

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

TERENCE J. SHEA

Interviewed by: Charles Stuart Kennedy
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United States Army, Japan	1946–1948
BA in Liberal Arts, Georgetown University	1948–1952
Georgetown Law School	1952–1953
Georgetown Institute of Language and Linguistics, Russian	1953–1954
Insurance Claims adjuster	1954-1956
Washington, DC—State Department, Office of Security, Special Agent	1956–1958
Civil Service appointment	
Conducted background investigations	
Fort Meade Maryland—National Security Agency	1958–1962
Civil Service appointment	
Experienced in background investigations	
Investigating a defection case	
Homophobic prejudice	
Washington, DC—State Department, Office of Security (O/SY/I),	
Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Office	1962-1966
Arnold Tepka case	
Responsible for Background Checks	
Washington, DC—State Department, Office of Security, Protective Security	
Division, Deputy Chief	1967-1972
Visit of Greek King Constantine in 1967	
Visit of Haile Selassie in 1967	
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Escorting Congressional leaders to China	
Washington, DC—State Department, Office of Assistant Secretary	
for Security, Evaluations Division (SY/E), Chief	1973-1975
Washington, DC—Industrial College for the Armed Forces	1976–1977

Washington, DC—State Department, Office of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security, Office of Protective Security (SY/PRS), Assistant Director 1977-1979
 Seconded to panel to reorganize the federal bureaucracy
 Foreign travel
 Started work in the Executive Office Building

Brussels, Belgium—Office of the Secretary General NATO, Assistant Director of Diplomatic Security 1979-1988
 Espionage cases
 Initial assignment: establish procedures to protect classified documents
 Assignment backed at the highest US level
 Joseph Luns Secretary General NATO
 Gaining hiring and firing responsibility
 NATO HQ security detail transferred to Shea
 Dealing with the Germans
 Investigating Portuguese handling of classified
 Observations on Greek and Turkish representatives
 Secretary General Lord Carrington 1984-1988
 European terrorism threats
 Belgian Servatius runs an espionage case
 Lunch with Andreas Papandreou
 President Reagan Visits
 Presidential Meritorious Awards

Washington, DC—State Department, Office of the Inspector General, Office of Security Oversight (OIS/OSO), Assistant Inspector General 1988-1992
 Responsible for fulfilling the Robert Inman mandate
 Sherman Funk stood up Office of Security Oversight
 Assessing and evaluating security programs and policy for all State Department facilities
 Investigation Of Liaison Office in Cuba
 Filing grievance against State Department over lack of promotion
 Involvement in Clinton Passport Scandal
 Participated in November 18, 1992, Special Report news conference
 Seven following years of being investigated by Special Prosecutor

Washington, DC—USIA, Inspector General 1992

Retirement July 1993

Post retirement activities:
 Teaching English at Lardo and Enlinguair
 FOIA declassification duties at USIA/State

INTERVIEW

[Note: This interview was not edited by Mr. Shea.]

Q: Today is the 19th of June, 2008 and this is an interview with Terence J. Shea. You go by Terry?

SHEA: Terry.

Q: And what does the "J" stand for?

SHEA: James.

Q: James. Okay, Terry. Terry and I served together on the Board of Examiners way back in the 1970s.

SHEA: That's right. (Laughter)

Q: Terry, let us start at the beginning. When and where were you born?

SHEA: I was born in Newport, Rhode Island.

Q: Okay, when?

SHEA: July 21, 1928.

Q: So you are born under sign of the dragon?

SHEA: I am on the borderline. People have argued throughout my life what I am because I was on the cusp on one of these Zodiac signs.

Q: I was born on February 14, 1928, so I know I am a dragon.

SHEA: Okay. (Laughter)

Q: Okay, Terry, let us talk about your family first. What can you tell me about the Shea side of the family?

SHEA: Well, how far back do you want to go?

Q: Let's go back pretty fairly; talk about it.

SHEA: Can I start with my father and go back from there?

Q: Sure, any way you want.

SHEA: Okay. My father and mother were both native born citizens but their parents were not. My father James F. Shea was born January 2, 1900; he always resented that he couldn't have been born on January 1, 1900. Basically, my father was a totally uneducated person who only went up to the sixth grade. My mother was brought up by my great-grandparents. Her maiden name is Johnson. John Johnson, her grandfather, came to the United States around 1895 or something. Her parents died very young and he actually brought up my mother. John Johnson was brought over at the time to fight in the Civil War.

Q: Are we talking about an Irish family?

SHEA: My mother's side of the family was comprised of Johnsons and Sullivans; this is the Johnson side of the Sullivans. We are all Irish except for this Johnson who snuck in here somehow; we're all Sheas, Sullivans, Kehans and Johnsons.

Q: Good heavens.

SHEA: So Grandpa Johnson as he was called, whom I didn't know, came over to fight in the Civil War. But he was one of those persons who came in and fought in the Civil War for someone else.

Q: He was a "substitute" is the term.

SHEA: Right. He was a substitute and went into the Union Army and performed at the blockade of South Carolina. He was in for one tour then got out and then retired and went back into the army again. I don't know any of the battles he fought in. But his son and his daughter-in-law both died very young, so my mother didn't have any parents and she was brought up by Grandpa Johnson. Now on the other side there is a Sullivan involved in my mother's background. John Johnson came to the United States, Grandpa Johnson as you called him, in 1860 and he married a girl named Sullivan, so you got the Sullivan family in there all around. And he is the one who was in the Union Army. That is my mother's family: Sullivans and Johnsons.

My father's family is Sheas and Kehans. On my mother's side we just found out that her grandfather, a Sullivan, came to the United States. According to the records of the Newport Historical Society, which also contained a personal war sketch, Private John Sullivan was born in 1838 in Ireland, served in the Rhode Island Volunteers. He joined in Providence, Rhode Island on June 1861, discharged June 1864, reenlisted March 22, 1865, and discharged on July 20, 1866. He fought in the first Battle of Bull Run and was resident of Newport, Rhode Island afterwards. He was wounded in the Battle of the Wilderness in addition to fighting. I guess the Battle of Wilderness was here in Virginia. Now, we didn't know about this, so basically you have two great-grandfathers who fought in the Civil War. My father fought in World War I; he was a fireman for the U.S. Naval Station in Newport, Rhode Island.

Q: Let's take your father's side first. Do you know what your father's father was doing?

SHEA: He's a gardener, but he's also an alcoholic.

Q: But, he's the one who had no real education?

SHEA: My father.

Q: Your father, too?

SHEA: Nobody really had any real education.

Q: What about on your mother's side?

SHEA: I don't think anybody had any true education, originally. But then on the Sullivan side of my mother's side there was education; we had a doctor who was my mother's uncle who went to Harvard Medical School. You see the dichotomy we are going to get in my family. We are going to have the working class, Irish Sheas and we are going to have the Johnson-Sullivan clan with some money and affluence; it was a great influence on my life.

Q: Did, particularly on your father's side, did any of the women go into services? It was so common for the women in that era coming out of Ireland to become maids, cooks.

SHEA: No, she didn't do that, what she did was run a boarding house. She had four children: "Big Jack" John Shea, who became a Newport policeman and a lieutenant in the police force, she had my father, James Shea, she had a Mary Shea, which gets complicated because she married out of the church to Samuel Dugan, which was to great chagrin to everyone in the family, who ultimately became chief of police of Newport Island, and you had Helen, who was the youngest one who actually adopted by Dr. Sullivan because she was a diabetic. So my mother was brought up by some aunts with an arranged relationship with Dr. Sullivan.

Q: Okay. So what was the situation of your parents when you were growing up?

SHEA: Very interesting. Well first of all, it is my understanding that the Sullivans were not too happy about my father courting my mother, so my mother was sent down to Washington, DC in 1927 to become a student at George Washington University at age 26. But that was to no avail because my father found her there and my parents were married here in Washington, D.C. They returned to Newport and then I was born in 1928.

Q: How many children did your parents have?

SHEA: Just my brother and myself.

Q: You are the older?

SHEA: Yes.

Q: Did you essentially grow up in Newport?

SHEA: Yes, I essentially grew up in Newport. If we go back a bit, I remember that my grandmother on the Shea side actually ran a boarding house for a while. So she ran a boarding house in downtown Newport on Main Street. I remember her vividly and we used to go down to her house; I remember her dying.

Q: What was your grandmother like?

SHEA: She was a tall, lovely, sweet woman as I recall from when I was about seven years old. But I remember her vividly. In her younger pictures that we have in the family she looks very, very similar to my oldest daughter. I was the first in the family; I was the oldest of the fifth or fourth generation ones to be born so I got a lot of attention from my parents and grandparents.

Q: Did you get any feel for the boarding house business? Just for the historical record, boarding houses were not completely working class; others like businessmen and all, they didn't go to hotels, they went to boarding houses. This was a thriving business, very respectable.

SHEA: Yes, she did very well on it. Well I didn't know anything about it. I knew now and then that there would be a mysterious man coming in and then she got rid of the boarding house. I suppose it was John Shea, the husband who was ostracized. They had a big two or three story house on One Island Court in Newport. And this mystery man would come and stay and then go out and I would gather that he was then the husband.

I'm trying to look this up; I'm third generation, fourth generation in America.

We had a very close relation with the Sheas, with my father's sisters and brothers and grandmother. We did not have that close of a relationship with my mother's side of the family.

Q: As a kid, did you live in a separate house?

SHEA: Until I was in maybe the eighth grade we lived in an apartment on 16 Sherman Street in Newport, Rhode Island and then my mother and father bought a house at 215 Gibbs Avenue, Newport, a substantial house.

Q: What was it like as a kid that you remember, when you reached the age of remembrance more or less, growing up in Newport?

SHEA: Super. It was a wonderful town. At that time there were about 20,000 people. It was very diversified. I'm not sure when it came, but they had a Catholic church. It was a

Portuguese church; they spoke Portuguese there. And there was the Holy Trinity Church, which was an Episcopal Church of England. During the war of, I know which one but I'm not sure, when the British came and burned Newport down they did not burn down Holy Trinity Church because of the crown on the top. And down on the fifth ward we had the Irish working contingent from whence I would never go because my mother thought that was not the place to be; they were working in the estates of Newport. But I had a wonderful childhood. I had strong family ties with my father's family. My mother was very strong, an extremely strong woman, powerful. Read books, read five books a week from the Redwood Library, the oldest library in the United States. And my brother and I often jest and say my mother and father would have lasted about six months in today's world.

Q: In the first place, how Catholic was your family would you say?

SHEA: We wouldn't go to Catholic schools, parochial schools, because my mother thought they were for the working class. We were practicing Catholics. We all went to mass on Sunday, my mother went to mass more. We were practicing Catholics; my father wasn't much of a Catholic.

Q: Would you describe, it is a term very overused obviously, that there were lace curtain and shanty Irish?

SHEA: We were lace curtain. My mother was lace curtain to the utmost. We always say she never recognized that she was Irish. If I can jump ahead, I think one of the reasons why I was able to survive and do relatively well in the Foreign Service was because for years my mother never thought there was anybody above her and I was brought up like that, no Astors, Vanderbilts, nobody bothered her.

Q: Did the Rhode Island, Newport aristocracy intrude on your life? I think of these, what are they called, cottages or something?

SHEA: No, not much.

Q: Did your father continue to be a gardener?

SHEA: No, my father started out being a fireman in the army and as a pipe fitter; he was a government employee, and he opened an Irish bar. And so, throughout my childhood, just about right up until the time he died, he ran an Irish bar that he worked from noontime to 6:00 every day except Sunday, and then he worked from 9:00 to midnight every day.

You have to remember, in the background you see, we had this Dr. Sullivan who treated the Vanderbilts and who treated the Rockefellers. He lived in the mansion downtown and I'll talk about that later and was one of the greatest diagnostician doctors of his time in Rhode Island, if not in New England.

Q: Were you aware at this point where your family stood politically?

SHEA: We'd been democrats, everybody.

Q: It was almost a given, particularly this is New Deal time.

SHEA: They worshipped Roosevelt; we worshipped him. And to this day all the Sheas are democrats; we are all democrats, I think.

Q: What about home life? It sounds like your father was such a preoccupied man with his work. Was he much of an influence?

SHEA: I don't think so. I think my mother was a tremendous influence on me and on my brother, also. But later on, it got difficult for her. But when I grew up, she was an overwhelming influence on me, she was the most powerful. I think my father probably kind of held her in awe; she had been a beautiful woman, she had been at George Washington University, she was very smart, read, did all this stuff. But she was a difficult woman, my mother, she was not easy to bet along with; while my father was, I won't say docile because he would get mad occasionally.

Q: Did you find yourself clashing with your mother much?

SHEA: Are you kidding? Never. At the end I suppose I did, at the end I did. Later in life it became difficult for her and my father, it was a difficult time, and I probably moved away early. I moved away from home early, at 17. My mother got me an appointment to West Point and sent me down to Washington to a prep school. She did all these things.

Q: At home, would your mother talk to you and maybe your brother, but focusing on you, about school or anything like that?

SHEA: All the time, and my father would, too. My father would not let my brother or I cut a hedge; he would not let us to go out in the yard. He said, "You study, that's all I want you to do." That's why my current wife says, and my brother's wife says we are incompetents; we don't know how to do anything. We aren't the Harry Homeowners because my father said, "I don't want you to do it; you have to study." Today the way they say they push kids for grades and everything; I used to get that.

Q: Looking back on it, were there sort of great lessons you were picking up from your parents that stuck with you?

SHEA: My father basically was nice, but he was sick most of his life because he had an ulcer in the Navy and they cut his stomach open and he had a tough time. I suppose it was my mother, the way she thought of herself and of us that we could be at whatever we wanted to do, so we went along with it.

Q: As a kid how much of a reader were you?

SHEA: Not much, some. I wasn't a very good student initially; they said I was kind of lazy or not much, not much.

Q: You weren't particularly turned on by school?

SHEA: No. I was an average student; I wasn't bad. I went into the Army and when I came out of the Army, I was a good student. I never failed or I never did anything, but teachers said that I was a very social student.

Q: What was school like? Let's start with elementary school.

SHEA: Great. It was great. We had these teachers who I would consider to be like nuns. A lot of them were not married; that was their life dedication. I went to Harrington School for the first two or three grades. I remember one interesting thing; a guy at school at Harrington used to make us sing "Onward Christian Soldiers." When I told the nuns on Sunday, they almost went out of their minds; they said you can't sing that song, you can't do that.

Q: "Onward Christian Soldiers"?

SHEA: Yeah.

Q: That's no longer in the hymn books.

SHEA: I know. (Laughter)

Q: It certainly was when I was a kid.

SHEA: Oh yes, they sang it all the time. Then I went to Cranston Calvert and that was for the fourth and fifth and sixth grades; all the teachers were good. Then I went to John Clark for the seventh and eighth grades. I remember some of my teachers very clearly. I never had any trouble with any teacher.

Q: Can you remember any teacher who influenced you?

SHEA: There was a teacher, Higbee, in high school who used to teach current events. Maybe that's why I became a junkie; that fascinated me. I was always interested in politics and all that stuff; the plan was I would get into politics, but it went askew down here.

Q: By the time you got to high school in the first place was there, this is in the term of a positive sense, a gang, you know, a bunch of buys getting together?

SHEA: Yeah. I always had a lot of friends. In fact, one guy at a reunion, I think it was a high school reunion, said, "I remember you because you always wore a sports jacket."

That was my mother's influence. I had a lot of friends. I don't want to say I was a snob but I suppose I could be called preppy. I always thought those people wouldn't get involved.

Q: What about high school dating?

SHEA: Oh yeah, I dated a lot.

Q: We're both of the same generation, a few months apart from each other and I was brought up Episcopalian. As a high school kid, our parents were a little leery if we dated a Catholic girl, and I was wondering if you had the same on the reverse side.

SHEA: Well, as my wife says, I am the only person she ever met who was prejudiced against the Portuguese. And to answer your question, at the time I was going out with a Portuguese girl. And my father gave me two pieces of advice in his life, and he didn't know what to say, and he said "You're going out with a Portuguese girl and I know she is nice," and I said "Oh yeah, yeah dad," and he said "You know," and I said "What," and he didn't know what to say and he said "They don't eat like we eat." (Laughter)

Q: We are speaking about a generation that was touched with a lot of the prejudices and our generation shucked off a lot of these.

SHEA: Yeah. See in Newport, we had the Episcopalian Church of England; we had the summer colony and everything else. None of that fazed my mother, that's my chain. When I got into the Foreign Service and you meet the Assistant Secretary, none of those people fazed me. And I think in Newport, I'm sure that was because my father ran an Irish bar, my mother -- so anyway, no, I dated Catholic and non-Catholic girls; they didn't particularly mind.

Q: The rationale for my parents sort of saying to avoid Catholic girls was because if you married you had to bring the children up as Catholics and for some reason this was the end of the road.

SHEA: I believe that, I knew that. No, my parents, I mean maybe they didn't like the level of some of the girls I was going out with, but I know they didn't particularly influence me in anything; they were very liberal in that.

Q: Well, you mentioned the Portuguese. Where did they fit in the society of Newport?

SHEA: I would say below the Irish. They were considered to be farmers and fishermen and they had their own church where they spoke in Portuguese. But they went to the public schools; I mean I had [Portuguese] friends, it didn't bother me. I never, ever discriminated. I don't know why. I had African-American friends, I had Portuguese friends; it didn't bother me. I didn't have any biases outside of, as my wife said, the Portuguese.

Q: In high school did you get involved in any extra-curricular activity?

SHEA: Yeah, I belonged to a couple of clubs; I'm not sure what they were. I was class officer the first year. I played a lot of sports; I have always been a sports nut. I played sports all the time. I tell the story, I was playing basketball for the high school team and the coach was a lieutenant on the Newport police department and I was fooling around or something and he came over to me and said, "You know, you can't do this, you can't play like that just because your uncle is the chief of police and my boss." And so I quit, I left, walked off, you know? I thought, "I don't need to take that from you." I'm not proud of that; I'm telling what I'm like and I'm not trying to make myself look good in all these things.

Q: World War II was going on. How much were you reading about it?

SHEA: All the time, all the time. I listened to it all the time. My father, for his lack of education, would take I don't know how many papers a day: the Newport paper, a couple of Boston papers, a couple other papers, and he read them all. He was uneducated but he was very knowledgeable on current events. His nickname was "Fancy Charlie." He was an impeccable dresser, impeccable, and it's carried over. In fact, we are all very conscious of our attire, us and my children. But World War II had a tremendous influence on me. And I enlisted at age 17.

Q: Well, World War II I think we both had the same thing, I think it was the greatest geography lesson one could have. I mean we knew where El Alamein was, Guadalcanal and Rabaul.

SHEA: And Stalingrad and all of them.

Q: All those places, particularly guys, boys.

SHEA: Oh, yes. I enlisted because in Newport if you were drafted that was an insult. You couldn't be drafted in Newport; that meant that you were a slacker and that you didn't want to go. I enlisted at age 17. I had to get my parents' consent, which wasn't particularly easy.

Q: Well, what did you enlist in?

SHEA: I enlisted in the army. They had a short, 18-month, two-year deal. A close friend of mine, we barely graduated from high school, was going in and I was going to be 18 on July 21, 1946. I went to my father and mother and said I wanted to go on July 10, and they ranted and raved and my mother said no. I guess my mother gave in.

Q: Well, what happened to West Point?

SHEA: Well, West Point, I came down here to a prep school and I was 15 or 16 maybe. Everybody else had already been through high school and the appointment I had was

either first alternate or second alternate or something and it was too hard for me down here. I wasn't ready for it and I didn't have principle. I had a second alternate part, so my mother brought me back to high school. I was yanked out of high school as a senior. Now imagine what that did to me; I wasn't too happy about that. We had a family home down here. One of my mother's aunts who brought her up had a house on Reno Road and Brandywine Street, so she was down here. So I was sent to a school named Sullivan's Prep on Wyoming Avenue where they just grilled you; but it was too hard for me, it was too difficult. I didn't have the right appointment so I went back and graduated from high school and three weeks later joined the army; I got another appointment while I was in the army.

Q: You were in the military from 1946 to 1948. What did you do?

SHEA: You can see why I ended up here in Washington. I went in and I came to Fort Dix and Fort Dix was going to send me to Fort Polk, Louisiana. They booted me off the train and said, "We have enough," and I ended up coming down here to Fort Belvoir. I was in Fort Belvoir, Virginia taking basic training. I finished basic training and I was going to be a cadre where I would train the new basic trainees, but it was August or September of 1946 so they weren't getting a lot of people coming in so they sent me to water purification school. So, I trained how to go into a town and purify water and how to do all of that, which was immeasurably helpful to me when I went into the service. So I did that training, came home for a couple of months, and took a trip across the sea in a World War II Liberty ship, which was in a typhoon for 13 days and everybody was absolutely deathly ill. I then served until I came back a year later in the First Cavalry Division, the 82nd Field Artillery Battalion.

Q: This was in Japan?

SHEA: Yes.

Q: What was duty like in Japan?

SHEA: Oh, I loved it. It was great. I was on the great Tokyo plain north of Tokyo. I was in a field battalion of the First Cavalry Division. My battalion commander, we found out by talking to him, made me an active sergeant because he'd gone to the same prep school I had gone too, Sullivan's Prep, and he was only about four years older than I was. I was out there as a gunnery sergeant laying the battery, etc., etc., which I didn't particularly care for. They had a water problem and a friend of mine said you got to go work in the water plant. So I left and stayed on the field but went up to live with the Japanese in the water plant and took care of all the water for the 82nd Field Artillery Battalion division. In the summertime we had a swimming pool. Most swimming pools gradually go down, the Japanese had made this one about four feet out and then it would go down to 18 feet, so it would take about three weeks to fill, and I ran the water plant.

Q: Going back to my experience, I had a little time to sort of occupy in Japan and coming from a sort of a rather staid background, all of a sudden there were girls and sex and

everything else.

SHEA: Not much.

Q: For us; I was in Korea most of the time and came over a little later during the war. And what there was in Japan was really going into the flesh spots.

SHEA: No, I didn't have that out where I was. And one thing really surprised me was there were these guys who were straight. You know I had a very active social life. I used to go out and enjoy the social activity in Newport. We had a lot of activity in Newport; in the summer time we had a summer college, I once had Jackie Kennedy in my car, and all these people going around so it was very active and it was good. But when I got over there, maybe it was because I thought I'm not going to have any dealings with these people you know: they're Japanese and I'm American, I beat them, I don't want to do anything. And then I would see these guys who were very straight arrows going berserk and I thought, "I'm not going to do that, I don't want to sink to that."

Q: So you were there?

SHEA: I was there from 1946 for about a year.

Q: And then what, discharged?

SHEA: Yeah. When I first got there, I was a platoon sergeant and then, because I had gone to the same prep school, I used to have to do physical training and drilling for the platoon or the squad. They used to say, "Swig and sway with chicken ____, Shea," because I was doing all of this. And when I was over there they wanted me to go to OCS and get a commission but I turned that down because I wanted to get the hell out of the army. I wrote to my mother while I was in Japan and said, "Whatever money I'm sending you, I'll send you more because you got to get me into a school." I saw the people I thought were absolutely idiots telling me what to do and I couldn't handle that, I found it very difficult. We were in a typhoon one time, terrible, and we were up at a kamikaze camp and one kamikaze pilot, who obviously didn't fly, worked with me. We were on a plateau, so everyone came in, all the dependents from all the other fields came in, women, American women, and we had had to keep the water going and everything else. So I was up for about two days or something and my battalion commander who I got very close with, he was probably about three years older than me, said, "Let's go to the officer's club." The lieutenant colonel expressed his appreciation, so we started walking into the club and he said, "Stop, you have to wait out here." Well, it drove me up the wall; I couldn't go into the officer's club. And you'll see that throughout my life that has a great impression on me. You'll see me do that, get upset about that again. I didn't realize that.

Q: What happened, you got discharged in 1948?

SHEA: Yeah, I think so, 1946-1948.

Q: You missed, obviously, the Korea War.

SHEA: Yeah, I lived alone with the Japanese and actually traveled with the Japanese and had a very good time with them, a sailor, a Japanese soldier, kamikaze pilot who didn't fly and one other person. And then my buddy who got me into the water running and the swimming pool said, "Do you want to come back early with me? I'll fix your papers." So I said, "Sure." When I was in Japan I also got another appointment to West Point; they couldn't find me. You know I had come over and went to Dix; they were trying to locate me to send me to school up in New York State at that prep school. Anyway, I came back and as soon as I came back my mother whipped me into the Portsmouth Priory, now known as the Portsmouth Abbey. I attended Portsmouth Abbey about a semester and a half.

Q: Is this preparing for the priesthood?

SHEA: No, no, I was never overly religious. It was the best school in Newport. There were two schools. St. George's School, they called it St. George's Church of England, was founded by the Episcopalian minister Father Diamond, and that is located on the east coast of Aquidneck Island. Then he went over to the other side of the island later on and founded the Portsmouth Priory, which is run by English Benedictine Monks. My mother felt that was where the crème de la crème of Catholics would go. And who is the guy who is Ambassador of Ireland who wrote a book under Kennedy, William P. something-or-other? Anyway, he wrote in his book on the Irish-American that in the mid-1940s, the correct thing for Irish Catholics from Boston or New England was to go to Portsmouth Priory and Georgetown University. And my point is that in 1946, 20 years before the guy wrote the book, my mother sent me to the Portsmouth Priory and Georgetown University.

Q: How did you find the Priory?

SHEA: I loved it. The military was a fantastic experience on my life. It gave me such energy. I knew I had to go to school. If I had a degree it wouldn't make life perfect but I knew at least I had a shot after looking at these colonels and sergeants telling me what to do; I thought God almighty I've got to go. I loved the Priory. I became a student at the Priory.

Q: At that point were there any courses in particular that turned you on?

SHEA: Yes, absolutely. You have to understand that at the Priory at that time, the English professor had been a professor at Harvard. We used to have to learn 20 vocabulary words a night. Now don't forget I'm a veteran now and some of the kids in my class were ten. I would go in and the priest would say, "Shea," I'd stand up, and he would say (and my kids would hear this), "Pusillanimous." And if I said, "Huh?" He'd say, "Sit down." You'd have to say pusillanimous, cowardly. And then he would go on to three or four like that. I always remember that because the textbook we used in 1947, 1948 was Arnold

Toynbee's book. The Fishers from Fisher Body Company, people from Michigan who were the very highest echelon Catholic students went there. It was the Catholic equivalent to other schools I loved it. I played basketball. Religion was great. We had a sculptor giving religion; I still love getting stuff from him.

Q: Were you picking up much while you were there about events in Europe and Asia and all that?

SHEA: All the time. We had a great course in history. We were talking all about it. We saw these kids that had been overseas and I just kept my interest up. Here I was, 18 or 19, had served in Japan. Interestingly when I came back out of the army, my mother and father decided to meet me. They'd never left the town. They had an Oldsmobile, which was the first hydromantic car in Newport, and they drove all the way out to meet me in Oakland where I had shipped out to go to Japan. Unfortunately, I came up into Seattle and they never saw me until I got home. (Laughter) It was the first time I was intellectually piqued; it piqued my interest.

Q: What were you getting about the Soviet Union?

SHEA: Oh, yeah, we watched the Soviets very closely. Later on when we went to Brussels, I learned more about the Battle of the Bulge because that is where I spent nine years, which you will find out later. We studied the Soviets at the Priory and I studied it a lot more at Georgetown. It wasn't the School of Foreign Service I went to at Georgetown; it was college.

Q: This is the height of McCarthyism. How did that sit with you? Many Catholics sided with McCarthy. Because this was at that period, I was wondering what you felt.

SHEA: I detested him. I thought he was a caricature; I probably thought he made Irish Americans look bad. I detested him.

Q: There was no support for him in your group?

SHEA: Not that I recall, not that I know of. I don't know about my father. I'm sure my mother who recognized her Irish side had any use for him whatsoever. But my father had a lot of political acumen and he was very knowledgeable about that stuff. That's how he used to keep me up on politics. We were a very political family.

Q: So, Georgetown was a sort of natural progression for you from the abbey school?

SHEA: Yes, the only difference was, we get back to the famous Dr. Michael H. Sullivan, the patriarch of the Sullivan-Shea clan. He offered to pay for my education at Harvard if I would take over his practice and become a doctor. And I said I'm not that good, I am incapable of becoming a doctor. Now today I would have said, what the hell, I'll give it a shot. So I went on the GI bill to Georgetown.

Q: You were in Georgetown when to when?

SHEA: I was there 1948 to 1952. Then I went to the law school for a year and then I went to the Institute of Language and Linguistics at Georgetown; I think I spent a total of six years at Georgetown.

Q: Let's talk about Georgetown in 1948 when you went there, what was it like?

SHEA: Well, it was a small school and academically sound for upper class Catholic young men. My mother had gone to George Washington don't forget, so she knew about Georgetown, so that was the place to go. I agreed to go there not only because she told me I had to go there, but if you were a veteran you didn't have to stay in study hall and do stuff of that nature. So I popped down to Georgetown and waltzed on it, and the first thing they say is that there are no more veteran privileges because the veterans were come and gone and there was only me and one other guy in the freshman class. So I had to sit at my desk every night at 7:00, 9:00, 10:00, or 11:00 when they would come in and see if you were studying; I had to be sitting at a desk whenever they did the checks. So it was a small school, academically good, rigorous. I didn't think it was up to the Abbey; the Abbey was just mind-boggling. It was very, very good though. We had a professor in the American Constitution of Law who was outstanding. These were Jesuits.

Q: It was very much a Jesuit school and the school is technically still run by Jesuits but they are a very small part of it, but in those days it was very much Jesuit.

SHEA: And it had a massive influence on me. The Army, the Priory and Georgetown are the three things outside of my marriage, of course, that influence me. The Jesuits, like Tim Russert would talk about his Jesuit training and how it impacted on him, had a massive influence on my life.

Q: Well, did you sort of adopt sort of the Jesuitical approach of problems and all?

SHEA: I didn't think so but, and we will get to this later on, but I think I could interject this here. I worked for five years with Lord Carrington, Pete Carrington, the head of NATO, Secretary General of NATO; I was his security advisor, protocol man, his confidant and everything else. We had a security chap who had a heart attack and died and Carrington said to me, "I want to go to the funeral and I want you to come." The funeral was at a Catholic church in a small town in Belgium. So we were tooling on down there and he said, "What do I do? I've never been in a Catholic church. I've been in my church but never Catholic." I said, "Okay, do everything I do but don't go up to communion when I do." He said, "Okay, great." So we go through, great. I have a picture of all of us coming out on the porch. We get in the car and he said, "How are you?" And I said, "Perfect." And he said, "You're Catholic right?" And I said, "Yes, I'm Catholic." And he said, "Didn't you go to school in Washington?" And I said, "Yes." He said, "Where did you go?" I said, "I went to Georgetown University for six years." And Carrington said, "Six years? That's a Jesuit institution isn't it?" And I said, "It is; the first Catholic college in the United States and it is a Jesuit institution." And he looked at me

and said, "Now I understand you." And I just thought that was perfect.

Q: What were you doing? You were not in the school of Foreign Service.

SHEA: I was in the college.

Q: What were your studies?

SHEA: Liberal arts course. And in the world of Georgetown at that time, as my wife will tell you, when I meet someone from Georgetown, you know they say, "I go to Georgetown." And we say, "Oh, did you go to the college?" We considered the college as the epitome of the college. The college was founded in 1749. George Washington spoke from the college. So the college is it. It is a liberal arts education. How are we doing?

Q: Oh, we're doing fine. Were there any courses that particularly struck you?

SHEA: Ethics.

Q: Was Quigley doing his thing there?

SHEA: Yeah, he was in the Foreign Service. He delivered newspapers to my father-in-law. You know I have three generations of the Foreign Service. I always thought ethics was a great course. Then I had one of the great Jesuit philosophy teachers, I'll think of his name later, who taught epistemology and some of those courses; I found them very interesting. And American Constitutional Law with Joe Durkin who just died; he was a 100-year-old Jesuit. They were all Jesuit teachers. And English, they had a very, very rigorous English course, and that was mandatory for four years.

Q: Did you find yourself getting into any particular reading while you were there?

SHEA: Yeah, I would read political books to a certain extent and a lot of English books because the requirement was to read. We had a lot of reading. The courses required a lot of reading; there are a lot of books that stand out. I'll think of the name later, the one about Huey Long.

Q: All the King's Men.

SHEA: That was the first book that I wrote a report on. And I used to read a lot. I was very impressed with Thomas Merton, you know the monk, and I read his books. I don't think they were required, probably one was required, and then I went off and read him.

Q: Was there an effort made to bring in the world of Washington to Georgetown or was the college somewhat removed from this? I'm thinking of you know, you got all sorts of political figures around.

SHEA: Yeah, sure. We had J. Howard McGrath, the attorney general. He came out for a

breakfast communion. They had a lot of guest speakers. They called them the Gaston Lectures. They had a lot of speakers come out to Georgetown. My great aunt owned this house off Wisconsin Avenue so I would stay there sometimes; so I had a relative here in this area. But the University did.

The reason I'm smiling is that I was thinking when, I can't remember when, I was bringing a guest speaker to the Gaston while I was in the department of lectures, it may have been King Hussein. And I went up to Georgetown to make the arrangements for him, so I met the president of everything. So, this guy said, after we made all the arrangements, he said, "Would you like to go to lunch?" And I said, "Yeah." So he brought me into this cafeteria, and I said to him, "Where is the dining room?" And he said, "What do you mean?" And I said, "Don't you have a dining room?" And he said, "No, this is it." And I said, "Why, when I came here we had a dining room with waiters serving the underclass." Then I said, "What about the senior dining room (I was pulling his leg) where we had the maître d'?" When we went into dinner you know we had to wear jackets and ties when we went to class, and when we went into dinner the maître d' said, "Okay, Mr. Shea, you are going to sit over there, you are sitting over there. That's for the senior class." That's the change in Georgetown. (Laughter)

Q: While you were there, these would have been 1948 to 1954 or so?

SHEA: I had my 50-year sometime ago.

Q: Did the Korean War intrude at all or were you sort of in the ready reserve or anything?

SHEA: I didn't want anything to do with the army when I got out of the army. I mean, I had enough of what I thought were people telling me what to do. No, I did not join the reserve then. My unit, the First Cavalry 85th Battalion, was one of those units that was shoved into Korea at the beginning. And in one letter from a friend of mine, I learned they had suffered casualties from between 60% and 80% because they had World War II equipment and got annihilated before they really built it up. So later on I joined the reserve. After I joined State, I joined the reserve.

Q: You said you spent two more years after graduation.

SHEA: Yeah, I went to work at the Post Office and went to law school, but it was too difficult for me; I didn't do well. I went to school there and worked a full time job at the post office downtown. It was hard. And that is when I got married, while I was in law school and working at the post office.

Q: How did you meet your wife?

SHEA: I met her at the Balton Place swimming pool. I literally ran into her; she was a lifeguard. She was talking to a friend of mine and I literally swam into her. She was from Milwaukee and she had just been here shortly and was attending George Washington

University. So, my mother went to George Washington and my wife went to George Washington. So, I met her there and we dated and got married. We had a 50th wedding anniversary and now we just had our 56th wedding anniversary. We got married in 1954 and had our 50th wedding anniversary in 2004.

Q: Yesterday was our 53rd wedding anniversary. What was your wife's background?

SHEA: She was from Milwaukee and her mother was from Montana and I don't remember where her father was from. They were both college graduates; her mother from the women's school in Notre Dame, St. Mary's in the Woods I think it was called then, and her father from the University of Notre Dame. Her father had come here to be a Foreign Service Officer. She was newly here, and I saw her talking with my friend and I swam into her and then started taking her out.

Q: What were your plans? You were in law school and didn't like it.

SHEA: Yeah, and they didn't like it. I didn't do well; it was too hard. I guess I was working at the post office when we got married and in law school, and then I came back and I didn't go back to law school. All I wanted to do was get married; I fell madly in love with her. I had a lot of girls I would go out with but I was just enthralled by this girl and we wanted to get married quickly and I had to go to Georgetown to talk with one of the Jesuits to give me some advice. (Laughter) I don't remember his name, but he was a famous one and he was one of the first to have a television program. I don't remember what he told me, but we got married here on 16th Street, and my mother and father were married here. We got married here and we just started to have a family.

Q: Did you have any goal in mind at this point?

SHEA: Not really, I suppose not. You know I was working at the post office. The plan was originally for me to go back to Newport and go to work for the most famous lawyer in Rhode Island, get on the City Council and then become a state senator. I would come down here and be a congressman; that was my mother's plan. But I ran afoul of Morris Scanlon and that ended that plan, which my mother did not take very kindly to.

Q: Murry Stance did you say?

SHEA: Maurine Scanlon that was her maiden name. Maurice Scanlon was her dad; you may have known him he was in the Foreign Service over in Rome and in Hong Kong.

Q: Your father-in-law was Foreign Service then?

SHEA: Correct.

Q: So, did this ring any bells for you?

SHEA: No, not really. What I did was when I was in law school I also started to work for

Geico; I was an insurance adjuster for Geico.

Q: As a government employee insurance adjuster.

SHEA: Correct. And I was an insurance adjuster and then I was a claims examiner, settling death claims of very, very serious accidents. I would write to the lawyers and say, "Well, we've offered \$180,000 or \$200,000." I didn't like that. I was doing that while I was in law school. But then a fellow went down to the State Department for a job and he came back and said, "I couldn't get the job but you might be interested in it because you've done this work and this work counts toward investigations." And I said, "What?" And he said, "Yeah, you go down there and be an investigator." Well, I also wanted to go to work for the CIA. It was the CIA I was interested in. I had done interviews with the CIA and taken tests at the CIA and I'd taken Russian at the Georgetown Institute of Language and Linguistics after I'd gotten married. And even when I'd stopped that, I joined the reserve after I came to the State Department.

I actually came to the State Department for an interview, in either SA-2 or SA-3 or whatever it is today, over on 515 22nd Street. I had the interview and they offered me a job. So I came to them. But I continued my Russian. When I came in, the guy who hired me and did my DI and DS (security clearances) was the head of an intelligence unit and said, "Why don't you come in?" So I joined the military intelligence here. So I have an honorable discharge from there, I'm a World War II veteran, and I get the World War II victory medal because they hadn't signed the peace treaty of the final cessation until December 1946. So while I'm taking Russian I didn't have much money, had a child, my wife was working, and I joined the military intelligence and studied Russian language in linguistics.

Q: Were you an officer or were you a civilian?

SHEA: We'll get back to the point I already made. I had to get in. To get in I went in as a sergeant; as soon as I went in as a sergeant they would put in the papers for me to get a commission. So they put it in. After a while nothing had happened. So we went on two weeks of maneuvers up to Fort Meade and I went with the guy who had done my VI and other friends of mine at State who were officers; we were all State. So we went out there and what we would do is, they would bring in a guy and say, "He is a Russian, ask what unit he belongs," and I would ask him and he would say and I would do the interpreting and translating. That's how we did maneuvers. So one night it was raining terribly; we were all sitting around and they had brought in the last alleged prisoner who I had interpreted for and someone said it would be really great to have coffee. And they said to me, "Shea, run down and get coffee." And I said, "What?" And they repeated it. So I went down and got the coffee. So a week later on Monday we were back having a meeting and I went in to see the colonel and asked, "Where is my commission?" And he said there was a freeze and it would probably take a year or two and he asked, "Why?" And I said, "I can't take it, I want to get out. When I was a 17 or 18 year old kid having people order me around was enough and now friends of mine are ordering me around to get them coffee when we are out there. I'm not going to get it and I want out." So he said,

“I’ll see if I can get your commission.” He wrote back and said it would be a year or so and I said I want out and I was out.

Q: So this would be when?

SHEA: I came to State in 1956 and was in from 1956 to 1958. Working for SY (security) was a wonderful job; I loved it.

Q: Were you feeling any of the consequences of the Scott McCloud?

SHEA: Oh, sure.

Q: Could you talk about that?

SHEA: I was there; Scott McCloud signed my credentials. I was just a GS-7 at the time and we had a Foreign Service officer who was head of this Washington field office that I was running; the State Department squadron must have put him in charge there. And I really didn’t see too much; I really would just get people who were coming to work for the Department. And then I had this job that was wonderful for me. I used to go to Baltimore, to Fort Holabird, where I would review all the previous background investigations on people. I really loved that. I mean I was getting mileage, I could buy a car, and I think my wife was working for a while, until we started having our children. I was at Fort Holabird and I said I wanted to work in Baltimore and the guy said, “Wait, I work for this place called NSA (National Security Agency), would you like to work there?” I asked where it was and what it was and he told me and I said sure. So I came to them and had an interview and they offered me a job at a higher grade.

Q: That is the National Security Agency.

SHEA: Yeah. So I went out to the National Security Agency that was in Maryland at Fort Meade, and the reason they hired me was because they were doing a lot of interviewing of people and a lot of special agents at that time hadn’t done interviews, but State had always done a lot of interviews as part of the background investigations. So they thought, “Well, you would do interviews better than someone else, so we’ll give you the job.” So I took the job.

Q: And how long did you do that?

SHEA: For four years until Kennedy came in and then my mentor came to State and he said, “You are the only person who worked for the State Department, why don’t you come with me?” and so I did.

Q: How would you put the atmosphere of NSA?

SHEA: Very secretive, very compartmentalized. It is a great place to work because you don’t get these political hacks being dumped on you like at the State Department. There

was no political impact on the work out there; it was very secretive. You had to take a polygraph test and pass an exhaustive background investigation to get hired but I liked it.

Q: Did you get any feel for how they recruited people?

ASHEA: They would go to universities. They were a forerunner, a harbinger of going out and getting people from these tech firms who were just starting up out in Minnesota in the 1960s. They went out to places and they would recruit top-flight people.

Q: They were mostly tech people?

SHEA: They were mostly technical people but they also had administrative and managers. It was a very, very extremely sensitive place to work, more so than the other agencies.

Q: Did you get a feel for what was going on?

SHEA: We were always kept abreast of what was going on. It was a fascinating place. The only thing was that it was out in Prince George County and not easy to get to. There were four or five of us who lived here in Northern Virginia and went out there.

Q: Yeah, this was before the beltway too.

SHEA: Yeah. If the beltway were in, I would have probably lived in Montgomery County.

Q: The NSA as we all well know essentially tries to decode things and listen in and part of it was language and I would think that to get somebody who speaks Estonian you have to get someone who comes from an Estonian background and they would have relatives who live inside the Soviet Union.

SHEA: Yeah, it was very hard; I don't think they hire too much from behind the Iron Curtain. We try and get people and I remember doing interviews with people who came from different backgrounds but I think they were super cautious about it.

Q: There has been no great scandal about the NSA has there?

SHEA: There was when I was there.

Q: There was?

SHEA: I once was the, and even as I'm telling this I am realizing how I behave when people do certain things and even find out that certain incidents keep popping up.

Q: Yeah, that's why we do this.

SHEA: I was a duty officer one time, I don't remember the year, and a woman came down and said, "We are missing two cryptologists," and I said, "They went on leave." She said, "Yes." And I said, "Okay." We then had them come in and I went down to see the guys. Well I got two guys missing and they said, "Well, they probably went off on their own, etc." So we wait a couple of days and finally we got a little concerned about it and they said, "Let's find out if they are at home." So we got the police to go over to the house and we found out they had a bank account so we got a court order.

Q: This is Burgess and Mitchell?

SHEA: Yeah, Martin and Mitchell, Burgess is the Brit. Anyway, we went into that and they had defected. So here I am, the lead officer on the Martin and Mitchell defection case. They had gone to Mexico City and popped on out to go over to Cuba and then to Moscow. So we tried to find out where they had been recruited and where they had been talent-spotted and ultimately came to Baltimore to some of the notorious nightclubs; they frequented those things and did certain things. So we would have to go out investigating.

I am smiling because I am going to end this story. We would have to investigate and talk to these people who we would name check and they would be considered up for murder or pimping. We worked until midnight and then I would drive back to East Falls Church where I lived and then in the morning I would wake up and go back out there. The FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) didn't want to do this case because they were done and I would have to brief them; it went on for a long time. We found people who knew them and what they had been doing.

While I was doing all of this I had a lung collapse on me and I had to go into the hospital. So I went into Arlington Hospital and it was okay. I had to go home and recover and it was about 100 degrees. A friend of mine had taken over the inquiry and he called me up and said, "We have a woman downtown staying at a hotel and she just called. She's Russian and she's got information on these two guys and I don't know enough about the case. Can you come down and tell me about the case and the interview?" And I said, "My God, it is 100 out, and I have a nebulizer and I'm sick, I don't want to come down there." And he said, "I really need you." I said, "Okay, where is it?" And he said, "Over on 21st Street," and I said, "Okay I'll meet you."

I drove down and we were going to talk to her; she said she knew where they were living and who knows what we were doing to do. So we walked on in and I give myself the nebulizer so I can breathe, sweating, and I walk in dressed in a suit and the woman comes in and says, "I am so and so," and I say, "I am Special Agent Shea, tell me about Martin and Mitchell, you know where they are?" And she said, "Yes I know where they are." And I say, "Are you going to tell me? And she says, "They are in this street." And I said, "How do you know they are?" And she said, "I get messages." And I said, "Do they pass the message out to you?" And she says, "No, they send it to me through the radio transmitter in my teeth." (Laughter) And I look at this guy and say I am going to strangle you. She was a nut. (Laughter)

Q: Was this case one of these homosexual things?

SHEA: No, they were not homosexuals; they were deviants or something, a bit different, masochists or something weird. I don't think they were homosexual; I'm not sure. So anyway, that was that case. That was a great experience. I liked NSA and I did other interesting cases.

Q: Did this case or any others develop what you call a spirit of paranoia?

SHEA: Yeah, sure. We went through and looked at everything after that. We interviewed people and looked at files and went out after people. Well, sometime later we thought someone else had defected and that person was down in another state and working. I'm not sure they knew who this person was, that was my problem. Anyway, I had to go there; they flew me down. They fly me down to look at this person and I find out that they are in Mexico, which really made us worried because Mitchell went there. So we were ready to go in and work it out, but somebody else spotted him there and they just watched him to see what happened, and he came back. And when he stepped off the plane we talked to him and he was just someone who had a complete nervous breakdown and he was crazy, so we had to take care of him and put him in a mental institution.

Q: Trying to pick up the attitude at that time. How stood security clearance for homosexuality?

SHEA: I don't think you could work if you were homosexual.

Q: What about what we call gay or lesbian, was that a problem?

SHEA: I don't think you would have worked for the NSA. They were very, very cautious about it and generally what they would try to do was hire you and put you on a temporary basis, probably predicated on taking a polygraph and doing the background after that. You remember how many years it used to take to get a clearance; it would take a long time. And that is the way the NSA would do it, you would get on the rolls and sit in an uncleared or quasi-area.

Q: Did you see much of a future in this type of work?

SHEA: Well, I thought I didn't see much out there because I didn't like where it was. I thought that the cohorts I was working with were very professional. One of the congressmen during the interview said to somebody, "Well did you realize these guys were a bit strange?" And this guy said, "The people who work at NSA are a little bit strange." No, I liked it. I probably would have stayed there if it were downtown. But as you go through life you need mentors and I had a mentor up there that I had a great feeling for and he could hire me to come to State.

Q: We'll pick this up next time about what year?

SHEA: I was out there during Kennedy when he got elected, 1962 or so. Oh yeah, August of 1962, when I was coming back to State because he thought I was the only one who knew anything about State and the Foreign Service and I didn't know anything.

Q: You had moved over from NSA to State. That was when?

SHEA: 1962.

Q: 1962, Kennedy Administration just going, what happened?

SHEA: Well I had been at State from 1956 to 1958 and had been working out at Fort Holabird. I had met somebody from the National Security Agency who said, "Why don't you work out here and we can give you a raise?" So I went to the NSA. As I told you there was a major defection case I worked on, Martin and Mitchell, who had defected. Then one of the people I consider a mentor came to State and he said to me, as if I knew State because I spent two years at SY, which is really not considered State by a lot of people, he said, "Why don't you come back?" So, I went back and I went into SY and started working for a couple of years and then we had the infamous Arnold Tepka case and that was around for a while.

Q: You might explain what that is.

SHEA: Arnold Tepka was a career security officer who for some reason didn't get the job that he thought he should have, and he was actually arguing with the new administration. Jack Reilly was the DAS (Deputy Assistant Secretary) and he and Arnold Tepka got in a flap. Ultimately, it was determined that somebody had once testified that Tepka had gotten the transcript and would write the questions for him to go on, and that was the flap.

Q: He was considered sort of a McCarthy creature, wasn't he?

SHEA: He was of that ilk, yeah. And there was a big hullabaloo, the DAS lost his job because he wasn't candid when he went up to the hill. My mentor survived and went up to Bonn as an Administrative Counselor, and I went to another office and worked there. It was just a very unpleasant time.

Q: How long were you doing SY?

SHEA: I did it a long time. I considered myself a maverick Foreign Service Officer and I think you will see why. I came back and worked from 1962 to various dates, which I can give you, and I worked in different offices in DS. I was the Assistant Special Agent in charge of the Washington field office, supervising 80 people for a long time. The SY finally went around trying to get college graduates; it was trying to upgrade the professionalism.

Q: I can remember when I came in 1955, Scott McCloud was the person there who was

being tested by anybody. And going around, this is a young Foreign Service Officer with a couple of other Foreign Service Officers, and looking at the names on the door, a number had "x" as their middle initial. The names were so Irish and I can remember talking to a friend of mine and saying, you know these are guys who think it is super to have sex with your wife with the light on. The Irish Boston sort of thing and in a way it was a real class thing here.

SHEA: I think it continued for a long time, until today.

Q: How conservative it was, you didn't want to talk to these guys, certainly about sex matters. They were sort of lace curtain Irish; they didn't play around when they turned the lights off. That was the feeling; did you get that?

SHEA: No. I didn't get that; I was just a young guy and I must say as a liberal one of the contractions is that I spent a large part of my career in DS (Diplomatic Security) and in NATO and here I am running this program. I never got that. I knew 1956 to 1958 were really the highlight years; I was doing background investigations on people coming in. Then, because we were interviewing people, NSA hired me to go out there because they were going through looking at people and they needed interviewers and I could interview. Now my mentor was coming back to State and I was tired of driving out to Fort Meade, Maryland.

Q: You were doing background investigations?

SHEA: That was in the beginning.

Q: What were you basically picking up in background investigations? What would disqualify people in those days?

SHEA: Well, I suppose organizations that they were cited for, one of those House Committees on Un-American Activity organizations. I suppose at that time if you had a sexual preference that was not acceptable that could be one; I am not sure it was.

Q: Well, I think homosexuality at that time was considered a blackmail problem.

SHEA: It was. And that stayed for a while I gather, I don't know. Because when I came back as the Assistant Special Agent in charge to do background investigations, it was mainly for people coming to work in the State Department, and if there were any problems it went over to Main State. And then I was the Chief of the Evaluations Division at one time in my career, looking at granting clearances. Then I was the Chief of Procedural Security, which looked at the procedures and regulations for the Department. Then I was the Deputy Chief for the Protective Security Division that protected all visiting VIPs (Very Important Persons).

Q: Let's first talk about the clearance procedure, in other words, the background checks. Were you uncovering people who looked like they really were potential spies or not, or

just the suitability, gambling, too much debt and like that?

SHEA: I think at NSA there may have been some attempts for people to come in that were unsuitable. Obviously, when you have two defectors go that were recruited that was true. I am trying to think of any cases that we did at State; I'm not sure.

Q: Just thinking about it we really haven't had defections; a few have got caught up.

SHEA: Scarback in Poland. Then you had the most recent one, and I wasn't there, the guy who was in Vienna, but they never got him.

At NATO it was different; we had a lot of attempts, big time penetration attempts. I think I was really looking at trying to train people, these college-educated guys coming in; it was a wonderful job. I brought 40 of them in while I was in the Washington field office: just married, or young bucks, no problem, no marital problem, no drinking problem; it was terrific. It was a more moderate tone of what was going on at that time, I think.

Q: When you came in I had just gone out about that time. I spent five years in Yugoslavia and we were concerned but not overly. There was some hanky-panky going around but that was some sort of sex with the wrong person. But it really was not even vaguely entrapment, just a possibility.

SHEA: No, and you have to understand that being a spy was a two-headed monster; you had the GS (Civil Service) people that we'd send out and our security officers and it is still kind of a confusing thing. When I was in the IG (Inspector General) I had the oversight for DS.

Q: But then you got the protective thing that is essentially an equivalent to the Secret Service. But this is protecting both the Secretary of State and?

SHEA: It used to be visiting heads of state and government. We lost that to the Secret Service. I liked that job; it was a terrific job. When I was there we protected the heads of states and in that time I worked with King Constantine of Greece and the Shah of Iran, all kinds of other people. We provided protection for the UN meetings every fall, so we'd move up there and protected them. So I thought it was a terrific job.

Q: Well, with the Shah you would have some problems.

SHEA: Yeah, with the Shah we did.

Q: Did you have any problems?

SHEA: With King Constantine we thought someone was trying to shoot him one time. He was terrific to travel with; I liked him immensely. Haile Selassie was terrific. It was kind of interesting. They told me he didn't speak English. That was sort of like a security protocol job. A lot of times you will see that while the jobs I had were technically

security they were also protocol.

So, I picked up Haile Selassie in Bermuda on the Secretary's plane or the President's plane, flew him to Los Angeles and while in Los Angeles I took him to Disneyland and took him on all the rides (laughter). [Ed: Haile Selassie visited Disneyland in April 1967.] And then one day we were driving along and he looked at all the Japanese cars coming in and he said, "Oh, Mr. Shea, you got a lot of Japanese cars here." And of course, they were telling me he didn't speak English but he did speak English. And King Constantine was terrific.

Q: While you were doing this protection thing, any sort of interesting stories you have to tell?

SHEA: Yeah. Well, Constantine, we were driving with him in New York and he said, "Why are you protecting me?" And I said, "I am deputy of this office." And he said, "Well, who have you protected before?" I can't remember who I named off, but they were all people who had threats on them. And he said, "Now I understand why you are protecting me." I took him to New York and then I brought King Constantine to my hometown Newport, Rhode Island. [Ed: King Constantine arrived in New York on August 24, 1967 and visited Canada from August 26 to September 9. He visited Newport Rhode Island September 10 and 12 and Washington on September 11.]

I had been in this job for about four or five days when Kosygin came to the United States, Alexei Kosygin, who at that time was Premier and he came to Glassboro for the meeting with Johnson. And so I had just taken on this job and when Secretary Rusk said, "Send somebody up there." The head of my boss who I don't know why, he probably thought I was parachuting in to see how his operation was going said, said my deputy will handle this personally. So I had been on this job for five days and I got the Kosygin visit. [Ed: Chairman Aleksei Kosygin visited the U.S. from June 23 to 25, 1967.]

Q: How did that go?

SHEA: It went terrific. I had a great time. I went up there, met with Kosygin, and took him to Glassboro. I made the front page of the New York Times because we were sitting down waiting for Kosygin to come out and some little man came from around the corner and we stopped him and asked, "Where are you going?" And he said, "I am going to see the premier." And we said, "Why do you want to see him?" And he said, "I want to tell him something." And we said, "Do you have a gun?" And he said, "Yes, I do." So we grabbed him and brought him out and my picture was on the front page. But he was a nut and I think the press, who wanted to see what would happen, set him up.

The other thing that was interesting on that visit was that when the press was trying to get close, they sent this beautiful press person over trying to get on the right side of the street and they would come to me and they would say, "That's the guy, that's the guy that's going to go in." And I'd say, "Get out of here." And they'd say, "We know you Terrence Shea, we'll get you." So that was an interesting visit.

Q: You must have had to cooperate with the KGB didn't you?

SHEA: They were there; yeah sure, their security chief was there. An interesting thing first of all, he came back from one visit and through his people Kosygin said, "We're going to go up to Niagara Falls." I said, "But, but, how are we going to get up there?" He said, "Johnson said I could go to Niagara Falls." Nobody knew about it so we had to get a plane and fly up to Niagara Falls to see him there and when we went down to Glassboro we had the meeting arranged. We were due to leave at a certain time and we'd sent our security officer out to get coffee for us because we had an hour, and somebody mistakenly went in and told Kosygin we were leaving. So Kosygin popped up and said, "Okay, we're ready to go to meet the President." I didn't have a driver because we'd just sent him to get coffee, so we grabbed somebody and said, "Do you know how to drive this car?" He said yes, so we threw him in with the KGB security; we were in the follow car. Well we were an hour early and we had to go through the tunnel and if you remember we stopped all the traffic; the tunnel was all stopped and nothing was going on. We were driving about 20 miles an hour and traffic was stopped so that we would get there at the appropriate time; it was just terrible.

So we went in there and Johnson was there. And a couple interesting things on that; they were going to have lunch and I went in the lunchroom and Kosygin had somebody who was a security guy, a general guy, and I was telling the people, "Okay, Johnson will sit here and the general will sit there." And they said, "We're going to put the general somewhere else," and I said, "The general is going to sit here." They said, "No, no, no." So they didn't sit him. They come out of the meeting and Johnson, who we never tried to get too close to because he said, "Where are we going?" And I said, "Right in here, Mr. President." We go in, Kosygin goes in there, Kosygin speaks to Johnson and Johnson yells, "Why the hell isn't the general sitting here?" Kosygin wanted the general sitting here, so he was sat there.

Then they had the press conference, and if you ever look at the press conference you will see Johnson and Kosygin up front and I am in the background. As Johnson is talking he will say, "Who the hell are you people, who is this person, why are you here?" As he is doing that, I let the door close in front of me so that he couldn't see me.

Then we took Kosygin down to the helicopter; we didn't know whether to get on the helicopter, but we were petrified because Johnson would yell, "Who the hell are you people?" As we get on the helicopter they said that Johnson was shaking hands with some friends that were going to accompany Alexei Kosygin. So that was an interesting trip.

Q: Did you have any significant threats?

SHEA: Oh, I am sure there were threats. We were very worried about Kosygin. We had cooperation from the FBI, from the Agency; everyone was concerned. It went very well actually, the trip up there.

Q: This was during the time when the Jewish Defense League was attacking the Soviet Embassy.

SHEA: They had a 200-foot rule, some kind of rule in New York where they couldn't get in front of the Russian Mission to the UN. We also took him to the UN and Kosygin was there, so it was a great visit actually. I was brand new in this job.

Q: You did evaluations and other things?

SHEA: I did procedural security. One thing I would like to comment on in this statement, when I say I am a maverick. I went down to protocol to do a meeting, I don't know which trip it was, let's say King Constantine, and I went down there with a seersucker shirt and suit or whatever, and the Protocol Secretary looked up and I said, "Yes, I am here for a meeting on Constantine." And she said, "Oh, you are the political officer." And I said, "No, as strange as it may seem I am the SY officer." Her inference was that no security officer would dress as I was.

Q: That era was really quite a different thing. What did you do then?

SHEA: When I was the deputy director I also protected the Secretary of State. When I left I ended up being the assistant Director of DS. And then for some reason, and I'm not sure I can get this chronologically correct, I went up to work for John Thomas, Assistant Secretary [Ed: of the Bureau of Administration] in what was called a think tank; I enjoyed that immensely. I was also sent over as a special assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary upstairs. It was the office of the administrator of think tank operation. I went up as a systems analyst officer in charge of long-range planning and analysis and resource management. John Thomas, who had a great influence on you, was also one of my mentors who I thought was wonderful; he brought me up there to work for him.

Q: What sort of things were you looking at?

SHEA: Well, resource management, computerizing; he was light years ahead of others in the Department. Mike Mansfield said, "If you ever needed anything in the Department call John Thomas; he would be able to get it for you." He thought very highly of him because he took him to China. And I think during that time I had two trips to China.

Q: This would have been during Nixon's term. How did you find China?

SHEA: I thought it was incredible. I took the speaker of the house and the minority leader of the house and a chap from Oklahoma; the speaker was Albert. Carl Albert was the first trip. It was a difficult trip; I think the gang of four was there. I took two trips. One I took the Minority Leader of the Senate, Hugh Scott. They couldn't normalize the relationship totally without having the concurrence of the Senate and the House, so what we did was take the House over to look at it and say, "Okay, that's great." On that trip, Chas Freeman was with me as interpreter, who later went on to be a pretty big success at the

Department. Then on the other I went with Hugh Scott; this was his swan song. [Ed: Mansfield (D-Montana), the Senate Majority Leader, and Hugh Scott (R-Pennsylvania), the Senate Minority Leader, visited China between April 19-22, 1972.]

Q: Hugh Scott was a scholar of China?

SHEA: Correct, he was a scholar of China. And I went with Carlyle Burch, and I'm not sure when Deng Xiaoping was there but I have the pictures at home and I will let you know next week. It changed, the gang of four was in power, then it was Deng Xiaoping back, it was Deng Xiaoping.

When I came back with Carlyle I had been selected to go to the war college and I was ready to go back after that trip, where we went through Dalian and all over where they had not seen Americans; it was a wonderful trip.

Q: How was the Chinese security, was it heavy handed?

SHEA: Oh, it was great. The reception was very good; it was a wonderful reception. The first trip over, we would go into a department store and come out and there would be thousands of people there to see us. We went up to Dalian, which is up near Manchuria. We had a fabulous trip. I think on that trip, or maybe on the trip with the Senate side because it was Hugh Scott, we saw the first three terracotta figures to come out of the army.

Q: This was a huge terracotta soldier.

SHEA: Three, I have a picture of them— two men and a horse. And as a great honor they took us into the Imperial Palace of Beijing and showed Hugh Scott and the party how it would go. Bill Bostain was with us on that trip while we were with Albert, a wonderful man.

Q: Yeah, he was my ambassador in Korea. [Ed: Ambassadors to Korea during the interviewer's assignment were Richard Sneider September 1974–June 1978 and William Gleysteen July 1978–June 1981]

SHEA: I admire him greatly. He knew my father-in-law, Maurice Scanlon very well and I was a great admirer of Bill Bostain.

Q: After these trips and you went to the war college, where did you go?

SHEA: I spent a year at the ICAF (Industrial College for the Armed Forces)

Q: How did you find that?

SHEA: I loved it. I didn't go to NDU (National Defense University), I went to ICAF because I always felt my strength played in my management abilities and I was very

interested in how to organize and revamp offices and how to manage resources. Later on in my career I was taking over dysfunctional offices and reorganizing them and I thought that was a great challenge.

Q: ICAF stands for?

SHEA: The Industrial College for the Armed Forces. And I took courses at NDU (National Defense University) also.

Q: But the ICAF is focused on the management and logistics mainly?

SHEA: Correct, but we had joint sessions; all the speakers had joint sessions with ICAF and the War College. I thought that was terrific.

And again, one of the instructors was a Colonel Muckerman, who comes from the wonderful Muckerman family out in St. Louis. I went with his nephew at Georgetown. It was great for me and I thought that the military officers there had never seen a wacko Foreign Service Officer like me because according to this guy, I was outgoing and they didn't realize that there are a lot of people like that amongst the Foreign Service.

Q: You were at the ICAF, then where?

SHEA: September 1976 to June 1977 studying resource management.

Q: Did you find you made a good contact with the military there?

SHEA: Yes. I enjoyed it and I think they enjoyed me and I did very well there. Then I left there and I came back to the State Department for some reason in 1977. Then I went to the White House to work on the President's reorganizational project.

Q: By now this was the Carter Administration; it was brand new.

SHEA: Yes. So I worked over there. I was detailed by John Thomas to do a president's reorganization project of federal bureaucracy, which dealt with terrorists' threats and intelligence threats against the agencies.

Q: What were some of the issues?

SHEA: Terrorists; coordination with the federal bureaucracy.

Q: How had you found coordination?

SHEA: Well there wasn't much then and in my opinion it is not better now. I worked over there for about a year and it was interesting; there were people from all over government agencies. We started out at the Executive Office Building, then we moved somewhere else and by the time we got to Roslyn, I thought well that's over because by the time you

move to Roslyn then the whole thing is done.

Q: I might point out Roslyn had State Department offices; I worked there. The British used to say that Kenya was for officers and Southern Rhodesia was for other ranks. (Laughter) In a way this was sort of true of the State Department in Washington; Foggy Bottom was for officers and Roslyn was for other ranks, the accountants, Board of Examiners, DS. It was sort of a class system, you could tell.

SHEA: When I was with Inspector General Funk, he came to me one day and said, "They have great offices for us in Roslyn. Incredible, I saw them. Outstanding." And I said, "Who is moving?" And he said, "Everybody." And I said, "You cannot move there. You can move everyone else there, your staff, audit office, my office, you can move everybody else there, but you and your assistant directors have to stay here on the sixth floor of the State Department."

Q: It is equivalent to being banished to Siberia.

SHEA: They moved him out now and it shows you the weakness of the IG; Sherman had a lot of clout.

I was conducting a management analysis of the responsibilities and functions of all law enforcement agencies when I was assigned to the executive office of the president; I got a letter of commendation. Then I got my educational sabbatical at the National Defense University, concentrating on managerial concepts and resource utilization in the private sector. I traveled around, went to Yugoslavia and Egypt. In Egypt, we were going to meet Anwar Sadat. We were all there and they said some of us were going back and some of us were going to stay to meet Sadat in Alexandria. Fortunately, I was the highest-ranking State Department guy there. Someone said, "Boy, that was a hard decision." I said, "It wasn't hard; I had to stay." I went down to Alexandria and Sadat had just met with Jimmy Carter; he was using us a conduit for getting back what his thoughts were and a lot to do with Syria. I have pictures of me giving Anwar Sadat a book for his wife and we had a chat and we had a note taker back there. It was a great trip.

Q: After you left the war college where did you go?

SHEA: Came back to John Thomas. A lot of people told me over my career that I should have become a Foreign Service Officer, but by then I was married and had four children and my father-in-law was in the Foreign Service. I thought, well I know this work and I know I am going to move forward and get advanced in this work, so Thomas offered me Consular (a consular position) for administration in Greece and I turned it down. At that time we were getting close to my going to NATO, because I went to NATO in 1979.

Q: You were in NATO from when to when?

SHEA: I was in NATO August 1979 to August of 1988.

Q: That was nine years?

SHEA: That's right, isn't that amazing? I have some great stories about how I stayed.

Q: That's what we want to talk about. What was your first job at NATO?

SHEA: I was in DS; that is when I was the assistant director diplomatic security. I was the heir apparent but I was unhappy in that job.

Q: This is in Washington?

SHEA: Washington. I liked the job but I was unhappy; I didn't know whether I would get to DAS. I wanted to get to DAS. In NATO, there was an espionage case; a woman by the name of Lawrence had defected and she had been the Executive Secretary in the Executive Secretariat. DS had a security person there and in discussing this defection, which was a major blow, the DS representative said, "We are not sure she is an espionage agent." Whereupon the director of Belgium threw him out of the country said, "We can't have this man working here." So the U.S. was in a flurry of what to do because his position was in the office of the Secretary General as an advisor.

Q: I am not quite sure, who was it that was thrown out?

SHEA: Persona non grata, the SY guy that was there. There was security within NATO staffed by DS agents.

Q: What had he done?

SHEA: He said he wasn't sure this woman was a spy.

Q: It was quite obvious?

SHEA: (Laughter) Yeah, quite obvious. And so they were furious about it.

Q: What would have made him think that?

SHEA: I don't know. He's a friend of mine, an accomplished guy, very knowledgeable, but he was unhappy there. The head was very hard to get along with. But here you have the U.S. presence in the office of the Secretary General of NATO. I mean what could be better for you? And he goes in to tell the security general that, "No, I don't think he is a spy." And the Secretary General went to Bennett and said, "Look, this guy has to go. We can't have him in here; this woman is a spy."

Q: NATO must have been absolutely riddled with spies.

SHEA: It was, it was. I'll tell you stories about that, amazing stories.

Q: Okay, let's start at the beginning. How would you describe the SY situation when you got to NATO?

SHEA: There wasn't anything. It was an office that wrote procedures. It was writing the procedures for security for classified information and it would go out and inspect NATO holdings once a year.

I was sent over by the Secretary of State. I don't know how I got picked; maybe Thomas picked me. I was sent over with a team to look over what the situation was. I met with Ambassador Bennett; I met with some general. The general said, "We need some military intelligence officer here." And I recall saying to him, "Well, I'm not a military officer but if I wanted the job I would come over and do it." So it didn't bother me, I didn't think we needed somebody. We had the people who could do it, and I gave him a really difficult time. Later when I got the job, I said, "I'm sorry about that." And he said, "I agreed with you." So he offered me the job. It was a very hard decision. I had a daughter in high school and I said to her, "Do you want to go to Brussels?" She said yes and I almost fell over. As John Thomas said, "The streets of Annandale, Virginia opened up when Shea said he would go." So I went over there and opened up this office under Joseph Luns, where people had been there eight or nine years; it was generally a writing of regulations and procedures.

Q: This is NATO?

SHEA: Office of Security.

Q: This is NATO, this is not State?

SHEA: Yes.

Q: And the head of security there?

SHEA: Me.

Q: Whom did you report to?

SHEA: `Joseph Luns, the Secretary General. That was the benefit of it; that is why when they offered me the job. Well, I had been there and seen what this poor friend of mine had been living in, this apartment. So I went back and said, "I would take this job but you have to give me..." I didn't know anything about being overseas, you have to understand I had never been overseas; I had only traveled. I said, "You have to give me representational housing, I only want a two year tour, I only want this and I only want that," and everything else. So I told him all that and Jim Goodby, the Deputy Assistant Secretary, agreed with me. He sent it over to Belgium and the administrative counselor said, "You are crazy, we are not going to give him anything; he can't get any of this." So according to a friend of mine, they went over to the White House and said, "We are not going to be able to send Shea because we don't want to give him these things." And the

White House said, “Are you people crazy? What is going to happen if we don’t get it? The Brits may get it. You mean you want to lose this? Give Shea whatever he wants; give it to him.” So John called me up and said, “You got everything you want!”

So I went over there and their word was that this high powered, difficult expert was coming over, sent over by the White House, and was going to straighten out NATO. So I saw Joseph Luns, and Luns said, “We had a lot of problems with this case; do you think she is an espionage agent?” And I said, “Of course.” So I made arrangement with Bennett to write me an Officer Efficiency Rating (OER) because I figured Luns would say great job, that would be it and I would be selected. Then, I took over this office in an international organization that had no Americans on it.

Q: You could easily end up in sort of a European bureaucratic graveyard. Was that kind of who the people were when you got there?

SHEA: Yes, I would say yes. I got rid of one person who was a Canadian. The Canadian ambassador complained to Joseph Luns, who called me in and said, “What is it about this guy?” I said, “First of all, I don’t understand anything he says when he is briefing me. Secondly, I don’t understand anything he writes. And third, we have to send his check down to his yacht in the Mediterranean when he is off during the summer.” Luns said, “Get rid of him.” (Laughter)

It was a terribly powerful position. I’ll explain later how I got ranked up higher under Carrington. But you could fire; there were no appeals in any shape or form.

Q: I would think that anything NATO, you know, this is Canada’s position; I would think NATO would be replete with all these positions which have been allocated to a country.

SHEA: Correct. And I got another Canadian, a Royal Canadian police guy, real sharp; not some retired person, 50-something-years-old that hadn’t done anything.

Q: Were you finding some of the same problems in NATO that we have had over time? That these semi-police sorts of things in security can end up with police sergeants retiring.

SHEA: No, I wouldn’t hire anybody that way. I was the current serving officer; I was the Executive Secretary of the special committee. The special committee is made up of the intelligence heads of all the member countries and the chairman of the security committee. The chairman of the security committee wrote all the security regulations and procedures throughout NATO, which I am still studying as someone complaining about NATO classifications. Also, the office had been blasted because it was so negligent in trying to dig out some of these espionage attempts. I could do everything you wanted to do as a manager because even under Luns the U.S. was going to stop giving classified information to NATO if they didn’t get their act together. So Luns would say, “Whatever you want you do.”

Q: I would think you would have a hell of a problem because it is a multinational organization, and say you have somebody in the Netherlands who wants to hand out something for political reasons, you know some people are more serious than others. Weren't you worried about this?

SHEA: We were very good. Speaking of the Dutch, we got a guy who was a graduate of the Julliard School of Music here, second to Van Cliburn in his class, who worked for Dutch intelligence and we got him. I selected whom we wanted. They nominated and we selected whom we wanted. The Brits would give us people from MI5; the Germans would give us people from their intelligence. We had to get current serving officers coming on NATO and I was able to do what I wanted.

Q: When you are doing this, riding herd on this group, it is like herding cats with all these different countries?

SHEA: I had French on the staff.

Q: Well, of course you did. It really depended on the head of NATO, or did they give you the authority? Basically what you were up to was firing people.

SHEA: And not only that, but I had the ear of the Secretary General. And here is how it came to pass. Also I had to go to all the ministerial meetings. At all these ministerial meetings there was an agreement between the host country and NATO, including the security agreement. So I would go to all the meetings and set up the security arrangements. Early on I did one meeting, the Deputy Secretary General called me in when he came back and said, "Mr. Shea, I talked to the Secretary General. You know, I could not get into one of the meetings; the guards wouldn't let me." And I said, "Guards, what guards?" He said, "The guards, the NATO guards," which is in reference to the headquarter security service, 250 guards. Anyway, the Secretary General called me and said, "What is this about the guards?" And I said, "Well, I don't know." And he said, "What do you mean you don't know?" And I said, "They don't work for me, they work for the bureau of administration." And he said, "I didn't know that." And I said, "It is true." He said, "Well, I think they should work for you, what do you think?" Well my office told me he was thinking of this and my office said no. I said, "Of course I should run it, you want me to run security?" I mean I didn't even have the right badge; the head of security kept giving me her badge. I said, "Yes, I should have it all." He took a pad and wrote, "Effective immediately; the head of security service is transferred from the bureau of administration of NATO to the Office of Security in the Secretary General's Office." He ripped it off and gave it to me and I brought it downstairs to the guy and said, "Here, here is your memorandum. And I'll take this office now." The guy, the Assistant Secretary, nearly fell of his chair. Then I went to the headquarter security service and said, "Remember this badge that I couldn't get into the control areas?" and he said, "Yes." I said, "Here, you can take it back, you are working for me now. Get me a badge that gets me in everywhere." Now, that got around NATO, there wasn't anybody that was going to fool with me at NATO.

Q: Let's look at the threat. Here you are with the Soviets interested in what is going on in NATO and you have Germany which gets defectors from – I mean their government was riddled. West Germans were riddled with agents. I would think that if the West Germans didn't know that their Chancellor's major assistant was an East German spy, how the hell could we pick up these people?

SHEA: It was very difficult. First of all, this was just a regulation writing office. When I was getting Luns in there were threats against him so I had to set up protective security. So I took the people from the security office, they were from the Belgian army and everything, and made them the protective security and got a Canadian who knew about it and put him in charge of it. You have to understand that 250 people now knew that they were under the Office of NATO Security under Mr. Terence J. Shea in in the Secretary's office. So they knew they were part of the Secretary General's office in NATO. Now Joseph Luns didn't know that or he would never have done it. (Laughter) He was wonderful to me, Joseph Luns. [Ed: He was the longest serving Secretary General NATO has ever had from 1971 to 1984.]

I also set up a counter intelligence office; I got somebody from Belgium, an American counterintelligence expert, and a French one. So we ran a counterintelligence office against them. We had an inspection team going out. And all of these were part of my domain. I was one of the top five ranking officers; it went up higher later, in NATO.

Q: I would not think you weren't coming from the intelligence side, which, particularly thinking of British intelligence and the others, was almost class ridden and they kind of looked down their noses at Americans and the CIA and all. Did you run across this in NATO?

SHEA: Maybe at the beginning but at the end I spoke at the British Academy of Industrial Security; they invited me as the first American speaker to be there. I had no trouble. The only thing I can tell you about all this is that while this was going on, I got nine Foreign Service awards in grades and for meritorious service. So obviously it was going very well; I had to deal with the FBI and CIA, but it worked out perfectly for me.

Q: How did you find NATO as an organization? It had been around a long time and these organizations tend to develop a life of their own.

SHEA: They did. I felt no one should stay at NATO more than ten years. And I stayed nine years and Carrington asked me, "Do you want to stay another, do you want to go direct hire?" You couldn't go direct hire when I worked there. And I said no I didn't want to go direct hire because I didn't think anybody should stay at NATO longer than ten years and I thought whoever serves in my job should be a current serving officer or the intelligence community won't give you anything. So I turned it down.

Q: How did you find your German people? Because I think these are the ones I would say were on the front line.

SHEA: They were probably pretty difficult to deal with. Because a German was a German; West, East, it did not make a difference. They worked well. There was a rotating chairman of the special committee. We would have the chairman, who would be the head of the FBI, and then it would be the German whatever-it-was-called at that time. We had a lot of problems with the Germans. I can tell you the most interesting problem was a case involving a NATO agency. NATO is here when we build airplanes and when we establish a NATO mission, and I had security of NATO, NAFTA, and all those things were under me. I can't remember how it came up, but we thought a director and his secretary would be East Germans who were being co-opted. So I went over to the Germans and we were going to mount an operation. To make a long story short, they went out and the guy who handled it was named Teeker, head of the West German counterintelligence bureau, not the head but ran the surveillance. Anyway, sometime later he comes back to me and says, "The case is blown because we were surveilling them and they turned around and caught us and the case was blown." So they moved the woman away from her job and the Germans said, "You have to bring them back." I said, "We aren't going to bring them back, you blew the case." And so we had a lot of battles. I saw Carrington at the time and said, "We can't bring anybody back because they will think we are crazy." And Carrington said, "Right." So we go down and have this big battle with Mr. Teeker, head of the West German counterintelligence, who then six months later defects and is a member of the East German agency in West Germany. So I think that's the epitome of the problem. I think he was on the cover of Time Magazine at one time because he ran the counterintelligence of the West Germans against the East. So that was the problem we had, very severe.

Q: When did Lord Carrington come in?

SHEA: He came in after three or four years. I went over for a two-year tour, but then I got over there and asked who writes my efficiency rating and they said Carrington, and I asked "Who handles my budget?" Then they said, "You handle your own budget." I asked, "Who handles my annual leave?" "You handle your annual leave." I thought that was nice. Travel, hiring cars, everything; I do everything. So I said, "Well, I'd be willing to stay another two years." So I stayed for two years with Joseph Luns. I mean how can I give up a job when I walk down a corridor and the head of security runs on ahead and opens doors for me. (Laughter) So Carrington came in, and then one of the other things was that Luns sent me down to Portugal. Didn't they have a problem?

Q: In 1974 they had a coup and the young officers of the major level took over and there was a strong leftist bent. At the time there was a great deal of controversy of whether they were going to join the Soviet Union. We were thinking of kicking them out of NATO. It is one of the great stories of the Foreign Service, when Frank Carlucci went to Portugal and went head-to-head with Henry Kissinger and the Portuguese came around.

SHEA: Well, I was sent by Joseph Luns to see if Portugal in 1979 or 1980 had protected the NATO documents. The U.S. was going to do its own inspection but they sent me because they were not going to send them any stuff if they didn't do it. So I went down to Portugal with one of my staff and we went in and we met with the Vice President of the

country who thought this was an absolute disgrace. I mean, here I was overseas, and I'd never been overseas, and here was this Vice President yelling at me that we need this information, blah, blah. So I was given a complete tour; they gave me everything I needed to know. I looked at the NATO registries, which I'd been protected from all the time. They did a fabulous job; they were very anxious now to get back into NATO. I went back to tell Joseph Luns they met the criteria to stay in NATO or for re-admittance. The U.S. thought we were out of our minds, so they sent their own team over. That guy came over to see me and we came to the same agreement. That is really something. And I did the same for Spain when they came in.

Q: Did you ever run across those two bosom buddies in the diplomatic world, the Greeks and Turks?

SHEA: All the time. First of all, the Turks had some of the brightest young mid-grade officers on their staff. The Executive Secretary of NATO was a Turk, a former professional soccer player and a wonderful man; he was my tennis partner for nine years. When they had the Tuesday luncheon meetings we'd play tennis. The Greeks on the other hand had one or two guys they dumped in here to complain about everything. We had terrible problems with them all the time; Carrington especially had a problem with the Greeks. There was a very serious problem. The oldest member of the ambassadors was a Turk and I got to like the Turks very much. They reminded me of our Foreign Service; they had very bright young mid-grade officers. The Greeks on the other hand would send only one or two. It was very difficult.

Q: It was more of a dumping ground would you say?

SHEA: Well, they would send anyone over there. You know a guy would come up to me and say we did this or that for the Turks. In a meeting I was chairing for the security committee, I would be talking about x y and z and the Greek would say, "This is what we are doing," and I would have to look at him and say, "Yes, thank you very much," because we were not discussing the topic. It was a very, very difficult problem and Luns got right at it a lot. And then you see I would go to ministerial meetings in Turkey and also I had to go to all the nuclear planning meetings. There is no job in the State Department the way this job was.

Q: Let's talk about the Luns thing when you got there. How did you view the Soviet threat, the big threat? Were we really looking at a possibility of an attack was it more of a spy game?

SHEA: Oh, no, it was more political. I think the triple track time was when we were debating it. That was at the high spot of it, and also there was a lot of talk about nuclear weapons and that sort of thing.

Q: That comes during the Carrington time?

SHEA: No, that was during the Luns time, both times, I think.

Q: Well, there is a point where the Soviets introduced the SS20 and we responded with the Pershing.

SHAD: That was all going on. And another thing I would like to point out is that the U.S. mission to NATO, in my opinion, had top-flight people. The Department sent really good people: Grossman, Chuck Redman, all these people of that ilk were there under Bennett, especially under Bennett. These were really first class officers and they had to be top-flight because they had to compete with difficult Brits and Germans.

Q: You had this sort of a situation where the French were in and not in. On your hand, were the French fully in? Because the French were in NATO but they were not militarily in NATO.

SHEA: Yes, that is correct.

Q: How were the French for you?

SHEA: They were very good. They gave me an officer; I had a French officer in there. DST is the French operation; they chaired the special committee one time. I always remember I made a mistake and I went down to France; we had a NATO installation in France. So I would go down to see this guy and I went to see the Chairman who was a French chap and when I stood up after he had admonished me in the most wonderful, superb way. I said to my associate, "Watch me when I stand up because he has sliced me into little pieces." (Laughter) It was the most brilliant chewing out I ever got in my life, it was absolutely brilliant; it didn't bother me in the least.

Q: What was he chewing you out about?

SHEA: I don't know now, it was a mistake I had done at the time. But I was at fault. And then that was it. They threw out a lot of information to us; they were very, very helpful, and they were quite good. They ran a very aggressive counterintelligence operation.

Q: During this period were we having problems with outfits like the Red Brigade and the Japanese Red Army? There were a whole series of these terrorist groups, but these were anarchist terrorist groups.

SHEA: Yes, we were, correct. I went with my wife and daughter to visit Italy at Christmas one time and then I was going to meet with intelligence people there. We landed at Leonardo Da Vinci. There was a problem and I didn't know what was wrong and suddenly I saw the Carabinieri run out and grab wife, my daughter and me and they said we had to leave there. When I walked out I saw the Japanese Red Army had come in and they had shot people and the Carabinieri thought they would shoot me, so they took us away and hid us in a place; I had the Carabinieri with me at all times. But also there were a lot of threats particularly against Carrington, which I will relate later. We had threats against me that we were aware of and we had bombing threats against a lot of

NATO installations. I had charge of security and the host country provided the adequate security, and the French did okay.

Q: You were working with Lord Carrington when to when?

SHEA: I was there for four years, so I was with Carrington for a number of years. I came in 1979, so it was around 1983 or 1984 when he came in. [Ed; Lord Carrington served as NATO Secretary General from June 1984 to June 1988.]

Q: Did you get involved in the kidnapping in Italy?

SHEA: No, they just filled us in on that; we were privy on it. Anytime there was a kidnapping or hit on anyone in Italy or Greece we were in on it. Who was the guy that got killed in the Middle East? With Carrington we really became stronger.

Q: Were groups like the Red Brigade, was this their era?

SHEA: Yes, the Red Brigade. We had threats on the Secretary General; it was after the bombing in NATO. After Al Haig there was a bomb.

Q: Yes, he was bombed on the road.

SHEA: Yes, on the road. We had Action Direct, which was a French organization that was very much together. Carrington was a target of the Red Brigade and the IRA. Let's see how I can tell you this.

Carrington inherited Luns house; he didn't like the house. He said to me, "I would like to move to another house. I had gone before the NATO committee and they told me the only way I could get it is if you say there is a threat against me." I say, "There is a threat against you." And he said, "The real reason I got to move is my wife hates the house." I said, "Okay, there is a threat against you." So we moved him in a house office, Avenue Louise, where we had to put in a command center and everything else and we had people come in to clean it. We ran name checks on everyone who was in there, and to make a long story short, one of the women who had to come in to do the work was the daughter of either the _____ or the Red Brigade, I don't remember which. So she was arrested and we took her away and Carrington never told his wife that there was a threat. But we had a command post and coming from Boston, Carrington used to say he was a crazy Red Sox fan. We had put up this green wall behind the house, so it reminded him of Fenway Park and he would come over to look at it because it reminded him of the green monster. So he was put in there all the time.

There were a lot of threats against NATO, tremendous threats. We also had a major case in NATO that my office was involved in. It involved the Russians and Germans using the soccer league amongst diplomatic cases to recruit people.

Q: These were informal soccer teams, in other words they were not professional?

SHEA: Yeah, right.

Q: How did you find out about that?

SHEA: Somebody came in and told us and then we had the unpleasant task of running him against the Soviets. You have to understand that without giving away trade secrets, if they asked for things they started out with the telephone book, then they asked for classified. The only way you can really give them classified, you can't give them stuff that is not right.

Q: You are talking about the people who are spying on you.

SHEA: Yeah.

Q: You have to feed them some stuff.

SHEA: You have to feed them stuff. You can't give them phony stuff because they have some stuff already. They ask you for ABC and they already have ABC and they look at it and bingo, they know it is garbage. So I had to go to Carrington; we gave him the stuff and he said go. He was the most marvelous man I worked for.

So I turned this guy; he wasn't cooperating when he came to us but we ran him along with the Belgians. And of course these chaps don't particularly like to engage in this and there is pressure that you have to use to induce them to keep going. To make a long story short, they were giving him stuff. They were under surveillance one time and the Belgians ran the surveillance and they were following him. They would go to a restaurant, give the stuff to the Soviet or the East German, he would give it to somebody who would take it to a safe house, Xerox it, and come back and give it to him. There was no radio so they couldn't talk on the radio. On the last occasion, the Belgian said two words and the East German took off in a charge chase. It was like French Connection; they were speeding and smashing everything in downtown Brussels. They smashed cars and they would monitor Servatius radio. So they were throwing the radio stuff out, doing all this stuff, smashing cars, going up one-way streets and everything. Well, the long and short of it, they threw out about 36 people. It was a major espionage case.

Q: How did you find the Belgian Servatius?

SHEA: Well, the U.S. didn't find him too good, but a story comes to mind. The guy was a very mercurial, my director. My success, according to Bennett, the Ambassador to the U.S., and to the chief of station and the head of CIA, is that I got along with this guy for nine years. It was a major accomplishment because he was very difficult. I had very good relations with him; he was very good to me. I had no problems with him whatsoever. The reason I smile is that the deputy of the organization was a guy by the name of VonSomething, a Flem. His hands were crippled and his knees were bad because he had been captured by the Germans in World War II and tortured in a camp in Belgium; this

was the vice chair of Servatius. The story was that after the war he tracked down the quisling who turned him in at Brussels. So he got an American truck with an American driver and they knocked on the door and there was the man who had turned him in. He said to the American, "The Belgian, go down and get in the car." Five minutes later the Belgian Servatius man said, "We had a slight accident. The man has fallen down the stairs, broken his neck and is dead." That's the man.

I am seeing him and my dog just died, and he says, "What is the matter?" And I said, "My dog just died." He looks at me and says, "I know how you feel," and he started telling me about his dog and how he loved him. He was crying; Jacques Daffea was his name. I said, "Jacques, I am sorry; I didn't know your dog died. When did he die?" And he said, "Seven years ago." (Laughter) That is another story.

And the only other thing is we had cases all the time in penetration. We had threats on Carrington and threats on me and there were threats that came from sources that we were able to get.

Q: Was the penetration mainly through the Germans because of the East-West connection over there?

SHEA: Yeah.

Q: Because I would think that would be the main source of it.

SHEA: Or else it was a German marrying a Brit. In my office we had a German guy who was a major espionage agent in NATO who was married to a Brit whom we tried to get rid of but bureaucratically couldn't. But it was generally East Germans, and it was the Russians in the diplomatic sense. All the services were very good. My office only wrote procedural regulations when I got there. I brought in a counterintelligence organization, I brought in computerization, I brought in the protective security so they couldn't kill Carrington or Joseph Luns, and I took over the headquarters security service. And doing all this we get to the point where in 1984 where I am the only person in DS ever to get the Presidential Meritorious Award of \$10,000. That was for consecutive work for three years. And during the time I was at NATO. That was the second highest award you can get, as you know. Out of ten years I was at NATO and in IG, I won nine Senior Foreign Service Performance Awards, which has also tied me with the record of some ambassador.

Q: How did you find your home office at the Department of Security? I mean you are out of sight and out of mind and all that and I would think that would cause jealousy and somebody else would want the job and all that?

SHEA: They did, yeah. Zero. I had little if no contact with them. And when I leave I will tell you how that came down. I told you I got one extension; did I tell you how I got the second extension?

Q: No.

SHEA: Okay. The department head was furious that I had been there five years or so and writes a memo saying, "You are coming back." Lord Carrington calls me in and says, "Why are you going back?" I said, "I got to get back, I'm trying to get a DAS or something." He said, "I want you to stay with me until I go." I said, "Look, this is going to kill my career; you know I'm trying to get a DAS back there." He says, "You can stay. Take Maureen back with you a couple of times. You stay; how do I get you to stay?" I said, "Call George Vest, the Director of the Foreign Service, explain to him I want to go home and you want to stay and I am willing to sacrifice, but you tell him." He says, "Okay, I'll call." I told you he was a great guy. Sometime later he calls me and says, "It is all set, you are going to stay." I said, "I told you that George is a hell of a guy." He said, "Well, I had a problem." I said, "What problem?" He said, "I couldn't remember his last name." I said, "Well, who did you talk to?" He said, "Well, I talked to George Schultz." I said, "What, what did you say to him?" He said, "I got your guy here Terry Shea and I want to keep him." And Schultz says, "Sure." So that answers that one, so I stayed.

So I was there at NATO for nine years.

Q: You left when?

SHEA: I left in 1979 and came back in 1988. Lord Carrington had promoted me to minister counsel because he wanted me to sit on the panel that hired people. I said I didn't want to sit there and argue about gas coupons and all that stuff, and so he promoted me and said, "Now you are going to sit on it."

Q: I would think that, you know, in hiring people in the first place obviously, competence but also country of origin is a part.

SHEA: Oh yeah, a big part.

Q: Was a big thing, and I would suspect that competence would give way, be trumped by country of origin? This must have been very frustrating.

SHEA: Oh yeah, it was very difficult; it is hard. Like I said, the Turks send great mid-level officers, the Germans had a mixture, the Americans tried to get a few political people in there. Mattingly, the former Senator from Georgia who started out with a 30-point lead and lost the election, came on to NATO for a few years; he was okay. There were a couple of other people who were there that were political people. Eric Rayfield, one of my mentors, tried to get decent people and tried to work. Especially in my job because I was the confidant with the Secretary General, I mean I sat with him he would talk to me like you are talking to me.

Q: Did you get any feel for Carrington and his connection to the British scene? He had been Foreign Secretary. And how did he at this point, did you get any feel for how he worked or how he was viewed by the Brits?

SHEA: He was highly respected; he was a brilliant man. He was the only person in the cabinet of my understanding who could disagree with her and still remain friends with her.

Q: Margaret Thatcher.

SHEA: And he quit because when the Argentineans moved in on the Falklands. He didn't know about it and he said it was his responsibility. Someone told him Margaret Thatcher said, "It wasn't your fault, someone in the Department didn't tell you." And he said, "I'm the head of the department, so I am quitting." I mean that is a man who is so superb. He was highly thought of by the Brits. He was very strong and I am sure doing for the British what we were trying to do, dual track and all the substantive issues. He was very fair. He was very good.

Q: Did you get any feel for how he responded to some of the other countries in NATO?

SHEA: He had a few comments. We had difficulty with the Greeks and Papandreou. One time we had a meeting.

Q: This is Andreas Papandreou?

SHEA: Yeah. One time we had a meeting and it was a ministerial meeting at the highest level, so we had Papandreou and we were having a lunch with husbands and wives and everything else, and Carrington came to me and said, "Where is Mrs. Papandreou?" And I said, "Out front, picketing." (Laughter) He was a little upset.

And then I went for a visit to Greece after I'd been to work for two years and the Greeks said they couldn't see me now. So Carrington made some calls and I actually got into it.

He was very interested in trying to mediate the Turkish and Greek situation. I thought he was brilliant in his handling. I think he thought it was not particularly a difficult assignment for him, that perhaps it wasn't at the level he thought he should be at. But how could I criticize the guy, he was the best person I worked for in my life, outside of Sherman Funk. And the other thing he did was after five years they offered him the contract to stay and he said, "Why would I stay when I told everybody I would leave after five years? What would people think of me if I said, 'Well, I've got another five years, I think I'll stay here.'" He said no. And he introduced me to Prince Charles; he introduced me to Vice President Bush. He was a superb man to work for.

Q: How did the American presidential visits go? They come once or twice a year?

SHEA: Yeah, once a year. Most of the time while I was there it was Reagan. He was very good. He had interesting conversations. Everybody was kind of surprised. He had Cap Weinberger, he was DOD (represented the Department of Defense) for the Defense Planning Committee meetings, he had Bennett there for a long time as Ambassador, and

George Schultz was a very strong Secretary of State. I think they were surprised at how decent Reagan was and that he had a great staff. I find in my present job, and looking back at NATO, that basically he had a pretty good staff; the selection of the department heads was very good under Reagan.

Q: On this oral history of the Secretaries of State, the one that comes out and really tops in all categories is George Schultz. Kissinger of course is brilliant. Baker was very good but he didn't look after the troops.

SHEA: No he didn't, Baker didn't care for the troops.

Q: Like so many, they consider themselves the principal advisor to the president for foreign affairs and not the head of a department. Schultz and Powell are the only two in recent time.

SHEA: I think you are right, that is my assessment. Hell, with my political family connections, I was gone when Reagan came in, but personally he was very delightful guy. Did I say we had at one time his strap hangar, the guy who carried his stuff? Well anyway, we went in for the ministerial meeting and I have pictures of me standing with everybody. And this guy said, "I got to be with Reagan." and they said no but I finally said, "Yeah, you can sit in, and when he raises his pencil go in and get him." So I got him a pass. He was very nice. When I was over there and Reagan met all the troops, I was one of the first ones from the international staff to go in. Reagan was shaking hands with people and waving and all of a sudden this little voice came out and said, "That's the guy who got me in, Mr. President, he took care of me." So Reagan shook my hand and put his arm around me and I got a picture with him. I got another picture from Reagan that he signed in a car in front of a witness for me, and this little guy was very good to me and Reagan was very good; as was George Bush, who is also one of my favorite people.

Q: George Bush shone in international affairs.

SHEA: With Carrington he was brilliant over there.

So I was over there for nine years and I set up a counterintelligence staff. I had agency help in how to set up counterintelligence; I had FBI help. The only other thing I would like to bring up is that early on in my career, we had a very private meeting at the ambassador's residence with the White House and Ed Meese from the Justice Department while we were under Bennett. We had this meeting and the Justice Department Bureau criticized NATO as being a sieve and had all these terrible openings and we couldn't give them anything, we couldn't do this or that. And Attorney General Meese looked at me and said, "I've been here two or three years and I never have gotten a statement from these people." I said, "I've gone and dealt with them, I've tried to talk with them, how can they criticize me?" And Ed Meese said, "Of all people, you got to help him. You have to give him what he needs to run this organization." And the Agency was very helpful to me and so was the Bureau; I had no problems after that. It was a very good relationship and it worked well, so I decided to come back after.

Q: So you came back in 1988?

SHEA: Came back in 1988. George Schultz was going to send his personal bodyguard to replace me, but unfortunately Carrington knew the man and detested him so he didn't come. So I knew I was going to have a rocky road when I came back. So I came back and I was under the Inman review of security at the Embassy.

Q: This was the Admiral Bobby Inman who looked at embassy securities.

SHEA: They set up a special office over in CIA called the Security Evaluations Office headed by a CIA chap, the vice-chair, and me; I went there for a while. And the problem was it was a mixture of State and Agency people who were going out to look around. Schultz had agreed to this, but suddenly after he agreed he realized that if the Agency comes over and says, "You don't have good security, we are not going to give you all the stuff," we are going to lose all control. So everybody prevailed upon Schultz to get out of this so he said, "Well, my people are coming out there. They can only take small polygraphs and not full polygraphs." I went out there to take a polygraph and they said to me, "You have to take a full one," and I said, "I am on order of the Secretary of State; I can't take one." So that went boom, that thing was done away with. And what did Schultz do? Brilliant. He calls up Sherman Funk in the IG and says, "Look, I have to get an organization to go out and have the oversight for the embassies and DS and all that stuff, can I put it in your office?" And Sherman Funk said, "How many slots will you give me?" So he gave him what he wanted and Sherman Funk started the Office of Security Oversight in the Office of the Inspector General and he got a mixture of State people, Agency people, DS people, and CIA people and had that responsibility.

Q: What was the basic function of this group?

SHEA: The function of the group was to go out and look at the security in place at all the embassies under Bobby Inman's mandate on how to upgrade and what should be done to update the security. It was really assessing and evaluating security programs and policy for all State Department facilities. We had in there an auditing function and a compliance function, and we looked at a wide range of security problems.

Q: At that time, where did you see your problems and what do we do about them?

SHEA: Well, there had always been a problem of security in State. It's a money problem. One of my main concerns was that the RSO (Regional Security Officer) was always reporting to some administrative person; I thought that was terrible. Security was security and DS had tried to hire better-qualified people. But going to an administrative person really didn't always work out, as that wasn't their main function. On the other hand, if you put them to the DCM (Deputy Chief of Mission) which is where I thought they should go, a lot of times a security guy would walk in there and the DCM would say, "I don't want to see that idiot again," or, "How did he get in the Department?" So both sides were there. But when terrorism came up and became more serious, the DS became a

much more professional department. Offhand, I don't remember whom he reports to now, but I think it is working much better now. We would go out and do a physical inspection of the embassies around the world, particularly the high threat ones against terrorist and intelligence attacks. We would make recommendations and it worked out pretty well.

Q: Did the dissolution of the Soviet Empire—this was during your time—have any effect on changes?

SHEA: No, not much effect; I don't think so. I also was on the DAS committee for handling the Moscow Embassy, so I kind of kept up with the problems we had with the infiltration of the old building and new building and what we were going to do. That was part of the IG responsibility so I kind of kept that going.

Q: And then Sergeant Lonetree?

SHEA: Yeah, well that precipitated a lot of it. Yeah, Lonetree precipitated a lot of it and that was one of the problems.

An interesting case at that time was when Sherman Funk sent me down to Cuba, where we were having a problem with our Liaison section. There were some reports on penetration in Cuba and it was a very difficult situation down there based off of Cuban intelligence as well as from some of our agency personnel. But it was resolved in favor of the Liaison section; there was a suspect but we cleared his name. Unfortunately, I don't think he did too well after that because the hallway talk on this guy was down in the Liaison Office. So those things hurt people very much. So that basically was what I was going in the IG.

Q: While you were doing this did you get any pressure or problems, particularly with the Senate staff? I mean you had Senator Jesse Helms and his staff, they were generally kind of nasty about the State Department, and I think that one of the ways this could manifest itself is by saying, "So-and-so was leaking information," and that sort of thing. Did you get any?

SHEA: I don't think we did too much at that time, but we did when got to the Clinton passport investigation. Sherman Funk was a genius in dealing with the Hill. Don't forget the State Department had IGs before, but they were not statutory. Sherman Funk was the first statutory IG; he was the best they ever had. He could deal with the Secretary of State, he would go to the Hill, and he would massage the Hill. He would go to the Senate and House and he would say what we were doing and we would write our reports. When I was doing the Oslo investigation, one of the things that I devised was that the reports we were writing were too technical. So what I did was went out and got retired ambassadors and Foreign Service Officers and they loved it. They would go on these trips and all they had to do was get the reports from the technicians, the security experts, and intelligence experts and meld it into a report because under the law we were required to give a report to Congress once or twice a year. So we would send these reports and the writing ability I was able to bring into this office was wonderfully received.

Q: Because this was one of those things, technicians often couldn't write like the laymen or professional. We have a professional writing corps, and you might say put the two together.

SHEA: And it worked like a charm; the former ambassadors and their DCMs loved it. While I was with Sherman Funk during 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 I got these fantastic ratings because of setting up this whole thing. This was a new office and we had a lot of success; Sherman Funk was just marvelous to me. I still never got promoted, although I got promoted in NATO. One year, I didn't get promoted and Sherman Funk said, "Something is wrong with your system; it is ridiculous." So I went down to talk with my advisor and he said there was only way you can, and he showed me my scores showed me my file. And I said, "You are missing seven different things, you're missing facts from Bennett, you're missing facts that I got promoted to minister counselor over at NATO, you are missing all of this stuff. This is insane." He said, "Well all you have to do is grieve." I said, "Grieve? I don't believe in grievances." So I went home and told my wife and my wife said if you want to eat dinner in this house you better grieve. So I grieved in 1991 and I was immediately awarded. I won; I didn't even have to do anything and I won.

Q: Was this just a misfiling problem?

SHEA: No. And also, I didn't get an OER for one year and it was a requirement that I get an OER when I came back. I got a letter and the letter didn't suffice. So I grieved and it was so; I wish I could remember the technicality of it because it was so unique. But in addition to nine meritorious awards, grieving got me three time in-class extensions, which they weren't giving out but I had gotten three. They said that I should be promoted to MC (Minister Counsel) and that if a panel promoted me, they would also make it retroactive and all this other stuff. They gave me everything I wanted, and lo and behold I got my MC and got promoted by a panel. I went back and I got two promotions, signed by the President in 1992 and another in 1992 retroactive to 1991. So according to Alan Lukens, a former ambassador and friend of mine, it is the first time in the Foreign Service that they have given a person with two promotions to Minister Counsel.

And then in the middle of all this the Clinton passport file comes up.

Q: Let's talk about the situation, how did you hear about it and then what happened?

SHEA: Okay, it started in November 1992. I was going to be forced to retire in July of 1993 because of age and I was staying in because my financial advisor said I had to get them to throw me out so that I could get the lump sum payment.

So in November there was a problem going on in the IG's Office, a lot of activity, and I didn't know what was going on. The legal advisor was a guy by the name of John Duncan. I was talking to him in the hallway one time and he said, "You don't want to know." So all this flurry of stuff was going on and going on and suddenly Sherman Funk

calls me in and he said, "I have to ask you to do something." And I said, "What do you want me to do?" And he said, "I can't go into this in detail because it is tainted, but I want you to take over the investigation." I said, "The investigation?" And he said, "Yes, we are doing an investigation on the Clinton passport file, and because of some things that have occurred we are all tainted, the people who have done it," and he said, "I would like you to take it off. We will screen the material we can give you that is not tainted and you can run this entire investigation."

Q: When you say, "tainted," what is it?

SHEA: Tainted means they did something that could be under question or illegal or not right or they cannot continue with the investigation because they were trying to figure out if some facts of the investigation were legal. So I said to Sherman in November 1992, "You want me to investigate the Clinton passport file, whether he gave up his citizenship?" And he said, "That's right." I said, "Are you out of your mind? I'm going to retire in July, I don't want to do this investigation; this is going to be wild." He said, "You got to do it." I said, "Sherman, please." And he said, "How's that MC?" or something like that. (Laughter) So I said, "Okay, I'll take the investigation over." So I selected a team and we ran the investigation throughout October and November on the Clinton passport file. The story was someone came in and said they wanted his file, and one of the political appointees in the Department, Tamposi, got the file.

Q: She was the head of political affairs, a very political lady from New Hampshire.

SHEA: Correct. So she got the file and brought it home. Then, we don't know what happened, so we had to run this entire investigation and we had to talk to the Department. I was the acting Inspector General for the time of that investigation because Sherman Funk and everybody else had to recuse themselves. So I led this investigation right before the election in October and November. And I had investigators, I had people going to the White House, and I had people overseas running this investigation to see if it was done appropriately and whether there were any abuses of procedure. We worked every day; I was getting calls on weekends and on Thanksgiving Day. It was just a terrible time and it ultimately came out that Clinton had not given up his passport when he was in London where they thought he was demonstrating. They had looked at his passport; we weren't sure who had the file. They also looked at Ross Perot's passport and done all these things and procedures and everything else. The ultimate conclusion was that the professionals in the Department had done everything pretty well, but there were some other problems. There was a technical problem in the first investigation, which I didn't know about when all of this was going on. We were getting Congressional letters from the Hill about whether he renounced his citizenship or not and that's what made us go out to do it. And there were requests under the Freedom of Information Act, and other stuff going on. It was a very complex investigation.

Q: In a way it is hard to see how it would be complex because how I understand it, it is a big deal to renounce your citizenship as a Counselor Officer.

SHEA: I know.

Q: I mean, you just don't write in. And people were not writing in renouncing their citizenship. It didn't make sense to me.

SHEA: No, it was a political thing.

Q: It was a political thing because Clinton was opposed to the war. He demonstrated, God knows; the whole generation did.

SHEA: And he was way ahead in the polls.

Q: And then I thought it was sort of one of these overnight things where Betty Tamposi said, "Hey, lets go down and take a look at the files. And if you don't find the letter you don't find the letter." It was a fishing trip and I would have thought that would have ended it.

SHEA: Well, it was political, and then we were trying to find out if the White House was involved in it because one of the things the investigation turned up was that there were calls to the White House from Tamposi. We were trying to find out whether the White House was orchestrating this inquiry so that they could make the election. We never found out if there was any White House involvement, although some people said Tutwiler got the calls. And when we talked to her, I have to admire her only in the sense that she said that we were on record, she said, "We didn't get any calls and we've destroyed all the records anyway on advice and we don't keep the records that long." She was very good on how she did it. We were never able to find any White House involvement. There was political interest from Stephen Barrie, who at that time was a State Department guy acting as Assistant Secretary for Political Affairs. His involvement kind of made it a political football. Tamposi left and he left and then he sued the Department, which I will get into later. The Department generally worked okay; people did object and there were some administrative glitches but generally it was all right.

Q: When Larry Eagleburger found out about it he blew his top.

SHEA: Eagleburger is another person I admire very much. He did a great job sending us down to Cuba to protect the head of the Liaison Office. He really got upset about this thing. He let us go and we could do whatever we wanted to do. What happened with our investigation when it came up, and we took statements; we did everything... There is a report out now with the day-to-day about all the action that went on: people calling us at home, people harassing us, the press waiting for this report. So we put the report out.

Q: What's the report called?

SHEA: Special Inquiry into the Search and Retrieval of William Clinton's Passport Files, Office of the Inspector General, dated November 18, 1992. Sherman Funk wrote a cover memorandum and I wrote my memorandum sending him the report saying, "Attached is

the subject report,” that is my statement. Anyway, it was just a terrible situation. For some reason we sent it down to the Justice Department for a special inquiry and they decide because, basically what I understood for political reasons, to give it for another special inquiry. So they do an investigation of the investigation.

And when we gave this report in, Sherman Funk came down for the press conference and I was sitting there; it was on CBS News in the Department of State. Sherman Funk is giving the report to the press; the room was packed. Sherman Funk gets into a little bit of a problem; he is not sure of some of the facts and somebody says to me, “Don’t give him to the legal advisor; you got to help Sherman out.” I said, “Are you out of your mind?” They say, “You got to help Sherman out.” Sherman looks at me. I say, “Okay.” He says, “Here is Terry Shea, he did the investigation.” Okay, I am on CBS. “Question: Did you try to find out if this went to the White House?” I said, “Yes, we did.” “Question: Is this investigation closed?” I said, “The investigation is closed for now and it is finished, but we can always open it up.” “Question: Do you think Tutwiler or the White House is involved?” I said, “Well, we checked everything out and we were unable to prove anything.” “Question: Well, don’t you think the theory is that they could have done that or this?” I said, “Look, you may deal in theories but I deal in facts and I am unable to prove anything without the facts. Beside that, we are not a bunch of keystone cops running around and stumbling and making mistakes. We are trying to do this in a professional manner and I am not going to sit here a talk about hypothetical questions like that from you all.” My daughter is in California looking at the CBS news and says, “There is my father screaming and yelling at some news reporter.” So I was on the evening news that night giving the press hell. I got some letters from people assaying it is about time someone told the press. So that ended that.

Then it went to the special prosecutor. Then Stephen Barrie, who was also terminated, sues the Department saying Eagleburger dumped him illegally. Okay, so we got an independent investigator doing an investigation of our investigation and into the results. And for seven years that went on. I don’t know the legal reason, but we couldn’t use names; we couldn’t just use State Department employees. They had to list names, so they listed Sherman Funk and former deputy Rocky Souder, they listed all these names and at the end they put my name. God knows why, because they thought I knew what was going on and fortunately I didn’t. So we had to turn in all our stuff to the FBI for the investigation. The FBI came to me and said, “We need all your notes.” I said, “What notes?” They said, “Well, you have got to take notes.” And I said, “I was coordinating an investigation of 15 people and trying to get it done within three weeks; I don’t take notes.” The guy said, “We in the Bureau have to take notes.” And I said, “Well, I am not in the Bureau and I didn’t take notes.” So anyway the whole investigation goes on for seven years.

Q: This is one of these incredible things. You get the special prosecutor, and you know they keep going, and all one can think about is whether this is a boondoggle on the part of the special prosecutor and his or her staff, and nothing ever comes of it.

SHEA: What came of this is kind of interesting. According to legal minds I cannot

comment on, it was very questionable whether it should have ever gone to special prosecutor. For some reason the attorney general at that time thought it should and it did. So four or five years later I am getting suit papers. And then the Department, Barrie, sues us all. The Department of State was really wonderful. They said, "As long as you operated within the scope of your authority, Shea, we will provide you defense." But of course, during that time the IG and the Operations Center were at odds. So they couldn't agree on a lot of stuff and so we couldn't have this defense. So what they did was they went out and allowed us to hire independent law firms. So just before that happened, I get called down to see the special prosecutor. He said, "You know, you led this investigation." I said, "Yes." He said, "We understand you didn't want it." I said, "Yes." He asked, "Why didn't you want it?" I said, "You got to be kidding, where am I now?" He said, "What do you mean?" I said, "Seven years. It would be either said by the Democrats that I was trying to get rid of them if I found something bad or by the Republicans that it was a cover up and I would end up talking to a committee or someone like you." And they were very critical of Sherman Funk because he kept coming in and talking and he had recused himself. They said, "We understand you threatened to resign. Why?" I said, "Well, if I had been Sherman Funk, I would have said, 'Okay, Terry Shea, take the case. Go in and shut my door, and when it is over and if it's a good report I say, 'Well, I picked this guy,' and if it is a lousy report, I say, 'He screwed up.' But Sherman didn't do that. And I said, 'I knew Sherman would do nothing to jeopardize this report.' So it was like somebody once said, like a choir off singing in the background, what Sherman was doing didn't bother me. However, I said I didn't resign and I kept working. They asked, 'Why didn't you just tell him?' I said, 'Well, if I told him to stay away, he was going to take it over again and I didn't think that was correct.' And they said, 'How can he do that?' And I said, 'The Justice Department was supposed to give me a letter saying that I was the acting inspector general and you never got around to it. The only word I had was what Sherman Funk told me, that you are the acting.' And they said, 'Why did you do this?' And I said, 'Seven years later I don't need you to tell me how I have to run this investigation.' They said, 'Well, why did you do it?' I said, 'The Secretary of State asked me to do it.'" So I had this rather contentious issue.

This seven-hundred-page booklet comes out criticizing Sherman Funk by the special prosecutor. And in it says Funk gave the case to Terence J. Shea, who conducted the inquiry period. That is all it said about me, nothing else. See, they thought I knew what the first team had done and when I talked to my new attorney, he said, "There may be things you don't want to talk about." And I said "Well, for three-quarters of my life I don't want to talk about of my professional career. This is one time I can tell you everything; this is the one time I did everything right." (Laughter) And now they are thinking I knew about this telephone conversation, whatever it was on; I knew nothing about it. "Question: didn't you read the papers?" I said, "No, I didn't read the papers." And so that was the end of that case.

Q: I mean the amount of money that is spent on these special prosecutors.

SHEA: This was a small amount but it was a lot of money.

Q: And it is the sort of thing one could have taken care of by disciplinary action.

SHEA: Yeah, that was just it. Generally, the professionals in the Department of State performed pretty well. I didn't have any problem with that. It went on for seven years, and I ended up with a law firm, and we all ended up with big time attorneys. But in that time the Department performed wonderfully. Ultimately, they paid off some kind of settlement and admitted nothing. Barrie came from Jesse Helms' office when he came to work for us, so he went back there. When we got the big time attorneys the case was closed within about three months and it had gone on a long time.

So that was my case.

And when I left the IG to retire, USIA (United States Information Agency) called me, and somebody gave my name to the White House. They didn't like the Inspector General there and sent me down there as the Inspector General.

Q: For what, USIA?

SHEA: Yes, I was the Inspector General for USIA from when I left work in 1992 or 1993.

Q: What was your impression of USIA?

SHEA: Well, totally different from State. The IG, which was also a statutory IG, was in shambles; it was in tough shape. I think that is what my career was showing me; I would either take over new offices or reorganize offices that were in difficulty. One of the things people credit me with, at least they say they do, is that I can spot talent. I know where to bring people in, I like doing that, I studied that, I enjoyed management concept. And when I went down there I kind of liked it. Duffy was there, but you know they got in that flack where Helms tried to get AID (Agency for International Development). Brian Atwood, the director of AID, fought him off and a law went through; Duffy lost USIA and that went back to State.

Q: Well I talked with people who worked for Duffy, and Duffy doesn't come out very well by the professional USIA people because he really wasn't sold on the need for USIA. To my mind, USIA, particularly with its visitor function and its media connections and all, was one of our most powerful elements of foreign policy if it was done right, and Duffy in many accounts was lazy or uninterested or something.

SHEA: I think he was an academician. He was a kind of ethereal person, gentle, but I don't think the battle to save USIA was much of a battle. Atwood, a former of the State Department and the Senate Re-election Committee and everything else, was a brilliant individual. He is now at the Hubert Humphrey School of Foreign Service in Minnesota, a friend of mine. He just won the battle hands down; AID stayed the way it is and Duffy lost. I think USIA is different than State. I think the Foreign Service people there are a different breed and they are more public relations oriented and easier to deal with, but it

is kind of a kitchen; everything was thrown into it.

I stayed there and I retired from there and then I went out and taught English as a second language at Lardo and at Enlinguair, which was run by a former Foreign Service Officer. I did that for a couple of years.

Then they brought me back to review classified documents for USIA and then it came into State. I have stayed at that job and I do examinations of classified documents, which is a fascinating job. I am doing the international organizations, classifying their problems, which we are still facing today. And I am happy to see that the Department really does a commendable job throughout most administrations.

Q: You are looking at the bigger picture.

SHEA: I got one more thing, I forgot. An interesting thing that happened to me was when I was at NATO. We decided that security education films were the worst in the world, so I created, wrote, and directed a movie with someone else around 1982 and it was called *Something of Value*. The first time it was done in three-dimensionally with all kinds of things, but it carried a message. And that *Something of Value* won the CINE Golden Globe Award, which is the highest award you can win for an educational motion picture not shown in a movie. So it won the CINE Gold Globe Award, which is a big deal in USIA. Plus, it won about 12 other awards for security film and then it won an award in France. That was one of the things where I wrote, coordinated, and picked the people that narrated it; it was narrated by a guy called Norman Rose, who was a movie actor who played in *Kramer v. Kramer*. And it was interesting to deal with how they make a move and do the voiceovers and everything else. I thought that was one of the more interesting aspects of my life. So there.

Q: Okay. So I want to thank you very much Terry.

End of interview