

The Japanese Language School Archival Project

In the Spring of 2000, the Archives continued the original efforts of Captain Roger Pineau and William Hudson, and the Archives first attempts in 1992, to gather the papers, correspondence, photographs, and records of graduates of the US Navy Japanese Language School, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1942-1946. We assemble these papers in recognition of the contributions made by JLS graduates to the War effort in the Pacific, the successful occupation of Japan, the creation of Japanese language programs across the country, and the development of cultural reconciliation programs after World War II.

60th Reunion of US Navy JLS at CU 6-9 June 2002

Editor's Recommendations for
off-campus restaurants:

Pearl Street Area

1. 14th Street Grill \$\$ D
2. Hunan Garden \$ LD
3. Pasta Jay's \$ D
4. Lucille's \$ BL

Hill Area

1. Sink ¢¢ LD
(old Sunken Gardens)
2. Theresa's ¢¢ LD
3. Dot's Diner ¢ B

Baseline/Broadway

1. Le Francaise \$ BLD

Arapaho/Folsom

1. Turley's \$\$ BLD
(old Timber Tavern)
2. European Café \$\$\$ LD
3. Dolan's \$\$\$ D
4. Siamese Plate \$\$ D

Valmont/28th

1. Chez Thuy \$\$ D

Chataqua

1. Dining Hall \$\$\$ BLD

Way Too Expensive!!!!

1. Flagstaff \$\$\$\$\$
2. Q's Boulderado Hotel

Revue Reprise

My JLS 1943 classmate Larry Vincent's letter to *The Interpreter* (Number 37) concerning our revue in the University Theater prompts me to offer more details. The book of the musical, staged in the spring of 1943, was written by Stanley Kapner and me, and I wrote most of the lyrics adapted from Gilbert & Sullivan. The curtain rose on a chorus of young language students who sang "If you want to know who we are, / We are Y2CV4 USNR/Which when decoded simply means/ That we all study Japanese/ At Boulder under the auspices/ Of the U.S. Navy if you please. Miya-sama, Miya-Sama, Japanese has screwy grammar/ Start to translate from the bottom, reach the top and you no got 'em. If you'll kindly lend an ear/ We'll confess why we were chosen to come here: (Piano plays oompah, oompah oompah, oompah, while Student One comes downstage). When I was a college sophomore/ I thought my classes were an awful bore/ So pencil and paper I would find/ And doodle anything that came into my mind/ Oh, I was such a doodling fool/ That Hindmarsh sent me to the language school. (Chorus) Oh, he was such a doodling fool, etc. (Student Two) When I was a bachelor fancy free/ I patronized a Chinese laundry/ The meaning of the symbols I couldn't tap/ So I just saved them up for paper scrap/ Oh, I was such a saving fool/ That Hindmarsh sent me to the language school. (Chorus) Oh, he was such a saving fool, etc. (Student Three) On the docks I worked as a stevedore/ And lifted bales six years or more/ Then one day Hindmarsh saw me and said: 'Young man, I've a better job for you instead/ Go West, young man, where men are men/ And you can carry a dai jiten'/ So I went West where men are men/ And spent a year lugging this dai jiten." The chorus then ushers in one of the

main characters, an insufferable snob, with: "Defer, defer/ To the Lord High Harvard graduate." Lance La Bianca did a great takeoff on a member of the February 1943 class, a real Harvard graduate. He delivered lines written by Stan Kapner (himself Harvard '40) which scorned Boulder landmarks like Flagstaff as a "low-budget Fujiyama." It was a lot of fun and everyone seemed to enjoy it. After we graduated in July 1943, Stan went to Hawaii and I was sent to the Naval Communications Annex in Washington, where I worked in Op-20G under the Communications Annex in Washington, where I worked in Op-20G under the legendary Redfield ("Rosie") Mason. After the war, Stan and I didn't stay in the Japanese field. He went to Paris for several years and returned with a charming French wife. His career was spent in New York as an executive of Time, Inc. I switched to the Russian language and Soviet area studies, graduated from the Columbia Russian Institute (where I met my own charming future wife, now of 51 years), received a Ph.D. and worked for over thirty years as an executive of Radio Liberty in New York and Munich. My book "Sparks of Liberty," (Penn State Press 1999) describes how an American shortwave station helped win the Cold War -- a feat which even Gorbachev and Yeltsin acknowledged -- and how the broadcasts are continuing democratic education in the Putin era, when independent domestic Russian media are being stifled by the Kremlin.

Keep up the vital work of preserving the memories of JLS!

*Sincerely, Gene Sosin
JLS 1943*

Letter to Editor

Another great Interpreter! [38] Greetings to Bob Crispin, who was a German instructor when I

was an undergraduate. I can address the question of British officers to some extent. I do not remember whether they were in Boulder or met later in Washington. At the time of the WAVE reunion in 1993 we had an address for Marguerite: Hofstra Kennedy, who married the Kennedy on your list, and lives in Belfast. In our office in the Steuart Building there were Peter Swann and John Russell, the latter the son of Bertrand Russell. We were all a little jealous because they were supposedly receiving "hardship pay" for being stationed in Washington, while the rest of us lived on our measly \$21.00 per month for room and board. I have a picture of Peter Swann breaking open the celebratory keg of beer at our V-J Day party. That will be in the pictures I have yet to send. Incidentally, at our reunion the actual grade lists that had been posted weekly were put out for us to look over. Surely the presence of those names would be somewhere in those lists.

Good for Ed Seidensticker! That is a great article about his stand against the loyalty oath.

I am sure there are many stories that will come forth to join the one from Glenn Nelson. Nort was not a marine but was attached to the marine division sent to accept the surrender at Chichi Jima. Going in with no knowledge of the attitude of the garrison or possible resistance was a bit scary. Nihongo was vital there also in interviewing the troops preparatory to repatriation. It turned out that American flyers who had been shot down were tortured and executed and grisly rites carried out. This find led to war crimes trials. The repatriation vessels carried horses, pigs, chickens and more through typhoon weather on the way to Guam. Glenn is right -- usefulness depends on where one is sent. Even in Washington we had our moments of satisfaction.

Marylou Williams, JLS 1944

Sosho Text Needed

You remember I inquired about Tatsumi Sensei and learned he had died. What I was seeking was a textbook on writing Sosho, about which all normal and even abnormal resources have failed me. It's as if Sosho didn't exist. Tatsumi was my last hope. How about Ed Seidensticker? Can he be reached by e-mail? Was Glenn Shaw Director in 1946? I still have a letter from him telling me to speak for five minutes from memory.

Bryan Battey,
Valedictorian,
OLS Class of 2/46

[Ed. Note: Regarding Mr. Battey's question on the Sosho Textbook, I found a copy in Swanfeldt, which we photocopied for Mr. Battey and sent on to him. Glenn Shaw was the director of the Oriental Language School in 1946. He took over from Mrs. Walne the previous year. Mr. Seidensticker does not use email with us, or has not done so to date.]

Battey Response

David - I am overcome. You have not only made my day but my next ten years, which is what I surmise it will take to convert completely into shosho from kaisho and gyosho.

Bryan!

\$Donations Accepted

There are those of you who may not have papers to donate to the Archives, but who may wish to support the Japanese/Oriental Language School Archival Project in other ways. We are setting up a cash account to fund Archives activities regarding the JLS/OLS Project. To date, the Archives has spent in excess of \$10,000 of its own funds on the project. If you wish to donate, make your check out to The University of Colorado and mail it to our contact address.

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New JLS Website:

<http://www-libraries.colorado.edu/ps/arv/col/jlsp.htm>