

**United Nations Oral History Project**

**Oliver Lundquist  
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**YUN TAPE**  
**OLIVER LUNDOQUIST**  
**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS**  
**APRIL 19, 1990**  
**INTERVIEWER: GUTTERLIN**  
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JSS Mr. Lundquist, I'd like to first thank you for participating in this Yale Oral History Project on the United Nations and ask if you would indicate how you first became associated with the birth of the United Nations even before San Francisco.

Lund't All right. I was with the Office of Strategic Services during wartime Washington and Edward Stettinius, who was Secretary of State, requested from General Donovan who was head of the OSS, that somebody be loaned to the State Department to work on the kind of visual presentation work that the OSS had pioneered during the war and which Secretary Stettinius had wanted to try and adopt to State Department materials. The United Nations proposals came along as the first subject for us to look into. The idea was originally that we were going to help the State Department set up a postwar division which would do the same thing with intelligence work that we were doing with the OSS, namely good visual presentation of substantive matters for policy making purposes.

JSS And then was this utilized in connection with the Dumbarton Oaks Conference?

Lund't Yes, actually the Dumbarton Oaks proposals for the new

international Organization was the first thing we started working on. The request from Stettinius was on January 10, 1945 but I think I was working informally with some of the other State Department people before that. I remember working on the Dumbarton Oaks proposal which I think was in 1944 and somewhere in between there we had started to work on it and that inspired this more formal effort, collaboration between the OSS and the State Department. So we subsequently did take the Dumbarton Oaks proposals and put them into visual presentation form for public information purposes and ultimately for the delegates at the San Francisco Conference, but that's getting ahead of the story.

JSS So this type of visual presentation then based on Dumbarton Oaks was utilized in acquainting the American people so to speak with the objectives agreed upon at Dumbarton Oaks?

Lund't Yes, the State Department had speakers' bureau of people who went out to interested groups, and we prepared charts for them to use in their lectures, and a slide film we prepared on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals.

JSS What did the charts show about the principles of what was going to be the charter of the United Nations?

Lund't Yes, the way it would be organized and how substantive matters would flow through it; the voting procedures and so forth of this proposed international organization.

Dorothy Fosdick, I should mention her name, was the one person with whom we worked the most closely. I think she was head of that speakers' bureau in the State Department and we did large charts for her as well as a series of films. There were also slides, based on those charts, that she and her assistants would use for lectures to audiences outside of the State Department.

JSS

I think that there was a decision made by the Secretary of State, even before Stettinius as a matter of fact, to acquaint the American people with the objectives of the new organization so that there would be popular support for it, not a similar circumstance as happened in the League of Nations. So your charts were serving this kind of purpose -

Lund't

Yes, and then we went back earlier than that and prepared charts based on the whole sequence of events that led up to this founding conference of the United Nations, starting with the Atlantic Charter.

JSS

What else did you show on that?

Lund't

Well, I have some documents here that I'll refer to, I'll just take a moment. These were part of the preconference activities: international meetings between Roosevelt and Churchill starting way back with the Atlantic Charter and then subsequent meetings, I think there was one in Casablanca and in Quebec, international organization meetings toward the possibility of planning a postwar

organization which led up to the Dumbarton Oaks which was the first formal meeting between the main nations involved in the Allied side of the war. That in turn led to Yalta; to an inter-American meeting in Mexico and to the United Nations Conference in San Francisco.

JSS And all of this was shown on the charts that were circulated at that point?

Lund't Yes, for primarily public information purposes at that point. Then we started preparing documents for the delegates at San Francisco. Part of our work was helping in the planning of where the meetings would be held, where the delegates would be housed, and the plans of San Francisco which were used as part of a visual presentation that Secretary Stettinius took to Roosevelt at one point, showing the planning of the conference, including delegations - where they would stay, how the meetings would be set up in various facilities in San Francisco. They had wonderful basic facilities at the Civic Center. One was an opera house where the main plenary sessions were held, and the adjacent veterans' memorial building in that same complex. We worked on planning for the different dispositions of meeting rooms and setups for the various types of conferences that comprised this major meeting.

JSS Now at that point was the Secretary-General of the conference, Alger Hiss, already appointed?

Lund't Yes, although I didn't meet him until we were quite well along on it. I worked with one of his deputies, Jack Ross, and with an assistant to Secretary Stettinius who had been more of an administrative management assistant of his I think back with the U. S. Steel Company, a fellow named Bob Lynch who wasn't I don't think on the official delegation at all but I think he was Stettinius's sort of administrative man behind the scenes, the man I worked with in those early days, and through him, then, with other State Department officials. In terms of planning for the conference I met several key officials including James Dunn, Ted Pasvolsky, who was the head political affairs officer and the administrative and public relations people - McDermott, Lincoln White who was in charge of publicity and public relations, and other administrative people such as Jack Ross who was ultimately Alger Hiss' deputy at the San Francisco Conference.

JSS Now, at some point the logo or symbol of the United Nations was developed. Was that before San Francisco?

Lund't Yes, actually we had a little contest in our office. We were thinking in terms of getting a delegate button, badge and credentials made for San Francisco and it was not any long range plan on our part. We had several ideas on it and had a little contest among ourselves in the agency and came up with this one which was designed



by a fellow named Donald McLaughlin - I have to give him primary credit for it - he was one of my assistants at the San Francisco Conference and he was more in charge of the actual graphic work there. We had several ideas, but I ended up recommending this one to I think Bob Lynch, and he in turn showed it to Stettinius and, I think I might have even met Stettinius somewhere along the line there, I met him several times but I think it was one of those meetings where he said "Oh that's fine and I like that color". We had used the blue color as the opposite of red, the war color, and then peace...

JSS So the blue was intentional then at that point.

Lund't Yes, yes, and Stettinius himself liked it, so we then referred to it as Stettinius blue. It was a grey blue, a little different than the modern United Nations flag. But the symbol was designed for a badge and credential cards at the San Francisco Conference.

JSS And what was the symbol at that point?

Lund't Well, actually, it looked superficially like the existing one except that the latest one has been changed slightly. We had originally based it on what's called an azimuthal north polar projection of the world, so that all the countries of the world were spun around this concentric circle and we had limited it in the southern sector to a parallel that cut off Argentina because Argentina was not to be a member of the United Nations. We centered the



map on the symbol on the United States as the host country. We were the center of the world for that particular one. Subsequently, in England our design was adapted as the official symbol of the United Nations, centered on Europe as more the epicenter I guess of the east-west world, and took into account the whole earth including the entire southern hemisphere. By then of course Argentina had been made a member of the United Nations so that it was no longer necessary to cut them off.

JSS Were the buttons actually made for San Francisco? Did it not show Argentina?

Lund't Yes, absolutely, and I may still have one of them. I have the badges here, I mean the symbols are in these credentials that we made for the Conference, including - all these were based on the same thing. It was a round button, with blue continents and I think a silver grid design, and the oceans were white on it as I remember. I may still have one somewhere, I'm sure there are some of the original ones around.

JSS When it came time then for the San Francisco Conference could you describe some of the preparations you made there for the organization of the Conference and especially for the illustration for the Conference members of the issues before the Conference?

Lund't Yes, well, we did a series of organization charts and

what we call flow charts and then we designed the documents that would be used by the delegates in the various commissions. As you know the United Nations had in effect done a draft charter that had been agreed to by the major signatory nations at the Dumbarton Conference. I think there was China, Soviet Union, England and the United States - just those four countries originally. But then at San Francisco of course there were 45 or more countries. I think I've seen documentation that there were 50 countries that actually signed the Charter but they started out with...

JSS Well Poland wasn't there to begin with...

Lund't Right, and Argentina and maybe some others. I'm not sure. Was it 48?

JSS I believe so.

Lund't So we had a staff that did both special presentation work and photographic documentation of the Conference and recording of affairs of the Conference and printing presses. The OSS was exempt from the normal governmental rules that everything had to be printed through the government printing office in those days and so we were able to supply and bring out printing experts from our OSS agency that were able to document the Conference and do the printing work right there on the premises and in a few hours documents would be prepared, printed and distributed. We had a very efficient setup

for documentation.

JSS What kind of recording was done?

Lund't The recording studio was run by a young army officer, name was Bob Vincent, and he had obtained some magnetic wire recorders. As I remember it I think either the OSS or the Army intelligence services had captured some from the Germans. I think the Germans had invented what we now know as magnetic tape recording but it was then on the magnetic wire machines. I remember definitely seeing this little wire going round and round and then played back, and we could hear the recording on the wire. It was like magic. But Vincent also set up a real 78 rpm recording studio and we did records of most of the main speeches and delegates' speeches at the plenary sessions, that is the main speeches. A lot of it was recorded in the commission and committee meetings, too, but I don't know whatever happened to those archives, whether they still exist or not.

JSS That was done on the magnetic wire.

Lund't A lot of it was, yes.

JSS I don't know where they are either. Could you indicate how in your position you were technically part of the Secretariat and not part of the United States delegation? How did the Secretariat function? Mr. Hiss was the Secretary-General.

Lund't Well, he was involved in the substantive work of the

conference of it and under him were various administrative people. Easton Rothwell was the head substantive officer under him. A man named Carter Burgess was the administrative officer, I think, under him, but we were in a rather independent position. Jack Ross, Mr. Hiss' deputy, had thought that our role was important enough that we should be independent from the normal administrative [work] and it wasn't public information we were doing, it was more substantive documentation. So we had a fairly independent setup, and I had some 80 people assigned to the various aspects of the work that I was responsible for. And I really reported directly to Jack Ross.

JSS Now these were mostly Americans?

Lund't Yes. Most of them from the OSS, on loan, including editorial people that we brought along, that was substantive, we weren't just graphic artists doing charts and diagrams but we had editorial people along with us. Some have become fairly well known. Carl Shorsky, now an eminent professor of history at Princeton University was one from our OSS group. We borrowed from other departments in the OSS, the Research and Analysis Branch was very cooperative with us when we wanted to go out and get more than just our graphic people because we've always worked with the substantive people in the OSS.

JSS Were there ever any suspicions expressed or objections to

the fact that a substantial number of the Secretariat people were from the OSS, an intelligence organization?

Lund't

No, there were some nuances to this. I do remember at one time Jimmy Dunn of the State Department turning down a proposal that was made by us and another division of the OSS to have actual agents there who would be observing all the delegates and their patterns of behavior. The OSS was filled with all kinds of psychological warfare specialists and attitudes, so that was turned down as a formal thing, but I suspect that some of our editorial people might have been there on a rather observing basis to make sure that we were covered on intelligence as well.

JSS

Incidentally, to your knowledge was there any problem with intelligence people from other delegations, from other countries, being active there?

Lund't

We kept hearing about it and particularly I think there were some Arabian agents there that somehow were wheeling and dealing with some other interests. We were quite surprised, the Saudi Arabians probably had something to do with the oil and postwar planning period but I'm sure there were with other delegations, and probably from Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. I wouldn't have been at all surprised if they had their plants there too.

JSS

Now I noticed one of the briefing booklets that you had kept was prepared for the various commissions that show

the Charter as it was being developed, I believe, with the comments of the individual countries that had been received.

Lund't Yes, that was a special format that we designed before the Conference and set up in such a way that the delegates at a commission meeting discussing particular draft paragraphs and chapters from the Charter would be able to refer to the original proposal, and then all the comments by delegations even before the Conference on particular chapters of it. This was a format we set up to make it possible for the delegates to refer to what other delegations had said and were proposing at these committee meetings. That was well received by some of the secretaries of the commissions because it really helped expedite the work by having this format especially worked out in advance and those documents were all translated into the five working languages as I remember. There was English and French, the official languages, but they were also translated into Spanish, Russian, and Chinese as I remember it.

JSS And I suppose your presentation, charts and so forth, were done simply in the two official languages.

Lund't A lot of them were done, yes, no but a lot of them were also done in Chinese as well as Russian. But I think they were done in Spanish too. I don't have records of all of them, I do have some Chinese documents that were

copies of the others. We did them in all five languages, on anything that had substance to it.

JSS And I notice that you have in your collection the charts that were done back then, I suppose before San Francisco, of the future Security Council and General Assembly. You had that in mind already how it would look.

Lund't Oh definitely, from the Dumbarton days that was all ready, and that is essentially the way it still looks in terms of the various councils and the hierarchy and the interrelationship between them, and so forth. But we devised a new type of organization chart for it, as you can see on these documents. There's a circular organization chart so it didn't have the hierarchy of one organization being at the top and the rest filtering down from it and that was part of our attempt to neutralize the thing so that it would give equal status to the various organizations. In reality, of course, the Security Council has special powers that the Economic and Social Council doesn't have - and even the General Assembly. And then there were many other organizations that were related to those that subsequently, as you know, exploded into many others through the United Nations's expansion effort into many fields.

JSS But the chart did show those functional organizations which existed at the time like the ILO?

Lund't Yes, yes. Let's see if we have a copy of that. Well I



guess actually the Dumbarton ones were the only ones that were done on the circular basis, more for public information purposes so we had the three main organizations, General Assembly, Security Council and the International Court of Justice was considered at that time a part of the three main organs.

JSS They're shown as the center circle, I see.

Lund't Yes, and then the Economics and Social Council, the Secretariat and the Military Staff Committee. Now you were mentioning the specialized agencies. Here it shows the International Labor Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. And then it says other social, health and educational agencies which of course did become widespread and economic agencies, this was part of the basic structure as proposed at Dumbarton.

JSS And the Military Staff Committee is shown there almost as if it were a principal organ whereas the Trusteeship Council is not shown.

Lund't Right, well, this is for the planning of the United Nations.

JSS That's interesting because the trusteeship question was really not discussed at Dumbarton Oaks, I think. So, these charts do give a somewhat different impression of what the United Nations would be than in fact what it

turned out to be and I'm particularly interested in the position of the Military Staff Committee. Were these charts in effect changed during the course of the Conference in San Francisco?

Lund't Not to my recollection in this similar format. We did have new charts that were done in a much more drafting kind of way, that is a draft as part of this documentation. But these were done in a finished way because they were intended for public presentation purposes and I'm not sure what happened to the final charts. As the conference evolved certain decisions were made and we were wrapping up and leaving. So I don't think we in our group ever did a final United Nations chart of the organization as decided in San Francisco. It would be an interesting thing to try and reconstruct. I might get a copy of the Charter and see if we could do that.

JSS Another question I have in this connection concerns these very efficient briefing booklets that were given to various commissions. I noticed in the one that you showed me that it showed a very brief few sentences as the preamble to the Charter. Did you give out additional booklets which gave a more complete version of the preamble as it developed in San Francisco?

Lund't I don't remember that. I do remember being at a couple of meetings when the preamble was being considered.

Archibald Macleish was one of the key people involved in that and in fact he kicked me out of one of the meetings because he wanted to know who this young man was and the secretary of the committee introduced me , that I was involved with the documentation of covering it, and he said "Well we don't need him here". So I wasn't in on the final drafting, but that was the final drafting of the preamble, a small group of people accomplished it there.

JSS Would you happen to remember - just in the way of background - Virginia Gildersleeve who was there in the delegation has written that she in fact had written the preamble in one overnight session - but no one else has confirmed that and I wonder, do you remember whether she was there at that meeting?

Lund't I think she was, yes, we were talking about a meeting up in one of the hotels, not in the committee that was up at the St. Francis Hotel. I remember so well because I was kicked out by Archie Macleish of all people. But yes, I think she was definitely there and I think Sol Blum was there too as part of the delegation.

JSS It's particularly interesting to have confirmation that Archibald Macleish was directly involved. Others have indicated that but he's not listed on the delegation at all, whereas it's also known that he had an influence in drafting the Charter of UNESCO which is in some ways even

better known than that of the United Nations. I believe you were involved in actually setting up the public rooms where the Charter was eventually signed and where the delegates met in formal session. Could you tell how this was done?

Lund't Well there were several types of meeting rooms. For the General Assembly there was the Opera House with seating for hundreds of people. For the various commissions - there were four or five major commissions and various committees - there were different sized layouts which all had to be set up in what we called the order of the day as well so that the delegates would know was going to take place, and where. The signing of the Charter was ultimately a public affair and so we designed a special room and a big round table covered with a blue velvet cloth similar to the blue that we had used in the Conference theme. That was set up in the Veterans' Memorial Building on the ground floor where there was a large hall, a balcony around it where the press could be and some audience seating in the rear. Behind that big table where the actual signing took place was a preparatory room where the delegates came in and practiced their signatures on a blank paper. There they saw a copy of the Charter the way it was set up, where we had actually (very carefully with lead pencils) pencilled in where each delegate was supposed to sign it. Each

delegation consisted of several people who were varied in terms of age, and to make sure that it was all done properly we had penciled in each name. We instructed each delegate how he was expected to sign in public. Then while the cameras rolled, they signed the actual Charter in ink. To my knowledge there were no mistakes made. One of our people (after the Charter was signed) very carefully - with what's called an art gum eraser - erased the pencil underneath the ink.

JSS So that's why all the signatures are all so straight?

Lund't Yes, that was the intention.

JSS And what was done with the Charter then?

Lund't The Charter was put in a special safe type of box and package, fireproof and destruction-proof, I guess, and packed with a parachute and the Secretary-General, Alger Hiss, brought it back to the State Department. I don't know whether it is permanently in the State Department; it might be; but he flew back the day after the Conference ended. We had to take the train back and got back much later. So we didn't see the arrival of the Charter. It was a very moving time for us.

JSS How did Mr. Hiss conduct his responsibilities as the Secretary-General?

Lund't Well he was certainly a most diligent and effective Secretary-General. He had a phenomenal ability to keep straight all the substantive issues of the thing. He was

very gracious with all the delegates and was able to conduct the conference. He was a wonderful executive for that kind of thing, delegating the authority to us who worked under him. He trusted us and, by giving us that trust, earned our loyalty. He worked very hard, without thought of the hours. A lot of things had to be done immediately - a meeting would be held, and there was going to be another larger session the next day, and it had to be all documented and printed up and distributed. The staff worked around the clock. That's the way we had worked in the sessions in Washington too, during the war. But we had the satisfaction of doing a job.

JSS Did Hiss get involved in the substance of the discussions in various commissions?

Lund't Yes, to the extent that he had to be at main commission meetings and was always at the side of the chairman of whatever meeting. Meetings were conducted by various delegates from different countries and the main commissions. He was usually there in order to keep to the agenda and make sure that what had been carried from the day before was being straightened out. He had a phenomenal memory (and still does) and was very able - with typical legal precision - to keep things on track very efficiently to everybody's satisfaction.

JSS How would you describe the general atmosphere at the San Francisco Conference?



Lund't Oh I think it was quite a euphoric atmosphere. We were used to sort of wartime limitations but among other things George Mardikian, the head of a famous restaurant, Omar Kyam's, had been authorized to cater for the United Nations, and there was a great buffet luncheon set up in the Opera House entrance area. The food was excellent, including roast beef and all kinds things that we didn't get in wartime Washington with all the restrictions. Then there was a certain euphoria also just because we knew the war was ending and, of course, the German surrender took place during the Conference and there was going to be a wonderful postwar world - everybody getting together and finally making one world.

JSS Now you mentioned that you were kicked out of a meeting which apparently was a meeting of the American delegation. Was there a lot of interchange between the Secretariat people, including Alger Hiss and the U. S. delegation. There was not a clear distinction, I guess.

Lund't Yes, I think there was, even though he was international Secretary-General, he was very close to the United States delegation and to Secretary Stettinius who was completely dependent on him to keep track of what was done. Stettinius was more interested in the public relations elements of the thing rather than in substantive aspects.

JSS I wanted to ask in connection with the various



presentations, did the issue of human rights figure very prominently in the briefings, the discussions and so forth, as you recall them?

Lund't I don't remember that they did. Certainly the Atlantic Charter started out with the four freedoms. I'm not sure I can even remember what the four freedoms are, there have been so many attempts to define freedoms since then. But incidentally, part of the symbolism of the stage setting (we designed a stage setting for the plenary session) were four columns in the background which were the symbols for the four freedoms, tied together with olive branch wreaths. There was the symbolism. There was an organization of United Nations believers or other associations who were advocating that the four columns and the four figures be used as a symbol for the United Nations. It's one of the things we considered for the delegates' buttons. But we preferred the other idea. We liked it very much as it was a projection of the world, and we had all learned about cartography - this wonderful way of drawing the world. So we chose that. But no, the four freedoms and human rights as a term, I don't think we even used them, I may be mistaken, I may just be overlooking. Do you know, have you heard when the word human rights got to be part of the...

JSS It was not really part of the vocabulary, I think. But the reason I asked is whether this was something at that

point which was used in popularizing the notion of the organization to the American public,. In the Charter itself it does figure prominently.

Lund't Yes, but I don't remember being much discussion.

JSS A similar issue which I would ask you about is self-determination, about which there were different concepts at that time. Do you remember if there were any charts or anything that showed self-determination as an item?

Lund't I don't remember that, no, and as you pointed out earlier, the Trusteeship Council was set up at that time but it wasn't part of the preliminary planning of the United Nations. I think that it was generally conceded that the old empires were falling apart, and of course the British empire still existed and as Churchill said, "I'm not here to dissolve the British Empire", but somehow the delegations from India and South Africa, Jan Christian Smuts was there, and others. From them you got the feeling that all these countries were going to have a greater autonomy before long. They were members of the United Nations but still part of the British Empire.

JSS In your recollection, what were the major issues that came up at San Francisco?

Lund't Well the first issue which was very controversial was the admission of Argentina. It was taken for granted that Argentina was a refuge for German Nazi sympathizers and so there was no anticipation that they would become

members of the United Nations until the San Francisco Conference, as I remember. I think Nelson Rockefeller had a lot to do with the Latin American affairs in the State Department. They also had a bureau separate from the State Department during the war and it was called a Bureau for Latin American Affairs, or something. Rockefeller was personally lobbying for the addition of Argentina, there's no question about that, and I remember seeing him with his arm around people (that was his way) as though they were real close buddies, and talking on a confidential basis. Argentina did get admitted, even though the British and French delegations were against it at that time. The Soviet Union was definitely against it.

The other controversial thing was the admission of Poland to the United Nations which had a separate history. There were the free Poles in London who took the position that they represented Poland. And there were the partisan Poles. And then there were the Russian Poles in exile in the Soviet Union. All claimed legitimacy, and there was quite a struggle before that was resolved. I'm not sure how it was resolved, but everybody felt they had been let down.

JSS

Now I noticed that a special publication was issued which showed the photographs of the head of each delegation and I presume that this booklet did not include an Argentine

delegation or a Polish delegation at that point.

Lund't Well, I'm not sure. It was done at the Conference; so let's take a look at it. Well, the booklet shows that Argentina was part of the official documentation but as I go through it I don't see Poland here - Peru, Philippines, and then Saudi Arabia. So Poland apparently wasn't officially....

JSS So Poland did not make it to the publication.

Lund't No, were they officially accepted in the United Nations?

JSS A place was reserved for their signature in the understanding that they would be considered one of the original members.

Lund't Yes, right, OK but they weren't here whereas Argentina actually sent in a delegation, including their minister of foreign affairs.

JSS I want to go ahead now briefly on the American delegation. What is your recollection of the characteristics of the Americans there?

Lund't Actually I don't have much direct recollection of them. I didn't work with the United States delegation directly at all so I can't say that I knew much about them. I was at the meetings where some of them were but I don't think that any of them were leaders of any particular commission or committee there. They were all there as representatives of the United States, but I don't think they played much of a role in the commission meetings, I

don't particularly remember them.

JSS In your presentational work, were similar functions being performed by any other of the delegations? Were any others putting forward briefing materials?

Lund't No, not to my knowledge. We had a unique thing, it was part of the international secretariat. Now maybe the individual delegations, the British or others - might have had their own. The British had already adopted in their war room a kind of presentation similar to the OSS method but that is a separate story. They were good at visual presentation.

JSS Now I notice that on another chart that you prepared that there is no reference to regional organizations, at least I didn't notice it. Do you remember whether that came up as to whether there should be some connection with regional organizations, such as the OAS, or whether that was ignored?

Lund't I don't recall.

JSS In any event, they certainly are not shown on the charts as far as I can see. And as we noticed, the military staff committee was given quite a prominent place on the chart. Do you recall whether this was discussed, the functions of the military staff committee?

Lund't No, I do not recall that.

JSS And the same thing, the International Court of Justice. I believe the International Court of Justice was not



really discussed in detail.

Lund't No, but it was - according to our Dumbarton Oaks proposals - considered one of the three main organs of this proposed organization, along with the General Assembly, the Security Council and the International Court of Justice.

JSS Was there need for much revision of the charts, or did the organization that emerged from San Francisco reflect fairly closely the organization as it had been envisioned at Dumbarton Oaks?

Lund't Well, I think there were very substantial changes in it but as I say, we didn't really document that in chart form as the Conference proceeded. That was incorporated in the Charter and I think we have to review the Charter in the light of the final thing, and then reconstruct the chart if we're trying to relate it to Dumbarton Oaks. I think it's substantially different, as you pointed out.

JSS Now I want to go ahead after completion of the San Francisco Conference. Was this work continued, of utilizing illustrations for lectures under the State Department aegis throughout the United States?

Lund't Yes, I did another presentation and after that, one for the State Department, in which we proposed a whole presentation division and a new type of conference room for audiovisual presentations in the State Department of which they had nothing at the time of any significance.

I may even have a copy of that. It was a long proposal of how the organization would be set up in the State Department to meet the State Department visual presentation postwar needs. Actually, when the war was over, several OSS divisions went over to the State Department, including our old presentation division. I was no longer a part of it. The research and analysis branch, as I remember, went from the OSS went to the State Department. There might have been other elements of it that did but the rest was converted into the Central Intelligence Agency for operational intelligence. The analytical and presentation units went to the State Department.

JSS

To return to San Francisco, President Truman was there for the Charter signature ceremony. Were you present on the occasion?

Lund't

Yes, we actually operated the facilities as far as the stage management is concerned for any of those plenary sessions. So I happened to be back there during some of those planning things and I guess it was the Secret Service people that would climb up into the rafters and see everything that was going on to make sure the place was secure. Truman himself was in what we called the green room, there was a sort of off-stage green room. I found him to be a surprisingly, let's say, corny President of the United States. You'd expect the



President of the United States, if you're a young naval officer as I was assigned to this thing, to be a man of great presence and dignity. He was just a very ordinary Joe with a sort of sense of humor, I guess you could say, but I was quite surprised when the national anthem was being played (which was going to introduce him to the audience and the Star Spangled Banner was played), he said "Oh there's the star-speckled banana!" And that's my picture of Harry Truman as president in those days.

JSS So he did not seem awed by the circumstances...

Lund't Not at all, no. Nor was Stettinius, Stettinius was also a rather corny fellow. I remember one of the early sessions behind the stage there, he knew me pretty well apparently, I had met with him. He was very friendly, and always very personable. He says "Oliver, have you got a men's room around here, or I'll have to piss in a bottle!"

JSS That gives a certain color to the.....

Lund't Right, it brings it down to our level, high-school humor, It was a bit of a shock.

JSS Did any of the other foreign delegates make a particular impression on you - either personalities or their color, so to speak?

Lund't Well, yes, I must say but there was of course Molotov was there in the early sessions and he had a certain presence and a way of conducting himself that left no opening for

any other consideration. He was very authoritative about his ways. Gromyko, of course, was there and he was a very young man. I was surprised when he died recently to find out that he was actually younger than Alger Hiss, and Alger I considered a very young man at the San Francisco Conference. Gromyko was, as others have said about him, a very dour-seeming, very serious man, very uncommunicative. Subsequently, during the UN days of the UN site selection committee, Stettinius had chartered a boat, or it might have been ST's own boat, to tour the New York Harbor and I was sent along with several of the major delegates, including Gromyko whose daughter was there. She barely spoke English, I imagined she really spoke better English because after all, many of her years were spent here. She was reading a Russian edition of Little Red Riding Hood, I could tell by the illustrations. That was a nice little personal touch, that Gromyko's family was with him.

JSS Is there any other aspect of the San Francisco meeting that stands out in your mind that we should record on this occasion?

Lund't Well, not anything that I can think of without getting into, I mean, there were many people there as you know that I have documented in these charts here, including Senator Claiborne Pell who I always thought would be a very interested party in it but you tell me earlier that

you didn't think he had much of a recollection of it.....

JSS Well, he has been interviewed, but one thing he did remember, perhaps you're familiar with this, and that is that his family apparently had also offered property to be used for the UN?

Lund't Oh really? In Connecticut?

JSS Whether it was in Connecticut or wherever, in any event, it was not just the Rockefellers. He wanted to make that clear. Good, well I think that's all the questions I have at this particular point. Thank you very much.

Lund't Well, it's been a pleasure and I'm glad you called me in and I had a chance to dig out these old documents.



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