

GH3 – Gilberto Hernandez, “Avco – UAAW Local 1010 Negotiations with LBJ Administration”

Transcript: pp. 4-5

Time-Line: Decade VII, Labor History Time Line, 1967, “April 16. Avco Strike begins...”

GH They trained me to be a machinist so I was what they call an internal grinder and that's the work I did in Avco for those...

I For 14 and a half...

GH But of course then, because I don't know why but I was also elected as union steward in Avco you know...

I Well, they heard about you (laughter)...

GH ...a little experience, but the reason I was elected in City Lumber is because most of them didn't speak the language but over there they're all Americans you know but they heard that I had a little experience as a union steward for about 5 years and then from there I became a committee man.

I And this was for the UAW?

GH And then, and then, UAW local 1010 yeah, right and then.

I Yeah.

GH I became a committee man, a member of the negotiating committee and I was one of the members of the negotiating when we were summoned to Washington by President Johnson because we were ready to go on strike and that's when we had the conflict you know...

I Oh, this was during the Vietnam...

GH Vietnam --and then I was summoned to Washington and we negotiated the contract at the Secretary of Labor's office you know, so that was something I will never forget about.