

development of the SOAS Library in what were probably the most important years of its history. He also devoted himself to bibliography (in the enumerative sense), being responsible for a number of fundamental reference tools and surveys, most notably *Index Islamicus*, which began publication in 1958, *Oriental Manuscripts in Europe and North America* (1971), the series of world bibliographies of African, Asian and Oriental bibliographies (1975), the Supplement to Creswell's *Bibliography of the Architecture, Arts and Crafts of Islam* for 1972-1980 (1984), and the series of comprehensive surveys of British archives relating to Asia, Africa and the Middle East (1965-1994). He was working on a further volume in this series at the time of his death. Pearson was appointed Senior Fellow in 1972 and subsequently Professor of Bibliography with reference to Asia and Africa in the University of London. He retired in 1979 and moved back to his native Cambridge, while still working on bibliographical projects.

Apart from his own work as librarian and bibliographer, he was active in encouraging and inspiring colleagues elsewhere in Britain and other countries to follow his lead. In 1967 he took the initiative in establishing the Middle East Libraries Committee (MELCOM)—now MELCOM (UK)—which brought together most British librarians in this field and gave birth to a long series of major and minor bibliographies and research tools, in several of which Pearson actively participated. He was closely involved in the beginnings of a European dimension to this activity in 1979, resulting eventually in the formation of MELCOM International. An enthusiastic and assiduous traveller, he visited many colleagues, Orientalists, and scholars throughout the world, becoming well known for his genial conviviality as well as his practical advice. He will be greatly missed and mourned not only by his British colleagues but also by a wide international circle of friends, companions, and collaborators, and by all those who have benefitted from his bibliographical legacy.

GEOFFREY ROPER

Islamic Bibliography Unit

Cambridge University Library

(originally posted to arabic-info@indiana.edu)

Walter F. Weiker (1931-1997), Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University at Newark, died of pancreatic cancer on 8 June 1997. He was a major contributor to the study of Turkish politics and related subjects.

Weiker was born in Berlin; he emigrated to the U.S. with his family in 1938, ultimately settling in Boulder, Colorado. He earned the BA at Antioch College in 1954, the MA at the School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University in 1958, and the PhD in Political Science at Princeton University in 1962. He was a Research Assistant in the Foreign Policy Studies Division of the Brookings Institution in 1961-1962, where he worked with the late Dankwart Rustow. In 1962, he became Assistant Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University at Newark. He remained at that institution for the next 35 years, achieving the rank of Professor in 1973. In addition to his teaching duties, he was active in administration and as guest lecturer at other institutions. He served as Chair of the Department, directed the graduate program, was an adjunct

faculty member at New York University in 1971, a coadjutant Professor of the Graduate School of Management at Rutgers at Newark in the early 1980s, and directed the Rutgers Study Abroad Program in 1992. But his colleagues report that Walter dismissed administrative duties as "stuff and nonsense," and described teaching as "the best part of his day."

The bulk of Weiker's published work dealt with politics in the Turkish Republic. His first book, *The Turkish Revolution 1960-61* (Brookings Institution, 1967), was based in part on his personal observations of the military coup of May 27, 1960. It remains one of the most immediate and insightful analyses of that landmark event, and was widely recognized as such (hence, its translation and publication in Turkish). His second major book, *Political Tutelage and Democracy in Turkey* (E.J. Brill, 1973), deals with the Free Party of 1930. It is still the most extensive study of that first attempt at competitive politics in the Turkish Republic, at least in western languages. A third major contribution to Turkish studies was *The Modernization of Turkey* (Holmes and Meier, 1981), in which Weiker set forth a comprehensive summary and analysis of the Kemalist reforms and their long-term impact on Turkey. Along with these major works, Weiker produced a monograph, *Decentralizing Government in Modernizing Nations* (Sage Professional Papers in International Studies, 1972), in which he dealt with the critical role of provincial towns and cities in the process of social, political, and economic change characteristic of countries like Turkey.

More recently, Weiker turned his attention to Turkish Jews who migrated to Israel after the establishment of the state in 1948. This interest led to the publication of *The Un-Seen Israelis* (Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs/University Press of America, 1988), which deals with Israelis of Turkish origin, a subject that has not drawn sufficient scholarly attention. This was followed by a history of the Jews of Turkey entitled *Ottomans, Turks and the Jewish Polity* (Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs/University Press of America, 1992). At the time of his death, Weiker was engaged in research on generational ethnicity among Turkish Jews in the US and Israel as well as on the residential concentration of ethnic groups in Israeli cities.

In addition to these principal scholarly contributions, Weiker published a large number of journal articles and book chapters, and frequently presented papers and lectures at scholarly conferences. He was also active in professional service, including a term as President of the Turkish Studies Association and book review editor in Political Science for MESA. Nor did he limit his energies to the academic world. He was an active member of the American Jewish Congress, serving as President of the West Essex Chapter and of the New Jersey Region. Last, but hardly least, Weiker acted on his strong belief in participatory democracy by serving for two decades as a Democratic County Committeeman.

Walter Weiker significantly enriched the community of scholars interested in the Middle East and in Political Science. He will be sorely missed by his many friends and colleagues.

FRANK TACHAU
University of Illinois at Chicago