knew him when he went in, and we okayed him going into Trinidad.

Q: You approved it?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Was he already in the Foreign Service then?

WEAVER: No.

Q: He was a lateral entry then?

WEAVER: Yes, that's when he came in. I was trying to think where he came from. I know his father was active in the Sleeping Car Porters' Union, and I am trying to think where Charlie was.

Q: Then he went on to Nigeria a year before you left ILAB in 1967? Did you have contact with him down in Nigeria?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: He was in the War College or the Senior Seminar actually. He was one of the first to go to the new Senior Seminar at the State Department.

WEAVER: Yes, he went there, then he ended up with a very distinguished career. He ended up DCM.

Q: And where was that?

WEAVER: In Ghana. He worked under Shirley Temple Black, and he became her D.C.M. They had a very, very good relationship. She was very high on him.

Q: Then Bob Hare came out of ILAB to go into the Labor Attaché Program. He went to Algeria in 1966. I guess you knew Bob from ILAB, when he worked for Arnold Steinboch in the Trade Union Directory?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Did you have any contact with him in Algeria or Senegal?

WEAVER: No, not after he went there.

Q: No particular contact. Now Joe Harmon went to Guatemala in 1961.

WEAVER: I remember Joe Harmon. Then he came back and was in ILAB.

Q: Yes, for many, many years. He just died about a year or two ago.

WEAVER: Oh, he did.

Q: Yes, a very impressive memorial service [was held] out in Virginia. Anyway I heard about an incident involving his more or less sudden departure from Guatemala. Do you remember that?

WEAVER: I do remember that. He had some difficulty down there, and we gave him a job. Well, he had been in ILAB.

Q: He came out of ILAB.

WEAVER: And we took him back.

Q: I heard it had something to do with the Ambassador disagreeing with his strong views or something. I guess they sent him out.

WEAVER: But his case came up before the Secretary's staff meeting, and I remember Leo Wertz joined me in strongly arguing that we should take him back because it came during a time when we were tight on personnel and we had to find a job for him.

Q: So you did that?

WEAVER: Yes, and Leo said, "I'll find the money for it." He agreed with me.

Q: Well, Russ Heater served as [Assistant Labor Attaché] in France in 1962 and [as Labor Attaché] in Kenya in 1964. Did you have any contact with Russ?

WEAVER: No, I knew him, but I didn't have any contact with him.

Q: Later on he dealt with the ILO as I recall.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: You probably had contact with him there.

WEAVER: I had contact with him, but I don't remember anything, you know, outstanding.

Q: Now, Sean Holly was in India as Assistant and in Guatemala in 1968. Do you recall there was an incident where he was taken captive in Guatemala? It was during one of our Labor Attaché Conferences in New Delhi that he was still hostage.

WEAVER: I think this was after I left [ILAB].

Q: It could have been

WEAVER: I think it was after I left. I remember reading about it.

Q: Dan Horowitz went to India in 1961. He wasn't there too long. Did you have any contact with him?

WEAVER: Yes, I met with him while he was out there. I had a good relationship with Dan all through [our association]. I knew him and would run into him at different periods of both of our careers. And a very, very good relationship.

Q: And I guess he would arrange for you to meet with the Indian trade union officials if you needed to or the . . .

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Did you run into Bob Immerman in Guatemala or Japan?

WEAVER: No.

Q: Later on he really became a Japan expert. He was Assistant Labor Attaché there, and then later on was Labor Counselor, then political officer for many years. Herb Ihrig went to Indonesia in 1961..

WEAVER: Yes, I remember Herb.

Q: Did you have anything to do with recruiting him? I think he came out of the military.

WEAVER: No, I didn't have anything to do with it, but I do remember, yes, he did come out of the military.

Q: Speaking of that, we were talking about recruiting people laterally. Now John Condon came out of the military. Did you have a role in recruiting him?

WEAVER: No, I didn't have any role.

Q: So there were two of our better Labor Attachés who were recruited out of the Department of Defense. Both Ihrig and John Condon. Ihrig was in Indonesia and then went to Sweden.

WEAVER: Yes, I remember

Q: Jorma Kaukonen was in Sweden also.

WEAVER: Yes, what ever happened to him?

Q: He is still around.

WEAVER: He was a very precise person.

Q: You know his son was very active in the rock groups Jefferson Airplanes and Hot Tuna.

WEAVER: No, I didn't know that.

Q: And in fact after he retired from the Foreign Service, he used his writing skills to write some of their record album covers. He traveled around with his son. His son is very famous. Jorma Kaukonen. Yes.

Now we talked about Bob Kinney. In addition to being in Malaysia, he was also in Nigeria and the Philippines. Did you have any contact with him in those countries?

WEAVER: I had a lot of contact with him in the Philippines when I was with the labor movement.

Q: Oh, back in his first incarnation.

WEAVER: That was in the 1950's.

Q: Yes, he was Labor Attaché there in 1953. So it would have been in that period. Of course, he went there a second time in 1968, and that was just a year before you left ILAB.

WEAVER: Where, the Philippines?

Q: Yes.

WEAVER: Yes, I remember he did go out to Malaysia.

Q: He was in Indonesia too in 1958.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Now, you mentioned Abe Kramer, how you helped get him an assignment to Singapore. George Lichtblau you've run into. He went to the Ivory Coast in 1964. I guess you wouldn't have had much dealings with him there in the Ivory Coast..

WEAVER: No, but Steen had a lot of dealings with him [there]. .

Q: Oh, yes. Now Irv Lippe was in Geneva in 1962, when you were, of course, over there three times a year for the Labor Department.

WEAVER: That's right.

Q: How were your relations with Irv Lippe?

WEAVER: Oh, I had good relations with Irving all the way in each stage of the game.

Q: Of course Irv was very close to Phil Delaney.

WEAVER: That's right, but Irv was close to anybody that he thought could help him.

Q: But I mean if he thought that the State Department could help him more than the Labor Department, he . . .

WEAVER: But that's where you would find him. At times if he thought the Labor Department would have the key, you would find him at the Labor Department.

Q: Then he went to France in 1966.

WEAVER: He did. He had as good if not better assignments than anybody else in the whole [Labor Attaché] Corps.

Q: He had a very good set of assignments. Yes.

WEAVER: He was in London.

Q: Yes, London, Paris, Geneva, Belgium, Singapore, and Cuba back when that was a good assignment. We talked about Tony Luchek in Manila. Do you recall anything about Tony?

WEAVER: No.

Q: It looks like he was perhaps a lateral entry into the Labor Attaché Program. Now Gene Martinson was in Nigeria in 1961. Did you have any contact with Gene?

WEAVER: No, not any contact. I knew Martinson. I was trying remember something about his name.

Q: In Senegal, McCarthy went to Senegal in 1962. That's Daniel McCarthy. I heard that he sought your help to get that assignment.

WEAVER: What? In Senegal.

Q: Yes, in Senegal in 1962..

WEAVER: It was probably through Steen then if he did.

Q: I think he might have come from the Agency and was looking for Labor Department help to get a State Department assignment.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: And Graham McKelvey was in Australia and in Belgium while you were in ILAB and before that in Singapore and Germany.

WEAVER: I knew him. Was he in Rome for a while?

Q: No, not as a labor officer anyway according to this [list], not Graham McKelvey. Philippines, Germany, Singapore, Australia, and Belgium.

Now, Bruce Millan, whom you knew real well, was in India in 1962 and Turkey in 1966.

WEAVER: Then he came back to the Department [of Labor].

Q: Yes, and he worked in ILAB, and he worked in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy and then in ILAB under Dean Claus there. Did you have any dealings with Bruce in India or Turkey?

WEAVER: No.

Q: We talked about Dan Montenegro. Did you have any dealings with Oscar Morrison in Sri Lanka?

WEAVER: Yes, I helped get him out there.

Q: So he's one that you helped approve.

WEAVER: I helped get him in the program.

Q: So that's another person you helped, and where was he recruited from? Where was he working?

WEAVER: I am trying to think which union. One of the unions.

Q: An American union. You recall Sig Moody went out to Pakistan. He came in as a lateral entry. Do you . . .

WEAVER: Now wait a minute. Oscar was with one of the Government agencies. He wasn't with a union. I think he was in the Department of Labor. I think I pulled him out of the Department of Labor.

Q: I knew him in Sri Lanka, because I was the NEA Area Advisor, and met with him out there and dealt with him, and he reported back, but I didn't know his previous incarnation. Sig Moody, do you recall, he came out of the Butcher Workmen, I think? Helmuth Kern. He was the Deputy to Helmuth Kern?

WEAVER: Yes, but he was recruited. I think he was a Jay [Lovestone] recruitment.

Q: Jay recruited him.

WEAVER: I think he was. But he was a hell of a nice guy.

Q: He just served one tour in Pakistan. He came to that luncheon the other day.

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Saul Moskowitz in Columbia. Do you recall Sol?

WEAVER: I remember Saul, but I didn't have any dealings with him.

Q: What about Ernie Nagy when he was in Berlin, Germany, in 1961?

WEAVER: The name strikes a bell, but I can't think of what it was.

Q: He went to Denmark. Well, one of the stories that he tells is that he was in Berlin when Kennedy and Meany visited, and that . . . -- I have this on audio tape from after one of our Labor Attaché Conferences in Munich. He was telling how they were going up there and Meany asked what that meant, "Ich bin ein Berliner," and he translated for him, and he thought that might have slipped into the President's speech from his translation to Meany.

All right, then Jack O'Grady, I think you knew, was in Honduras and Columbia and Mexico.

WEAVER: Just the name.

Q: And Russ Olsen had several jobs. You probably wouldn't [remember]. We talked about Margaret Plunkett. She was in the Netherlands. I think she came out of B.L.S. (the Bureau of Labor Statistics) in the Labor Department.

WEAVER: Yes, she did. She was in the Netherlands, and then Israel.

Q: Yes, in Israel. Did you have contact with her in those countries?

WEAVER: Yes, both places.

Q: I understand that she had very good relations with the Prime Ministers [in Israel]. Golda Meir was earlier the Labor Minister, then moved up [to Prime Minister].

WEAVER: Yes, she had a very good relationship.

Q: Did you see this when you were in Israel? Any evidence of this in terms of the contacts she made for you, for example?

WEAVER: Yes. She arranged for me to meet with the top people in the Histadrut and then with the Prime Minister.

Q: It's sort of like a Sam Berger story when he was the contact with those people [in Great Britain after World War II]. Now, let's see. We talked a little about Hugh Reichard in Israel and Indonesia, and he had several other jobs before that -- Venezuela, Argentina, and the Netherlands. Did you have any contact with him in those countries?

WEAVER: No.

Q: You know that he is a double brother-in-law of Sig Moody.

WEAVER: He is?

Q: That is Sig Moody's sister married Hugh Reichard and Hugh Reichard's sister married Sig Moody, so there was that sort of [a relationship]. And John Reinertson was in Finland about that time. He had just taken up Labor Attaché work.

WEAVER: I didn't know him.

Q: Later on worked with the ILO [while with the Department of State]. How about Elbert Robinson, who went to the Netherlands in 1967?

WEAVER: I didn't know him either.

Q: I think he was a lateral entry, and he only stayed about one tour. We've talked about Howard Robinson a little bit. Howard's first tour as Labor Attaché was after you were in ILAB. He went to Japan in 1969, but he was in the State Department Foreign Service already, I believe. East Asia Area Labor Advisor was what he was.

WEAVER: He wasn't in the Service.

Q: But he was perhaps a Civil Service [employee].

WEAVER: How did that work? He came out of the IUE.

Q: But he was the Area Labor Advisor for East Asia over in the State Department before he went [to Japan].

WEAVER: Yes, I was trying to think how we got him in. We had a hell of time getting him in, I remember, because I worked on it for Carey. It was before I went in as Assistant Secretary.

Q: That got him in the State Department, I think, but then later on he went out to Tokyo after being in the Department.

WEAVER: I had a big hand in getting him out to Tokyo.

Q: Once he got into the State Department, I think he had a very meteoric career, because he was very much [liked] by the Assistant Secretaries of the time.

WEAVER: Well, he was very good.

Q: They really welcomed his advice and counsel. Now Irwin Rubenstein. I think you helped get Irwin an assignment, did you not?

WEAVER: Yes.

Q: Because he was on detail to ILAB awaiting a Labor Attaché assignment when I got there. He had been AID labor before.

WEAVER: I was trying to think where we got him in. What was his first assignment?

Q: Peru in 1964, Uruguay in 1967.

WEAVER: Where is he now?

Q: He is in the State Department. He is the Director of the Mexico-U.S. Border Commission or something like that.

WEAVER: I would have imagined that he would have gone up, because he was very bright.

Q: Well, he was a D.C.M. in a couple of places. In fact his last overseas job was as Consul General in Guadalajara, [Mexico].

WEAVER: He must be ready for retirement.

Q: I believe he will retire later this year. Irv Salert we talked about. Now, Lennie Sandman. You mentioned that you . . .

WEAVER: Where is Lennie now?

Q: Lennie came to that luncheon the other day.

WEAVER: That's right. I saw him.

Q: He just moved from Cape Cod down to Florida. So he was in India, Malaysia, and Korea while you were serving in ILAB. Did you have any contact with him? He was Assistant [Labor Attaché] in India.

WEAVER: No, not anything extraordinary.

Q: Then Roger Schrader we talked about. He went to New Zealand in 1966. You might have had more dealings with him when he was in Geneva in 1970 as Labor Attaché. Did you have more contact with him then when he went over from the ILO?

WEAVER: No.

Q: Then Bob Senser we talked about. He was a lateral entrant. He went to Belgium, Algeria, and Vietnam, and I know ILAB at least concurred in it.

WEAVER: Yes, [ILAB] concurred in it.

Q: He came out of a Catholic labor newspaper in Chicago.

WEAVER: Yes, I remember.

Q: Then he went to Algeria and Vietnam. Did you have any contact with him in Vietnam?

WEAVER: No.

Q: Jim Shea had many tours.

WEAVER: I had a lot of contact with him. Jim and I worked on the first plank in the merger of the AFL-CIO.

Q: Oh, is that right?

WEAVER: Yes, Jim worked for Boris Shishkin, and I worked for Jim Carey. He was representing Boris and the AFL-CIO, and I was representing Jim, and we did the first study over at the N.L.R.B. on raiding between the AFL and the CIO. The results of that study demonstrated that nobody gained from the raiding, and everybody lost, because it cost everybody so much money. Nobody gained in terms of membership. We did the study, and that was the first basis to get those guys really talking seriously about merger.

Q: So the first thing was a no raiding pact.

WEAVER: Yes. Jim and I did the basic research on that. We were talking about it last week

Q: That's fascinating. Looking at some of the more senior people [on the Historical Roster], do you recall Fred Somerford going to the Dominican Republic?

WEAVER: No, the name is familiar, but I don't recall it.

Q: The reason it sticks in my mind is that he was there a year or so, and he got shot on the golf course.

WEAVER: Oh, I remember now.

Q: And they said it was an accident, but I always wondered, since there was so much hostility toward the U.S. down there. In fact I think he was scheduled to go to be Assistant Labor Attaché in Rome, then something happened on that assignment and he ended up as Labor Attaché in the Dominican Republic and then he ended up dead. That was a tragedy. Chuck Stewart, who was in the OECD in 1963, came out of ILAB. Did you have much contact with him.

WEAVER: Oh, yes, I had [contact with him], because I knew Chuck from ILAB. Well, I knew him from the Department of Labor.

Q: He came out of that equivalent of ASP, I think. Did you go over with the OECD Delegation on some of the ministerial meetings?

WEAVER: Yes, I used to go with them. I went to many of their meetings.

Q: Of course, he passed away a few years ago.

WEAVER: No, just about a year ago.

Q: Yes. Then, did you deal with Windsor Stroup in Pakistan and New Zealand?

WEAVER: I never had any dealings with him. I remember the name.

Q: I think he had to be evacuated out of Pakistan with a medical problem. He had a long operation in Germany. He had only been in Pakistan less than a year, when he went on to New Zealand, because it was better for his health. Barney Taylor, you probably knew, was in Vietnam.

WEAVER: Oh, yes, I knew Barney.

Q: He was in Mexico before that.

WEAVER: Barney came out of the CIO. He came out of the Newspaper Guild. I helped get him into the Labor Attaché Program.

Q: Another one you helped recruit. Then he went to Honduras in 1957, so you would have been active at that time.

WEAVER: With Jim Carey, yes.

Q: Through Jim Carey in getting him appointed.

WEAVER: Yes, he came out of the Newspaper Guild. I wonder where Barney is?

Q: He died.

WEAVER: He did.

Q: Now, Irv Tragen in Venezuela. You . .

WEAVER: Irv, I knew well. Where's Irv now?

Q: He's with I think AID in Latin America.

WEAVER: He's still with AID?

Q: I think he may still be with AID. He's been in senior positions in the Latin American Bureau for many years. I don't know if he has retired yet or not. And Vic Ulriksson was in Germany in 1962. I don't know if you had any contact with him there or not.

WEAVER: Not there, but afterwards here in the States, I think.

Q: I heard about him when I was out at Wisconsin, because he was one of Selig Perlman's disciples. He came out of the Telegraphers' Union or something like that, and he went through the School of Workers and so on, and became like an Assistant Professor or Professor there. He worked his way up right from the laboring ranks. I see here he went to as Labor Attaché to Indonesia in 1951. He was at that Labor Attaché Conference we had down in Rome, I think.

WEAVER: Yes, he was.

Q: And then Bob Walkinshaw was in Australia in 1962 and in Indonesia in 1966.

WEAVER: Where is Bob now?

Q: I think he is in Florida.

WEAVER: I knew Bob, but I didn't have anything to do with him.

Q: You didn't have anything to do with him in Australia or Indonesia.

WEAVER: No.

Q: What about Tom Walsh in Chile in 1962?

WEAVER: No, I didn't have anything [to do with him]. I knew the name. The name was familiar.

Q: I think Tom came out of the Labor Movement as I recall. He later on served in Nigeria, Mexico, and Canada. And Herb Weast we talked about. Did you have any contact with Herb in El Salvador or Belgium?

WEAVER: In Belgium I did.

Q: He was Assistant Labor Attaché in 1965 or maybe Attaché at that point. Did you deal with Murray Weisz in New Delhi in 1966?

WEAVER: No, but I knew Murray before he went out.

Q: Then Ed Woltman had a number of Labor Attaché jobs starting in 1965.

WEAVER: Did Morris also serve at OECD?

Q: Yes, but it wasn't a Labor Attaché job for technical reasons. It was like an AID type job. Yes, he did. He served there in the early days of the Marshall Plan. Or maybe it was out of the Marshall Plan.

WEAVER: No, it wasn't the Marshall Plan. It was when . . . OECD comes way after the Marshall Plan.

Q: Okay. Well, Murray has done his own oral history. Ed Woltman was in the Dominican Republic, Assistant in Germany, and several other jobs.

WEAVER: No, I didn't know him.

Q: And of course Wilbur Wright we spoke about. Wilbur was out in Egypt as Labor Attaché, then after going in . . .

WEAVER: He was in Rome.

Q: Yes, that was in commercial work which he did later.

WEAVER: Yes, in commercial work.

Q: And then he got back in labor work in the Netherlands in 1979 and Belgium in 1982. That job was kind of a regional job, and it was in the Netherlands, then it was moved to Belgium. He has retired from the Foreign Service now. Now did you have anything to do with Arnold Zempel in the OECD?

WEAVER: Oh, sure. I used to see Arnold . . . You know Arnold was head of ILAB.

Q: Yes, he was the number two person or was he the head?

WEAVER: He was the head civil servant.

Q: Yes, but you had Leo Wertz.

WEAVER: Leo succeeded him.

Q: Leo took over when Zempel went overseas.

WEAVER: That's right.

Q: Zempel as you say was a civil servant, but there was an Assistant Secretary over him. Like George Lodge.

WEAVER: Oh, yes, but he was the top civil servant. I had a wonderful last talk with Zemp before he died. He didn't die at post.

Q: No, no. He came back.

WEAVER: His wife died while he was there. He used to take his meals at a private home, that used to serve meals, served four or five people.

Q: When he was overseas?

WEAVER: In Paris. And he took me there one night to dinner, one of the great meals that I had in France. No, I knew Zemp very well. I saw Zemp two or three times after he came back. You know he was in a home here.

Q: I think Dan Lazorchek used to visit him out there. Well, we have gone through most of the Labor Attachés. Anything else that comes to mind stimulated by all these names that we have dredged up? .

WEAVER: No, I can't think of anything else. The thing that I would be interested in in terms of the history is: What happened to the role of the Foreign Service Board and the Labor Department's role in that?

Q: Well, actually that's diminished because the Board has now got a broader responsibility. Since the Foreign Service Act of 1980, the main function of the Board is to coordinate all of the agencies' foreign services and not internally the State Department Foreign Service that we participate in. So they consider that kind of a waste of their time to talk about internal State Department Foreign Service matters as a rule, and they talk about coordinating USIA's Foreign Service, AID's Foreign Service, . . . Well, AID doesn't use the Foreign Service appointing authorities, but anyway they are on there, and they try to coordinate . . . That's their main function -- to coordinate. And so the Labor Department role . . . They don't meet as often as they used to, and even back when you were there . . .

WEAVER: Is the Labor Department represented on it?

Q: Yes. It will now be Jack Otero as soon as he gets sworn in as Deputy Under Secretary. Now in recent years [Deputy Under Secretary of Labor] Shellyn [G. McCaffrey] only went to one meeting of the Board of the Foreign Service the whole time she was there. That was because it was the farewell of Ambassador to the United Nations. He used to be Ambassador to South Africa.

WEAVER: Yes, I knew him. What's his name?

Q: Ed Perkins. Anyway, she wanted to go to his last meeting of the Board. which she did, but she had not attended any in all the rest [of her time in office].

WEAVER: Now, who is in charge of the Board?

Q: Well, it has now been [given] back to the Director General. Genta Hawkins is the . . .

WEAVER: The Director General rather than the . . .

Q: Than the "M" or the . . . At one time it was the Director General.

WEAVER: At one time it was the Under Secretary.

Q: It came down to that because of labor relations reasons, and really that was more in the 1970's and the 1960's.

WEAVER: Not in the 1960's. When I left it still had its position. The Under Secretary for Management was the Chairman.

Q: Well, they moved it down to the Director General. There was a period when they didn't even want the Director General on the Board, when the Board started getting into internal labor relations [matters]. When the State Department union started becoming very active. Since the Board had a role then in resolving the labor relations problems of State, they said that it is not right for the Director General even to be on the Board, but they have now gone back. The Director General heads the Board now, but as I say, they do not get into internal State Department [policies].

WEAVER: They don't pick the panel members, for example, for the promotion panels?

Q: No. I think that they used to maybe wave them by them in the past. Each agency . . . The Labor Department nominates two now. We used to have three. Every year we were having three, the senior and the two upper-mid career and even some of the others, but it has been hard getting people to serve on that, so we only provide two now.

End of interview